ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

# Barron’s 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 33 – Day 1

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

**1.** *(Question with a long text: see the questions PDF.)*
✓ **C) complacent**
**Complacent** means self-satisfied: so sure that everything is fine that you stop being careful. The clue is that the guard gave only a **cursory** (quick, careless) inspection because he did not think the prisoner would escape. In the passage, Robert is **far from complacent**: he is worried, not relaxed, about his future.

**2.** **We should be prudent in our play or work during very hot weather, because the sun has the power to enervate and _____ those that scoff at its effects.**
✓ **E) debilitate**
**Debilitate** means to weaken. It fits after **the power to enervate and …**, because **enervate** also means to weaken, so the two verbs go together. Example: **The illness debilitated him for weeks.** It is the only verb among the options.

**3.** **He looked for a propitious moment to exhibit his _____ abilities.**
✓ **D) occult**
**Occult** abilities are secret, mysterious or supernatural powers, such as seeing the future or reading minds. A **propitious** (favourable) moment to show such powers fits the meaning. In the passage, Robert hopes he might develop an **occult power** that would show him where Evelyn is.

**4.** **The deleterious results of his irate outburst put the previously jocose audience in a _____ mood.**
✓ **A) somber**
**Somber** means gloomy or sad. The sentence contrasts the audience's earlier **jocose** (joking, cheerful) mood with the mood after the angry outburst, so the new mood must be the opposite of cheerful: **a somber mood**.

**5.** **They were so moved by the idyllic setting, they exchanged surreptitious, _____ kisses.**
✓ **B) impetuous**
**Impetuous** means impulsive: done suddenly, without thinking first. The couple were **so moved** by the beautiful (**idyllic**) setting that they kissed on a sudden impulse. Example: **an impetuous decision**.

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

**complacent**
✓ **C) self-satisfied**
**Complacent** means self-satisfied: too pleased with yourself or your situation, so you do not see danger or problems. Example: **We can't afford to be complacent about safety.**

**7.** **somber**
✓ **E) gloomy, sad**
**Somber** (British spelling **sombre**) means gloomy or sad, and serious in mood. Example: **The news put everyone in a somber mood.**

**8.** **debilitate**
✓ **D) weaken**
**Debilitate** is a verb that means to weaken, to make someone or something lose strength. Example: **Hunger would debilitate him.**

**9.** **impetuous**
✓ **B) impulsive**
**Impetuous** means impulsive: acting quickly, on a sudden feeling, without thinking carefully. Example: **an impetuous stranger suddenly thrusting money upon him**.

**10.** **occult (adj.)**
✓ **A) secret, mysterious, supernatural**
As an adjective, **occult** means secret, mysterious or supernatural, beyond ordinary human understanding. Example: **He claimed to have occult powers.**

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