ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron’s 1100 Words Week 40 Day 4: Vocabulary Quiz

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

Explanations

1. Many students take part-time jobs to ___ their small grants.
✔ **D) augment**
To augment means to increase something by adding to it.

2. The interviewer asked such ___ questions that the scientist struggled to keep a straight face.
✔ **A) fatuous**
Fatuous means silly and pointless, showing a lack of thought.

3. The gymnast could ___ her body into shapes that made the audience gasp.
✔ **C) contort**
To contort means to twist something out of its normal shape.

4. The pianist has a huge ___ of pieces, from Bach to modern jazz.
✔ **B) repertoire**
A repertoire is the whole range of pieces or skills that a performer can perform.

5. The change in the colour of the leaves was almost ___ from one day to the next, but by October the whole hill was red.
✔ **A) imperceptible**
Imperceptible means so small or gradual that it can hardly be noticed.

6. "The museum augmented its collection with a gift of two hundred old maps." What does "augmented" mean here?
✔ **D) increased**
To augment something is to make it larger or more complete.

7. "Everyone groaned at his fatuous suggestion that we cancel winter to save on heating." What does "fatuous" mean here?
✔ **B) silly and pointless**
A fatuous remark is foolish and shows no real thought.

8. "His face contorted with effort as he tried to lift the heavy box onto the shelf." What does "contorted" mean here?
✔ **C) twisted out of shape**
To contort is to twist out of the normal shape, as a face does with pain or effort.

9. "The band's repertoire includes folk songs, jazz standards and a few rock classics." What does "repertoire" mean here?
✔ **A) range of pieces performed**
A repertoire is all the songs, plays or pieces that a performer or group is ready to perform.

10. "The rise in sea level is imperceptible from year to year, yet over a century it becomes significant." What does "imperceptible" mean here?
✔ **C) too small to notice**
Imperceptible describes a change so slight that it cannot be seen or felt at the time.

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