ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

English Synonyms Vocabulary MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise 8

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Explanations

1. Find the synonym of the following words.

Temporary
✓ **A) provisional**
Temporary and **provisional** both mean lasting only for a short time, until something permanent replaces it: **a provisional/temporary arrangement**. **Permanent**, **constant** and **enduring** mean the opposite: lasting a long time.

2. Go off
✓ **A) spoil**
When food **goes off**, it becomes bad and can't be eaten, so it **spoils**: **The milk has gone off.** Not **break**: a machine breaks, food does not 'go off' in that sense.

3. Remedy
✓ **D) cure**
A **remedy** is something that makes an illness or a problem better, so it is a **cure**: **a remedy for a cold**.

4. Seldom
✓ **A) rarely**
Seldom means not often, so it means **rarely**: **He seldom/rarely eats meat. Frequently**, **regularly** and **often** are opposites.

5. Ban
✓ **B) prohibit**
To **ban** something means to officially say that it is not allowed, so it means to **prohibit**: **Smoking is banned/prohibited here.**

6. Raw
✓ **D) uncooked**
Raw food has not been cooked, so it is **uncooked**: **raw fish**. Not **rotten** or **moldy**: these describe food that has gone bad.

7. Lucrative
✓ **C) profitable**
Lucrative means making a lot of money, so it means **profitable**: **a lucrative business**. Not **crucial**, which means very important.

8. Discover
✓ **C) find out**
To **discover** something means to learn a fact you didn't know, so it means to **find out**: **I found out/discovered the truth.** Not **sort out**, which means to organise or solve.

9. Simply
✓ **A) merely**
Simply can mean only or just, the same as **merely**: **It was simply/merely a mistake.** Not **actually**, which means in fact.

10. Classify
✓ **B) sort out**
To **classify** things means to put them into groups by type, which is like **sort out**: **Sort out the papers into piles.** Not **tie up** (fasten with string) or **tear up** (rip into pieces).

11. Devious
✓ **D) crooked**
A **devious** person is dishonest and uses tricks to get what they want. In informal English this is **crooked**: **a crooked/devious businessman**. **Honest** is the opposite.

12. Stress
✓ **B) emphasize**
To **stress** a point means to give it special importance, so it means to **emphasize**: **She stressed/emphasized the need for safety. Omit**, **leave out** and **ignore** mean the opposite.

13. Contaminate
✓ **D) pollute**
To **contaminate** means to make something dirty or harmful by adding a bad substance, so it means to **pollute**: **The river was contaminated/polluted by chemicals. Purify** is the opposite.

14. Timetable
✓ **C) schedule**
A **timetable** is a list of times when things happen, so it is a **schedule**: **a train timetable/schedule**. Not **scheme** (a plan) or **minutes** (a written record of a meeting).

15. Slowly
✓ **B) gradually**
Gradually means slowly, little by little over time: **The weather gradually got warmer.** Not **briefly**, which means for a short time.

16. Harm
✓ **C) damage**
Harm means physical injury or damage to something, so it is closest to **damage**: **The storm did a lot of harm/damage.** Not **peril**, which means great danger, not the damage itself.

17. Incidentally

✓ **C) by the way**

Incidentally is used to add something extra or change the topic, like **by the way**: **Incidentally, have you seen Tom?** Not **in any case**, which means whatever happens.

18. Summit

✓ **C) peak**

The **summit** is the highest point of a mountain, so it is the **peak**: **They reached the summit/peak at noon. Bottom** is the opposite.

19. Skin

✓ **A) peel**

The **skin** of a fruit such as an orange or a banana is also called the **peel**. Not **pip**, **seed** or **stone**: these are the hard parts inside fruit.

20. Walk out

✓ **A) leave**

To **walk out** means to **leave** a place suddenly, often because you are angry: **He walked out of the meeting.** Not **work out**, which means to solve or to exercise.

21. Glimmer

✓ **B) shimmer**

To **glimmer** means to shine with a weak, unsteady light, similar to **shimmer**: **Lights glimmered/shimmered on the water. Darken** is the opposite.

22. Goods

✓ **C) possessions**

Your **goods** are the things you own, so they are your **possessions**: **He sold all his goods/possessions.** Not **legacy**, **heritage** or **patrimony**: these mean things passed down from earlier generations.

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