ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Speaking Verbs in English Quiz: Whisper, Mutter, Admit, Deny

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1	**A**	2	**B**	3	**C**	4	**D**	5	**A**	6	**B**	7	**C**	8	**D**	9	**A**	10	**B**
11	**C**	12	**D**	13	**A**	14	**B**	15	**C**										

Explanations

1. “Don’t wake Dad,” she ___ in my ear.
✔ **A) whispered**
Whisper: you speak with breath and no voice, close to someone’s ear.

2. Speak clearly and open your mouth! Don’t ___. Nobody can understand you.
✔ **B) mumble**
Mumble: you speak quietly without opening your mouth much, so people say “Sorry?”

3. “Typical,” he ___ quietly to himself when the bus drove past without stopping.
✔ **C) muttered**
Mutter: you say something quietly to yourself, usually because you’re annoyed.

4. The fans ___ at the players, and a little girl ___ when the ball flew towards her.
✔ **D) yelled … screamed**
Yell: shout loudly, often because you’re angry or excited. Scream: a very high, loud cry, often from fear.

5. In the end, I ___ my parents to let me go to the festival.
✔ **A) persuaded**
Persuade someone to do something: they said no at first, but your reasons changed their mind.

6. “Yes, it was me. Sorry.” He finally ___ breaking the window.
✔ **B) admitted**
Admit doing something: you did something wrong, and now you say so.

7. She ___ taking the money, but the camera showed it was her.
✔ **C) denied**
Deny doing something: someone says you did it, and you say, “No, I didn’t!”

8. My aunt always insists ___ paying when we eat out together.
✔ **D) on**
Insist on doing something: others say no, but you don’t give up.

9. He ___ to know the president, but nobody believes him.
✔ **A) claims**
Claim to be or to do: someone says it’s true, but there’s no proof.

10. My teacher ___ that I had written the same word twice.
✔ **B) pointed out**
Point out that: you show someone a fact they didn’t notice.

11. Did your sister ___ her exam results when she phoned?
✔ **C) mention**
Mention something: you say it quickly, in a few words. There is no about after mention.

12. He’s always ___ about how much money he earns. It’s so boring.
✔ **D) boasting**
Boast about: you talk too proudly about your money, your car or your marks.

13. Please don’t ___ me while I’m talking. You can speak when I’ve finished.
✔ **A) interrupt**
Interrupt: someone is speaking, and you start talking before they finish.

14. The doctor ___ him not to smoke, and his children ___ him to stop.
✔ **B) warned … begged**
Warn someone not to do: tell them about a danger. Beg someone to do: ask again and again, with real feeling.

15. My neighbours love to ___ about everyone in the street.
✔ **C) gossip**
Gossip about: you talk about other people’s private lives when they aren’t there.

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