ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Everyday Vocabulary The Telephone Test

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

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.)

THE TELEPHONE

How easy it is to use the telephone! Nowadays we usually don't need the _____ to connect us to friends in other countries.
✔ **D) operator**
An **operator** is a person at the telephone company who connects calls for you. Today we can call other countries ourselves, so we don't need an operator. A **directory** is a book of phone numbers, not a person.

2. We can _____ the number in the telephone _____, pick up the _____ and _____ the number.
✔ **C) look up**
To **look up** a number or word means to find it in a book or list: **I looked up her number in the phone book.** Not **look through**, which means to read quickly through many pages, not to find one piece of information.

3. We can _____ the number in the telephone _____, pick up the _____ and _____ the number.
✔ **B) directory**
A **telephone directory** is a book with a list of people's names, addresses and phone numbers. An **agenda** is a list of things to discuss at a meeting.

4. We can _____ the number in the telephone _____, pick up the _____ and _____ the number.
✔ **A) receiver**
The **receiver** is the part of the telephone that you hold to your ear and speak into. We **pick up the receiver** to make a call and **put it down** to end the call.

5. We can _____ the number in the telephone _____, pick up the _____ and _____ the number.
✔ **A) dial**
To **dial** a number means to press the buttons (or turn the dial) on the phone to make a call: **Pick up the receiver and dial the number.** We don't **search** or **operate** a number.

6. If the number is not _____, we _____ straight away and if it's a good _____, we can have a clear, easy conversation with people on the other side of the world.
✔ **D) engaged**
A phone line is **engaged** (British English) when someone else is already using it, so you can't get through. The sentence says **not engaged**, so the call connects at once. Not **free**: **not free** would mean the line is busy, which doesn't fit **straight away**.

7. If the number is not _____, we _____ straight away and if it's a good _____, we can have a clear, easy conversation with people on the other side of the world.
✔ **C) get through**
To **get through** means to manage to connect with someone on the phone: **I tried to call you, but I couldn't get through. Get by** means to manage with little money, and **get in** and **get out** are about entering and leaving.

8. If the number is not _____, we _____ straight away and if it's a good _____, we can have a clear, easy conversation with people on the other side of the world.
✔ **B) line**
A telephone **line** is the connection between two phones. **A good line** means you can hear clearly, and **a bad line** means there is noise. Not **wire**: we don't talk about **a good wire** for a clear call.

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