ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Formally or Formerly Quiz: 20 Questions with Answers

English Vocabulary Tests · 20 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
https://englishtestsonline.com/formally-or-formerly-quiz-with-answers/

1	**A**	2	**A**	3	**D**	4	**C**	5	**B**	6	**B**	7	**A**	8	**A**	9	**C**	10	**C**
11	**B**	12	**D**	13	**D**	14	**C**	15	**B**	16	**C**	17	**B**	18	**B**	19	**C**	20	**D**

Explanations

1. The new library will be ___ opened by the mayor on Monday.
✔ **A) formally**
Formally opened means officially opened, at a ceremony.

2. The country ___ known as Ceylon is now called Sri Lanka.
✔ **A) formerly**
Ceylon is the old name, so we need formerly: in the past.

3. Everyone was ___ dressed for the end-of-year awards evening.
✔ **D) formally**
Formally dressed means wearing formal, smart clothes.

4. I bumped into my ___ maths teacher at the station.
✔ **C) former**
Before a noun we need the adjective former. Formerly is an adverb.

5. The head teacher wrote to all the parents to ___ apologise for the mistake in the letter.
✔ **B) formally**
To formally apologise is to say sorry in an official way.

6. This café was ___ a bank: it opened as a café only last year.
✔ **B) formerly**
It was a bank in the past, so formerly is right.

7. In standard British English, formally and formerly are ___: they sound the same.
✔ **A) homophones**
Homophones are words that sound the same but have different meanings. In British English the r in formerly is silent.

8. In American English, which word has a second r sound, FOR-mer-lee?
✔ **A) formerly**
In American English the r in former is said, so formerly sounds different from formally.

9. Ghana, ___ the Gold Coast, became independent in 1957.
✔ **C) formerly**
The Gold Coast is the old name, so formerly fits: in the past.

10. We could walk or cycle. The ___ is slower, but the latter is better exercise.
✔ **C) former**
The former means the first of two things just mentioned, and the latter means the second.

11. At a ceremony tomorrow, the two schools will ___ sign the agreement.
✔ **B) formally**
To sign something formally is to sign it officially. Formerly looks back to the past, so it does not fit a plan for tomorrow.

12. The party is ___, so please wear something smart.
✔ **D) formal**
After is, we need the adjective formal. Formally is an adverb.

13. To complain ___, fill in this form and give it to the school office.
✔ **D) formally**
After the verb complain we need an adverb. Formally means officially.

14. Which word is spelt correctly?
✔ **C) formerly**
Formerly is former + -ly: f-o-r-m-e-r-l-y.

15. Today the UK is ___ known as the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
✔ **B) formally**
Formally known as gives the official full name used today. Formerly would mean an old name.

16. Before you start work, there are a few ___ to complete, such as signing your contract.
✔ **C) formalities**
Formalities are things you must do because of the rules. It is the plural of the noun formality.

17. Before she moved to London, our head teacher ___ taught science in Leeds.
✔ **B) formerly**
She taught in Leeds in the past, before now, so formerly is right.

18. We haven't been ___ introduced, but I know your name.
✔ **B) formally**
To be formally introduced is to be introduced in the proper, polite way.

19. A letter to the council about a complaint should be short and ___.
✔ **C) formal**
After be we need an adjective, like short. Formal is the adjective; formally and formerly are adverbs.

20. We chatted ___ after the meeting, and nobody took notes.
✔ **D) informally**
After the verb chatted we need an adverb. Informally is the opposite of formally: in a relaxed way.