ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron's 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 2 – Day 4

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Explanations

1. YOU'VE GOT TO BE A FOOTBALL EXPERT
As an **avid** football fan, I try to see every game the Jets play. Whenever I can **cajole** my father into accompanying me, I try to do so. He has only a **rudimentary** knowledge of the game, and since I am steeped in it, I enjoy explaining its intricate details to him. It certainly does **enhance** your appreciation of football when you are aware of every **nuance** of the sport.

Sample Sentences: Use the new words in the following sentences. You may have to change the ending of a word.
Since my grasp of algebra is _____, I cannot solve the problem.
✔ **E) rudimentary**
Rudimentary means basic or elementary, at a beginner's level. The clue is **I cannot solve the problem**: a very basic grasp of algebra is not enough. In the passage, the father has only a **rudimentary** knowledge of football.

2. The parakeet refused to be _____ into entering her cage.
✔ **D) cajoled**
To **cajole** someone means to coax or persuade them gently, often with flattery or patience. The sentence needs a past participle after **be** (passive), so the form is **cajoled**: the bird refused to **be cajoled** into its cage.

3. It will _____ your enjoyment of an opera if you know what the plot is about in advance.
✔ **A) enhance**
Enhance means to intensify, improve or heighten something. Knowing the plot in advance makes your enjoyment greater, so it will **enhance** your enjoyment. A base verb is needed after **will**.

4. In reading the satires of Jonathan Swift, one must be vigilant in order to catch each _____.
✔ **C) nuance**
A **nuance** is a slight variation in meaning or tone. Satire is full of subtle hints and irony, so a reader must be **vigilant** (watchful) to catch each **nuance**. The word **each** shows a singular noun is needed.

5. Bill Clinton is an _____ student of the social media and is listed on Facebook.
✔ **B) avid**
Avid means eager and very enthusiastic. An adjective is needed before the noun **student**, and the article **an** fits a word starting with a vowel sound: **an avid student**. In the passage, the writer is an **avid** football fan.

6. Definitions: Match the new words with their meanings.

avid
✔ **A) eager**
Avid means **eager**, very keen on something. In the passage, the writer is an **avid** football fan who tries to see every game.

7. cajole
✔ **C) coax**
Cajole means to **coax**: to persuade someone gently, often with flattery or patience. In the passage, the writer tries to **cajole** his father into going to games with him. Not **intensify, heighten**, which is the meaning of **enhance**.

8. rudimentary
✔ **E) elementary**
Rudimentary means **elementary**, basic, at a beginner's level. In the passage, the father has only a **rudimentary** knowledge of football, so his son explains the details to him.

9. enhance
✔ **D) intensify, heighten**
Enhance means to **intensify** or **heighten**, to make something better or stronger. The passage says knowing every detail does **enhance** your appreciation of football.

10. nuance
✔ **B) slight variation in meaning, tone, etc.**
A **nuance** is a slight variation in meaning, tone, etc., a small and subtle difference. The passage says you appreciate football more when you are aware of every **nuance** of the sport.