Blueprint 6: B2 Pre-Advanced

Vocabulary

1. Read the sentences. Circle the correct answers.

1. The CEO was proud to announce that the company had earned record _____ that year.

2. On TV and in other _____, powerful businesspeople are often shown as evil villains.

3. If we lived closer to work, we wouldn't have to spend two hours a day _____.

4. The corporation has _____ two smaller companies by buying them out.

5. People can't be _____ if they're tired and distracted.

1. a. backups	b. credits	c. profits	d. handouts
2. a. media	b. inflation	c. contrast	d. tension
3. a. discouraging	b. commuting	c. starving	d. resigning
4. a. appreciated	b. implemented	c. acquired	d. proposed
5. a. draining	b. substantial	c. productive	d. nationwide

2. Fill in the gaps with the correct words from the box. Two words will not be used.

propose	technological	publicity	tension	justify	implement	visionary

1. The team has decided on a new marketing plan, which we will _____ next year.

2. There's some _____ between us because we're competing for the same promotion.

3. It's important to keep up with the latest _____ advances.

4. Sorry, I can't _____ buying a new computer when the old one still works fine.

5. The company experienced negative _____ when one of its products failed to work.

3. Match the words with the correct definitions.

1. deadline	a. an answer to a question, statement, or action
2. extension	b. dedicated or having the willpower to do a lot
3. motivated	c. a period when the economy of a country is bad
4. response	d. a sudden, very important discovery or event
5. outdated	e. a time or day by which something must be done
6. structure	f. very large
7. fund	g. no longer useful or modern
8. recession	h. extra time one is given to do something
9. tremendous	i. an amount of money saved and made available for a certain purpose
10. revolution	j. the way things are put together or organised

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Grammar

4. Fill in the gaps with the correct words from the box. Two words will not be used.

break	look	decision	chance	wish	difference	mistake

1. Excuse me, but you made a _____ a—the word "effective" is spelled wrong.

2. Could you take a _____ at these numbers and tell me if they seem right?

3. He decided to take a _____ and apply for the supervisor position.

4. Let's take a short _____ and meet back here in fifteen minutes.

5. I'm interested in everyone's opinion, but I will make the final _____.

5. Circle the correct word(s).

1. Seldom (is a boss / a boss is) so well-loved by her employees.
2. I (am / do) appreciate your staying behind to help me clean up.
3. Never before (there has / has there) been so much publicity for a new phone.
4. First there was freezing rain, and (then came / came then) snow.
5. Rarely (you do / do you) see Adrian arrive at work this early.

6. Put the words in order to make sentences.

1. the best / believe / policy. / really do / is / I / that / honesty

_____

2. are / some / UBI. / there / to /the / disadvantages

_____

3. I / have / person. / interesting / met / such / rarely / an

_____

4. change, / is / receipt. / here / your / your / and / here / is

_____

5. before / he/ so / felt / embarrassed. / had/ never

_____

7. Find the error and write the correction on the line.

1. There a lot of reasons to be optimistic. _____

2. Seldom he returns calls right away. _____

3. Goes there the number 16 bus! _____

4. Take a wish and blow out the candles. _____

5. I'll need to make a shower at the gym. _____

Comprehension

8. Read and answer the questions.

The Next Steve Jobs?

In 2003, an ambitious 19-year-old Stanford student named Elizabeth Holmes took a big chance. She dropped out of school and founded a technology company called Theranos. Holmes boldly claimed that she had made a breakthrough in blood-testing. According to her, she had invented a machine that could test for many diseases and conditions using only a drop of blood taken from the finger.

Holmes appeared to be a self-confident visionary like Steve Jobs. She greatly admired Jobs and even dressed like him. Theranos got tremendous positive publicity. People were impressed and believed in her as an **innovator** and CEO. By 2015, she had been able to raise almost $900 million dollars from investors. Her company made a deal with a large US chain of drugstores, which wanted to perform blood tests using Theranos technology nationwide. Theranos was said to be worth $9 billion, and Holmes became a worldwide celebrity. Never before had such a young female entrepreneur become a billionaire.

But there was a problem. The company's technology didn't work. Its tests weren't reliable, and Theranos actually performed many blood tests with machines made by other companies. In 2015, two people who had worked at Theranos began talking to investigators and to a newspaper reporter. They were angry at the fraud Theranos was committing. The truth was published in the *Wall Street Journal*. In 2016, the drugstore chain ended their agreement, and the US government shut down the Theranos lab. Her business partner, who was also her boyfriend, resigned. Holmes is now accused of criminal fraud and could go to prison. Her company no longer exists. It was an amazing fall for the woman who used to be known as "the next Steve Jobs."

1. Holmes said she had invented a blood-testing machine. true false
2. She got the idea for her company from Steve Jobs. true false
3. Her company was thought to be worth $900 million in 2015. true false
4. Holmes's claims about her technology were untrue. true false
5. Holmes's partner quit the company in 2016. true false

6. Which is true about Elizabeth Holmes?
a. She graduated from Stanford. b. She founded a company at age 19. c. She suffered from a disease.

7. Theranos made a deal with _____.
a. Steve Jobs b. the US government c. a drugstore chain

8. The word **innovator** in the reading means someone who_____.
a. does something new b. leads a company c. makes a lot of money

9. Who told a reporter about the problems at Theranos?
a. Elizabeth Holmes b. Past employees c. Holmes's partner

10. Which is true?
a. Holmes is in prison. b. Theranos is still running. c. Holmes is charged with a crime.

9. Read and answer the questions.

Andre: Have you decided who to vote for yet?
Rebecca: For president? It's hard to say for sure—there are so many candidates. Right now, I do like Martin Lee—he's the one who's proposing a universal basic income.
Andre: You like that idea? It seems absurd to me.
Rebecca: Hey, Martin Lee is a computer whiz and a successful software entrepreneur. He's not stupid.
Andre: I know, but giving people a handout for not working seems wrong, especially if they don't need it.
Rebecca: His plan would focus on people who do need it. Our economy is changing, and a lot of jobs are becoming outdated because of automation.
Andre: Don't you think a UBI is dangerous? If people get paid for nothing, they won't be motivated to work. People need a reason to get out of bed in the morning. I think a lot of people would be bored and depressed if they weren't working.
Rebecca: I'm more optimistic than you. If people didn't have to work so much, they could spend more time with their families and on their interests—creative things like art, writing, and music, which are hard to make a living by. They could actually be more **productive** that way. Anyway, it probably won't matter because Martin Lee probably won't win.
Andre: That's true. People in the media don't like him—they think he's boring. As for me, I kind of like Lara Ericson. She knows a lot about the economy and she wants to focus on creating new jobs, rather than paying people not to work.
Rebecca: Yeah, I like her too. She's my backup choice.

1. Martin Lee is a businessman.	true	false
2. Rebecca is concerned about the loss of jobs.	true	false
3. Andre thinks a UBI would make people happy.	true	false
4. Lee gets a lot of positive publicity.	true	false
5. Ericson's economic views are similar to Lee's**.**	true	false

6. Who is proposing a UBI?
a. Martin Lee b. Lara Ericson c. Both a and b

7. Andre doesn't like the idea of a UBI because it _____.
a. is too expensive b. would discourage work c. Both a and b

8. Rebecca thinks that UBI could make people more _____.
a. bored b. creative c. depressed

9. The word **productive** in the reading means _____.
a. lasting a short time b. happy and satisfied c. getting a lot done

10. Both speakers think that _____.
a. Lee will lose b. Ericson will win c. Ericson's ideas are bad

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Answer Key

1.
1. c
2. a
3. b
4. c
5. c

2.
1. implement
2. tension
3. technological
4. justify
5. publicity

3.
1. e
2. h
3. b
4. a
5. g
6. j
7. i
8. c
9. f
10. d

4.
1. mistake
2. look
3. chance
4. break
5. decision

5.
1. is a boss
2. do
3. has there
4. then came
5. do you

6.
1. I really do believe that honesty is the best policy.
2. There are some disadvantages to the UBI.
3. Rarely have I met such an interesting person.
4. Here is your change, and here is your receipt.
5. Never before had he felt so embarrassed.

7.
1. There a → There are a
2. he returns → does he return
3. Goes there → There goes
4. Take → Make
5. make → take

8.
1. true
2. false
3. false
4. true
5. true
6. b
7. c
8. a
9. b
10. c

9.
1. true
2. true
3. false
4. false
5. false
6. a
7. b
8. b
9. c
10. a