ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron’s 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 29 – Day 1

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

Explanations

1. *(Question with a long text: see the questions PDF.)*
✓ **C) adherent**
An **adherent** is a supporter or follower of a party, team or idea. The clue is **switched his loyalty**: only a supporter has loyalty to switch. In the passage, the **knowledgeable adherent of a team** is a loyal fan.

2. **It was a pleasure to watch the _____ body of the ballet dancer as she performed the most difficult steps.**
✓ **D) lithe**
Lithe means graceful and able to bend and move easily. A ballet dancer doing difficult steps needs a body like this, e.g. **a lithe gymnast**. Not **obese**, because a very fat body does not fit the pleasure of watching difficult dance steps.

3. **There is something _____ about a great athlete who continues to compete long after he has been bereft of his talents.**
✓ **E) pathetic**
Pathetic means sad and making you feel pity. An athlete who keeps competing after losing his talent (**bereft of his talents**) is a sad sight. The pattern **something + adjective** needs an adjective here, so the nouns **bliss** and **adherent** cannot fit.

4. **His insatiable hunger for sweets soon made him _____.**
✓ **B) obese**
Obese means very fat. An **insatiable hunger for sweets** (always wanting more sweets) leads to gaining a lot of weight. **Made him** + adjective describes the result.

5. **Oh, what _____ could be seen in the eyes of the ardent couple as they announced their engagement!**
✓ **A) bliss**
Bliss means great happiness. An ardent (very loving) couple announcing their engagement would show joy in their eyes. **What** + noun (**what bliss!**) needs a noun, so **bliss** fits. **Adherent** is also a noun, but it means a supporter and makes no sense here.

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

lithe
✓ **D) graceful**
Lithe means graceful and moving easily, e.g. **the lithe body of a dancer**. The passage contrasts the **speedy and lithe** athlete with the slower one.

7. **obese**
✓ **B) very fat**
Obese means very fat, e.g. **Eating too many sweets made him obese**. The passage pairs it with **slower**, the opposite of **speedy and lithe**.

8. **adherent**
✓ **A) backer, supporter**
An **adherent** is a backer or supporter of a person, team or idea, e.g. **an adherent of the party**. In the passage, the **adherent of a team** is a fan who follows the game closely.

9. **bliss**
✓ **E) happiness, pleasure**
Bliss means great happiness or pleasure, e.g. **a look of bliss**. The passage says the fan is **in a state of bliss** when his team plays perfectly.

10. **pathetic**
✓ **C) sad, pitiful, distressing**
Pathetic means sad, pitiful or distressing, so it makes people feel sorry for someone. The passage says no one is more **pathetic** than the fan when the other team plays perfectly.

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