ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron's 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 24 – Day 1

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

Explanations

1. *(Question with a long text: see the questions PDF.)*
✓ **C) inanimate**
Inanimate means lifeless, not alive. Stones cannot move, grow or think, so they are **inanimate objects**. The passage uses the word in the same way: **certain inanimate objects have a will of their own**.

2. **It has been suggested that the man who builds a better mousetrap will find the world beating a path to his door to possess this _____.**
✓ **E) artifact**
An **artifact** is an object made by people, not something found in nature. A mousetrap is built by hand, so it is an artifact. Not **fetish**, because nothing in the sentence suggests the mousetrap has magic powers.

3. **The explorers saw the golden statue and thought of how much money it would bring them. But their lives would be in danger if they moved it because it was a powerful _____ to the natives.**
✓ **A) fetish**
A **fetish** is an object that people believe has magic powers. The clue is **powerful … to the natives**: moving the statue would be dangerous because they think it is magical. Not **artifact**, because that word only means 'made by hand' and says nothing about magic or power.

4. **Margaret Mead, the famous _____, fascinated thousands of readers with her studies of South Seas islanders.**
✓ **D) anthropologist**
An **anthropologist** is an expert who studies the customs, beliefs and ways of life of human groups. Margaret Mead studied the people of the South Sea islands, so she was a famous **anthropologist**. The gap needs a noun for a person, and this is the only option that names a person.

5. **It would be rather _____ for a student to come to school wearing a clown costume.**
✓ **B) bizarre**
Bizarre means very odd or strange. Wearing a clown costume to an ordinary school day would look very strange, so it is **bizarre**. The gap after **rather** needs an adjective, and **bizarre** is the adjective that fits the meaning.

6. **Definitions:** If you have studied the reading selection and the sample sentences, now try your hand at matching your new words with their definitions.

anthropologist
✓ **D) an expert in the study of the races, beliefs, customs, etc. of mankind**
An **anthropologist** is an expert in the study of the races, beliefs and customs of mankind. The passage says **anthropologists** reported customs of other cultures. Example: **The anthropologist lived with the tribe for two years.**

7. **artifact**
✓ **A) an object made by hand, rather than a thing as it occurs in nature**
An **artifact** is an object made by hand, not a thing as it occurs in nature. The passage gives the examples **a sculpture or carving**. Example: **The museum displays ancient artifacts such as pots and tools.**

8. **bizarre**
✓ **E) odd, peculiar, strange, weird**
Bizarre means odd, peculiar, strange or weird. In the passage, some customs **seem bizarre to the average American**, which means they seem very strange to them. Example: **He has a bizarre sense of humour.**

9. **fetish**
✓ **C) an object that is thought to have magic powers**
A **fetish** is an object that is thought to have magic powers. The passage describes **fetishes** such as a special feather or pebble that people believe possess magical powers. Not 'an object made by hand' (**artifact**), because a fetish can also be a natural object.

10. **inanimate**
✓ **B) lifeless**
Inanimate means lifeless, not alive. Stones, tables and books are **inanimate objects**. The passage uses the word for objects that some people believe **have a will of their own**, even though they are not alive.

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