ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron’s 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 34 – Day 1

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

Explanations

1. *(Question with a long text: see the questions PDF.)*
✓ **C) cumbersome**
Cumbersome means heavy, awkward and hard to handle. Moving voluminous (very large) records is exactly that kind of difficult job, so it is a **cumbersome job**. The gap needs an adjective before the noun **job**, and **cumbersome** is the only adjective among the options.

2. **Before they began to _____ the criminal, they had to admonish him that his testimony might be used to incarcerate him.**
✓ **D) interrogate**
Interrogate means to question someone closely, often formally, as the police do with a suspect. The words **criminal** and **testimony** show that the police are about to question him. **Divulge** is wrong here: it means to reveal a secret, and you divulge information, not a person.

3. **The hunter maintained a discreet and wary _____ as he waited for the propitious moment to bag his quarry.**
✓ **E) vigil**
A **vigil** is a period of staying awake and watching carefully. The hunter is waiting and watching for the right moment to catch his prey, so he **maintained a wary vigil**. **Maintain a vigil** and **keep a vigil** are common collocations.

4. **Even under duress, he was adamant and would not _____ the secret.**
✓ **B) divulge**
Divulge means to reveal or tell something that was secret. Common phrases are **divulge a secret** and **divulge information**. The sentence says he was **adamant** (he would not change his mind), so even under pressure he would not **divulge the secret**.

5. **The newly married couple selected the _____ for their new home with meticulous care.**
✓ **A) site**
A **site** is the place where something is or will be built. The couple chose the location for their new home, so **the site for their new home** is right. The article **the** tells you that a noun for a place is needed.

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

site
✓ **E) location**
Site means a **location**, especially the place where something is built or happens, e.g. **a building site**, **the site of the battle**.

7. **vigil**
✓ **C) wakeful watching**
A **vigil** is **wakeful watching**: staying awake to watch, wait or guard, often at night, e.g. **She kept a vigil at her sick son's bedside**.

8. **cumbersome**
✓ **A) unwieldy, burdensome**
Cumbersome means **unwieldy** or **burdensome**: large, heavy or awkward and so difficult to carry or use. It can also describe a slow, complicated process, e.g. **a cumbersome way of searching**.

9. **interrogate**
✓ **B) question**
To **interrogate** is to **question** someone closely and in detail, often in a formal or aggressive way, e.g. **The police interrogated the suspect for hours**.

10. **divulge**
✓ **D) disclose, reveal**
To **divulge** is to **disclose** or **reveal** information that was private or secret, e.g. **He refused to divulge her hiding place**.

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