ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

General ESL Vocabulary MCQ Test With Answers – Advanced Level Exercise 07

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Explanations

1. Gone -- but _____ forgotten.
✓ **D) by no means**
By no means means 'not at all' or 'certainly not'. **Gone but by no means forgotten** says the person has died but is certainly not forgotten. Not **by all means**, which means 'of course, please do' and gives the opposite sense.

2. It has been _____ that at present there may well be over 2 billion web documents, with over 1 million web sites added daily.
✓ **C) estimated**
Estimate means to calculate a number roughly when you cannot count it exactly. Here **may well be over 2 billion** shows the figure is approximate, and **It has been estimated that...** is a fixed pattern for this. **Outlined** means 'described in general terms' and does not fit with a number.

3. Producing quality fertilizers begins with a reliable, low-cost supply of _____ materials, such as natural gas, phosphate rock, and elemental sulphur.
✓ **B) raw**
Raw materials are natural substances in their basic state, before they are processed into products, such as gas, rock and sulphur here. Not **crude**: it is used for specific substances like **crude oil**, not in the fixed phrase **raw materials**. **Scrap** means waste metal or paper, and **rude** and **vulgar** describe behaviour.

4. Fadime and her husband Hüsam lived in the _____ secluded village of Minikköy in the Taurus Mountains in southern Anatolia.
✓ **B) tiny**
Tiny means very small and goes naturally with **secluded** (far from other places) to describe a remote mountain village. The name **Minikköy** even means 'tiny village' in Turkish. **Enormous** contradicts the idea of a secluded village, and **tidy** or **local** do not describe its size or remoteness.

5. Being considered a hardened criminal, I failed to find any character witness to testify on my behalf. The jury simply believed that I could never be _____ by any such feelings of guilt.
✓ **E) troubled**
To be **troubled by** a feeling means to be worried or disturbed by it, as in **She was troubled by doubts**. The jury thought a hardened criminal would never feel bad about his crimes. The other verbs do not collocate with **feelings of guilt**.

6. The new manager was reported in yesterday's company newsletter as _____ his grip on spending. Staff can now buy small items without asking for permission.
✓ **A) loosening**
To **loosen your grip on** something means to reduce your control over it. The second sentence shows the clue: staff no longer need permission, so control has become weaker. **Unlocking** does not combine with **grip**.

7. Don't mumble. Don't swallow your words. Don't talk in a monotone. Don't use jargon or undefined terms. Avoid mannerisms that will distract your audience from what you are saying. In a word, please stop speaking _____.
✓ **A) unintelligibly**
Unintelligibly means in a way that cannot be understood. Mumbling, swallowing words and using jargon all make a speaker hard to understand, and **In a word** introduces a one-word summary of that problem. **Vividly**, **humorously** and **explicitly** are positive or neutral qualities, so they do not summarise a list of faults.

8. Gold prospecting is entirely a lottery: there are myriad examples of industrious, persevering, _____ men, working hard for years and years, but ending up poorer than they had ever been before.
✓ **D) thrifty**
Thrifty means careful with money and not wasteful. It fits the list of positive qualities (**industrious, persevering**) and creates the contrast with **ending up poorer**: even careful, hard-working men lost money. **Extravagant**, **spendthrift**, **wasteful** and **happy-go-lucky** would explain their poverty, so the contrast with **but** would be lost.

9. When he died at the age of eighty, the townsfolk gave him a _____ funeral and had an enormous statue of him on his horse erected in front of the town hall.
✓ **C) huge**
A **huge funeral** is a very large one, attended by many people. This matches the town's great respect for him, which is also shown by the **enormous statue**. **Swift**, **relevant**, **focal** and **worn-out** do not describe a funeral that honours someone.

10. There are myriad examples of grotesque injustices, including the sentencing of innocent defendants to death, the deliberate _____ of evidence, and the routine misuse of so-called expert testimony.
✔ **B) falsification**
Falsification is the act of changing something so that it becomes false, as in **the falsification of evidence**. The word **deliberate** and the list of **grotesque injustices** show that something dishonest was done to the evidence. Not **exploitation**, which means using something unfairly for profit and does not collocate with evidence in this sense.

11. The security forces knew it would not prove difficult to _____ the culprits in such a small village.
✔ **C) track down**
To **track down** someone means to find them after searching, as in **The police tracked down the thief**. In a small village, finding the guilty people would be easy. **Rush into**, **refrain from** and **conjure up** have unrelated meanings, and **witness to** is not used with a direct object like this.

12. The new teaching method was adopted, to varying _____, by all the schools in the district.
✔ **E) degrees**
To varying degrees is a fixed phrase meaning 'some more and some less' or 'to different extents'. For example, **All the students improved, to varying degrees**. **Heights**, **states**, **terms** and **opinions** do not form this expression.

13. Radio telescopes have one big advantage over _____ ones in that they can operate in all weather conditions. They can also pick up signals coming from very distant stars.
✔ **E) conventional**
Conventional means ordinary or traditional. Here it refers to the usual optical telescopes, which need clear skies. Radio telescopes are compared with these standard ones. Not **remote**, because that describes distance and gives no contrast in how the telescopes work.

14. Radio and television have made it possible for advertisers to _____ the attention of millions of people in many novel ways.
✔ **B) capture**
To **capture someone's attention** means to attract and hold it, and it is a strong collocation. Advertisers want millions of people to notice them. Not **inhibit**, which means to hold back or prevent, the opposite of what advertisers want.

15. The Turkish Human _____ Foundation, funding as it does programs and projects that promote human rights, equal treatment and tolerance, aims at achieving and safeguarding social justice for all.
✔ **E) Dignity**
Human dignity is the worth and respect every person deserves. It fits naturally with **human rights, equal treatment and tolerance**. **Sanity**, **wisdom**, **maturity** and **humility** are personal qualities, not social values that a rights foundation would safeguard.

16. Can we say that the soul is the "_____" of our inner world? Can we believe in its immortality?
✔ **E) inhabitant**
An **inhabitant** is someone who lives in a place. The question pictures the soul as living inside our **inner world**, and **inhabit** means 'to live in'. **Inhibition** (a feeling that stops you acting freely) looks similar but has a different meaning.

17. Suspended from the ceiling, these spheres had been _____ so that they attracted or repelled one another all the time.
✔ **E) magnetized**
Magnetized means made magnetic. Only magnets **attract or repel** one another, which is the clue in the sentence. **Suspended** repeats the start of the sentence and gives no reason for the attraction. **Juxtaposed** only means 'placed side by side'.

18. In the normal brain, a large number of substances were _____ that were later found to be abnormal in quantity or metabolism in a substantial variety of neurological disorders.
✔ **A) identified**
Identified means recognised or discovered. Scientists first found these substances in the normal brain and later linked them to disorders. **Deviated** and **experimented** are intransitive (**experiment on/with**), so they cannot be used in the passive here.

19. No _____ journalist would ever stoop to fabricating or distorting his news for political or financial gain.
✔ **B) self-respecting**
Self-respecting describes someone who has pride in their work and principles. **No self-respecting journalist would…** is a common pattern meaning a good professional would never do something shameful like **stoop to** lying. Not **self-conscious**, which means shy or embarrassed about how others see you.

20. An area of gradual transition from marsh to firm ground is generally known as a (an) _____ or seasonal marsh. The edge is _____ and the vegetation is similar to that of the surrounding ground.
✔ **C) indistinct / indistinct**
Indistinct means not clear or sharply defined. A **gradual transition** from marsh to firm ground means you cannot see exactly where the marsh ends, so its edge is **indistinct**. The plants also look like those of the surrounding ground. The other adjectives say nothing about a blurred boundary.

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