ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron’s 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 32 – Day 2

Barron's 1100 Words You Need to Know · 10 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
https://englishtestsonline.com/barrons-1100-words-you-need-to-know-mcq-test-pdf-week-32-day-2/

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

Explanations

1. *(Question with a long text: see the questions PDF.)*
✓ **E) bizarre**
Bizarre means very strange or odd. People tend to **scoff at** (laugh at) and **belittle** behavior that seems weird, so an adjective meaning 'odd' fits. Not **trivial**: unimportant behavior is not usually something people mock.

2. **They exacerbated a _____ difference of opinion into a prodigious conflict.**
✓ **C) paltry**
Paltry means small and worthless. The sentence contrasts a **paltry** (tiny) difference of opinion with a **prodigious** (huge) conflict that it was **exacerbated** (made worse) into. Not **ubiquitous**, which means 'found everywhere' and does not create this small-versus-huge contrast.

3. **It is during a period of ferment that a dictator can _____ power.**
✓ **D) usurp**
Usurp means to seize power or a position by force or without the right to it. It collocates naturally with **power**: **a dictator can usurp power** during a period of **ferment** (unrest).

4. **Do you expect me to _____ that reprehensible act with such celerity?**
✓ **A) condone**
Condone means to excuse or overlook a wrong act. The object is a **reprehensible act** (one that deserves blame), and the speaker objects to forgiving it so quickly (**with such celerity**). A verb is needed after **to**, so only **condone** or **usurp** fit grammatically, and only **condone** makes sense.

5. **The most _____ defects may have a deleterious effect upon the efficacy of that new process.**
✓ **B) trivial**
Trivial means unimportant or insignificant. The point is that even **the most trivial defects** (tiny faults) can have a **deleterious** (harmful) effect on how well the process works. Not **indiscriminate**, which means 'done without careful choice' and does not describe the size of a defect.

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

usurp
✓ **C) seize, annex, grab**
Usurp means to seize, grab or take over something (especially power or a position) without the right to it, e.g. **The cell phone has usurped the stationary model.**

7. **paltry**
✓ **A) petty, worthless**
Paltry means petty or almost worthless, often about an amount, e.g. **a paltry number of minutes**, **a paltry sum**. Not 'of little importance, insignificant', which is the definition of **trivial**.

8. **condone**
✓ **B) excuse, pardon**
Condone means to excuse, pardon or overlook something wrong, e.g. **We cannot condone such behavior.**

9. **trivial**
✓ **D) of little importance, insignificant**
Trivial means of little importance or insignificant, e.g. **significant or trivial conversations**. Not 'petty, worthless', which is the definition of **paltry**.

10. **bizarre**
✓ **E) fantastic, odd**
Bizarre means fantastic, very odd or strange, e.g. **What a bizarre concept this must seem.**

Practise more on englishtestsonline.com
Take this test online, download its questions PDF, and find thousands of free English tests:
englishtestsonline.com · scan the code for this test
englishtestsonline.com