Chapter 4. The Language of News

Exercise 1. Vocabulary

1. About means having to do with, concerning or in connection with. Around means close to or near.
2. Above means overhead. Over refers to spatial relationships: The plane flew over the city. Use more than with numbers: He has more than $100.
3. Adapt means to change or adjust something to make it fit or suitable. It took a year for them to adapt to city life. Adept means to be highly skilled or expert at something: She was adept at playing the violin. Adopt means to choose, such as adopting a child, or to take an idea and use it as your own or to vote to accept something such as an amendment, ordinance or motion.
4. Advice is a noun meaning an opinion given as to what to do; counsel. Advise is the verb form meaning to give advice to or to counsel.
5. Affect means to act on or to produce an effect or change. Effect is the consequence or result.
6. Aid means to give help or assistance. An aide is someone who helps or assists.
7. An alley is a narrow street or walk usually behind a row of buildings. An alley, as a noun, is an individual, organization or country joined with another for a common purpose. As a verb, alley means to unite for a specific purpose.
8. Allude means to refer in a casual or indirect way. Flude means to avoid, escape or evade.
9. An altar is a table or stand used for sacred purposes in a place of worship. Alter means to make different or modify something.
10. Use alumnus when referring to a man who has attended a school. Alumni is the plural form of alumnus. Use alumna when referring to a woman who has attended a school. Alumnae is the plural form of alumna. Use alumni when referring to a group of men and women.
11. Between introduces two items and among introduces more than two. However, AP style notes that between is the correct word when expressing the relationships of three or more items that are considered one pair at a time.
12. An anecdote is a short, entertaining personal or biographical story. An antidote is a remedy to counteract a poison or some unwanted condition.
13. An angel is a supernatural being of more than human power and intelligence, or a guiding spirit. An angle is a sharp corner; a point of view; to use tricks to get something; or to fish with a hook and line.
14. Statisticians employ several measures of central tendency or ways to describe the central value around which a group of scores clusters. The most common indicator of central tendency is the average or mean. The mean is found by adding a group of scores and then dividing by the number of scores in the group. Another measure of central tendency is the median. This is the value above and below which half the scores lie. A third measure of central tendency is the mode, or most frequent score. This is simply the score obtained by more people in the group than any other score.
15. A bazaar is a shop for selling a variety of goods or a sale of various items for fund-raising purposes. Bizarre means something odd in manner or appearance, or unexpected or unbelievable.
16. Because means reason or cause. Since is related to time: They arrived last week and have been here ever since.
17. Bloc means an alliance or group that acts as a single unit, as a coalition of voters; a political bloc.
Block has many meanings; however, they do not include a political alliance.
18. Blond is used as a noun for men and as an adjective: He and she have blond hair. Use blonde as a noun for females: The blonde wore a blue dress.
19. Born means to be brought into life or being. It also means having certain qualities innately: A born athlete. Borne is a past participle of bear meaning to give birth to.
20. A burglar is someone who illegally enters a building with the intent to steal money or property. A robber threatens or actually uses force or violence to steal. A swindler uses fraud or deceit to...