ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron's 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 30 – Day 4

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Explanations

1. **The child tried to _____ from her mother the place where the cookies had been cached.**
   ✓ **C) wheedle**
   Wheedle means to get something from someone by gentle persuasion or flattery. Here the child sweetly coaxes her mother into revealing where the cookies were hidden. The clue is **tried to … from her mother**: the gap needs a verb, and **wheedle** is the only verb among the options. In the passage, the gamblers try to **wheedle** the cattle farmer into a card game.

2. **They could discern that the faith healer was a _____.**
   ✓ **A) charlatan**
   A **charlatan** is a person who falsely claims to have special skills or knowledge. A faith healer who only pretends to cure people fits this exactly, and **discern** (see clearly) suggests the people saw through the deception. In the passage, the 'rich cattle farmer' turns out to be the **charlatan**. Not **rustic**: even as a noun ('a country person'), it says nothing about fraud.

3. **The _____ life is supposed to be a tranquil one.**
   ✓ **E) rustic**
   Rustic means connected with the countryside: simple and unpolished. The gap needs an adjective before **life**, and **rustic life** (country life) is the kind of life usually thought of as **tranquil** (calm, peaceful). In the passage, the farmer's **rustic** appearance makes him look like a simple countryman.

4. **Repress your uncouth manners and act with _____ at the party.**
   ✓ **D) decorum**
   Decorum means polite, correct behaviour suited to a social situation. The sentence contrasts it with **uncouth manners** (rude, rough behaviour), and **act with** needs a noun, so **act with decorum** is right. In the passage, 'all of the proper **decorum** was put aside' when the betting became wild.

5. **We were _____ when our indolent cousin got a job.**
   ✓ **B) jubilant**
   Jubilant means extremely happy and celebrating. After **We were** the gap needs an adjective describing feelings, and the good news that a lazy (**indolent**) cousin finally got a job explains the joy. In the passage, a **jubilant** expression crosses the farmer's face when he sees his cards.

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

   wheedle
   ✓ **A) coax, persuade, cajole**
   Wheedle is a verb meaning to **coax, persuade, cajole**: to get what you want through flattery or gentle pressure. Example: **She wheedled an extra dessert out of her grandmother.**

7. **rustic**
   ✓ **E) countrified, unpolished**
   Rustic means **countrified, unpolished**: typical of the countryside, simple and not refined. Example: **a rustic cabin in the hills.**

8. **jubilant**
   ✓ **B) joyful, in high spirits**
   Jubilant means **joyful, in high spirits**, especially because of a success. Example: **The jubilant fans celebrated the victory.**

9. **decorum**
   ✓ **C) politeness, correct behavior**
   Decorum is a noun meaning **politeness, correct behavior**: behaviour that is socially proper and dignified. Example: **The ceremony was conducted with great decorum.**

10. **charlatan**
    ✓ **D) pretender, fraud**
    A **charlatan** is a **pretender, fraud**: someone who falsely claims skills or knowledge in order to deceive people. Example: **The 'doctor' turned out to be a charlatan with no medical training.**