ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron's 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 42 – Day 2

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

Explanations

1. *(Question with a long text: see the questions PDF.)*
✓ **B) diversity**
Diversity means variety, a range of different things. The dictator attacked people who wanted **a diversity of opinions**, that is, many different views, to be expressed. The phrase **a _____ of opinions** needs a noun meaning 'variety', and none of the other words means that.

2. **The fledgling pianist knew that his mentor would take umbrage at his yawning during the lesson, but the feeling of _____ was overwhelming.**
✓ **E) ennui**
Ennui means boredom or weariness caused by lack of interest. The clue is **yawning**: the pianist was so bored that he could not hide it, even though his mentor would be offended. Example: **The long lecture filled the students with ennui.**

3. **He was reticent about revealing his clandestine meetings with a _____ young girl counselor at this camp.**
✓ **D) comely**
Comely is an adjective meaning attractive or good-looking. The gap comes before **young girl counselor**, so it needs an adjective describing a person. Not **frenetic**: it is also an adjective, but 'frantic' does not fit as a description of the counselor here.

4. **They furtively employed every kind of _____ to be able to meet.**
✓ **A) artifice**
Artifice means clever tricks or strategies used to deceive people. **Furtively** (secretly) and the aim of meeting without being seen show that the couple used every kind of trick. Example: **She used every artifice to get past the guards.**

5. **They were vigilant in order that their surreptitious meetings would not be discovered, and it often required _____ changes of plans to preclude exposure.**
✓ **C) frenetic**
Frenetic means frantic, hurried and wildly excited. The couple had to keep their meetings secret, so they often made sudden, hurried **frenetic changes of plans** to avoid being discovered. The gap needs an adjective before **changes**, which rules out the nouns.

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

ennui
✓ **B) boredom**
Ennui (noun) means **boredom**, a tired feeling of having nothing interesting to do. In the passage, commercials try to break through the **ennui** that viewers feel after watching so many advertisements.

7. **comely**
✓ **C) beautiful, handsome**
Comely (adjective) means **beautiful, handsome**, pleasant to look at. In the passage, some commercials feature **a comely girl** to keep viewers watching.

8. **frenetic**
✓ **A) frantic, frenzied**
Frenetic (adjective) means **frantic, frenzied**: fast, wild and full of excited energy. In the passage, loud music comes with **frenetic activities** that hold the viewer's attention.

9. **artifice**
✓ **D) strategy, trickery**
Artifice (noun) means **strategy, trickery**, a clever way of deceiving or influencing people. In the passage, advertisers use every bit of **artifice** the film maker knows to make a strong commercial.

10. **diversity**
✓ **E) variety, change**
Diversity (noun) means **variety, change**, a range of different kinds. In the passage, the **diversity of appeals** matches the many different ways people react to commercials.

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