ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Brake or Break Quiz: 20 Questions with Answers

English Vocabulary Tests · 20 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
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Explanations

1. I pressed the ___ gently as we came down the steep hill.
✔ **C) brake**
The part that slows a bike or car is the brake, spelt like make.

2. We have a fifteen-minute ___ between the two lessons.
✔ **C) break**
A short rest is a break.

3. Hold the glass carefully, and try not to ___ it.
✔ **B) break**
To break something is to damage it. After to we need the base form, break.

4. The driver ___ hard when a dog ran into the road.
✔ **A) braked**
The verb brake is regular, so its past form is braked.

5. Someone has ___ the lock on the shed door.
✔ **D) broken**
After has we need the past participle of break, which is broken.

6. The mechanic says the car needs new ___ pads.
✔ **B) brake**
Brake pads press on the wheels to stop the car.

7. It's your first night on stage tonight. Good luck, and ___ a leg!
✔ **D) break**
Break a leg! is a fixed phrase that means good luck, said to actors before a show.

8. The new rules will put the ___ on rising bus fares.
✔ **C) brakes**
To put the brakes on something is to slow it down or stop it, like braking a car.

9. Getting a part in the school play was her lucky ___.
✔ **D) break**
A lucky break is a piece of good luck.

10. Our car ___ down on the motorway, so we called for help.
✔ **B) broke**
The phrasal verb is break down, and its past form is broke down.

11. If we sell fifty cakes at the school fair, we will ___ even.
✔ **A) break**
To break even is to earn as much as you spend, with no profit and no loss.

12. Before you leave the car on a hill, pull on the ___.
✔ **B) handbrake**
The handbrake stops a parked car from rolling away. In American English it is the parking brake.

13. Telling a funny story can help to ___ the ice on the first day.
✔ **C) break**
To break the ice is to help people relax when they first meet.

14. Our teacher showed us the full ___ of the marks for each part of the test.
✔ **A) breakdown**
A breakdown is a list of the parts of something. The noun is one word, spelt with break.

15. The cyclist slammed on her ___ just in time.
✔ **A) brakes**
To slam on the brakes is to brake suddenly and hard.

16. When the driver in front pressed the pedal, the red ___ lights at the back of his car came on.
✔ **D) brake**
Brake lights show other drivers that a car is slowing down, so this is the stopping word brake.

17. You said you would help me move house. Please don't ___ your promise.
✔ **B) break**
We break a promise when we don't keep it. After don't we need the base form break.

18. On a wet road, a car needs a much longer ___ distance to stop.
✔ **B) braking**
Braking distance is how far a car travels after the driver uses the brakes, so we need braking from the verb brake.

19. She ran 100 metres in 11 seconds and ___ the school record.
✔ **A) broke**
We break a record when we do better than anyone before. The past of break is broke; breaked is not a word.

20. We waited for the next ___ in the traffic before we crossed the road.
✔ **C) break**
A break in the traffic is a gap, so we use the noun break. Nothing is slowing a vehicle here.