ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Onto or On To Quiz: 20 Questions with Answers

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https://englishtestsonline.com/onto-or-on-to-quiz-with-answers/

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

Explanations

1. That's enough about plants. Let's move ___ animals.
✔ **C) on to**
Move on means continue, and to says where we go next. Nothing ends up on top of the animals, so write two words.

2. After university, she went ___ become a famous doctor.
✔ **D) on to**
A verb (become) follows to, so it must be two words: went on to become.

3. In American English: The cat jumped ___ the kitchen table.
✔ **B) onto**
This is movement to a surface, so American English writes onto, one word.

4. Please pass this message ___ your brother.
✔ **B) on to**
The verb is pass on, and to your brother says who receives the message.

5. Your school bag is ___ the chair by the door.
✔ **A) on**
Nothing is moving, so use the preposition of place: on. Onto is only for movement.

6. That's a clever idea. I think you're ___ something!
✔ **C) onto**
Be onto something is informal and means you have found an idea that may lead somewhere good.

7. We didn't stop at the café: we carried ___ the end of the road.
✔ **D) on to**
Carry on means keep going, and to the end of the road says how far. Nothing ends up on top of the road's end.

8. Save your story ___ a memory stick before you switch off the computer.
✔ **D) onto**
The file ends up on the memory stick, so this is onto, one word.

9. Which sentence is correct?
✔ **B) He went on to win the race.**
Go on to + verb means do something next. A verb follows to, so write two words.

10. Don't get off here: stay on the bus and go ___ the next stop.
✔ **B) on to**
Go on means continue, and to the next stop says where you get off. Nothing ends up on top of the stop.

11. In American English: Some water dripped ___ the floor.
✔ **A) onto**
The water moves to a surface and ends up on it: onto, one word.

12. When Mum says "I'm onto you!", she means:
✔ **C) she knows what you are secretly doing**
Be onto someone is informal. It means you know what they are secretly doing.

13. Which phrase always needs two words, on to?
✔ **A) go on to win**
When a verb follows to, it is always on to. The other three are movement, so onto is right (British writers may also write on to).

14. Can you hold ___ a second? I just need to get my coat.
✔ **A) on**
Here hold on means wait, and nothing follows it, so there is no to at all.

15. The puppy climbed ___ my lap and fell asleep.
✔ **C) onto**
The puppy moves until it is on my lap: onto, one word.

16. Our kitchen door opens ___ a small garden with a lemon tree.
✔ **B) onto**
Open onto means face or lead out to a place. On top would need of after it, and upto and unto don't fit.

17. The workers loaded the heavy boxes ___ the lorry.
✔ **D) onto**
The boxes move until they are on the lorry, so this is movement to a surface: onto.

18. We had lunch in York and then drove ___ Leeds.
✔ **A) on to**
Drive on means keep driving, and to Leeds says where we stopped. Nothing ended up on top of Leeds, so write two words.

19. Our chat about old films led ___ a great idea for the school play.
✔ **A) on to**
Lead on to means lead to the next thing. On belongs to the verb, and nothing ends up on top of the idea.

20. Pour the warm sauce ___ the pasta, then add some cheese.
✔ **B) onto**
The sauce moves until it is on the pasta: onto, one word. On top would need of after it.