ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Use of English Vocabulary Test P

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11	**C**	12	**B**	13	**D**	14	**A**	15	**A**										

Explanations

1. **(Please note: Questions 1-15 are part of a cloze test. They are interrelated, meaning that the information provided in each question is connected to the others.)**

Bad News

The mass media nowadays are our main source of information about what's happening in the world and the impression one _____ from them about human _____ is pretty depressing.
✔ **C) gets**
The usual collocation is **get an impression from** something: **the impression one gets from them**. Not **draws**: we **draw a conclusion**, not an impression.

2. The mass media nowadays are our main source of information about what's happening in the world and the impression one _____ from them about human _____ is pretty depressing.
✔ **A) nature**
Human nature means the typical qualities and behaviour of people in general, which is what the media show. Not **species**: that would need **the human species**, and the text is about how people behave.

3. My blood _____ rises every time I switch the television on.
✔ **C) pressure**
Blood pressure is the fixed expression, and **my blood pressure rises** means I become angry or stressed. **Blood temperature** and **blood level** are not used this way.

4. Apart from the gossip about _____ personalities, the picture they paint of human _____ is that they are violent and bloodthirsty.
✔ **D) show business**
Show business is the entertainment industry (films, TV, music). **Show business personalities** are famous people from it, such as actors and singers, and this is a fixed collocation. **Film affairs** and **show star** are not natural English. **Film businesses** is wrong because a plural noun cannot describe **personalities** here.

5. Apart from the gossip about _____ personalities, the picture they paint of human _____ is that they are violent and bloodthirsty.
✔ **A) beings**
Human beings means people as a species, and it fits the plural **they are violent**. **Human people** and **human characters** are not natural English.

6. They just report crimes, violations of human rights and the way we are destroying our natural _____.
✔ **D) resources**
Natural resources are things like forests, water, oil and minerals that we use and can destroy. Not **materials**: **natural materials** means things like wood or cotton used to make products.

7. They rarely report _____ in science or medicine; it's a bleak picture.
✔ **D) breakthroughs**
A **breakthrough** is an important new discovery or development, e.g. **a breakthrough in cancer research**. A **break-in** is entering a building to steal, and a **break-up** is the end of a relationship.

8. Last night, there was a report about a mass _____ from a prison in Chicago during which five prison guards _____ dead as the prisoners were _____ their getaway.
✔ **B) break-out**
A **break-out** is an escape from prison, and **from a prison** is the clue. Not **break-in**: that means forcing your way into a building, not out of it.

9. Last night, there was a report about a mass _____ from a prison in Chicago during which five prison guards _____ dead as the prisoners were _____ their getaway.
✔ **D) were shot**
The guards did not shoot; someone shot them, so we need the passive. **Last night** shows a finished past event, so the past simple passive **were shot (dead)** is correct. Not **have been shot**: the present perfect is not used with a finished past time like **last night**.

10. Last night, there was a report about a mass _____ from a prison in Chicago during which five prison guards _____ dead as the prisoners were _____ their getaway.
✔ **B) making**
The fixed expression is **make one's getaway**, which means to escape, e.g. **The robbers made their getaway in a stolen car.**

11. Then there was the story of someone who _____ gunned down by police when he went berserk and massacred ten innocent _____ in a shopping centre somewhere - again - in the United States.
✔ **C) got**
Get + past participle is an informal passive: **someone who got gunned down** means **someone who was shot**. Not **has been**: the story is about a finished past event, so the present perfect does not fit. **Was got** is not a correct form.

12. Then there was the story of someone who _____ gunned down by police when he went berserk and massacred ten innocent _____ in a shopping centre somewhere - again - in the United States.
✓ **B) passers-by**
Passers-by are people who happen to be walking past when something happens, and **innocent passers-by** is a common collocation. Note the plural: **passer** takes the **-s**, not **by**. Not **onlookers**: these are people who watch an event on purpose.

13. I see now where Hollywood _____ get their ideas from.
✓ **D) screenwriters**
Screenwriters are people who write scripts for films. The other options are not real English words.

14. They just turn on the news and they've got themselves a _____ scenario.
✓ **A) ready-made**
Ready-made means already prepared and ready to use without any extra work. The news gives Hollywood a complete story it can use straight away, e.g. **a ready-made excuse**.

15. It seems to me that news _____ have become a form of entertainment.
✓ **A) bulletins**
A **news bulletin** is a short news programme on TV or radio, and these programmes are what have **become a form of entertainment**. Not **broadcasters** or **reporters**: these are companies and people, not programmes.

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