ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron’s 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 21 – Day 2

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1	A	2	D	3	C	4	E	5	B	6	A	7	B	8	C	9	D	10	E

Explanations

1. *(Question with a long text: see the questions PDF.)*
✓ **A) lush**
Lush means luxurious, rich and elaborate. A **lush stage setting** is a splendid, richly decorated set, so theatre fans applaud it. In the passage, Siddhartha's **lush surroundings** are his luxurious palace life.

2. **In the hospital, the alcoholic had time to _____ over the need to be abstemious.**
✓ **D) ponder**
Ponder (over) means to think about something carefully and for a long time. The clue is **had time to … over**: the gap needs a verb that fits **over**. In the passage, Siddhartha retires to his room **to ponder over what he had seen**. The other options are nouns or an adjective, so they cannot follow **to**.

3. **As the traveler followed the tortuous path up the Kentucky mountain, he was sickened by the _____ which he saw.**
✓ **C) destitution**
Destitution means extreme poverty, having almost nothing to live on. A traveller in poor mountain areas would be **sickened** by the poverty he sees. In the passage, Siddhartha sees **misery, destitution, disease**. Not **decadence**, which means moral decay from too much luxury and does not describe poor people.

4. **Through _____, the fraternity head hoped to end the strife among the members.**
✓ **E) supplication**
Supplication means humble, earnest begging or prayer. The leader hoped that pleading sincerely with the members would end their fighting (**strife**). In the passage, Siddhartha ignores the **supplication** of those who **pleaded with him** to come out.

5. **Rumors of Rome’s _____ were rife among the barbarian tribes.**
✓ **B) decadence**
Decadence means decay or decline, especially moral decline caused by too much luxury and pleasure. Ancient Rome is a classic example: **Rome's decadence** weakened the empire, and the barbarian tribes talked about it. Not **destitution**, because Rome's problem was excess, not poverty.

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

lush
✓ **A) luxurious, elaborate**
Lush means luxurious and elaborate, rich in comfort or decoration. Example: **a lush hotel suite**. It can also describe thick, healthy plants: **lush green fields**.

7. **destitution**
✓ **B) extreme poverty**
Destitution means extreme poverty, the state of having no money, food or home. Example: **The war left thousands of families in destitution.** The adjective is **destitute**.

8. **ponder**
✓ **C) to consider carefully**
Ponder is a verb meaning to consider carefully, to think deeply about something. Example: **She pondered the offer for a week before accepting.** It is often used with **over** or **on**.

9. **supplication**
✓ **D) earnest prayer**
Supplication means an earnest prayer or humble request, often made on one's knees. Example: **The villagers raised their hands in supplication.** The related verb is **supplicate**.

10. **decadence**
✓ **E) decay**
Decadence means decay or decline, especially moral decline caused by too much luxury and self-indulgence. Example: **Critics blamed the empire's fall on the decadence of its rulers.** The adjective is **decadent**.

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