ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron’s 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 28 – Day 1

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

Explanations

1. *(Question with a long text: see the questions PDF.)*
✓ **D) propinquity**
Propinquity means nearness in time or place. Astronauts know that sudden accidents could happen at any moment, so they are alert to how near such accidents may be. The passage uses it the same way: the driver must be constantly aware of the **propinquity of sudden death**. Not **vulnerable**: the gap comes after the word **the**, so it needs a noun, and **vulnerable** is an adjective.

2. **The egotist is _____ to slights and insults.**
✓ **E) vulnerable**
Vulnerable (to) means open to attack or easily hurt. An egotist thinks only of himself, so he is easily hurt by slights and insults. The pattern **be vulnerable to something** fits the gap: **Racing car drivers are vulnerable to dangers.**

3. **Electronic music is considered nothing more or less than _____ by many.**
✓ **A) cacophony**
Cacophony is a harsh, unpleasant mixture of sounds. The sentence is about music, so a word for bad sound fits best: many people think electronic music is just **noise**. Not **bedlam**, which means general confusion and uproar, not specifically harsh sound.

4. **Advertisers spend large sums to _____ the lucrative teenage market.**
✓ **C) exploit**
Exploit (verb) means to use something fully to gain a profit or advantage. After **to** we need a verb: advertisers spend money to **profit from** the rich teenage market. In the passage, a driver must **exploit any mistake by an opponent**.

5. **The winning team’s dressing room was a scene of _____.**
✓ **B) bedlam**
Bedlam means a scene of wild noise and confusion; uproar. After a win, the dressing room is full of shouting, jumping and celebrating. Not **cacophony**, which describes only harsh sound, while **a scene of bedlam** describes the whole chaotic situation.

6. **Definitions:** Match your new words to their definitions.

vulnerable
✓ **B) open to attack, susceptible**
Vulnerable means open to attack, easily harmed or influenced (susceptible). Example: **The egotist is vulnerable to slights and insults.**

7. **cacophony**
✓ **A) discord, harsh sound, dissonance**
Cacophony means discord: a harsh, unpleasant mix of sounds. Example: **the cacophony of the brakes**. Don't confuse it with **bedlam** (confusion, uproar).

8. **exploit (v.)**
✓ **C) profit by, utilize**
The verb **exploit** means to profit by or make full use of something, often someone else's weakness. Example: **The driver must exploit any mistake by an opponent.**

9. **propinquity**
✓ **D) nearness in time or place**
Propinquity means nearness in time or place. Example: **He must be constantly aware of the propinquity of sudden death.**

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