ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Callous or Callus Quiz: 20 Questions with Answers

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Explanations

1. Playing the guitar every day left a hard ___ on her fingertip.
✔ **D) callus**
A callus is a patch of hard skin. It is a thing, so we need the noun.

2. It was ___ of him to laugh when his friend fell over.
✔ **B) callous**
Callous means cruel and uncaring. It is an adjective: It was callous of him.

3. Years of rowing had left thick ___ on his palms.
✔ **B) calluses**
Calluses is the plural of the noun callus: patches of hard skin.

4. The report called the company's treatment of its workers ___.
✔ **C) callous**
The treatment was uncaring, so we need the adjective callous.

5. Her ___ remark about his drawing made him feel terrible.
✔ **B) callous**
A callous remark is an unkind one. Callous ends in -ous, like other adjectives.

6. Wear comfortable shoes, or a painful ___ may form on your heel.
✔ **D) callus**
Hard skin from rubbing is a callus. A painful needs one thing, so the singular noun.

7. They acted with ___ disregard for the animals' safety.
✔ **A) callous**
Callous disregard means not caring at all. It is a common phrase.

8. The climber's ___ hands gripped the rock firmly.
✔ **A) callused**
Callused (or calloused) hands are hands with calluses.

9. Most people were shocked by the ___ way the stray dogs had been treated.
✔ **C) callous**
The word describes the way, so we need the adjective callous.

10. A foot doctor can safely remove a thick ___ from the sole of your foot.
✔ **C) callus**
A thick patch of hard skin is a callus, a noun.

11. She said sorry for her ___ and promised to be kinder.
✔ **A) callousness**
Callousness is the noun from callous: the quality of being uncaring.

12. He spoke ___ about the people who had lost their homes in the flood.
✔ **D) callously**
After spoke we need an adverb. Callously means in a cruel, uncaring way.

13. After a few weeks, the soft skin on your fingers will ___ and playing will hurt less.
✔ **C) callus**
Callus can be a verb meaning to form a callus. After will we need the base form.

14. Foot doctors say that ___ form where shoes rub, to protect the skin.
✔ **B) calluses**
Calluses are patches of hard skin. The plural noun goes with form.

15. When a bone breaks, a new ___ of bone tissue grows around the break.
✔ **A) callus**
In medicine, the new bone that joins a break is also called a callus.

16. Leave the cactus cutting to ___ over for a few days before you plant it.
✔ **C) callus**
In gardening, a cutting can callus over: it grows a hard layer over the cut. Callus is the verb here.

17. The chemist sells foot files and ___ removers.
✔ **A) callus**
A callus remover takes off hard skin. The hard skin is a callus, a noun.

18. The judge criticised the driver's ___ attitude after the crash.
✔ **B) callous**
An uncaring attitude is a callous attitude. Callous is the adjective.

19. ___, the manager sent the bad news by text on the day before the holiday.
✔ **D) Callously**
The word describes how the manager acted, so we need the adverb callously: in a cruel, uncaring way.

20. Guitar players need a few weeks to build up ___ on their fingertips.
✔ **C) calluses**
Build up calluses means slowly form patches of hard skin. We need the plural noun.