ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

# Barron’s 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 29 – Day 3

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## Explanations

**1.** *(Question with a long text: see the questions PDF.)*
✓ **B) gusto**
**Gusto** means great enthusiasm and enjoyment. At a **sumptuous** (rich, splendid) feast, a person naturally eats **with gusto**. The passage uses it the same way: TV viewers miss 'the spirit, the **gusto**' of a live game. Only a noun fits after **with**; **indolent**, **garrulous** and **banal** are adjectives.

**2.** **The guests’ conversation was filled with ____ comments concerning clothing or food.**
✓ **D) banal**
**Banal** means trivial, ordinary and meaningless from overuse. Small talk about clothing or food is a typical example of **banal comments**. The gap needs an adjective before the noun **comments**. Not **garrulous**: that describes a talkative person, not the comments themselves.

**3.** **During the most sultry days of summer, one often hears the ____, “Is it hot enough for you?”**
✓ **E) platitude**
A **platitude** is a commonplace, worn-out remark that everyone has heard many times. **Is it hot enough for you?** is a classic example. After **the**, the gap needs a noun. Not **banal**: it has a similar meaning, but it is an adjective, so it cannot stand alone after **the**.

**4.** **The ____ person goes to great lengths to eschew work.**
✓ **A) indolent**
**Indolent** means lazy. An **indolent** person goes to great lengths to **eschew** (avoid) work, which is the clue in the sentence. In the passage, the **indolent** fan prefers to sit comfortably at home instead of going to the stadium.

**5.** **She was usually so ____, we considered anything under a five-minute speech as a cryptic remark.**
✓ **C) garrulous**
**Garrulous** means very talkative or wordy. Someone who normally talks so much that a speech under five minutes seems short and **cryptic** (mysterious) is **garrulous**. The passage uses it for the announcers who 'chatter in an endless way'.

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

**indolent**
✓ **C) lazy**
**Indolent** means **lazy**, avoiding effort. In the passage, the **indolent** fan stays in his comfortable living room to watch the game. Not 'talkative, wordy': that is **garrulous**.

**7.** **gusto**
✓ **A) enthusiasm, enjoyment, zest**
**Gusto** means **enthusiasm, enjoyment, zest**, e.g. **He ate with gusto**. The passage pairs it with 'the spirit' that TV viewers miss.

**8.** **garrulous**
✓ **D) talkative, wordy**
**Garrulous** means **talkative, wordy**. The passage explains it directly: the **garrulous** announcers 'continue to chatter in an endless way'. Not 'commonplace or trite saying': that is a **platitude**.

**9.** **banal**
✓ **E) trivial, meaningless from overuse**
**Banal** means **trivial, meaningless from overuse**. In the passage, during a dull game the announcers discuss 'the most **banal** bits of information'. Not 'commonplace or trite saying': that is the noun **platitude**, while **banal** is an adjective.

**10.** **platitude**
✓ **B) commonplace or trite saying**
A **platitude** is a **commonplace or trite saying**, a remark used so often that it says nothing new. In the passage, the announcers repeat 'one **platitude** after another' about the players. Not 'trivial, meaningless from overuse': that describes the adjective **banal**.

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