ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

# Verbal Advantage – Level 03 Word 21 – Word 30 MCQ Test

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| 1 | A | 2 | B | 3 | A | 4 | B | 5 | B | 6 | A | 7 | A | 8 | B | 9 | A | 10 | A |
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## Explanations

**1.** Circumspect and cautious are _____.
✓ **A) synonyms**
**Circumspect** means careful to consider all risks before acting, which is what **cautious** means, so the two words are synonyms. Example: **A circumspect investor checks every detail before signing.**

**2.** Animated and quiescent are _____.
✓ **B) antonyms**
**Animated** means lively and full of energy. **Quiescent** means quiet, inactive or at rest. The meanings are opposite, so the words are antonyms. Example: **The volcano has been quiescent for centuries.**

**3.** Flaw and foible are _____.
✓ **A) synonyms**
A **foible** is a minor weakness or odd habit in someone's character, a small **flaw**. Both words name a fault, so they are synonyms. Example: **His only foible is being late.**

**4.** Fervent and impassive are _____.
✓ **B) antonyms**
**Fervent** means showing strong, passionate feeling. **Impassive** means showing no emotion at all. The meanings are opposite, so the words are antonyms. Example: **Her face remained impassive during the fervent debate.**

**5.** To protract and to curtail are _____.
✓ **B) antonyms**
To **protract** is to make something last longer, to drag it out. To **curtail** is to cut something short or reduce it. The meanings are opposite, so the verbs are antonyms. Example: **The meeting was curtailed, not protracted.**

**6.** Flamboyant and ostentatious are _____.
✓ **A) synonyms**
**Flamboyant** means showy and colourful in a way that attracts attention. **Ostentatious** means showy in order to impress others. Both describe a showy display, so they are synonyms. **Ostentatious** usually sounds more disapproving.

**7.** Quandary and predicament are _____.
✓ **A) synonyms**
A **quandary** is a state of not knowing what to do in a difficult situation. A **predicament** is a difficult or unpleasant situation. Both refer to a tricky position, so they are synonyms. Example: **She was in a quandary about which job offer to accept.**

**8.** To censure and to commend are _____.
✓ **B) antonyms**
To **censure** is to criticize someone strongly and formally. To **commend** is to praise someone. The meanings are opposite, so the verbs are antonyms. Example: **The senator was censured for misconduct, while his aide was commended for honesty.**

**9.** To cavil and to quibble are _____.
✓ **A) synonyms**
To **cavil** means to raise trivial, petty objections. To **quibble** means to argue or complain about small, unimportant details. Both describe nitpicking, so they are synonyms. Example: **Don't cavil about the wording; the idea is good.**

**10.** To absorb and to assimilate are _____.
✓ **A) synonyms**
To **assimilate** means to take in and fully understand or incorporate something, as in **assimilate new information**, which is the same as to **absorb** it. The verbs are synonyms.

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