ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Everyday Vocabulary Education Test

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Explanations

1. (Please note: The following questions are part of a cloze test. They are interrelated, meaning that the information provided in each question is connected to the others.)

EDUCATION

When children are two or three years old, they sometimes go to a _____ school, where they learn simple games and songs.
✔ **B) nursery**
A **nursery school** is for very young children, about two to four years old, before they start real school. They play games and sing songs there. Not **primary**, because primary school starts at about five.

2. Their first real school is called a _____ school.
✔ **A) primary**
A **primary school** is the first real school, for children from about five to eleven. Not **secondary**, because secondary school comes after primary school.

3. The _____ year in Britain begins in September and is divided into three _____.
✔ **A) academic**
The **academic year** (also **school year**) is the period of the year when students go to school or university. In Britain it starts in September.

4. The _____ year in Britain begins in September and is divided into three _____.
✔ **D) terms**
A **term** is one of the periods the school year is divided into. British schools have three terms: autumn, spring and summer. Not **forms**, because a form is a class or year group.

5. Schools _____ for the summer holiday in July.
✔ **B) break up**
Break up is a phrasal verb used in British English when schools close at the end of a term for the holidays: **Schools break up in July.** Not **break down**, which means a machine stops working or a person loses control of their feelings.

6. _____ education begins at the age of about eleven, and most schools at this level are _____, which means boys and girls study together in the same classes.
✔ **C) Secondary**
Secondary education is the stage after primary school, starting at about eleven. Not **higher**, because higher education means university or college, after 18.

7. _____ education begins at the age of about eleven, and most schools at this level are _____, which means boys and girls study together in the same classes.
✔ **D) co-educational**
Co-educational (or **mixed**) schools have boys and girls studying together. The sentence explains it: "boys and girls study together in the same classes".

8. In Britain, education is _____ from five to 16 years of age, but many children choose to remain at school for another two or three years after 16 to take higher exams.
✔ **C) compulsory**
Compulsory means that something must be done by law. All children must go to school from 5 to 16. The clue is the contrast with **choose to remain** after 16. Not **voluntary**, which means the opposite.

9. Most children go to _____ schools, which are maintained by the government or local education authorities, but some children go to _____ schools, which can be very expensive.
✔ **C) state**
State schools are paid for by the government or local authorities, so they are free. The clue is "maintained by the government". Not **private**, because private schools are paid for by parents.

10. Most children go to _____ schools, which are maintained by the government or local education authorities, but some children go to _____ schools, which can be very expensive.
✔ **B) private**
Private schools are not run by the government. Parents pay fees, so they can be very expensive. The word **but** shows the contrast with **state** schools.

11. University courses normally last three years and then students _____, which means they receive their _____.
✔ **C) graduate**
To **graduate** means to finish a university course successfully and receive a degree: **She graduated in 2020.** Not **break up**, because that is used for schools closing for the holidays.

12. University courses normally last three years and then students _____, which means they receive their _____.
✔ **C) degree**
A **degree** is the qualification you get when you finish a university course, e.g. a **BA** or **BSc**. Not **certificate**, because a certificate is usually a lower qualification or document, not what you receive when you graduate from university.

13. At university, teaching is by _____ (an individual lesson between a teacher and one or two students), _____ (a class of students discussing a subject with a teacher), _____ (when a teacher gives a prepared talk to a number of students) and of course private study.
✔ B) tutorial
A **tutorial** is a lesson between a teacher (tutor) and one or a few students. The definition in brackets gives the clue: "an individual lesson". Not **lesson**, because that is a general word, not a special kind of university teaching.

14. At university, teaching is by _____ (an individual lesson between a teacher and one or two students), _____ (a class of students discussing a subject with a teacher), _____ (when a teacher gives a prepared talk to a number of students) and of course private study.
✔ D) seminar
A **seminar** is a class where a small group of students discusses a subject with a teacher. Not **discussion**, because that is the activity, not the name of the class.

15. At university, teaching is by _____ (an individual lesson between a teacher and one or two students), _____ (a class of students discussing a subject with a teacher), _____ (when a teacher gives a prepared talk to a number of students) and of course private study.
✔ A) lecture
A **lecture** is a prepared talk given by a teacher to a large group of students. The clue is "a prepared talk to a number of students". Not **seminar**, because in a seminar students discuss together.

16. Most people who receive a university place are given a _____ by the government to help pay their _____ and living expenses.
✔ B) grant
A **grant** is money given by the government or an organisation for a purpose such as study, which you don't pay back: **a student grant**. Not **award**, which is usually a prize for doing something well.

17. Most people who receive a university place are given a _____ by the government to help pay their _____ and living expenses.
✔ A) fees
Fees are the money you pay to a school or university for teaching: **tuition fees**. Not **expenditures**, because that is a formal word for money spent in general, not money paid for a course.

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