ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Vocabulary Test About GOODS Choose The Right Answer MCQ Exercise 158

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Explanations

1. That supermarket carries a wide _____ of goods.
✔ **C) range**
A wide range of means many different kinds of things. Example: **The shop sells a wide range of shoes.** Not **line**, which means one type of product from a company (**a new line of jeans**).

2. The advantage of this new plastic covering is that it will _____ to fit an object of any size.
✔ **D) stretch**
Stretch means to become longer or wider when pulled, like elastic. **Stretch to fit** is a common phrase for coverings and clothes. Not **expand**, which means to grow bigger by itself, for example when heated.

3. The expert said that the stone was not a jewel and was, therefore, _____.
✔ **D) valueless**
Valueless means worth nothing, which fits a stone that is not a jewel. Be careful: **invaluable** and **priceless** mean the opposite, extremely valuable.

4. What _____ of soap do you buy?
✔ **B) make**
Make means the company or brand that produced something. Example: **What make is your car?** Not **mark**, which is not used to mean a brand.

5. The _____ of strawberries on the market is due to a late frost.
✔ **D) scarcity**
Scarcity means there is not enough of something. A late frost damaged the crop, so there are few strawberries. Not **drought**, which means a long time without rain, not a lack of fruit.

6. This carpet was made _____; that is why it is so expensive.
✔ **A) by hand**
The fixed phrase is **by hand** (no article, singular), meaning made by a person, not a machine. Example: **These shoes are made by hand.**

7. This cloth is of good _____ but it is not expensive.
✔ **C) quality**
Of good quality means well made, with good materials. Example: **This is a coat of good quality.** Not **condition**, which describes the state of something after use (**in good condition**).

8. We made a wooden toy with an empty cotton _____ and some glue.
✔ **B) reel**
A **cotton reel** is the small round holder that sewing thread is wound on; when the thread is used up, it is empty. Not **roll**, which is used for things like paper or tape (**a roll of tape**).

9. The butcher cut some pork, _____ it up and handed it to me.
✔ **D) wrapped**
Wrap something up means to cover it completely in paper or plastic. Example: **She wrapped up the present.** Not **wound**, which means turned round and round (**wound up the string**).

10. There is a _____ of grain in our country at the moment.
✔ **C) shortage**
A shortage of means there is not enough of something. Example: **There is a shortage of water.** Not **need**, because we say **a need for** something, and it does not mean a lack of supply.

11. That is where they _____ whisky.
✔ **C) distil**
Distil is the process used to make strong drinks like whisky: the liquid is heated and the vapour is collected. Not **brew**, which is used for beer and tea.

12. That shop sells _____ clothes, but they are well-made.
✔ **D) old-fashioned**
Old-fashioned means in a style that is no longer modern. The word **but** shows a contrast: the style is not modern, but the clothes are well made. Not **antique**, which is used for old, valuable objects like furniture.

13. We've run _____ sugar. Ask Mrs Helpful to lend us some.
✔ **D) out of**
Run out of means to have no more of something left. Example: **We've run out of milk.** Not **run down**, which means to lose power or to criticise.

14. Grain and coffee are major trading _____.
✔ **B) commodities**
Commodities are basic goods, such as grain, coffee or oil, that are bought and sold in large amounts. Not **materials**, which are things used to make other things.

15. When I pointed out that there was a small _____ in one of the glasses, the shop gave me a 15% reduction on the set.
✔ **B) crack**
A **crack** is a thin line where glass or another hard material is slightly broken. A crack is a defect, so the shop gave a reduction. Not **smudge** or **smear**, which are dirty marks that can be cleaned off.

16. That old vase will _____ an attractive lamp-holder.
✔ **D) make**
Make can mean 'be suitable to become' something. Example: **This box will make a good bed for the cat.** Not **form**, which means to create a shape or group, not to be useful as something.

17. This fantastic new gadget has been selling like _____ cakes.
✔ **C) hot**
The idiom **sell like hot cakes** means to sell very quickly and in large numbers. Example: **The new phone is selling like hot cakes.**

18. Mr Critical assured me that he never bought _____ that were advertised on TV.
✔ **D) products**
Products are things that are made to be sold. The plural is needed because of **were**. Not **productions**, which are films, plays or shows.

19. I must take this watch to be repaired; it _____ over ten minutes a day.
✔ **B) gains**
When a watch **gains** time, it runs fast and shows a later time than the real one. The opposite is **lose**: **My watch loses two minutes a day.**

20. New products are announced to the public _____.
✔ **D) on posters**
Companies tell the public about new products by advertising, for example **on posters**. Not **by mail order**, which is a way of buying goods, not of announcing them.

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