ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Vocabulary Test About DECORATING Choose The Right Answer MCQ Exercise 129

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Explanations

1. It took us only one day to _____ the paper off all four walls.
✔ **C) scrape**
To **scrape** something off means to remove it from a surface by rubbing it with a hard or sharp tool, e.g. **scrape the old paper off the walls**. Not **chip**, which means to break off small pieces of something hard like paint or stone, not wallpaper.

2. If you paint the walls cream, I think it will _____ the colour of the curtains better.
✔ **A) bring out**
To **bring out** a colour or quality means to make it easier to see or notice: **Cream walls will bring out the colour of the curtains. Make out** means to see or understand something with difficulty, and **take out** means to remove.

3. If the door has jammed, there's no point in trying to force it open. You'll only _____ the handle off.
✔ **D) pull**
To **pull something off** means to remove it by pulling, often by accident when you use too much force: **You'll only pull the handle off. Drag** means to pull something heavy along the ground, and **pluck** is used for pulling out small things like hairs or feathers.

4. If you want to change the colour of these walls, they will need at least two _____ of paint.
✔ **A) coats**
A **coat** of paint is one thin layer of paint put on a surface; the usual phrase is **two coats of paint**. **Sheets** and **coverings** are not used to count layers of paint.

5. That door _____ when you open it. You must put some oil on the hinges.
✔ **A) creaks**
A door that **creaks** makes a rough, squeaky sound when it moves, usually because the hinges need oil: **The door creaks when you open it.** Not **screeches**, which is a loud, harsh, piercing sound, like car brakes or tyres. **Rustle** is the sound of dry leaves or paper, and **shriek** is a loud, high cry, usually made by a person.

6. All the windows of the house were _____ by the explosion.
✔ **C) shattered**
Glass that is **shattered** breaks suddenly into many small pieces: **The windows were shattered by the explosion. Crushed** means pressed until it breaks or loses its shape, and **shredded** means cut or torn into thin strips, like paper.

7. What a (an) _____ colour that wallpaper is! Why ever did you buy it?
✔ **C) dreadful**
Dreadful here means very bad or unpleasant, a common way to criticise someone's taste: **What a dreadful colour! Alarming** and **frightening** mean causing worry or fear, which does not fit a colour you simply dislike.

8. That window needs a new _____ of glass.
✔ **C) pane**
A **pane** is a single sheet of glass in a window: **a new pane of glass**. **Oblong** and **square** are shapes, not the word for a piece of window glass.

9. I think we should have _____ glass put in the bathroom window. The people on the other side of the street can see right in.
✔ **B) frosted**
Frosted glass has a rough, cloudy surface, so light comes through but people cannot see through it. That is why it is used in bathroom windows. **Thick** glass is still transparent, so it would not stop people seeing in.

10. The renovation work will _____ closing the local library for at least two months.
✔ **C) entail**
To **entail** means to involve something as a necessary part or result: **The work will entail closing the library. Result** would need **in** (**result in closing**), and **ensure** means to make certain that something good happens.

11. The firm deals more with _____ decoration than building.
✔ **B) interior**
Interior decoration is the fixed phrase for designing and decorating the inside of buildings. **Internal** is used for things inside the body or an organisation (**internal injuries**, **internal affairs**), and **inside** is not used before this noun.

12. Shall we _____ off all this awful old wallpaper and paint the room instead?
✔ **C) strip**
To **strip off** wallpaper or paint means to remove it completely from a surface: **strip off the old wallpaper**. **Scratch** means to make small marks with something sharp, not to remove a whole covering.

13. The front door is in a terrible state; the paint is _____ badly.

✓ C) flaking

Paint that is **flaking** is coming off in small, thin pieces: **The paint is flaking badly. Crumbling** is used for things like plaster, stone or bricks breaking into small bits, and **rotting** is for wood or food that decays.

14. To my _____ I noticed that the roof was leaning to one side.

✓ A) consternation

Consternation is a feeling of shock, worry or alarm, often in the phrase **to my consternation**. The other options only look similar: **constitution** is a set of laws or a person's health, **constriction** is tightening, and **consumption** is using something up.

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