ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Vocabulary Test About HOUSES: BUILDING, REPAIRING OR BUYING Choose The Right Answer MCQ Exercise 109

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Explanations

1. We are going to _____ our house by building another room on to it.
✔ **B) extend**
To **extend** a house means to make it bigger by adding a room or part to it, as in **We extended the kitchen.** Not **develop**: that means to grow or build on land, not to add a room.

2. The _____ charged by the architect for the plans of the new building were unusually high.
✔ **A) fees**
Fees are the money you pay a professional, such as an architect, lawyer or doctor, for their work. The verb **were** also needs a plural noun. Not **price**: a price is what you pay for goods, and it is singular here.

3. The agents didn't _____ letting all the new flats before the block was completed.
✔ **C) foresee**
To **foresee** means to know that something will happen before it happens, and it can be followed by an -ing form: **didn't foresee letting**. Not **expect**: it needs **to** + infinitive (**didn't expect to let**), so **expect letting** is wrong.

4. The _____ outside the house said: "PRIVATE".
✔ **C) notice**
A **notice** is a sign or a written message put up in a public place to give information or a warning, such as **PRIVATE**. Not **label**: a label is a small piece of paper stuck on an object, like a bottle or a parcel.

5. The _____ of the house were dug in June and the roof was on by December.
✔ **D) foundations**
The **foundations** are the strong base of a building, built under the ground. They are dug first, before the walls and roof. Not **basements**: a house normally has only one basement, and it is a room, not the base the house stands on.

6. When you build a house, you must start by laying the _____.
✔ **D) foundations**
Lay the foundations is a fixed phrase: building a house starts with its base under the ground. The other options are rooms: an attic is under the roof, and a basement or cellar is under the ground floor.

7. The house is old and it's in bad _____.
✔ **A) condition**
We say a building is **in good/bad condition**, with no article. Not **state**: it needs **a**, as in **in a bad state**, so **in bad state** is wrong.

8. She was keen to _____ the house to its original condition.
✔ **D) restore**
To **restore** something means to repair an old building or object so that it looks as it did at first. It is often used with **to its original condition**. Not **renovate**: it means to repair and modernise, and it is not normally followed by **to its original condition**.

9. We could have provided him with a detached house but he _____ asked for a small flat.
✔ **C) specifically**
Specifically means clearly and exactly, for one particular thing: he asked for a small flat and nothing else. Not **strongly**: we say **strongly recommend** or **strongly believe**, but not **strongly asked for**.

10. The best person to approach, if you are house-hunting, is an estate _____.
✔ **A) agent**
An **estate agent** (British English) is a person or company whose job is to sell or rent houses for their owners. The American word is **real estate agent**. The other words do not form a set phrase with **estate**.

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