ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

How to Keep Building Your English Vocabulary After C2 Quiz

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Explanations

1. To write well about so many subjects, a journalist needs to ___.
✔ **A) read widely**
Read widely means read many kinds of text. Wide is not used as the adverb here, and largely means mostly.

2. The course asks students to read a novel a week for pleasure, without stopping for every word: ___ reading.
✔ **B) extensive**
Extensive reading is a lot of reading, fast and for pleasure. Intensive reading studies a short text closely; expensive and expansive don't fit.

3. Learners at A2 can enjoy a detective story as a ___, retold with a limited set of words.
✔ **C) graded reader**
A graded reader is written or retold for one level. The other forms are not used.

4. She was a ___ reader, finishing two or three books a week.
✔ **D) voracious**
A voracious reader reads hungrily, one book after another. Vivacious means lively, voluminous means very large, and various means several different.

5. He's very ___: he can talk about Russian novels and Greek history.
✔ **A) well-read**
Well-read (said like red) means you know a lot from reading. The other forms are misspellings or not used.

6. I don't read poetry collections from cover to cover; I just ___ them now and then.
✔ **B) dip into**
Dip into means read parts of a book, here and there. Dip in and dive in don't take an object like this, and plunge means fall or push suddenly.

7. Before her trip to Morocco, she ___ the country's history.
✔ **C) read up on**
Read up on means read a lot about one subject because you need it. Read on means continue reading, read out means read aloud, and read through on is not used.

8. I only have five minutes, so I'll ___ the report for the main points.
✔ **D) skim**
Skim means read quickly for the general idea. Skip means not read it at all, and scheme and skin are different words.

9. Each entry in my ___ has the word, the sentence where I met it, its partners and my own example.
✔ **A) word bank**
A word bank is your own searchable collection of words. The other phrases are not used.

10. Predict, prediction, predictable and unpredictably belong to one ___.
✔ **B) word family**
A word family is a base word and the forms made from it. They are different word classes (verb, noun, adjective, adverb), and partners are words that go together.

11. I understand "albeit" when I read it, but I never use it: it's in my ___ vocabulary.
✔ **C) passive**
Passive vocabulary is the words you understand but don't use. Active and productive vocabulary are the words you do use.

12. Watching documentaries on new subjects is a great way to ___ your vocabulary.
✔ **D) expand**
You expand (or widen, or build) your vocabulary. Inflate means fill with air, lengthen is for time and objects, and grow up is what children do.

13. To prepare for the job in Montreal, she ___ in French films, radio and podcasts.
✔ **A) immersed herself**
Immerse yourself in means surround yourself with it. The verb needs the reflexive pronoun here, and dive and sink are not used reflexively like this.

14. I haven't played the piano since I moved flats, so my playing is a bit ___.
✔ **B) rusty**
A skill you haven't used is rusty. Rusted is for metal, and rustic means simple and country-style.

15. After a year of quick progress, many C1 learners ___ for a while; the answer is to keep reading, like any ___.
✔ **C) hit a plateau … lifelong learner**
Hit (or reach) a plateau means stop improving for a while. You become a lifelong learner, someone who keeps learning all their life; lifelong learning is the activity, so it can't follow like any. Long-life is for milk and batteries, and a plain is flat land.