ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Barron’s 1100 Words You Need to Know (MCQ Test + PDF) Week 8 – Day 2

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

Explanations

1. **The stool pigeon, the detective’s confidant, told him about the _____ plot.**
   ✓ **C) sinister**
   Sinister means evil or threatening harm. A plot that a police informer reveals is a secret, dangerous plan, so a **sinister plot** fits. The other words are nouns or describe suffering or being surrounded, so they cannot describe a plot.

2. **By running up a white flag, the _____ troops indicated their desire to withdraw from the fray.**
   ✓ **D) besieged**
   Besieged troops are surrounded by the enemy. Running up a white flag shows that the surrounded soldiers want to give up or withdraw. Not **afflicted**, because that means troubled by illness or hardship, not surrounded.

3. **Citizens of several Kentucky mountain communities are _____ by the worst poverty in the nation.**
   ✓ **E) afflicted**
   To afflict means to trouble greatly or cause suffering. The passive **are afflicted by** fits the clue **by the worst poverty**: the communities suffer from poverty. Not **besieged**, because that means surrounded by an army, not suffering from a problem.

4. **The emaciated prisoners were obviously suffering from advanced _____.**
   ✓ **A) malnutrition**
   Malnutrition is illness caused by a poor or inadequate diet. The clue is **emaciated** (extremely thin), and people **suffer from advanced malnutrition**. Not **privation**, which means a general lack of necessities, not a medical condition.

5. **Albert Schweitzer endured considerable _____ as a jungle doctor.**
   ✓ **B) privation**
   Privation means a lack of the basic things needed for life, such as food, comfort or shelter. A jungle doctor lives without many comforts, so he **endured considerable privation**. Not **malnutrition**, because the sentence is about general hardship, not a disease caused by diet.

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

   malnutrition
   ✓ **B) faulty or inadequate diet**
   Malnutrition means a faulty or inadequate diet, or the poor health it causes. Example: **Many children in the camp suffered from malnutrition.**

7. **afflict**
   ✓ **E) to trouble greatly, to distress**
   To afflict means to trouble greatly or to cause pain or distress. Example: **The region is afflicted by drought.**

8. **besiege**
   ✓ **D) to surround, hem in**
   To besiege means to surround a place, usually with an army, and hem it in. Example: **The enemy besieged the city for months.**

9. **privation**
   ✓ **A) lack of necessities**
   Privation means a lack of necessities such as food, warmth or shelter. Example: **The settlers suffered great privation in their first winter.** Not **faulty or inadequate diet**, which is the meaning of **malnutrition**.

10. **sinister**
    ✓ **C) evil, ominous**
    Sinister means evil or ominous, suggesting that something bad will happen. Example: **He gave a sinister smile.**

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