ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron’s 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 23 – Day 3

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

Explanations

1. *(Question with a long text: see the questions PDF.)*
✓ **C) enunciate**
Enunciate means to state or announce something clearly, so reporters expect the candidate to **enunciate** (clearly state) his policy. The gap follows **to**, so it needs a base-form verb, and **enunciate** is the only verb among the options. The passage uses it the same way: what the children wanted to say **had been enunciated** (said) earlier.

2. **His profligate son made the parsimonious old crank even more _____.**
✓ **E) irascible**
Irascible means easily made angry, or irritable. A **crank** is already a bad-tempered person, and a wasteful (**profligate**) son would make a stingy (**parsimonious**) father even angrier. The phrase **even more** signals an increase in bad temper. In the passage, the long waiting makes the children **irascible** and jittery.

3. **Since Alice is so gregarious it surprised me to learn that she is also an _____ girl.**
✓ **A) introspective**
Introspective means looking into one's own thoughts and feelings. The sentence contrasts it with **gregarious** (sociable, outgoing), which is why it **surprised me**. The article **an** before the gap also fits **introspective**, an adjective beginning with a vowel sound. Not **irascible**, because a bad temper is not the opposite of being sociable.

4. **Mr. Ford is proud to be called a teacher, but he demurs at the title of _____.**
✓ **B) pedagogue**
Pedagogue is a formal word for a teacher, and it is often used negatively for a strict or pedantic teacher. That is why Mr. Ford is happy to be called a **teacher** but **demurs** (objects) to the title of **pedagogue**. The gap needs a noun after **the title of**, and **pedagogue** is the only noun among the options.

5. **In an attempt to show how assiduous he was, the executive spent an _____ amount of time on his report.**
✓ **D) inordinate**
Inordinate means excessive, or much more than is normal or reasonable. The collocation **an inordinate amount of time** is very common. The executive wanted to look **assiduous** (hard-working), so he spent far more time than necessary on his report. The passage also speaks of the **inordinate amount of waiting** the children have to do.

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

pedagogue
✓ **E) teacher**
A **pedagogue** is a teacher, sometimes one who is strict or old-fashioned. In the passage, Dr. Weston blames the **pedagogue** (the teacher) because teachers seat pupils in alphabetical order.

7. **enunciate**
✓ **C) to utter, proclaim**
Enunciate means to utter or proclaim, that is, to say or state something clearly. Example: **She enunciated each word carefully.**

8. **inordinate**
✓ **B) excessive**
Inordinate means excessive, or far more than is usual or reasonable. Example: **an inordinate amount of waiting.**

9. **irascible**
✓ **A) irritable**
Irascible means irritable, or easily made angry. Example: **The long wait made the children irascible and jittery.**

10. **introspective**
✓ **D) looking into one’s own feelings**
Introspective means looking into one's own thoughts and feelings. The passage says the "S" to "Z" children become **introspective**, convinced that they are inferior to those at the top of the alphabet. Example: **After the failure, he became quiet and introspective.**