ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron's 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 39 – Day 2

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

Explanations

1. **The coach heaped _____ upon the fledgling ball player.**
   ✔ **E) opprobrium**
   Opprobrium means scorn or harsh criticism. The usual collocation is **heap opprobrium on/upon someone**. The gap needs a noun after **heaped**, so the coach showered the young player with insults. In the passage, the villains treat the women with **opprobrium**.

2. **We are ready to rationalize _____ activities on the part of our side if they are to the detriment of our adversary.**
   ✔ **C) Machiavellian**
   Machiavellian means cunning and guided by advantage, not by principle. The clue is that we excuse our own side's tricks simply because they hurt our adversary. That is the ends-justify-the-means thinking linked with Machiavelli. The passage speaks of the villains' **Machiavellian maneuvers**. Not **unconscionable**: it means shockingly unfair or without conscience, and in this set it fits the Lincoln sentence.

3. **It was _____ to Abraham Lincoln to keep a book he had borrowed without making tenacious efforts to return it.**
   ✔ **D) unconscionable**
   Unconscionable means against one's conscience, morally unacceptable. The pattern **It was unconscionable to someone to do something** says that Lincoln's conscience would not let him keep a borrowed book. Example: **It is unconscionable to cheat a child.**

4. **There was _____ as the presidential nominee entered the convention site.**
   ✔ **B) pandemonium**
   Pandemonium means wild noise, disorder and uproar. The gap needs a noun after **There was**. When a presidential nominee enters a convention, the crowd goes wild with cheering. The passage mentions **the pandemonium of a battle**.

5. **She is such a _____ friend, my reprehensible actions do not cause a schism between us.**
   ✔ **A) staunch**
   Staunch means loyal, firm and reliable. The gap needs an adjective before **friend**. The clue is that even my bad actions do not split us apart, so she is a very loyal friend. The passage mentions **the staunch heroes**.

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

   staunch
   ✔ **B) strong, trusty, firm**
   Staunch means strong, trusty and firm, especially in loyalty or support. Example: **a staunch supporter of the team**.

7. **opprobrium**
   ✔ **A) scorn, insult**
   Opprobrium means scorn, insult or public disgrace. Example: **The plan drew opprobrium from all sides.**

8. **Machiavellian**
   ✔ **D) governed by opportunity, not principled**
   Machiavellian means governed by opportunity and advantage, not by principle; cunning and scheming. Example: **a Machiavellian politician**. Not **without conscience**: that is **unconscionable**.

9. **unconscionable**
   ✔ **C) without conscience, unreasonable**
   Unconscionable means without conscience, or so unreasonable that it is morally unacceptable. Example: **an unconscionable delay**. Not **not principled**: that describes **Machiavellian**.

10. **pandemonium**
    ✔ **E) disorder, uproar**
    Pandemonium means disorder and uproar, a scene of wild noise and confusion. Example: **Pandemonium broke out when the fire alarm rang.**