ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Council or Counsel Quiz: 20 Questions with Answers

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Explanations

1. The city ___ voted to build a new library next year.
✔ **B) council**
A council is a group of people who run a place and make decisions.

2. The lawyer gave her client some wise ___.
✔ **A) counsel**
Counsel means advice, especially careful or expert advice.

3. Trained staff ___ students who feel very worried about exams.
✔ **B) counsel**
Here we need a verb meaning advise and support. Council is never a verb.

4. My aunt was elected last year and is now a local ___.
✔ **B) councillor**
A member of a council is a councillor (American: councilor). A counsellor gives advice.

5. ___ for the defence asked the witness one more question.
✔ **D) Counsel**
In court, counsel is the lawyer who speaks for one side.

6. The British ___ in Milan helped the family get new passports.
✔ **B) consul**
A consul is a government official who helps their country's citizens in a foreign city.

7. She decided to keep her own ___ and told nobody about her plans.
✔ **C) counsel**
To keep your own counsel is to keep your thoughts or plans to yourself.

8. Most homes in England pay ___ tax to the local authority.
✔ **A) council**
Council tax is the British local tax on homes. It is paid to the council.

9. The school's trained ___ listened to my worries and gave me some good advice.
✔ **C) counsellor**
A counsellor is someone trained to give advice. A councillor sits on a council.

10. Her doctor ___ her to rest for a week before going back to work.
✔ **C) counselled**
To counsel is to advise. The British past form is counselled (American: counseled).

11. Members of the United Nations Security ___ met in New York.
✔ **D) Council**
The Security Council is a group of countries, so it is council.

12. After twenty years as a barrister, she was made a King's ___.
✔ **C) Counsel**
A King's Counsel (KC) is a senior barrister. A lawyer in court is counsel.

13. The student ___ is planning the end-of-year party.
✔ **A) council**
A student council is a group of students chosen to speak for the others.

14. In American English, a summer camp ___ looks after the children and runs activities.
✔ **D) counselor**
A camp counselor, spelt with one l in American English, looks after children at camp.

15. Their family has rented this ___ flat from the local authority for ten years.
✔ **A) council**
In Britain a council flat is a home rented from the local council.

16. Before signing the contract, the company sought legal ___.
✔ **D) counsel**
Legal counsel means advice from a lawyer. Counsel is the advice word; a council is a group of people.

17. The company's general ___ read the contract carefully, and she advised the directors not to sign it.
✔ **D) counsel**
General counsel is the title of a company's chief lawyer, one person (she). Counsel can mean a lawyer; a council is a group of people.

18. The ___ meeting starts at seven, and anyone who lives in the town can come and listen.
✔ **A) council**
A council meeting is a meeting of the group that runs the town. A group of people is a council.

19. The rubbish hasn't been collected for two weeks, so I phoned the ___ to complain.
✔ **D) council**
The local council is the group that runs town services such as rubbish collection, so it is council. Counsel is advice or a lawyer.

20. American spelling: The nurse has ___ many families through hard times.
✓ B) counseled
The verb is counsel (to advise), and American English usually writes counseled with one l. Council is never a verb.

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