ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Vocabulary Test About SALESMEN Choose The Right Answer MCQ Exercise 153

Thematic Vocabulary Tests · 12 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
https://englishtestsonline.com/vocabulary-test-about-salesmen-choose-the-right-answer-mcq-exercise-153/

1	**D**	2	**D**	3	**D**	4	**D**	5	**B**	6	**B**	7	**D**	8	**A**	9	**B**	10	**A**
11	**B**	12	**B**																

Explanations

1. The unscrupulous salesman _____ the old man out of his life savings.
✓ **D) swindled**
Swindle someone out of something means to take money from someone by cheating them. Example: **He swindled her out of £5,000.** Not **robbed**, because the pattern is **rob someone of something**, not **out of**. **Deprived** also takes **of**.

2. Salesmen always exaggerate, so I take what they say with a pinch of _____.
✓ **D) salt**
The idiom **take something with a pinch of salt** means not to believe something completely, because it may be exaggerated or untrue. No other word fits this fixed expression.

3. It is very easy for the undereducated to be _____ by slick-talking salesmen.
✓ **D) taken in**
Be taken in (by someone) means to be deceived or fooled. The clue is **slick-talking salesmen**: clever talkers who trick people. **Put up** and **put aside** have very different meanings.

4. Eventually the salesman _____ me to buy the car.
✓ **D) persuaded**
Persuade someone to do something means to make someone agree to do something by giving reasons. Not **suggested** or **insisted**, because they cannot be followed by **me to buy**. We say **suggested (that) I buy** and **insisted on my buying**.

5. The salesman told me that reading this book would make me more intelligent, but I think I've been _____.
✓ **B) conned**
Be conned means to be tricked into believing something false or into paying for something. The salesman's false promise is the clue. **Libelled** and **slandered** mean having false things said or written about you, and **blackmailed** means being threatened to make you pay.

6. I didn't take up his recommendation, as he sounded so _____ about it.
✓ **B) half-hearted**
Half-hearted means without enthusiasm or real interest. Because he didn't sound keen, I didn't follow his advice. **Half-witted** means stupid. **Half-headed** and **half-handed** are not English words.

7. The _____ in television sales is causing some concern to manufacturers.
✓ **D) slump**
A **slump** is a sudden large fall in sales, prices or business activity. **A slump in sales** is a strong collocation. Not **deficit**, which is an amount of money that is missing, as in **a budget deficit**.
Deterioration is used more for quality or condition.

8. Last month's trade figures were bad, but the _____ ones are even worse.
✓ **A) current**
Current means belonging to the present time, so it contrasts with **last month's**. Not **latter**, which means the second of two things already mentioned. Not **instant**, which means happening immediately.

9. The salesman talked me _____ buying a bottle of perfume for my wife.
✓ **B) into**
Talk someone into doing something means to persuade someone to do it. The opposite is **talk someone out of doing something**. Example: **She talked me into buying a new phone.**

10. The salesman sold more umbrellas during the wet spell this summer than during the _____ spell last year.
✓ **A) corresponding**
Corresponding means matching in time or position, so here it means the same period last year. Example: **Sales are up compared with the corresponding period last year.** Not **matching**, which describes things that look the same or go together, such as **matching shoes**.

11. The saleswoman _____ my attention to the intricate embroidery on the front of the blouse.
✓ **B) drew**
The fixed expression is **draw someone's attention to something**, meaning to make someone notice it. Not **attracted**. We say **something attracted my attention**, but a person **draws** your attention **to** a thing.

12. The salesman informed me that if I buy something on _____ then I can send it back if I am dissatisfied.
✓ **B) approval**
On approval means you can take goods home and return them if you are not satisfied. The clue is **send it back if I am dissatisfied**. The other words do not form this fixed expression with **on**.