ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Vocabulary Test About PETS Choose The Best Answer MCQ Exercise 7

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

Explanations

1. The dogs in the circus were trained to walk on their _____ legs.
✔ **B) hind**
The back legs of an animal are its **hind legs**, as in **The dog stood on its hind legs**. **Behind** is not an adjective, so **behind legs** is wrong, and **base** and **tail** do not describe legs.

2. The trouble with cats and dogs is that their hair comes out in the spring when they _____.
✔ **B) moult**
When animals or birds **moult**, they lose their old hair or feathers so that new ones can grow. Example: **Our dog moults every spring. Peel** is used for skin or paint, not for hair.

3. As the cat lay asleep, dreaming, his whiskers _____.
✔ **D) twitched**
Twitch means to make a small, quick movement that you do not control. Whiskers, noses and eyes **twitch**. **Jerked** means a stronger, sudden movement, which is too big for whiskers.

4. He had taught his dog to _____ the rabbits he shot.
✔ **D) retrieve**
To **retrieve** means to find something and bring it back. Hunting dogs **retrieve** the birds or animals that have been shot, which is why one breed is called a **retriever**. **Recover** means to get back something you lost, not to fetch it.

5. Even a small dog in a house can _____ a thief.
✔ **C) deter**
To **deter** means to make someone decide not to do something, usually because of fear. Example: **Alarms deter burglars. Forestall** means to stop something by acting first, but it is not used with a person as the object like this.

6. Much is done in our city to _____ the suffering of unwanted domestic pets.
✔ **A) alleviate**
To **alleviate** means to make pain or suffering less bad. Example: **The medicine alleviated her pain. Remedy** is used for a problem or a situation, not for suffering, and you cannot **help** or **improve** suffering.

7. The dog let out a _____ of pain when his tail was trodden on.
✔ **D) yelp**
A **yelp** is a short, high cry that a dog makes when it is hurt or excited. A **bark** is the dog's normal loud sound, not a sound of pain. A **croak** is a frog's sound and a **squawk** is a bird's sound.

8. The dog _____ up his ears when he heard his master's voice.
✔ **C) pricked**
The fixed phrase is **prick up its ears**, which means an animal raises its ears to listen carefully. The phrase is also used for people who suddenly start listening with interest. **Raised** and **lifted** are not used in this expression.

9. To keep a dog's _____ in good condition, it should be brushed daily.
✔ **A) coat**
An animal's **coat** is the hair or fur that covers its body. Example: **a dog with a shiny coat**. A **fleece** is a sheep's wool. A **hide** or **pelt** is an animal's skin, usually after the animal has been killed.

10. The dog's ears _____ as he heard footsteps outside the house.
✔ **B) twitched**
Twitch means to make a small, quick movement. A dog's ears **twitch** when it hears a sound. Dogs **wag** their tails, not their ears, and **wriggle** describes the whole body twisting.

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