ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

British vs American Spelling Quiz: Colour, Centre, Licence

English Vocabulary Tests · 15 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
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1	**B**	2	**C**	3	**A**	4	**D**	5	**B**	6	**A**	7	**D**	8	**C**	9	**A**	10	**B**
11	**D**	12	**C**	13	**B**	14	**A**	15	**C**										

Explanations

1. Which is the British spelling?
✔ **B) behaviour**
British English keeps the u in -our words: behaviour, colour, neighbour. American English writes behavior.

2. British English: Brown bread has more ___ than white bread.
✔ **C) fibre**
British -re, American -er: fibre and fiber, centre and center.

3. Written in a British newspaper: Who is ___ the school concert?
✔ **A) organising**
Most British writers use -ise: organise, organising. Americans write organize.

4. Written in a British newspaper: Scientists will ___ the results next month.
✔ **D) analyse**
British English writes analyse; American English writes analyze.

5. Which is the British spelling?
✔ **B) catalogue**
British catalogue keeps -ue at the end. Americans often write catalog.

6. British English: I want to ___ on a photography course.
✔ **A) enrol**
British enrol has one l; American enroll has two. In both, enrolled has two.

7. British English: Grandad has grown a big grey ___.
✔ **D) moustache**
British moustache has an o after the m; American English writes mustache.

8. British English: There's a ___ going round that the school will close.
✔ **C) rumour**
British rumour keeps the u; American English writes rumor.

9. What is the British word for an American pacifier?
✔ **A) dummy**
A dummy is what a baby sucks to stay calm. A nappy is an American diaper.

10. British English: Our team has the best ___ in the league: we let in only ten goals.
✔ **B) defence**
British defence and offence end in -ce. American English writes defense and offense.

11. In Britain, you can still pay some builders by ___.
✔ **D) cheque**
The bank paper you write and sign is a cheque in Britain and a check in America.

12. British English: We had a flat ___ on the motorway.
✔ **C) tyre**
The rubber round a wheel is a tyre in Britain and a tire in America.

13. British spelling: The café was ___, and the barista was very ___ with the coffee machine.
✔ **B) cosy … skilful**
Britain writes cosy and skilful; America writes cozy and skillful.

14. British spelling: From our room on the twentieth floor of a forty-___ hotel, we watched an ___ land.
✔ **A) storey … aeroplane**
British storey (a floor of a building) and aeroplane; American story and airplane.

15. In a British supermarket: baby ___ are in aisle 4 and ___ are in aisle 9.
✔ **C) nappies … fizzy drinks**
Britain says nappies and fizzy drinks; America says diapers and sodas.

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