ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Verbal Advantage – Level 02 Word 41 – Word 50 MCQ Test

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1	C	2	B	3	C	4	A	5	B	6	C	7	B	8	A	9	A	10	C

Explanations

1. Does ***cursory*** mean unnecessary, offensive, or superficial?
✔ **C) superficial**
Cursory means quick, hasty and not thorough, so it is **superficial**: **She gave the report only a cursory glance.** A cursory look skips the details. It is not necessarily **unnecessary**, and it has nothing to do with being offensive.

2. Does ***vacillate*** mean to lubricate, to waver, or to deceive?
✔ **B) to waver**
To **vacillate** means **to waver**: to go back and forth between opinions or choices and be unable to decide. Example: **He vacillated between taking the job and staying in school.**

3. Does ***clement*** mean gracious, harsh, or mild?
✔ **C) mild**
Clement means **mild** or temperate, and it is used especially of weather: **We enjoyed a week of clement weather.** Used of a person, it means merciful, as in the related noun **clemency**. **Harsh** is the opposite, and **gracious** means polite and kind, which is a different idea.

4. Does ***lucrative*** mean profitable, prudent, or unethical?
✔ **A) profitable**
Lucrative means **profitable**, that is, producing a lot of money: **a lucrative business deal**. It says nothing about whether something is wise (**prudent**) or morally wrong (**unethical**).

5. Does ***allocate*** mean to place, to assign, or to support?
✔ **B) to assign**
To **allocate** means **to assign** or distribute something, such as money, time or tasks, for a particular purpose: **The city allocated funds for new schools.** It means more than simply **to place**: it means to give out a share for a specific use.

6. Does ***reconcile*** mean to examine closely, to deduce from evidence, or to make friendly again?
✔ **C) to make friendly again**
To **reconcile** means **to make friendly again**, to bring people back together after a quarrel: **The brothers were finally reconciled.** It can also mean to make two things agree, as in **reconcile the accounts**.

7. Is a ***paragon*** a reproduction, a model of excellence, or the highest point?
✔ **B) a model of excellence**
A **paragon** is **a model of excellence**, a perfect example of a quality: **She is a paragon of patience.** Not **the highest point**, which is a pinnacle or zenith.

8. Does ***analogous*** mean similar, identical, or out of proportion?
✔ **A) similar**
Analogous means **similar** or comparable in certain ways: **The heart is analogous to a pump.** Not **identical**, because analogous things are alike in some respects but not the same.

9. Does ***diurnal*** mean daily, occasional, or constant?
✔ **A) daily**
Diurnal means **daily**, happening every day. It also means active during the daytime: **Most birds are diurnal.** Its opposite in the second sense is **nocturnal**.

10. Is a ***pretext*** an introduction, an opportunity, or an excuse?
✔ **C) an excuse**
A **pretext** is **an excuse**, a false reason given to hide the real one: **He called on the pretext of returning a book.** Not **an introduction**, even though the prefix **pre-** suggests 'before'.

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