ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron’s 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 31 – Day 2

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

Explanations

1. *(Question with a long text: see the questions PDF.)*
✓ **C) propagate**
Propagate means to spread an idea or belief so that more people accept it. You **propagate a belief**, just as the passage says groups have the right to **propagate ideas**. The gap needs a verb after **to**, and **propagate** is the only verb among the options.

2. **It is incongruous to find an abstemious person in a _____ of avarice and affluence.**
✓ **E) milieu**
Milieu means the surroundings or social environment a person lives in. **A milieu of avarice and affluence** is a setting full of greed and wealth, which is the wrong place to expect a self-denying (**abstemious**) person. Not **surfeit**: the sentence describes the kind of place, not an excess of something.

3. **Conjoined twins are considered a birth _____.**
✓ **A) anomaly**
An **anomaly** is something that is irregular or departs from what is normal. Conjoined twins are rare and unusual, so they are called **a birth anomaly**. The article **a** and the noun position after **birth** also point to a noun meaning abnormality.

4. **There appears to be no such thing as an _____ heresy.**
✓ **D) innocuous**
Innocuous means harmless and unlikely to offend anyone. A heresy is a belief that goes against accepted opinion, so it always provokes someone. That is why there is **no such thing as an innocuous heresy**. The gap needs an adjective before the noun **heresy**, and **an** fits the vowel sound of **innocuous**.

5. **When can we expect a respite from the _____ of TV commercials?**
✓ **B) surfeit**
A **surfeit** is an excessive amount of something, far more than is wanted. The speaker wants a **respite** (a break) from too many TV commercials, so **the surfeit of TV commercials** fits. The passage uses the same idea: **a surfeit of propaganda that tends to overwhelm us**.

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

propagate
✓ **D) produce, multiply, spread**
Propagate means to produce, multiply or spread. It is used for plants and animals (**propagate seedlings**) and for ideas (**propagate a belief**).

7. **anomaly**
✓ **C) irregularity, abnormality**
An **anomaly** is an irregularity or abnormality: something that does not fit the usual pattern. Example: **The warm day in January was an anomaly.**

8. **innocuous**
✓ **E) harmless, mild, innocent**
Innocuous means harmless, mild or innocent: not likely to cause damage or offence. Example: **an innocuous remark**.

9. **surfeit**
✓ **A) excess, superabundance**
A **surfeit** is an excess or superabundance: more of something than is needed or wanted. Example: **a surfeit of advertising**.

10. **milieu**
✓ **B) environment, setting**
Milieu means environment or setting, especially the social surroundings a person lives in. Example: **He grew up in an artistic milieu.**

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