101 EXERCISES
IDIOMS
SAYINGS
PHRASES
PROVERBS
NEW EDITION
FOUR EXTRA UNITS + IDIOM GLOSSARY
HANDBOOK BOOKS
Learning English Together

ENSISHIPS.ORG

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Idiomatic expressions constitute a very important part of English language and their correct understanding is the key to acquiring the skill of the most comprehensive use of English. A high level of knowledge is requisite to grasp the meaning of idioms like *carry the can for someone*, *flog a dead horse* or *bite the bullet* and phrases like *a red herring*, *a cock and bull story* or *soft soap*. Hundreds of other idiomatic expressions can not be taken literally as they convey completely different figurative meanings. The only possible way to get acquainted with the rich array of such expressions is either through reading dictionaries of idioms and memorising the phrases or through getting involved in stimulating exercises.

This book is devoted to advanced-level students who wish to expand their language competence or refresh their knowledge of idioms. More than 1500 idiomatic expressions are tested and fully explained in a wide range of exercises divided into specific categories. The explanations of the idioms are included in the *Idiom glossary*.

After going through the series of tests in English idioms, the learner's knowledge of this interesting and rich component of the language will become more extensive and will enhance a better understanding of both spoken and written English. In the new edition of this book a learner may also find exercises in the most popular and useful English *proverbs, sayings* and *phrases* commonly used in everyday language.

When writing this book and including explanations, I have referred to the following highly recommendable dictionaries:

- *A Learner's Dictionary of English Idioms*, Oxford University Press
- *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English*, Longman
  - *Longman Idioms Dictionary*, Longman
  - *Dictionary of English Idioms*, Collins
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Combine the nouns into 'noun+noun' phrases and then match them with the correct definitions.

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<th>hush</th>
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<th>stretch</th>
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1. a product usability period  
2. one's native language  
3. an alcoholic drink before going to sleep  
4. a heavy competition for success  
5. a most useful advantage over someone  
6. a useless search for something  
7. a hard manual work  
8. the final part of a race, journey etc.  
9. money saved for future use  
10. an inconsiderate driver  
11. an international high society  
12. an affection shown only to get something  
13. a difficult or dangerous position  
14. money paid to keep facts secret  
15. a troublesome situation

A  razor  ..........  
B  home  ..........  
C  ..........  life  
D  road  ..........  
E  the jet  ..........  
F  ..........  money  
G  ..........  start  
H  ..........  tongue  
I  nest  ..........  
J  wild goose  ..........  
K  the ..........  race  
L  ..........  grease  
M  night  ..........  
N  cleft  ..........  
O  ..........  love  

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Pairs

Insert the nouns in the appropriate phrases.

- bobs
- dribs
- life
- rack
- touch
- chalk
- gloom
- nail
- span
- tucker
- death
- kith
- parcel
- thumbs
- vim

1. He won't be of use to us, for sure. He is all fingers and ................................ when doing any housework is the case.

2. Although they are brothers, they are as different as ......................... and cheese.

3. Joshua insists on changing the timetable as if it were a matter of life and ......................... to him.

4. We kept fighting tooth and ......................... for our rights, however the management remained relentless.

5. Since the previous owners were forced to move out, the mansion has gone to ......................... and ruin.

6. Reporting on your every decision to the boss is part and ......................... of the job, so you'd better get used to it.

7. It was Martin's brilliant sense of humour that livened up the party. The boy was the ......................... and soul of it.

8. His intentions are usually hard to guess. I think it’s ......................... and go whether he'll agree to the proposal.

9. Jacob keeps his house clean like nobody else I know. He does the hoovering and dusting almost every day. He likes his house to be spick and ......................... .

10. Don't touch the box. There are all my fishing bits and ......................... in it and I would not like to lose anything of that.

11. The letters he would write were full of doom and ......................... . We still do not know what made him so depressed.

12. I know these people. They're my ......................... and kin. We come from the same place.

13. The football fans were coming in ......................... and drabs to watch the final game. An hour before the kickoff the stadium was packed full.

14. My grannie is almost ninety, but she's still full of ......................... and vigour.

15. 'I like the suit you're wearing, Arnold.'

'Thank you, Jane. It's my best bib and ......................... , actually.'
1. An interesting picture by Picasso came under the ................................ at Sotheby's auction house last week.

2. Sceptics claim that looking for alien forms of life in space is like squaring the .......................................................... as they do not exist.

3. The difference between your estimate and mine is just too small to mention. It makes no sense to split ................................ about it.

4. Our father's unexpected illness put the ........................................ on our holiday plans.

5. One may get bored in Tom and Pete's company. They're both too involved in their jobs and will talk ................................ without a break.

6. Mind that you don't tell tales out of ........................................, Bob. It's not commendable to reveal the matters of the association to the people who do not belong to it.

7. It is not a common practice to tan your neighbours' children's .................. as nobody likes their darlings to be spanked by somebody else.

8. Only when the company collapsed, did it come out that the accountants had been cooking the ....................... and embezzling the money.

9. It's a great pleasure to call it a ........................................ after such a long and hard work.

0. The teacher did not believe the excuses that the boys gave for their truancies. What they said simply did not hold ......................

1. You will not break any new ....................... if you say that the Earth is round and water is wet.

2. Be careful not to go too far with the fun you make of your friends. Nobody likes their ....................... to be pulled too much.

3. It's been raining heavily since midday. I don't really feel like braving the ....................... and having a walk in such an awful weather.

4. The small guerrilla unit launched a series of attacks on the enemy military facilities. In this way they showed the ....................... to the others and paved the way for a national uprising.

5. Mr Dawney, our boss, always goes crazy when he sees his workers chewing the ....................... in the cafeteria instead of carrying out their duties.
4. **Guess the meaning**

Match the phrases in italics with the idioms expressing a synonymous meaning.

- A) be in the family way
- B) blow hot and cold
- C) burn the midnight oil
- D) get off scot-free
- E) go through the floor
- F) hit the roof
- G) lead sb up the garden path
- H) let off steam
- I) make a mountain out of a molehill
- J) pick holes in
- K) pull out all the stops
- L) ride the crest of a wave
- M) rub shoulders
- N) stick to your guns
- O) turn the tables on

1. We're planning to organise a lot of social meetings to help our representatives to **associate closely** with each other.

2. Gordon **turned very angry** when he found out how much money he had lost on the unfortunate enterprise.

3. Have you heard that Michael's wife **is pregnant**?

4. Even if they threaten you, you must be firm and **not change your decisions**.

5. It is Jack's last chance to pass the exams, so he's been **studying very hard until the small hours**.

6. Don't worry about Angela. She is **exaggerating her problems**, as usual.

7. Nobody believed she would ever manage to succeed in her studies. But she **made a great effort** and now she is a doctor.

8. However he managed to **avoid punishment**, it couldn't have been by fair means.

9. I have lost my trust in Mr Tanner. He **keeps changing his opinions** about my employment all the time.

10. When she was appointed for the managerial position, Mary **gained a considerable advantage over** Mr Rush, her former superior, whose silly orders she'd had to perform ever since she started her work for the company.

11. 'Sherilyn is one of the most popular fashion models in the country, isn't she?'
    'Indeed. She **is at the peak of her popularity** at present.'
12. That man told us he was an antique dealer and promised to sell our silver cutlery at a high price. But he **deceived** us never coming back with the money.

13. They say prices at the Moriarty’s have **fallen substantially**. Why don’t we do some shopping there?

14. He only **finds faults with** everything I do and has never ever offered his helping hand to me.

15. He doesn’t usually behave so aggressively. I guess he just needed to **give vent to his anger and frustration**.

---

I don’t think the estate is worth the two-million dollar price. The agent seems to be leading us up the garden path.
5 Mind, head or brain?

Insert the nouns MIND(S), HEAD and BRAIN(S) in the right phrases.

1. Since he met that fair-haired girl, Jack's been ................................ over heels in love with her.
2. She said something about a secret plan. I'd give a penny to know what is on her ......................................
3. In case of an emergency you should try to keep a level ........................................ and not panic.
4. This is not a very good project, but I have got half a ................................. to accept it, anyway.
5. They kept asking me these difficult questions, so I had to rack my .............. to answer them all correctly.
6. Susan seems to have set her ........................................ on the idea of keeping the stray dog at home, which is what her mother does not accept.
7. My father wants me to study law, but I have made up my ......................... to become an architect.
8. Mrs Ross can hardly keep her .................................. above water living on her low unemployment benefit.
9. Go on, speak your .......................... ! We do want to know your point of view.
10. Sally has been given her .......................... by the boss. She can take every decision without consulting it with the Board.
11. This red Pontiac is smarter, but the blue Ferrari can go faster. As you can see, I'm still in two .......................... about which one to buy.
12. The only thing George can talk about is football. He seems to have it on the ................................ all day round.
13. The views from the peak of Kilimanjaro just blew my .............................. . I had never seen anything more stunning before.
14. It's unbelievable how the financial success has turned uncle Bob's ......................... . He is as proud as a peacock now.
15. Mr Saunter is the person who knows a lot about growing cacti flowers. We can safely pick his ...................... about it.
1. Now that you have grown up, you must stop living on your parents’ money. It's high time you started to earn your own _ e _ .
2. Hugh did get offended with my remarks about his project although they were sincere and I thought he would take them in good _ _ t .
3. We can still accept Tom's jokes, however crude they are. But we have to draw the _ _ n _ at his playing nasty tricks on everybody in the office.
4. You may not be granted the scholarship if your achievements are not up to the _ r _ . Only the best students will be promoted.
5. They say Mr Webster is over hundred years old. But, he seems to be living on borrowed _ i _ .
6. Uncle Jerry has got the _ f _ of the gab. No wonder he's been so successful as a sales representative.
7. None of the demonstration organisers escaped punishment. They were all brought to _ o _ and made to pay fines and do a community service.
8. Everybody likes Cindy for the simple reason that she never refuses to do anybody a good _ _ n . She's the most helpful person I know.
9. Angela is a more skilled swimmer than I am. I think I'll never be able to keep _ c _ with her.
10. We could only see the burglar making a _ s _ for the fence. We didn't see his face, let alone catch him.
11. Steve has been given the _ _ by another company. I wonder if he is an incompetent worker or a loafer simply.
12. The game had been pretty dull before Hopkins replaced Simmons. Then, it came to _ i _ and three goals were scored.
13. Everything has come to a sorry _ _ s in my life since my wife left me with my best friend.
14. ‘Look! I've got another parking ticket. It's the third one this week!’
   ‘Keep your _ _ r on, Andy. And look where you park your car next time.’
15. Jim's been on the _ _ l _ since he left hospital and was laid off by his employer. Were it not for the government money, he would have nothing to live on.
Combine the adjectives and nouns into phrases and match them with the correct definitions.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>hot</th>
<th>odd</th>
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<tr>
<td>dead</td>
<td>ivory</td>
<td>old</td>
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<tr>
<td>eager</td>
<td>lame</td>
<td>red</td>
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<td>easy</td>
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<td>duck</td>
<td>lie</td>
<td>tower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>game</td>
<td>potato</td>
<td>wood</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. a joke which is too old to be funny
2. a negative and boring person
3. an ultimate difficulty that one can bear
4. a most lucky escape from trouble
5. a lie that does not do any harm
6. a sensitive and embarrassing matter
7. someone who works harder that they should
8. people or things that are no longer useful
9. a big sum of money for a retiring worker
10. a place or way of living away from real life
11. a subject or fact of little importance
12. small, practical tasks performed at home
13. an impressive victory; a total change
14. someone who can be easily beaten or blamed
15. someone who is in trouble and needs help
Definitions

Insert the words in the correct phrases to complete the definitions.

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<tr>
<th>avenue</th>
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<th>knot</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bait</td>
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<td>mincemeat</td>
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<tr>
<td>bay</td>
<td>hoops</td>
<td>moon</td>
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<tr>
<td>deal</td>
<td>houses</td>
<td>time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dust</td>
<td>jackpot</td>
<td>willies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. If you **give someone the** ................................, you make them scared or nervous.
2. If you **keep troubles at** ................................, you manage to avoid them.
3. If you **explore every** ...................................., you try any possible method to find or achieve something.
4. If you **go against the** ...................................., you do not follow the standards and do things in an unconventional way.
5. If you **get a raw** ........................................., you are treated unfairly.
6. If your opinions or suggestions **get the** .............., they are strongly criticised or disapproved of.
7. If you **do** ................................................., you serve a prison sentence.
8. If you **make** .............................................. of your enemies, you defeat them severely.
9. If you **jump through** ....................................... , you do something hard and demanding in order to achieve your goal.
10. If you **tie the** ............................................, you get married.
11. If you **cry for the** ....................................... , you ask for or want something that you cannot be given.
12. If you **go all round the** ................................., you do something in a very complicated way, instead of doing it a direct way.
13. If your suggestions, plans, hopes etc. **gather** ........... , they are ignored, forgotten or never put to practice.
14. If you **hit the** ............................................, you win or inherit a large sum of money unexpectedly.
15. If you **rise to the** ....................................... , you act in exactly the way that someone else wants you to.
Choose the idiom

Insert the appropriate idioms to complete the sentences.

bear a grudge against someone  pop the question
call someone's bluff  pull one's socks up
change one's spots  put someone through their paces
make someone's mouth water  run in someone's blood
meet one's Waterloo  thread one's way through

1. You haven't been doing well in your studies recently, so you'd better ................................................... if you hope to pass all your examinations.
2. We had a quarrel about cleaning the room two days ago and it looks like Ben is still .......................................................... as he hasn't spoken to me since then.
3. Howard's grandfather was a famous violinist. His father can play the piano beautifully and the boy is a skilled guitar player. That musical talent seems to ..........................................................
4. After four years of an unquestionable superiority in the high jump, the Cuban champion finally ................................................... as he got beaten by a young Russian in Madrid last Friday.
5. Alex is so fond of sweets that whenever he sees some within reach, they invariably ..........................................................
6. Bart has always been so irrational and obstinate. It's not sensible to expect him to .......................................................... at the age of sixty.
7. There were hundreds of football fans watching a game on the huge outdoor TV screens in the city centre, so we had to .......................................................... the crowds to reach our bus stop.
8. The bully must have assumed that I was afraid of him. So when he said he was going to beat me up I bravely .......................................................... and got ready for his attack.
9. None of the people who applied for the job had any reliable work record, so we decided to .......................................................... to find out which of them was suitable for the demanding position.
10. Tom has dated Sue for six years now and his parents are putting pressure on him to .......................................................... But Tom says he isn't going to get married until he makes a big career.
10 -ING adjectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>cutting</th>
<th>going</th>
<th>running</th>
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<tr>
<td>damning</td>
<td>growing</td>
<td>saving</td>
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<td>extenuating</td>
<td>laughing</td>
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<td>flying</td>
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<tr>
<td>forwading</td>
<td>roaring</td>
<td>teething</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1. The introduction of snake charmers in the circus repertoire was a/an .................................. success for the owners. The performances were all sold out.
2. How do you expect me to deliver the post to Mrs Dale if she didn't leave any .................................. address after moving out of town?
3. Alice learned a lot and passed her exams with .................................. colours.
4. The doctor made me realise that a jaundice infection was no .................................. matter and an inoculation was highly advisable.
5. Look at Donna's face. Isn't she the ............................... image of her mother?
6. The district is inhabited by people of various races and origins. It is a real .................................. pot unlike other areas of the city.
7. In spite of having been found guilty of the theft, the boy didn't receive a heavy punishment as there were plenty of .................................. circumstances.
8. Your store brings tremendous profits each month, so what's the point of selling a/an .................................. concern like this?
9. Every new government must go through the ............................... pains before they win social acceptance and prove their effectiveness.
10. I'm in a/an .................................. hurry. My plane is taking off in only half an hour.
11. The amazing modern robots that were presented at the show by the Japanese designers are at the ............................... edge of nanotechnology.
12. We had a few .................................. troubles with operating the new machinery at the very start, but soon we managed to get over them.
13. The secret documents that were found by the police were the ............................... evidence of Joseph Stanton's criminal past.
14. The scheme that they have devised is rather impractical. Its .................................. grace though is the low cost of implementation.
15. He said the price of his new Jaguar was exorbitant. I assume the ............................... costs must be unimaginable, too.
1. The prime minister wasn’t too well prepared for the press conference. His answers were ........................ and didn’t satisfy the reporters.

2. It’s the third time that the surgeon made a critical mistake and his patient died. His reputation and career are now ...........................

3. The peace negotiations have been broken off. Another outbreak of fighting is ............................ Within a few hours new attacks will be launched.

4. Edith was .......................... when she had learnt about winning the main prize at the annual lottery.

5. We did argue before, but never have we been ........................ with each other over such minor matters.

6. I need to have my video camera repaired. It’s ........................ again.

7. I could tolerate your noisy parties time and again, but throwing bottles out of the window was ........................... this time. I want you to move out of my flat.

8. Nicole asked what the compass in my bag was .............................. I explained to her that we needed it in case we got lost in the forest.

9. The Board have resolved that the director of our branch in Leeds will remain ............................ until he decides to leave on his own.

10. .......................... the new apprentice seemed quite witty, but it soon turned out he was all thumbs.

11. You can’t expect your father to run as quickly as you do. He is ............................. now and his physical strength isn’t that good any more.

12. The coach’s decision to put me in the first team caught me ............................ I didn’t even expect to be appointed for the World Cup squad.

13. We do not have any tailored clothes on offer. We sell them ............................ only.

14. One of the salesmen found himself .............................. after it turned out he had stolen some documents from the director’s cabinet.

15. Sue is not coming. She’s going to stay in bed as she’s a bit ...........................
Choose the verb

Fill the gaps with the appropriate verbs in the correct form.

burn  cry  fan  hit  lead  nail  pluck  poke
read  reap  shed  spare  split  stew  work

1. It's useless to try to deceive Michael. He is so smart that he can ......................... a lie with ease.
2. Despite the curator's scary stories about ghosts and creaking floorboards at night, we managed to ......................... up the courage to spend the night in the castle.
3. So you have lost all your money on the bets. But it's no good ......................... over split milk. Next time you come to Las Vegas, you should stay clear of casinos.
4. He didn't put it straight, but I could ......................... between the lines that he was not satisfied with the fee that he was offered.
5. Any form of irresponsible behaviour is punished at this school. Those who call other pupils names or ......................... fun at them are put in detention.
6. The preparations for the secret mission must be completed within just two weeks. No wonder the agents have been ......................... the candle at both ends.
7. I've been worried about Carl since he started keeping company of those bad boys. He's a weak character and they may easily ......................... him astray.
8. It is hoped that Mr Hurston's testimony will ......................... new light on the case of women kidnappings in Livingston.
9. It's not the matter of being a disciplined employee. Pete keeps ......................... to rule to show his dissatisfaction with the fact that he wasn't given a rise.
10. We love visiting the Browns because they are so hospitable and friendly. They will ......................... no pains to make you feel comfortable in their house.
11. Poor Mr Daniels. When his wife left him with her lover he ......................... the bottle. And he has been drinking heavily since then.
12. I'm going to invest my savings in the business and hope to ......................... a considerable harvest in the future.
13. I offered to pay $100, and Sean insisted on $120. But finally, we agreed that we would ......................... the difference, so I paid him $110 for the moped.
14. It was Adam's decision to accept the bribes. Let him ......................... in his own juice now.
15. You shouldn't have mentioned anything about Steve's failed exam. It only ......................... the flames of your brother's irritation.
1. I know it's quite a depressing situation, but keep your ....................... up! Things will get better soon.

2. At the beginning, my boss would not take my ideas and suggestions seriously. But when my projects proved to be successful, he had a change of .....................

3. The official can't be very honest if he expects us to grease his ..................... before arranging every matter.

4. We will never reach an agreement if you go on setting your ..................... against all our recommendations.

5. It was Stephanie who put Amy's ..................... out of joint. The moment she arrived at the party, all the boys wanted to keep her company.

6. Did he tell you he worked in the theatre? Don't believe a word he says. He always lies through his .....................

7. The agent told the man he had to pay ten thousand pounds extra for the mortgage and he didn't even turn a/an ..................... He must have been a millionaire.

8. It looks like the politicians only pay ..................... service to our charity organization. They never really offer any financial support.

9. The farmers in the country must have their ..................... to the wall considering that the cereal and meat prices have slumped by 50%.

10. The suspect says that at the time of the robbery he was in a cinema. But nobody in fact saw him there. It seems he does not have a/an ..................... to stand on.

11. Everybody was giving Anthony the cold ..................... when we found out it was him who told the teacher that we were going to play truant from the lesson.

12. He treats me as if he had a/an ..................... to pick with me. Have I done anything wrong to him?

13. You'll certainly get it in the ..................... if your mother discovers you smoke cigarettes in the backyard.

14. They say that Mr Palmer's resignation was his own decision. But I can assure you there is more to it than meets the .....................

15. Jenny refused to wear her grandmother's hat during the ceremony saying that she wasn't going to stick out like a sore .....................
1. This fish is a ................................ of nature. It has got no fins, but it still can swim.
2. We are intending to gather people from every ....................... of life to find out their opinions about living in the city.
3. It's a hard life we are living now, but honestly I cannot remember the times when it was a/an ....................... of roses.
4. In the researchers' account the market place was a/an ....................... of activity in every ancient city.
5. Did she say one hundred? She certainly meant to say one thousand. It must have been a/an ....................... of the tongue.
6. Nobody would have considered the problem to be such a/an ....................... of worms. How are we going to deal with it?
7. Why did the professor mention the implant surgery at all? It is a/an ....................... of a different colour, isn't it? He was supposed to speak about hair analysis.
8. Several coins of gold became the ....................... of discord between the explorers who had unearthed the treasure trove.
9. Both Hugh and Gill brought flowers for Caroline. Was it a/an ....................... of fate or some intricate plan?
10. I suppose the man is trying to fool us. What he says is just a/an ....................... of cobblers.
11. Everything's going fine so far, but there may be a/an ....................... of bother when it comes to appointing the chairman. Not everyone likes Harold.
12. How about going to a disco? Why spend every evening in front of the TV set? Don't you know variety is the ....................... of life?
13. The judge has resolved that the baby will become a/an ....................... of court until she turns eighteen.
14. Wolves haven't been spotted in this ....................... of the woods for about four years, so the area may be considered safe for tourists.
15. The little children were amazed at the conjurer's unimaginable ....................... of hand. The trick with the rabbit popping out of the hat brought the house down.
1. It's true Jack can be very critical. He is always .................. aspersions on everyone else's ability to run the business.
   a  putting      b  casting      c  drawing      d  applying

2. She's very unhappy all alone with her problems. She's got nobody to .................. their ear.
   a  pick         b  let         c  bend        d  speak

3. Don't throw that basket away! It may still .................. in handy when we go picking mushrooms.
   a  find         b  run         c  come        d  give

4. Celia would always look up to her older brother. Whatever Adrian did she invariably .................. suit.
   a  followed     b  carried     c  pursued     d  kept

5. No matter how I tried to convince him that I was right, he .................. his ground dismissing all my arguments.
   a  thought      b  fixed       c  claimed     d  stood

6. The performance in the National Theatre really ................. the house down last night. The actors were give a standing ovation.
   a  took         b  brought     c  left        d  set

7. The final decision has already been taken, so there's no use in your .................. the toss.
   a  arguing      b  disapproving c  dismissing  d  quarrelling

8. I won't listen to anyone. I am grown-up now and I can decide what I do in my life. I don't want anyone to .................. my style.
   a  prevent      b  spoil       c  disturb     d  cramp

9. Sadly, my tutor gave me a poor mark for my piece of writing. She told me I had .................. too many liberties with the real facts.
   a  placed       b  made        c  taken       d  found

10. What the secretary says doesn't necessarily .................. much weight, but you should never disobey your director's instructions.
    a  play         b  carry       c  hold        d  mean
11. It ... to reason that the princess won't arrive unless you send her a formal invitation.
   a. gets  b. comes  c. stands  d. lays

12. We've had to quit our cooperation with this wholesaler as we could never .......... a bargain. He asked for more than we could offer.
   a. strike  b. hit  c. beat  d. knock

13. A lot of scorn has been .......... on the Canadian seal hunters for their merciless practices.
   a. blamed  b. launched  c. poured  d. fixed

14. It may take a long time before Mary ............... herself together after her mother's death.
   a. brings  b. finds  c. draws  d. pulls

15. According to the verdict, the boy will be removed from school on the grounds of .......... dirty tricks on the teachers and other pupils.
   a. working  b. driving  c. playing  d. committing

16. Your leftist views .......... in the face of our party programme, so you'd better drop them or find another party for yourself.
   a. fly  b. run  c. turn  d. look

17. This savage war had .......... this beautiful country waste and left many of its inhabitants homeless.
   a. cast  b. grown  c. laid  d. set

18. She would have been fined for leaving her car in the wrong place, hadn't the policeman decided to .......... the rules on that single occasion.
   a. leave  b. bend  c. quit  d. skip

19. The new round of negotiations is hoped to .......... the deadlock in the Middle East.
   a. break  b. remove  c. dispense  d. untie

20. Let me take care of your scratched knee. I've been a nurse for eighteen years, so I .......... the ropes like nobody else.
   a. have  b. grasp  c. know  d. operate
Definitions

Fill the gaps with the correct nouns and match the idioms with their definitions.

1. drop a ....................
2. get on someone’s ....................
3. get the ..................... up
4. go off the ....................
5. go through the ....................
6. go to the ....................
7. hold the ....................
8. kick the ....................
9. make ..................... while the sun shines
10. scratch the ....................

a  die
b  annoy someone, make them upset
c  deal only slightly with a problem
d  take advantage of a good opportunity
e  go into bankruptcy
f  say unintentionally something offensive or improper
g  become anxious and frightened about something
h  experience something difficult or unpleasant
i  lose skills at something, become less good
j  look after a business for someone while they are away

boil
brick
bucket
fort
hay
mill
surface
wall
wick
wind

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
1. Doesn't Richard ever appreciate other people's merits? Does he only blow his own .................................? 
2. I think the critics have gone too far with their praises for Ms Henley. In fact, she played second .................................. in the performance.
3. Judging by the way he banged the .................................. for Alice, he must be very fond of the girl.
4. The lyrics of the song struck a .................................. with Sue and she became sad.
5. It was horrible how she led us a merry .................................. by leaving the house without telling us where she was going.
6. One of the boys blames his companion for the wrongdoing, but everyone knows that it takes two to .................................. 
7. In his sermon the Pope struck the right .................................. It was exactly what the people needed to hear: the words of hope.
8. If I tell you his family name is Nigel, does it ring a .................................. ?
9. The dishonest accountant will have to face the .................................. for having embezzled so much of the company funds.
10. 'You must have spent a fortune on the silver cigar box.' 'Oh no, I bought it for a .................................. at a flea market.'
11. The Prime Minister must be the President's puppet. He seems to dance to the President's .................................. and does not implement his own policy.
12. 'Someone's told me you're ill in hospital.' 'I don't have a clue why someone should have told you this rubbish. I am as .................................. as a bell.'
Fill the gaps with the appropriate words.

black  blue  brown  colour  green
grey  pink  red  silver  white  yellow

1. Crowds of people are expected at the .........................-carpet welcome ceremony, so tight security will be needed at the airport.
2. William was .............................. with envy when I told him about my date with Muriel.
3. 'Hi Ben! How is your health?'
   'Thank you. I'm in the ............................. . I've never felt better.'
4. Our neighbours don't take much care of the staircase. They only clean it once in a ......................... moon.
5. I've got no more money left. The merciless tax collector has bled me ................................. .
6. People say that John Milton, the millionaire, is stingy and selfish. But I know he's not as ............................ as he is painted. He spends loads of money on charity in Africa, but he does it without much publicity.
7. You can rely on Paul's intelligence. His ......................... matter is most admirable.
8. I didn't go to school this morning as I was feeling a bit off ................................. .
9. There is no need to worry, Mrs Simpson. Your bank account is still in the ................................. .
10. The question of overdue bills arouse out of the ................................. . I'd known nothing about them before.
11. November the 12th was a .................................-letter day for our family.
    Our father regained consciousness after two years in a coma, then.
12. She was standing there in the corner ......................... about the gills as if she had seen a ghost.
13. You can scream until you're ................................. in the face but he'll never hear you. He is as deaf as a post.
14. It was Brian's idea to paint the town ................................. because he wanted to celebrate his promotion.
15. At first, no one believed she was a pilot, but her documents lent to her statements.

16. To achieve a lasting success in politics and win people's favour, one must be whiter than .

17. Frankie's going to be tickled when I tell him we're going to have a baby.

18. The prime minister's resignation came like a bolt from the . No member of the cabinet had expected such a decision.

19. Don't even ask her to accompany us through the forest. She is so - bellied that she wouldn't stay at home alone.

20. I was sure my boss would see if I told him about the missing files, so I preferred to keep it secret.

21. My father does not like to be disturbed when he is in a study in his office.

22. I know it's been a pretty tough situation for you after the divorce. But as they say every cloud has a lining. Now, you're starting a new life.

23. The question of taxation for the pensioners who take on casual jobs is still an area. The ministry of finance has not issued any directives as yet.

24. If you bring a gift only to Tommy, his twin brother, Christopher, will scream murder. You should buy something for both of them.

25. Only when the EU funds are allocated, will the projects be given the light and the building of the new car factory will begin.

26. I have never seen David so drunk before. He was so inebriated that he could probably see elephants.

27. When Jack mentioned Alice's former relationships, it was like a rag to a bull. She went mad.

28. We're bankrupt and have no money, no accommodation, not even friends to ask for help. Things really look now.

29. Before we start renovating your big house, I'd like to see the of your money, sir. I don't want to end up with you telling me that you're broke.

30. Jessica's been so vain and conceited because she got everything handed to her on a platter. She doesn't know how it is to work on your position and fortune from the start.
19 Paraphrases

Rewrite the sentences using idioms so that the original meanings of the sentences are retained.

1. Read the manual if you want to learn to operate the welding machine.
   hang

2. Is she still hesitating whether to marry Alexander or not?
   two minds

3. This building will be dedicated to the families who are in desperate need of help.
   breadline.

4. Nobody likes him. He will do just anything to win the teachers' favour.
   curry

5. It took us four years to settle successfully in the new surroundings.
   roots

6. We only trade with the retailers who pay us without any delay.
   nail.

7. Nothing of what you speak has ever happened.
   pass.

8. It's about time the government started to deal with the problem of unemployment.
   grips

9. I felt creeps all over my back when the tutor looked so angrily at me.
   daggers

10. As usual, Sam makes the job look more complicated than it really is.
    heavy weather

11. Seeing how poor the people looked, I could not charge them for the meals.
    the heart

12. Last time I went to visit Evelyn, she looked depressed and miserable.
    the dumps.

13. Stop complaining about your life and see how really lucky you are.
    blessings.

14. Just because I am his wife he expects me to do everything for him.
    hand and foot.

15. Nancy is the kind of person who likes to be involved in all kinds of matters.
    a finger
## Noun Phrases

Put the nouns in the appropriate phrases and match them with their definitions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>arms</th>
<th>castles</th>
<th>icing</th>
<th>needle</th>
<th>sting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bolt</td>
<td>feather</td>
<td>manger</td>
<td>pan</td>
<td>straw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bull</td>
<td>fly</td>
<td>millstone</td>
<td>spanner</td>
<td>suit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. the cause of failure of a plan, action etc.
2. naked
3. something sudden and unpleasant
4. a short-lived success
5. someone who selfishly prevents others from enjoying something
6. something too small to be found
7. something that someone can be proud of
8. something that is unnecessarily added to something else that is good enough
9. dreams or plans that cannot be achieved
10. something that limits someone’s freedom
11. someone clumsy in a delicate place
12. someone who lacks experience or needs help
13. a sign of a possible future occurrence
14. something or someone that spoils something good or pleasant
15. an unpleasant feature at the end of an event or story

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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>a babe in ..................</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>a/an .................. in the ointment</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>a/an .................. in the tail</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>a/an .................. in the wind</td>
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<td>E</td>
<td>in one’s birthday ...............</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>a/an .................. round one’s neck</td>
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<td>G</td>
<td>................. in the air</td>
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<td>H</td>
<td>a/an .................. in the works</td>
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<td>I</td>
<td>a/an .................. in a china shop</td>
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<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>a/an .................. from the blue</td>
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<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>the ................. on the cake</td>
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<td>L</td>
<td>a flash in the .................</td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>a/an .................. in a haystack</td>
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<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>a/an .................. in one’s cap</td>
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<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>a dog in the .................</td>
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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15
1. After her second divorce, Lucy said she would try to make a/an ................. start in life again.
2. Jack's a joker. He is fond of telling ................. stories that no one believes.
3. Henry's plans of becoming a successful businessman and a millionaire at the age of twenty may sound funny, but I like people who think .................
4. Couldn't we switch to another channel, daddy? I'm bored ................... with watching the Olympics all day round.
5. Don't get too impressed by his promises. They are just ................... air.
6. The English coach is going to play his .................. card by putting the brilliant Jenkins in the defence line.
7. Hellen almost let out a cry when she found her brother lying unconscious on the floor in the sitting-room. She had no idea he was .................. drunk.
8. Eddie's father owns a huge factory in Dallas, so he needn't worry about money. He will forever be on .................. street, I guess.
9. Watch out! There's a lorry coming for us! Thank God, we're still alive. It was a/an .................. shave, indeed.
10. Our New Year's Eve party was in .................. swing when the lights suddenly went out in the whole neighbourhood.
11. The Browns are both unemployed. With their six children they must be in a/an .................. corner these days.
12. My son's been working twelve hours a day since April and that's why he is so .................. beat in the evenings.
13. The idea to spend the day in the museum fell .................. as everyone preferred to have fun on the beach.
14. Now, I've been thrown in at the .................. end having to take over all the chairman's duties so unexpectedly.
15. Even Mr Bay's elaborate concept was given .................. sh rift by the boss. I wonder if anyone is going to work out a better design.
Fill the gaps with the appropriate nouns.

bee  hills  Larry  pie  sheep

- cucumber - houses  lord  rain  sheet
- eel  ice  mouse  rake  sin
- grave  lamb  peas  rock  word

1. Don't be afraid. You are as safe as ................................ in here.
2. He won't support you. He is as poor as a church ............................
3. Isn't she ill? She is as white as a(n) .................................
4. I will never date him. He is as ugly as ................................
5. I'm feeling very well. I'm as right as .................................
6. He cannot be trusted. He is as slippery as a(n) .............................
7. I didn't hear a whisper in the cellar. It was as silent as the ..................
8. They are twins. They're as like as ................................... in a pod.
9. I've never heard her shout. She's as gentle as a(n) ..........................
10. Leave him alone. He's as drunk as a(n) .................................
11. He will never let you down. He's as solid as a(n) ...........................
12. She always keeps her promises. She's as good as her ...................
13. She isn't intelligent at all. She is as silly as a(n) ...........................
14. He's been working a lot lately. He's been as busy as a(n) ..................
15. He never panics. He can be as cool as a(n) ..............................
16. It's an old joke. It is as old as the .................................
17. She looks excited. She is as happy as .................................
18. Hasn't she been dieting for too long? She's as thin as a(n) .................
19. I'll do it in no time at all. It's as easy as .................................
20. I've forgotten my gloves. My hands are as cold as ........................
Fill the gaps with the appropriate names of items of clothing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>belt</th>
<th>hat</th>
<th>shirt</th>
<th>sock</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>boots</td>
<td>knickers</td>
<td>shoes</td>
<td>suit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coat</td>
<td>pants</td>
<td>sleeve</td>
<td>trousers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. It's quite clear he hasn't told us the whole truth. He must be keeping something under his ...................................
2. Considering Lucy's bossy character, you can tell who wears the ................................................. in their house.
3. I've had to tighten my ........................................... since I have been saving the money for a new car.
4. Would you mind putting a ......................... in it while I am watching the interview? I can't hear a thing they are saying.
5. Peter doesn't like his timetable to be rearranged without informing him in advance. If we do it, he may get his ........................................... in a twist.
6. It is hardly probable that they will take to each other. They are both too big for their ...........................................
7. Statistically, our national team don't win too many matches. So, I wouldn't put my ................. on them if I were you.
8. It's up to the director to decide who is going to fill Ann's ................................. when she takes a year's leave.
9. Andrew is afraid of the exam because history has never been his strong ...........................................
10. The Mexican boxing champion says he's going to beat the ................................. off his American opponent. But the truth is his chances are rather slim.
11. My fortune's gone and I can't afford to live the same extravagant lifestyle as I did for the last ten years. I have to cut my ........................................... according to my cloth.
12. Jane must have known something else about the occurrence judging by the way she laughed up her ..................................
13. You're being unkind, Mark. Your remarks about my sister's appearance are rather below the ..................................
14. We couldn't decide which film to watch in the cinema, so we picked the drama out of ..................................
15. The criminals were caught with their ................................. down by the police. They didn't even suspect the officers had been observing them for weeks.
Fill the gaps with the appropriate nouns.

air  ebb  night  storm  water  
dust  ice  rain  thunder  weather  
earth  moon  river  tide  wind

1. It was the students' organisation that initiated the charity action, but the dean stole their .................... and received the most recognition.
2. Due to the recession, our business has been at a low ......................... . That's why we've had to lay off our workers.
3. Come ......................... or shine, I will always stand by you. I promise.
4. Their excuses are just a pack of lies. None of the stories holds ......................... .
5. Patrick invited everyone to his club for a party. I tell you we did make a .......................... of it.
6. Irene's been walking on ......................... because she's been given a role in a film. It's her first appearance in front of the film camera.
7. If you tell him his girlfriend is waiting for him at the gate, you won't see him for ......................... .
8. The brilliant performance of the string quartet took the audience by .......................... . There were at least three encores before we left.
9. How about doing our shopping in a cheaper place? Everything costs the .......................... in this posh shopping centre.
10. 'Did Paul like his Christmas presents?' 'Well, he didn't say anything, but it seemed he wasn't over the .......................... about them.'
11. Only Jenny said no to our proposals. Must she always swim against the .......................... ?
12. 'The foreman has warned me the task is going to be very difficult.' 'Oh, don't worry he tends to make heavy .......................... of every job.'
13. When it turned out the Republican Party's candidate ruined his chance for a victory in the campaign, all his supporters sold him down the .......................... by joining the Democrats.
14. Our plans of building the amusement park have been put on ......................... as our application for EU funds has not been dealt with as yet.
15. Don't you think you are sailing close to the .......................... by settling your private matters during your working hours?
1. We hoped to give the bicycle to Sue as a birthday surprise, but it turned out Max had split the ......................... before the party.

2. He both runs the store and does the accounts. He also coordinates the supplies and supervises the distribution. He has got a finger in every ......................... It's the strangest thing I've ever heard.

3. You've made up hundreds of extraordinary excuses, but this one really takes the ......................... It's the strangest thing I've ever heard.

4. They say my application hasn't been successful. But I'm going to have a second bite at the ......................... next year.

5. Stella may not excel at sports, but she certainly knows her ......................... when mathematics is the case.

6. Stop telling me about your family problems! I don't give a/an ......................... for your private matters.

7. Alan is known to make up the most incredible stories. Anything he says should be taken with a pinch of .........................

8. When his poor father died, it was the young boy who had to work hard to bring home the .........................

9. It's believed that it's good for a young man to sow his wild ......................... before one settles down and gets married.

10. 'I reckon the Boltons have nothing to complain about living their extravagant lifestyle.' 'Certainly, not. They do live off the ......................... of the land.'

11. We were to have left for Venice in May, but John's sudden illness upset our ......................... cart for good.

12. I've heard Michael's wife has found out about his love affair. It looks like he's in the .........................

13. Robin went furious reading the critical article about himself in one of the papers. It did leave him with ......................... on his face.

14. Don't run away with any baseless opinions about the play before watching it. Don't you know that the proof of the ......................... is in the eating?

15. It's a waste of time writing such a long report on such a minor event. I wouldn't make a/an ......................... of it if I were in your place.
1. If you feel out of PORTS you feel ill or bad-tempered.
2. If someone meets their ROOM they are dead.
3. If you eat humble TIE you admit that you are wrong or have made a mistake.
4. If something goes down the TRAIN it is lost or wasted.
5. If you try to sugar the BILL you try to make something seem less unpleasant.
6. If you promise someone the MOAN you make promises that you will never be able to fulfil.
7. If you pay through the ROSE you pay too high a price for something.
8. If your ambitious plans bite the DUSK they turn into a failure.
9. If you are out on a LAMB you are in a hard position as nobody supports you.
10. If you turn over a new LOAF you change your behaviour or life for better.
11. If you get under someone's SHIN you annoy them or attract them strongly.
12. If you carry a PORCH for someone you are deeply in love with the person.
13. If you pull the WOOD over someone's eyes you deceive them by not telling them the truth.
14. If you get something off your CREST you tell someone about something that has worried you for a long time, which makes you feel better about it.
15. If a hard work takes its TOOL on your health it damages it badly.
16. If a concert or another event goes off with a BANK it is very successful.
17. If you come to the FORK you achieve a position of high importance.
18. If you hit the SOCK you go to bed.
19. If you throw caution to the WINGS you take a risk in spite of a danger.
20. If you get someone's DANGER up you make them angry.
21. If you swallow your PRIZE you do something that makes you feel ashamed in order to achieve something.
22. If you get into your STRIKE you start doing something with confidence.
23. If you stick your EAR in something you interfere in other people's matters.
24. If you make a MASH of something you do not do it in the proper way.
25. If you work your fingers to the BOND you work very hard.
Insert the paired expressions in the appropriate phrases.

black and blue  long and short  
fair and square  safe and sound  
hale and hearty  sick and tired  
high and low  straight and narrow  
hot and bothered  thick and thin

1. Why don't you stop complaining for a while? I'm already ..................... of your bellyaching all day long.
2. The prosecutor didn't comment much on the results of the investigation. He only said that the ..................... of it was that the suspect would still be kept in detention.
3. Michael and Betty have been close friends for years. Always together through .....................
4. The students were searching ..................... for the book, but they could not find it in any of the libraries or bookshops.
5. Tom has learned his lesson in the prison and since that time he has stayed on the ..................... He's a pattern to follow now.
6. Despite his old age, my grandfather is still ..................... He can work all day round and never complains about his health.
7. The poor mother burst into tears seeing her dear son's face ..................... all over after the assault.
8. Isn't Jason acting too nervous? It seems to me he is all ..................... about something.
9. Fortunately, nothing happened to the sailors who got missing. They were found ..................... in their lifeboat somewhere in the North Pacific.
10. Three of the players were shown the red card and there were even more yellow cards during the game. Certainly, the match was not played ..................... by any of the teams.
Match the idioms with their meaning descriptions.

1. agree to differ
2. come down to earth
3. get hold of the wrong end of the stick
4. go halves with someone
5. have a chip on one's shoulder about something
6. keep up with the Joneses
7. live from hand to mouth
8. pick holes in something
9. hold sway over someone or something
10. strike while the iron is hot

a. try to maintain the same standard of living as one's neighbours live
b. have influence or control over someone or something
c. misunderstand what someone has said
d. take advantage of a good opportunity
e. start thinking in a realistic and practical way
f. be sensitive and ready to quarrel about something
g. criticize or show weak points in something
h. remain friends despite having different points of view
i. have only enough money to buy food
j. share the equal costs of something
### Guess the meaning

Match the phrases in italics with the idioms expressing a synonymous meaning.

| A | be given the axe |
| B | be skating on thin ice |
| C | clear the air |
| D | fall between two stools |
| E | have many irons in the fire |
| F | let bygones be bygones |
| G | lose one's bearings |
| H | make the grade |
| I | play to the gallery |
| J | pull the plug on |
| K | rise to the bait |
| L | sign on the dotted line |
| M | sling mud |
| N | talk through one's hat |
| O | wreak havoc with |

1. Excellent as the project may be, it is bound to **be dismissed** because of the lack of support from the local government.
2. I was advised to delete the files containing irrelevant data, so I should not **get confused** while doing my job.
3. For the sake of the country, the leaders of the opposing parties should meet for a discussion to **end the disagreement**.
4. Ecologists have been warning that the air, soil and water pollution **causes destruction of** more and more natural habitats.
5. Why don’t you **forget about your former disagreements** instead of turning your heads away from each other?
6. It’s a common practice in political campaigning that candidates **try to damage their rivals’ reputation through unfair statements**.
7. You’ll be **taking a serious risk** if you invest so much money in this risky business.
8. Although we expected him to be firm and inflexible about our proposal, he **put his signature on the deal** without a word.
9. Howard Wilkes is a shrewd and skilful politician. He knows too well how to **behave in a way that attracts people’s attention and wins their support**.
10. Becky is **involved in a number of projects** that she hopes will bring her fame and fortune. Currently, she is playing in a TV series and recording songs for her CD.
11. Don't pay attention to what Norman says. He knows nothing about marketing strategies and that's why he is saying those silly things.
12. Adam went on making his cynical remarks just because he wanted to make me angry. But I didn't react the way he expected me to, which in turn made him mad.
13. Susan was very disappointed when she didn't succeed in achieving the expected result of her research.
14. With Nigel's second solution to the problem we did find ourselves unable to choose between any of them.
15. The main sponsor's unexpected withdrawal has recently put an end to the plans of introduction of the Brazilian players in our team.

He's really skating on thin ice, this time.
### Choose the verb

Fill the gaps with the appropriate verbs and match the idioms with their definitions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>blow</th>
<th>get</th>
<th>make</th>
<th>put</th>
<th>save</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cut</td>
<td>keep</td>
<td>mince</td>
<td>run</td>
<td>steer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. ................ late hours
2. ................ clear of someone/something
3. ................ in on the act
4. ................ the gauntlet
5. ................ quick strides
6. ................ one's teeth on something
7. ................ the squeeze on someone
8. not ............... one's words
9. ................ a fuse
10. ............... someone's bacon

**a** join in an activity initiated by someone who has been successful in it

**b** get very angry

**c** speak in a direct and open manner

**d** go to sleep late

**e** make a fast progress, improvement etc.

**f** be the object of blame or attacks by many people

**g** rescue someone from danger or difficulties

**h** learn or gain the first experience from something

**i** keep away from or avoid someone or something

**j** influence someone by exerting pressure on them
1. My car broke down on the road, so I had to hitch a lift and only managed to arrive for the conference by the .................. of my teeth.

2. Tommy pulled a long ....................... when his father told him to stay at home while the other children were taken to the cinema.

3. The boss of the mafia has promised to make a clean ....................... of all his criminal activity if the police offer him a maximum protection.

4. Could you lend me a/an ....................... with carrying the ladder to the garden? It's too heavy for a small woman like me.

5. At the beginning, Frank was a bit ashamed. But in the end, he made a good ....................... of asking Sylvia out for a date.

6. Robbie wants to go on the rollercoaster ride, but I have no ....................... for this kind of amusement, so I think I will give it up.

7. It sticks out a mile something wrong has happened to Mary recently. She has been down in the ....................... for some time.

8. My brother's scary stories used to make my ....................... run cold when I was a child. Now we only have a good laugh about them.

9. Much as everyone likes Sarah, she is often criticized for poking her ....................... into other people's private matters.

10. Try not to panic before the performance even if you get cold ....................... .

11. Alice is the kind of person who always wears her ....................... on her sleeve.

12. Lisa has never turned her ....................... on her friends and offers her help whenever they need it.

13. The weekend is the perfect time to let your ....................... down for a while, so stop thinking about your job and relax.

14. Just watching the stuntmen performing their daring tricks sends shivers down my ....................... .

15. Ben's sudden withdrawal from the declamation contest was one in the ....................... for all his supporters, who believed he would succeed.
Choose the correct answer.

1. Mark’s trying to persuade us to accept his own way of reasoning, but what we need is an independent opinion from someone who has no ............... to grind.
   a) axe  b) stone  c) hammer  d) tool

2. Who do you think is going to............... the day at the races this time? Would you bet your money on Gordon Simpson?
   a) succeed  b) run  c) carry  d) take

3. Since the engineers at the service station failed to repair my car, I have ............... all my hopes on my neighbour, Mr Tanner.
   a) clipped  b) nailed  c) stuck  d) pinned

4. 'Can we ............... it quits if I give you back ten pounds?' 'Forget it. You will still owe me ten more.'
   a) name  b) call  c) consider  d) state

5. The boss said something that I didn’t fully understand. Only when I talked about it to my manager did the ............... drop.
   a) pound  b) coin  c) quid  d) penny

6. It would be silly to reject their proposal without learning anything about it first. Why not give them the ............... of the doubt?
   a) right  b) point  c) benefit  d) value

7. I am not usually that nervous, but I did have ............... in my stomach when it came to interpreting for the president himself.
   a) butterflies  b) insects  c) moths  d) spiders

8. Don’t you think you live your lifestyle in much too extravagant way? Hadn’t you better think about saving some money for a ............... day, Josh?
   a) windy  b) cloudy  c) rainy  d) foggy

9. Mike is the best swimmer in his age group. He can ............... spots off every other competitor easily.
   a) win  b) knock  c) draw  d) beat
10. The colour is wonderful and the jacket fits like a ........................ but it's the price that really puts me off buying it.
   a suit  b sock  c glove  d shirt

11. 'Is it the .................. thing to ask the bride for the first dance?' 'Certainly not. First, she will dance with the groom.'
   a made  b found  c done  d held

12. Ted won a thousand pounds in the lottery last Saturday. It was really money for old ....................
   a rope  b line  c string  d wire

13. You look rather sad, Joan. I think the letter from your boyfriend will .................. your day. Here it is.
   a please  b make  c cheer  d wake

14. It surprises me that Peter has got his .................. in Arthur. He doesn't know him at all, yet he hates the boy.
   a dagger  b knife  c hatchet  d axe

15. Don't move from here. Just .................. put until I come back.
   a be  b hold  c keep  d stay

16. However upsetting the captain's remarks were, I managed to keep a .................. upper lip and continued doing my duties.
   a hard  b tight  c stiff  d loose

17. I cannot think who had .................. the gaff, but it seems everyone knows that Nicole and I are planning to get married.
   a burst  b blown  c split  d banged

18. *Gone With the Wind* is one of the old films that has .................. the test of time.
   a stood  b lived  c borne  d endured

19. I like reading romantic stories whereas my boyfriend goes for fantasy. However, when music is the case, we are on common .................. as we both love rock.
   a base  b term  c ground  d field

20. Keep off the grass! Mrs Turnip will .................. off the handle if she sees you walking on her lawn.
   a rush  b jump  c move  d fly
Match the phrases with the appropriate definitions.

A. cold fish  
B. father figure  
C. forty winks  
D. goldfish bowl  
E. the grass roots  
F. hornet’s nest  
G. milk run  
H. narrow escape  
I. pipe dream  
J. quantum leap  
K. red tape  
L. second sight  
M. Sunday best  
N. the upper crust  
O. whipping boy

1. an unfriendly person who shows hardly any emotion  
2. complicated official rules that prevent matters from being settled quickly  
3. a situation that causes a lot of trouble or makes people upset  
4. the rich people who belong to the highest social class  
5. an older man who you respect and ask for advice  
6. an unattainable hope, plan or idea  
7. someone’s best clothes  
8. a short sleep during the day  
9. someone’s regular journey  
10. a situation in which everyone knows everything about your private life  
11. a great progress or development  
12. a person who is blamed or punished for someone else’s misdeeds  
13. a situation in which you only just manage to avoid a serious danger  
14. the ordinary people in a society or political organization  
15. the ability to predict what will happen in the future
1. Will you show me the watch first, please? It just want to make sure I'm not buying a ....................... in a poke.
2. Peter was mad. It was the disturbing message that got his ......................... .
3. You could ask for a rise till the ......................... come home. They will never give one to an unskilled worker.
4. 'I took the second place and only got a hundred pounds as the prize.'
   'Not bad anyway. A .......................... in the hand is worth two in the bush'.
5. You'll be flogging a dead ......................... if you keep persuading everyone to read that book. Nobody's interested in it.
6. I think I can smell a ......................... . Someone's trying to get me out of the business by spreading those nasty gossips about me.
7. Royalist ideology is as dead as the ......................... . Don't tell me we need to reinstate the monarchy to make order in the country.
8. Robin thinks he can make a ......................... out of me and sell me his old car at such a high price. I know how much it is worth.
9. The .........................'s share of the media mogul's fortune will go to his juvenile daughter. The rest will be inherited by his three ex-wives.
10. Simon has got a ......................... in his bonnet about his model aeroplanes. He will talk about them for hours.
11. I'd rather you didn't say a thing about Alice's divorce in her presence. It's better to let sleeping ......................... lie. We don't need another argument, do we?
12. His company went bankrupt and not much later his wife walked out on him.
   How ever he managed to take the ......................... by the horns and make a fresh start in his life is a mystery to me.
13. Will wouldn't listen to our warnings. It was all like water off a .........................'s back. Now, he's got only himself to blame for the accident.
14. We have got a few serious company problems that need to be solved. I suggest we meet in my office and talk ......................... .
15. Cindy will never forgive you for letting the ......................... out of the bag.
   You have just revealed her dearest secret.
35 Prepositional Phrases

Match the prepositional phrases that can be used as a replacement for the boldfaced parts of the sentences.

A at a push  F in a quandary  K on the level
B at a stretch  G of one's own accord  L on the shelf
C down in the dumps  H off the shelf  M to a nicety
D for toffee  I on an even keel  N up the creek
E from scratch  J on the bottle  O without stint

1. What's the matter? You seem to be confused about something.
2. Julia is our best accountant. She always does the calculations exactly.
3. What I appreciate about Dave is the fact that his businesses are perfectly honest.
4. After the earthquake all the houses in the area had to be built from the beginning.
5. I thought Max had dropped the drinking habit. But he is drinking heavily again.
6. Sam never helps us in the garden, but yesterday he raked all the paths without being asked to do it.
7. Mick doesn't want to do the karaoke singing with us. He says he can't sing at all.
8. I've decided to quit the job in the factory. I was expected to work from early morning till late at night without a break.
9. Jenny's greatest fear was that she might end up an old spinster unwanted by any man.
10. Helen's been depressed since she found out her boyfriend was dating another girl.
11. The king was famous for his kindness. He would give away his riches to the poorest generously.
12. If someone discovers we've left the camp at night, we will be in great trouble.
13. After so many years of bad experiences, finally our life is now calm and stable.
14. The store offers a variety of home appliances that can be bought with no special orders.
15. 'I need my car to be seen to as soon as possible.' 'If it's really necessary, I could do the repairs by tomorrow, sir.'
1. 'Don't you think Bob's stories are amusing?' 'Frankly, I've heard them a thousand times by now and they are really **wearing** ....................... to me.'

2. 'Tom has changed for worse, hasn't he? I remember him as a very nice boy.'
   'It must the company of those rough guys that's **led him** ....................... .'

3. Judging by the comments she made, her knowledge of the company problems is rather poor. They were all .......................... of the mark.

4. The feeling that the accident in which his wife was killed occurred through his own fault has always **lain** ........................... on Steven.

5. I gave up my membership in the sect as their practices **run** .......................... of my personal beliefs.

6. This is their private problem, so I'd rather **fight** ....................... of interfering in it.

7. I know he hates me. So all his courtesies and wishes **ring** ...........................

8. Alfred called me an inconsiderate parent, which **cut me to the** ..........................

9. I can tell you everything about the book. I **know it** ........................... I have read it ten times.

10. Mandy entered the church dressed in a mini skirt. Then, all those elderly ladies sitting in the pews **looked** ............................... at her.

11. 'I've finished, mom.' 'You've **made really** ......................................... work of it, Andy. Are you sure you have cleaned all the rooms in the house?'

12. He punched me slightly in my stomach, so I hit him on the shoulder, just to **get** .......................... **with him**.

13. Muriel **felt** ............................... **done by** the reporters when they forgot to put her name on the list of the charity contributors.

14. I hate it when you're **cutting it** ............................... Mike. Our train's leaving in half an hour and you're still not ready with your bags.

15. When his father promised to take Nathan for a trip to Japan, the boy **was** ............................... **himself with excitement**.
37 -ING adjectives

Fill the gaps with the appropriate adjectives.

breathing finishing piping rolling striking
burning flaming receiving shooting waking
crashing hopping redeeming sitting working

1. The judges were repulsed by the murderer's evil deeds and sternly refused to consider his pleasant appearance as a ......................... feature.
2. What's he so ....................... mad about? Is it the dented bumper?
3. Ted is such a ....................... bore that nobody wants to stay in his company and listen to his old silly jokes.
4. The reporter was in a ....................... temper as the star was constantly answering phone calls during the interview.
5. Why didn't you come to visit us last time that you were within ....................... distance of our village?
6. The new Prime Minister says that the problem of the rising inflation is the most ....................... issue to settle in his term of office.
7. Hardly had the doctor left when my husband got these ....................... pains again and I had to call the ambulance back.
8. Ten years of experience should be enough to acquire the ....................... knowledge of navigating a plane.
9. 'Was the meeting as embarrassing an experience as everybody says?'
   'It was awful. We were on the ....................... end of heavy criticism.'
10. We've been working on the project day and night for the last ten days. We surely need some ....................... space, don't we?
11. The Browns have rented the flat for seven years. They are the ....................... tenants here.
12. 'How do you spend your ....................... hours, Mrs Howard?' 'Oh, I sing a lot during the day. I'm a professional singer, aren't I?'
13. 'Is anything wrong with your dinner, sir?' 'Yes. The potatoes are ....................... hot whereas the chops are as cold as ice.'
14. 'When will the sculpture be ready?' 'It's almost ready. I still need a few days to put some ....................... touches to it.'
15. 'Where does the man live?' 'Nowhere, I guess. He is a ....................... stone.'
Write in the missing three-letter words to complete the idioms.

1. If a customs officer turns a blind ___ ___ to smuggling, he pretends not to see it.
2. If your position at work is irrelevant, you are just a ___ ___ in the machine.
3. If you go ___ ___ in hand to someone, you ask someone powerful for help or money in a very respectful way.
4. If you lie down on the ___ ___ , you do not treat your duties seriously.
5. If you and your friends chew the ___ ___ , you have a long friendly conversation about unimportant things.
6. If a policeman catches a thief ___ ___ -handed, he can prove his guilt easily.
7. If your boss gets out of ___ ___ on the wrong side, he may have a bad temper during the whole day.
8. If a TV reporter takes the ___ ___ off some matter, he or she displays the unpleasant truth about a problem or a situation.
9. If someone is like a ___ ___ on hot bricks, he or she is very irritated.
10. If you learn something by experiencing it, you do it the hard ___ ___ .
11. If the 15.34 fast train arrives on the ___ ___ , it is very punctual.
12. If office files are kept in apple-___ ___ order, they are in a perfect arrangement.
13. If you get into ___ ___ water, you are bound to be in trouble.
14. If you have finished doing your daily work, you can call it a ___ ___ .
15. If someone is a small ___ ___ , they are rather unimportant.
16. If someone goes off the deep ___ ___ , he or she suddenly becomes very angry.
17. If you sleep like a ___ ___ , you have a very good sleep.
18. If you take the ___ ___ into your own hands, you administer punishment on a wrongdoer without calling the police or waiting for a legal decision.
19. If you send someone away with a flea in their ___ ___ , you strongly refuse to fulfil their request.
20. If you take a ___ ___ seat, you are in a responsible position where you may have to face criticism, attacks or difficult questions.
1. You don't want to make any more progress if you **rest on your laurels**.
2. You lose some money if you **fall prey to** deception.
3. You start an argument with someone if you **tilt at windmills**.
4. You finish playing a card game if you **put your cards on the table**.
5. Your computer is in disorder if it **goes haywire**.
6. You hide something valuable from someone if you **bury the hatchet**.
7. You don't want to talk about your private feelings to anyone if you **bare your soul**.
8. You plan to take revenge on someone if you want to **settle a score with** them.
9. You do something that most people would be embarrassed to do if you **have the gall to do it**.
10. You show sympathy to someone if you **hold them in the palm of your hand**.
11. You ask for something that you cannot get if you **cry for the moon**.
12. A thief is locked in a prison cell if he **cases the joint**.
13. You have lost your way in a busy place if you **beat about the bush**.
14. Two people spend too much time together if they **live in each other's pockets**.
15. You lose your temper if you **blow your top**.
16. Someone who once lost everything and has become successful and powerful again can say that he or she has **risen from the ashes**.
17. You change your name because you don't want people to know your true identity if you **make a name for yourself**.
18. You offer valuable things to someone who does not understand their value and will not be grateful for that if you **cast pearls before swine**.
19. You encourage someone to do something unreasonable or dangerous if you **give them a rocket**.
20. A worker is dismissed from his job if he is **given his walking papers**.
Match the nouns to make the correct 'Of'-phrases.

1. a bone
2. a breach
3. a bundle
4. the crack
5. the dead
6. the fabric
7. a feat
8. a figment
9. a flurry
10. a grain
11. the heart
12. a lapse
13. a pack
14. a ray
15. a stroke

a. truth
b. society
c. the matter
d. night
e. nerves
f. memory
g. luck/fortune
h. lies
i. imagination
j. hope
k. excitement
l. endurance
m. dawn
n. contention
o. confidence
1. He spat on my doormat and I turned very angry.

2. Soon after they met each other, they became very good friends.

3. You'll be punished if someone discovers you have fiddled the company books.

4. Dave does not hesitate to criticize his superiors' decisions.

5. I was left in the middle of the woods without any support.

6. It was Jack who told us first about the tragedy.

7. Her pension is rather low, so she has just enough money to live on.

8. Whatever happens, I can deal with every problem with ease.

9. I sure know the man's name but I can't quite remember it.

10. Mr Abercrombie is over eighty but he's still so lively and active.

11. The ministry spoilt our investment plans by changing the tax law.

12. You risk getting into trouble if you steal stationery from your office.
You're riding

13. The teacher sent the boy out because he was behaving in a foolish way.

14. The failed exam has ruined Ann's chance of becoming a sworn translator.

15. Don't criticize Andy too much; he's an absolute beginner.

Join the two matching parts of the sayings.

1. All that glitters catches the worm a
2. Better the devil you know and they will take a mile b
3. Too many cooks beggars would ride c
4. The early bird are soon parted d
5. First come, the tough get going e
6. A fool and his money is not gold f
7. What the eye does not see than the devil you don’t g
8. Give someone an inch run deep h
9. Spare the rod the heart does not grieve over i
10. When the going gets tough spoil the broth j
11. If wishes were horses, and spoil the child k
12. Still waters first served l
1. Is anything important happening in the club? Why are all these people dressed up to the .......................?  
2. 'Do I look all right in this suit?' 'You look like a ...................... dollars.'  
3. Sue will speak about fashion for hours. She's got a ......................-track mind.  
4. I was knocked for ...................... when my daughter said she was going to have a baby.  
5. We lost all hope that uncle Frank would turn up with the wedding rings, but he appeared at the church at the ...................... hour.  
6. As they say, a stitch in time saves ......................, so why wait for the situation to get worse if we can do something about it now?  
7. During the war, most families were scattered to the ...................... winds.  
8. 'What did you hear?' 'Very little, really. They were whispering nineteen to the ............................... all the time.'  
9. Whatever gifts he is offered they always prove to be ...................... days' wonders. He is a very hard-to-please kind.  
10. 'Are the two ministers still at daggers drawn with each other?' 'Oh no. They are at ............................. with each other now. They have a mutual interest in it.'  
11. We're not ready with the removal yet. We're still at sixes and ............................. at the moment.  
12. There are lots of these CD's in our store. I can tell you, they are ...................... a penny. You can buy them really cheap.  
13. Ben is constantly on the move. I've got a chance in a ...................... to meet him in the department. Today, he is in Bangkok, for instance.  
14. 'How about having a walk with us in the park, Rob?' 'Thank you very much but you know ......................'s company and three's a crowd. I'd rather stay at home.'  
15. Soon, you will start to hate this wretched climate, too. It rains nine times out of ............................... here.
Match the adjectival and adverbial phrases with their definitions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjectival Phrases</th>
<th>Adverbial Phrases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>are slow off the mark</td>
<td>go one better</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>are soft in the head</td>
<td>go straight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>break even</td>
<td>keep a level head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>come clean</td>
<td>keep an open mind on sth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>do the dirty on sb</td>
<td>play merry hell with sb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fall on hard times</td>
<td>run wild</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fall short of sth</td>
<td>strike it rich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fly high</td>
<td>take French leave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gain the upper hand</td>
<td>take sth amiss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>go off to a flying start</td>
<td>take sth lying down</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. You are not able to understand things quickly if you ..................................................  
2. You cheat or do not treat people fairly if you ...........................................................  
3. You make neither a profit nor a loss if you .................................................................  
4. You get control, power or advantage over someone if you ...............................................  
5. You lose your money and become poor if you .......................................................................  
6. You feel offended by something if you ................................................................................  
7. You are foolish or crazy if you ............................................................................................  
8. You behave in an uncontrolled way if you .............................................................................  
9. You leave your work without permission if you ......................................................................  
10. You fail to achieve your goal if you .....................................................................................  
11. You tell the whole truth about something unpleasant for you if you ..............................  
12. You disturb or give someone a lot of trouble if you ...........................................................  
13. You achieve great successes if you ........................................................................................  
14. You give up your criminal activity if you .............................................................................  
15. You receive a lot of money unexpectedly if you ....................................................................  
16. You are willing to change your opinion about something if you .......................................  
17. You begin to do something in a very successful way if you .................................................  
18. You do something more or better than someone else if you ...............................................  
19. You accept an offense or an insult without an objection if you .......................................  
20. You remain calm in a stressful situation if you ....................................................................  

57
Do the crossword puzzle. Write in nature-related nouns.

**DOWN**

1. You act in a risky way without being bothered about the possible results if you **throw caution to the** .................................. .
2. You disturb a couple of lovers if you **play** .................................. .
3. You live a wealthy and luxurious life if you **are in** .................................. .
4. If you pretend that you dislike something or think it is of little value because you want it very much but cannot have it, it is just **sour** .................................. .
5. You are mistaken about something or blame someone wrongly if you **are barking up the wrong** .................................. .
6. Someone is dead and buried if he or she is **pushing up the** .................................. .
7. Something that is just a tiny part of a much bigger problem or conflict is only the **tip of the** .................................. .
8. You start living in a new place, meet new people and gradually become part of the local society if you **put down** .................................. in that place.
9. .................................. **under the bridge** is a mistake or something wrong that you did a long time ago and have forgotten about it because it is no longer important.
10. You pay too detailed attention to unimportant aspects of a matter and so fail to understand it as a whole if you **do not see the** .................................. for the trees.

**ACROSS**

4. If something is just a **drop in the** .................................. , it is only a very small amount of something that is needed in a large amount.
5. If you **have got your head in the** .................................. , you cannot think in a realistic way because you only consider your own hopes or dreams.
6. **Everything is coming up** .................................. if things are happening even better than you hoped.
7. You deal with a difficult task bravely if you **grasp the** .................................. .
8. You follow someone else's way of behaving because you admire them if you **take a** .................................. out of their book.

58
12 If you have heard some news through the ......................, it means you have heard it from someone who heard it from someone else.

16 Great oaks from little ......................... grow (saying) = Before organizations or businesses become large and successful, they start as very small units.

17 A ......................... in your flesh is someone or something that gives you a continual worry.

18 If you do something by a ........................., you nearly fail or only just manage to do it.

19 You do not let the ......................... grow under your feet, if you do not waste your time and do the things that need to be done quickly.
1. 'What's your viewpoint on the devastation of the rain forests?' 'Words ................. me whenever I think about it.'
   a) miss   b) abandon  c) leave  d) fail

2. The students thought I was a teacher, so I set them ................. and told them I was a student, too.
   a) clear   b) straight  c) aware  d) familiar

3. Unless the question of pollution is given more publicity, our efforts at creating a vehicle-free area in the city centre will ................. still.
   a) keep   b) hold  c) stand  d) lie

4. When you say you don't miss your girlfriend, is that really what you feel in your ................. of hearts?
   a) depth  b) bottom  c) soul  d) heart

5. What's that horrible noise downstairs? 'It's only Sam. He always screams ................. murder when we take him to the dentist.'
   a) red  b) blue  c) yellow  d) black

6. Only four people voted for our candidate in the first ballot. I'm afraid he doesn't ................. a chance of getting any more votes in the second one.
   a) stand  b) play  c) run  d) lie

7. The house is beautifully painted. You've done a good ................. of the work.
   a) attempt  b) duty  c) task  d) job

8. 'They say that your wife tends to pry into other people's private matters.' 'I don't care. It's no skin my ................. .'
   a) skull  b) palm  c) nose  d) cheek

9. Just take a look at his neat appearance. It sticks out ................. that he is a big shot.
   a) a kilometre  b) an inch  c) a yard  d) a mile
10. The international delegations will be arriving for the summit next Friday, and it's of primary importance to us to ................. the deadline with all the preparations.

   a) meet   b) attain   c) reach   d) complete

11. Mr Randall, our boss, gave me a lot of ................. for the missing documents. But it wasn't me who lost them, honest!

   a) log   b) stick   c) rod   d) cane

12. Terry ................... into a rage when he saw that somebody had scratched the bonnet of his brand new Jaguar.'

   a) ran   b) went   c) flew   d) rose

13. It's believed that good humour and positive thinking can ................. wonders.

   a) make   b) fulfil   c) work   d) act

14. 'Have you taken a picture of the celebrity?' 'Sorry, I haven't. I only caught a ................. glimpse of her in the hall.'

   a) fleeting   b) speeding   c) rushing   d) flying

15. Our grandfather has always favoured Hellen against the other children. She's been the ................. of his eye.

   a) plum   b) apple   c) cherry   d) grape

16. There's little of the ................. of the human kindness in him. He's quite rude.

   a) cream   b) oil   c) milk   d) water

17. I had too many drinks last night. That's why I couldn't get into ................. in the office this morning.

   a) wheel   b) starter   c) clutch   d) gear

18. Ann's got the ................. over the other candidates as she was prepared for the exams by the best tutors in the country.

   a) edge   b) brink   c) verge   d) border

19. We were ................. in the aisles as the comedian was imitating some famous people by pulling the most hilarious faces.

   a) falling   b) rolling   c) turning   d) jumping

20. If I were you, I wouldn't ................. my luck any further. I'd take the money and leave the casino with my pockets full.

   a) press   b) bend   c) tease   d) push
1. They may think that building a hotel in this place will be a profitable venture, but I'm sure they are going to get their burnt.

2. If you want to get this job finished by tomorrow, you must put your into it. There's still a lot of work to do.

3. Be it through her personal charm or her perfect erudition, Lisa has gained the of her superiors very quickly. They respect her every opinion.

4. Jeff is not only shy but also extremely reserved. He's not the kind that will get his problems off his easily.

5. Terry's jokes were rather near the . No wonder that the girls got offended and didn't want us to keep their company.

6. 'We're a bit pressed for time, aren't we?' 'Indeed. We have to put our best forward if we don't want to miss our train.'

7. Marco is doing a course in Greek with an to moving to one of the beautiful Greek islands and perhaps meeting an attractive Greek girl there.
8. Before the news of the great treasure that was found in the village reached the headlines, it was passed by word of by the local inhabitants.

9. Gina must be a very strong person. How ever she managed to keep her up after what she’s gone through lately is a mystery to me.

10. The FBI agents had been hot on of the most wanted criminal in the country for a few weeks when he suddenly vanished into thin air.

11. The whole roof’s been leaking for months, but we can’t afford to pay a/an and a leg for a renovation.

12. ‘I admire Jim for his courage to stick his out.’ ‘Well, he’s not afraid to criticize the boss as he knows he won’t find a better manager.’

13. It seems the suspect doesn’t have a/an to stand on. He’s got no alibi and all his statements can be easily disproved.

14. My father’s encouraging words always helped me put a brave on all my difficulties. After so many years I still keep them in my mind.

15. I will never finish doing my job if you keep getting in my all the time, Nick. I will play with you later when my job’s done.

16. Monica desperately wants to make a career in show business. She would give her teeth for becoming a popular actress or a pop star.

17. Pull your out, Harry or we will never finish cutting the grass. We must get the pitch ready for tomorrow’s game.

18. ‘How do you know Jack’s on the bottle again?’ ‘Straight from the horse’s . His wife told me yesterday.’

19. ‘Claire is a typical femme fatale. Just this year she’s given the to at least seven men that I know.’ ‘A man-eater, really.’

20. My were knocking! I hadn’t performed live on stage before.

21. Why must you always be on my , Tom? Ever since I started working in the company, there hasn’t been a day without you running me down.

22. You may chance your , but you’re rather unlikely to win a bet if it is your first time at the horse races.

23. Nobody likes to hear the unpleasant truth, but I will tell you straight from the , boy, you don’t have enough skill to be a copywriter, I’m sorry.

24. I can’t stand the children’s unruly manner any longer. I am going to forbid them to watch TV for the whole week. I hope that will bring them to .

25. The fact that I can’t drive a car and have to ask my husband to drive me to the shops every second day is a millstone round my .
1. The minister was **given a rap over the knuckles** for settling his private matters during his working hours.
   - **a** was dismissed  
   - **b** was criticized  
   - **c** was asked for explanation

2. I **had a bash at** repairing the old grandfather's clock.
   - **a** tried to repair  
   - **b** failed to repair  
   - **c** asked someone to repair

3. Tom will *mince* his words and never **call a spade a spade**.
   - **a** ask for help  
   - **b** speak directly  
   - **c** scream angrily

4. All my recommendations would **gather dust**. That's why I decided to quit.
   - **a** be attributed to someone else  
   - **b** make people laugh  
   - **c** be ignored

5. I had no idea you and Mandy **got hitched**. When did that happen?
   - **a** got married  
   - **b** got engaged  
   - **c** got divorced

6. The critics wrote that the new play had **brought the house down**.
   - **a** been very offensive  
   - **b** been very entertaining  
   - **c** ruined the theatre

7. When John Haggart, the manager, left the company, it **went to pot**.
   - **a** became more successful  
   - **b** changed its policy  
   - **c** became ruined

8. The moment she saw her ex-boyfriend, Lucy **turned on the waterworks**.
   - **a** turned her head away  
   - **b** began to cry  
   - **c** fainted

9. The behaviour of the fans **put a damper on** the charity game.
   - **a** made it less enjoyable  
   - **b** made it more lively  
   - **c** made it successful

10. Richard Cox was a rich man. He **lived it up** a lot in his life.
    - **a** invested a lot of money  
    - **b** died poor  
    - **c** enjoyed himself
Join the verbs into pairs and insert them in the appropriate sentences.

bow live
chop live
come um
grin wheel
huff wine

and

aah dine
bear go
breathe learn
change puff
deal scrape

1. I went climbing in my sandals and got sore feet. You ........................., I guess. Next time, I won't make a mistake like this.
2. When I asked Jim to lend me his video camera he ......................... for a few minutes and then said no.
3. Employees will ......................... because they always look for better opportunities to earn more money or make careers. You can't stop that.
4. I can tell you Nora is very cunning. She will ......................... to her boss just to win his favour.
5. Paul was very disappointed that the coach put him on the substitution bench. Yet, he couldn't say a thing. He had to ......................... it and wait for another chance.
6. Be careful with Mr Adams. He's been in the business for years. He knows how to ......................... in order to make his profit as big as he can.
7. Only yesterday, you offered your support for our postulates and today you're dismissing them. I'd rather you didn't ......................... like that all the time.
8. Whenever he is questioned about pay rises, the boss will ......................... for a long time before he gives you any answer.
9. Ever since he retired, Albert has ......................... his bee-keeping hobby. He spends all his days constructing the hives, looking after his bee colonies and checking the honeycombs for honey and wax.
10. The owners of the inn were most hospitable. They ......................... us for two days and it was all on the house.
### 50 Clothing

Fill the gaps with the appropriate nouns.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>apron</th>
<th>cap</th>
<th>pants</th>
<th>shirt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>boots</td>
<td>clogs</td>
<td>pocket(s)</td>
<td>shoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bootstraps</td>
<td>hat</td>
<td>seams</td>
<td>socks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. The performance has been sold out. No wonder that the concert hall is **bursting at the** ......................... .

2. Nina said she had problems with maths and Sam offered his help **at the drop of a/an** ......................... .

3. Evelyn has agreed to marry Peter although she’s only known him for a month. **If I were in her** ......................... , I’d give myself more time to think about it.

4. Raymond is a laughing stock for women as being already 28 he is still **tied to his mother’s** ......................... **strings**.

5. Under the pretext of collecting money for a charity fund, the men had been **lining their** ......................... for months. Luckily, they were caught by the police.

6. That new salesman has been **licking our boss’s** ......................... as he probably hopes to be quickly promoted to a manager’s position.

7. That young priest never wanted anything for himself. Always willing to offer his help, he’d **give a/an** ......................... **off his back** to anyone that needed it.

8. William never made definite plans for his future. He always acted **by the seat of his** ......................... hoping that things would always go well.

9. I got myself into this trouble and I’m not going to ask for anyone’s assistance. **I am going to pull myself up by my own** ......................... .

10. Now he’s in deep water. How is he going to get himself out of it? He will have to **put his thinking** ......................... **on**, won’t he?

11. What he says doesn’t surprise me at all. It’s nothing but **old** ......................... . I’ve heard revelations of this kind a thousand times before.

12. I could hardly recognize Janice at the reunion party. She really **knocked my** ......................... **off**. She looked like a film star.

13. It’s not that **money burns a hole in my** ......................... . I just don’t earn enough to make both ends meet.

14. ‘Remember that old Ms Bernstein? She **popped her** ......................... last week.’ ‘She was our maths teacher, wasn’t she?’

15. ‘What’s that all rush about, Tom? You seem to have **ants in your** ......................... today?’ ‘Can’t tell you now, mom. I’ll tell you later. Bye!’
Combine the nouns into phrases and put them in the gaps.

donkey's poverty
ebrow rat
flash sea
hatchet sheep's
home stage
dog point
eyes race
fright room
line truths
man years

1. The young actress was paralysed by ................................ before her first performance in the theatre.

2. We haven't seen each other for ................... ................. . I am afraid I may not recognise Jenny at the airport.

3. This hot competition between the advisors is a real ................... ..................... .

   They spend long hours in the office as each of them wants to be the best.

4. Never before have living conditions been so tough in the country. Most of the low-class families have been living below the ................... ..................... .

5. 'Who is that individual telling us how we are supposed to do our duties? I haven't seen him in the company before.'

   'He must be a ................... ..................... hired by the management to do the job that they don't want to do themselves, I guess.'

6. Captain Lawrence is a real ................... ..................... . He's been sailing since he was fifteen and has sailed to almost every place on the globe.

7. Creativeness is not valued much by our superiors. We have very little ................... ..................... for it as we're only expected to do exactly what they tell us to.

8. Travelling in the Middle East can be dangerous. There's many a ................... ..................... where conflicts or violence can break out at any moment.

9. 'Stop making ................... ..................... at me all the time Steve, will you?'

   'But, you know I'm so much in love with you, Alice.'

10. I really like Frank, but it's about time someone told him a few ................... ..................... , especially about his bad manners.
52 Dialogues with sayings

Match the sentences in the balloons to make correct dialogues.

1. 'The Christmas present that I got from aunt Mary doesn't appeal to me at all.'

2. 'Frank is telling Jim how to write a CV although he has never written one in his life.'

3. 'Look at Sally! Don't you think the colours of her clothes do not quite match?'

4. 'The policeman had to steal a bicycle to catch the pickpocket. Imagine that!'

5. 'I was afraid to ask Cindy for a date and now I hear she's dating some other guy.'

6. 'In the morning I overslept, then my car broke down and finally my boss told me I was fired. What a day.'

7. 'Tom has broken hundreds of women's hearts, yet there are still more of them who want to date him!'

8. 'I've shown him a hundred times the easier way of writing a memo and he still uses his old typewriter.'

9. 'See, I have tried to open the vault by breaking that damned code, but it doesn't work.'

10. 'The city mayor was cleared of the bribery accusations a long time ago, yet people still speak ill of him.'
'Not bad if he succeeded. The end justifies the means.'

You can't teach an old dog new tricks. He should have retired a long time ago.'

'That's funny, indeed. The blind leading the blind.'

'That's how it goes. If you throw enough mud, some of it will stick.'

'Horrible. It never rains, but it pours.'

'It's not nice to say a thing like that. Never look a gift horse in the mouth.'

'Let me have a go at it. There's more than one way to skin a cat.'

'Don't wait too long next time. He who hesitates is lost.'

'You may be right but there's no accounting for taste.'

'The devil looks after his own. That's for sure.'
DOWN

1 Wait for me. I'll be back in a ......................................... I just want to pick up the mail. (very quickly)
2 He was found guilty of bribery. Now, his reputation is under a ......................................... . (in disgrace)
5 With a lot of experience under her ......................................... she is a highly valued adviser. (in her possession)
6 All the candidates’ profiles should be examined in ......................................... . (thoroughly)
9 When I won the fortune, all my financial worries disappeared at a ......................................... . (with one action)
11 I give you this book and you needn’t give it back to me. It’s for ......................................... . (for ever)
12 Nobody asked Tom to come and help. He did it off his own ......................................... . (without being asked to)
13 I could not come in ......................................... . That’s why my deputy attended the meeting. (physically present)
14 With just one shot the hunter killed three ducks at a ......................................... . Unbelievable! (all at once)
15 A hundred people can be seated in the hall at a ......................................... . But normally it’s not more than eighty. (if really necessary)
17 The gunmen shot the Indians dead in cold ......................................... . (without mercy)
18 It’s no mystery that not all of Peter’s business dealings are above ......................................... . (honest and legal)

ACROSS

3 Mark’s suggestions were a bit off the ......................................... . Nobody took them seriously. (strange or crazy)
4 If you have done your homework, you’re at ......................................... to do what you want. (permitted to do)
6 After many years of prosperity, now the country’s economy is in the ......................................... . (in stagnation)
7 I’ve paid all my debts. Now, I’m over the ......................................... starting things from scratch. (past the problem)
8 Since his wife left him, he has looked down at ...................  
(poorly dressed)
10 We had been on ......................... before the verdict was announced by the jury.  
(nervous and excited)
14 You're way off  ......................... if you think Joe's on our side. He's against us.  
(wrong)
16 He's suspected of being in ......................... with a neo-Nazi organization.  
(cooperating secretly)

17 During the great crisis, a third of the society was on the .........................  
(extremely poor)
19 The military area is out of ......................... for us. We can't enter it under any circumstances.  
(forbidden to access)
20 Experts say that another outbreak of flu epidemic is on the .........................  
(likely to happen)
21 I am not really good at repairing things at home. I usually do it by .........................  
(in an unskilled way; following instructions)
1. Hardly anyone was able to make head or nail of what the Chinese speaker was talking about.
2. Step by step, the dishonest shop assistant would feather her vest by adding extra value to her customers' bills.
3. Now that we have gone through the formalities, we can safely get down to the grass tacks of the symposium.
4. We had been looking for the missing part of the machine all over the workshop but we draw a blink. Someone must have taken it away.
5. Your abrupt manner doesn't quite suit our hook, Ms Givens. We expect our assistants to be polite toward our customers.
6. It was so quiet and the atmosphere in the office was really friendly when Mr Wilson was on leave. But now he's back and again he's trying to rock the boot.
7. I don't feel like spending the whole morning on the crowded beach. I think I will give it a mist.
8. There's been too much fuss about the recent group layoffs in the company. The management had better wait for the dusk to settle before making another move.
9. When your children start ignoring you, all you have to do is put your fort down and make them respect your authority.
10. Jim loves to take part in the TV and radio contests. That's what stirs his blond.
11. You'll be hauled over the coats if your parents find out you have been playing truant from school.
12. We don't have the power to take any strategic decisions. The shareholders who control the company lead us by the hose.
13. The managers have decided that the representatives who are not productive will be given the shop.
14. We've left no store unturned trying to find your missing wallet, but it seems it's lost for good and all.
15. Perhaps, Dan is a bit lazy but you cannot say he is a coward. He certainly has got the huts to take on even the most thrilling tasks.
### Combinations

Combine the verbs, adjectives and nouns into correct idioms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>come to</th>
<th>fatted</th>
<th>bargain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>drive</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>battle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fight</td>
<td>great</td>
<td>buggers</td>
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<tr>
<td>go</td>
<td>hard</td>
<td>calf</td>
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<tr>
<td>keep</td>
<td>losing</td>
<td>end</td>
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<tr>
<td>kill</td>
<td>old</td>
<td>face</td>
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<tr>
<td>play</td>
<td>silly</td>
<td>guns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>settle</td>
<td>sticky</td>
<td>line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>take</td>
<td>straight</td>
<td>ride</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>walk</td>
<td>thin</td>
<td>score</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. ....................................................... - have a great celebration to welcome someone who has been away from home for a long time
2. ....................................................... - punish or harm someone in revenge for something bad that they did to you in the past
3. ....................................................... - do your business dealings in a tough way in order to earn as big profit as possible
4. ....................................................... - get into a difficult situation where you can make a critical mistake easily
5. ....................................................... - behave in an annoying and irritating way
6. ....................................................... - finish in an unpleasant way, especially when something nasty happens to you
7. ....................................................... - manage not to burst out laughing when someone tells you something very funny
8. ....................................................... - fail to achieve something or prevent something from happening
9. ....................................................... - gain advantage from someone else’s effort, especially when you do not deserve it
10. ........................................................ - be successful or do something effectively
1. Nothing can stop us. We’re going to reach the peak of the mountain come hell or high .................
   a) wave       b) iceberg           c) water           d) flood

2. Can I have a glass of water, please? I have got a .................. in my throat.
   a) lizard      b) frog            c) snake            d) crocodile

3. I was ready to make some more investments, but it was the losses that I made on the stock exchange that took the .................. out of my sails.
   a) wind        b) breeze          c) air              d) blow

4. Is the situation in the company really so bad as people say or are they just crying ..................? Are we really going to lose our jobs?
   a) dog         b) bear            c) wolf            d) donkey

5. 'Helen says she's going to make a career as an actress in Hollywood. Is she serious about it?' 'I don't think so. She is always reaching for the ..................'
   a) stars       b) moon            c) sun              d) galaxies

6. Whenever Michael wants to upset me, he tells me that I'm dressed up like a .................. dinner.
   a) tiger's     b) whale's         c) cow's           d) dog's

7. There were a lot of strangers at the meeting and it seemed they were all expecting someone to break the .................. with a warm welcome.
   a) branch      b) ice             c) stick           d) log

8. The two people found themselves in cold water after their boat turned .................. in the middle of the pond.
   a) beetle      b) fish            c) crab            d) turtle
9. I said I had swum across the river, but Nigel's remarkable feat of swimming across the English Channel really put my success in the ................... .
   a[shade]  b[bottom]  c[mud]  d[snow]

10. The teacher set the cat among the ................... by saying that all of us were going to be punished for what the two boys from our class had done.
   a[mice]  b[dogs]  c[pigeons]  d[ants]

11. For his misbehaviour in the public places Ben may have to either pay a fine or do a penalty service. He's between the devil and the deep blue ................... , for sure.
   a[heaven]  b[sea]  c[ocean]  d[sky]

12. Why is Tony so exceptionally polite today? He must be up to some ................. business, I guess.
   a[horse]  b[fox]  c[moose]  d[monkey]

13. It took the police over six days to find the escaped convict, but they finally ran him to ................... in a wooden hut high in the mountains.
   a[ground]  b[land]  c[soil]  d[grass]

14. Stop disturbing me with your silly questions, will you? I'm telling you I have other ................. to fry at the moment.
   a[chickens]  b[fish]  c[shrimps]  d[snails]

15. I admit I have lost her book, but I can't see why she's made so much fuss about it. It's a ................... in a teacup. This book is available in every bookshop in town.
   a[downpour]  b[ hurrican e]  c[thunder]  d[storm]
Fill the gaps with the appropriate words to complete the phrases.

apple     debt     mark     prime     thumb
bones     fish     mine     quirk     tricks
bundle    hat      pound    stroke    whale

1. Whenever I find a crossword puzzle too hard to do myself, I ask my mother for help. She knows everything. She is a real ......................... of information.
2. You may have a good academic knowledge of economy, but running your own business is a completely different kettle of ......................... .
3. As a worker, Simon is very obedient. He always carries out his superiors' orders at the drop of a ......................... .
5. 'Did you enjoy your stay at your uncle's on the coast?' 'It was great. We had a ......................... of a time.'
6. As a rule of ......................... , driving at a lower speed helps economize on petrol.
7. The Browns have four children, but only Sylvia, the youngest one, is the ......................... of her father's eye.
8. Caroline's idea to insert these fancy gadgets was a ......................... of genius. It not only saved our magazine from bankruptcy, but helped increase the sales.
9. Look at the model. Isn't she a bag of ......................... ? I don't see any beauty in being so extremely thin.
10. We met once in Rome ages ago. And then by an incredible ......................... of fate we met again in the same place in Rome last year.
11. Don't expect any of these criminals to show the slightest ......................... of respect. They hate policemen.
12. All day yesterday, my sister was looking after the children while we were away. We have a ......................... of gratitude to her.
13. I borrowed one hundred pounds from Mick last month and now he demands his ......................... of flesh. But if I give it to him now, I'll have nothing to live on.
14. After her son's accident Mary turned into a ......................... of nerves.
15. Before you start assembling the garden shed, turn to Mr Huxley. He is familiar with all the ......................... of the trade.
1. George wouldn't admit he was in love with Linda, but the sparkle in his eye spoke for the fact.
2. When I told Amy I was broke, she walked out on me leaving me in the . It can't have been love.
3. Our discussion didn't last long since Dan took at my critical remarks about his attitude and left the club without even saying goodbye.
4. Phil is as handsome as his father. He is off the old block when you look at him.
5. Some of them say that Saturday evening doesn't suit them at all. The others claim that Sunday morning is no good, either. I have no idea how to find a happy between them.
6. The Robsons are all so talkative. You can't get a word in when you're in their company.
7. Mind that you don't make Ms Levinson angry again. Last week you really overstepped the with your rude behaviour.
8. 'Who's supervising the relief action?' 'The sign reads it's being carried out under the of the Red Cross.'
9. I can't find my new lighter anywhere. Has it gone for a/an again?
10. 'Who rules the in the department?' 'I am in charge of it.'
11. James Becker is considered to the best detective in town. Nothing can surprise him because he is really quick on the .
12. No wonder Martin Giggles, our best forward is so hungry to play; he's been on the for six months.
13. Brian wasn't very happy at his former school. Those bad guys used to take the out of his speech impediment.
14. No more chatting and giggling, please. Everybody cut the and get back to work.
15. Anna was disillusioned after the conference. All her proposals were given short . Hardly anyone paid any attention to them.
Complete the idioms with the appropriate verbs.

beat  gild  nip  ring  stick
bend  give  poke  shift  trim
down  grit  rake  spare  wipe

1. true = sound or seem true
2. someone the elbow = end a relationship with someone
3. to your guns = refuse to change your opinions or way of acting despite being criticized
4. fun at someone = laugh rudely at someone
5. tools = stop working at the end of the day or go on strike
6. your sails = cut your spendings
7. someone's ear = talk to someone about your worries
8. something in the bud = prevent something from getting started at an early stage
9. your teeth = show determination to continue something when the situation is difficult
10. the slate clean = forgive past insults and arguments in order to become friends again
11. over the ashes = bring back the memory of unpleasant experiences and discuss them
12. the lily = try to improve something that is good enough and in this way spoil it
13. someone's blushes = avoid doing something that will make someone feel embarrassed
14. your brains out = think hard about something for a long time.
15. your ground = change your point of view.
Find two of the three idioms in each set that express a similar meaning.

1. fly off the handle  
   ✔ shoot your bolt  
   ✔ blow a fuse

2. follow your nose  
   ✔ take someone for a ride  
   ✔ pull a fast one

3. lead the field  
   ✔ make it big  
   ✔ give someone a pasting

4. be dead from the neck up  
   ✔ have a thick head  
   ✔ have nothing between your ears

5. pick up the threads  
   ✔ start from scratch  
   ✔ rise to the bait

6. cook the books  
   ✔ have your fingers in the till  
   ✔ throw good money after bad

7. jump on the bandwagon  
   ✔ kick the bucket  
   ✔ bite the dust

8. be in fine fettle  
   ✔ be in the pink  
   ✔ be under the weather

9. call the tune  
   ✔ play the game  
   ✔ run the show

10. keep up appearances  
    ✔ keep body and soul together  
    ✔ keep the wolf from the door

11. pull a long face  
    ✔ be down in the mouth  
    ✔ be at odds

12. be in the family way  
    ✔ be at rock bottom  
    ✔ be in the club
Fill the gaps with the appropriate phrases.

beaten track  easy terms  good books
charmed life  fair crack  great shakes
close quarters  first water  high dudgeon
common cause  full blast  safe bet
dim view  full bloom  tight corner

1. These shoes may be expensive but they are worth the money they cost. You can see they are of the .................................
2. My father is no .................................... as a cook, but he leads the field when gardening is the case.
3. We bought the house on ...................................., which means we didn’t have to pay the whole price at once. We divided it into several instalments.
4. The leaders of the organization took a/an ........................................ on the support money because it came from an unknown source, and so they didn’t accept it.
5. I told the children to keep at ........................................ because I didn’t want any of them to get lost while we were walking through the forest.
6. You can only blame yourself for your failure, Jason. You did get a/an ......................................... of the whip but you were not prepared for the job interview.
7. Mr Taylor puts on that hilarious disguise every year for the annual fancy-dress party. It's a/an .......................................... that he'll be wearing it tonight as well.
8. Sony was in .................................................... when his application was rejected soon after he had been promised the job.
9. She always brings him sweets and tells him nice things. No wonder then that she is in his ....................................................
10. Contrary to her divorced and not so affluent sister, Sarah has lead a/an .................................................... of a wife of a successful businessman.
11. Since the two rival companies have made ........................................ against us, our position on the market has been deteriorating quickly.
12. The place that has been chosen for the film setting is rather off the .................................................... . Few people know how to reach it.
13. Look at the roses. Aren’t they marvellous? And the geraniums may still look miserable, but in a few weeks’ time you’ll see them in ........................................, too.
14. I’m afraid I can’t give you back the money that I owe you now. I’m bit a in a/an .................................................... at the moment as I have lost my job.
15. The young man was driving at ........................................... when the accident happened.

He had no chance to survive the crash.
Rearrange the mixed letters into correct words.

1. You do look worn out and have been less effective lately. I think a long holiday in an exotic place will **do you the L D O R W** ................................ of good.
2. Mia says she's going to stand against her boss's sexist attitude. But I wonder if she'll have the guts to do it **when it comes to the N C R U H C** ..............................
3. Everybody was of the opinion that Alice had **cut a fine R G I F E U** .................................. at the ceremony. Only Bob criticised her appearance, as usual.
4. I've found out it was Ralph who had spread the nasty gossip about me and Ann. I'm going to **give him a C E I E P** .............................. **of my mind** when I meet him.
5. Imagine the girls' bliss when the bodyguard decided to **stretch a O T I N P** .................................. and let them into the pop star’s apartment for a short while.
6. Neither of them was willing to **bury the E H T A H C T** .............................. and so they were a long way from being reconciled.
7. Feel safe to give your advice and make suggestions about the project. The best of them will be considered and **taken on O R D A B** ..............................
8. Why not **go the whole O G H** .............................. and record all the songs at once instead of doing just this single one?
9. If the storm keeps raging, we won't be able to **hit the D O R A** .............................. and won't reach Birmingham by midday. And then we'll miss the wedding.
10. It's horrible how political differences can **drive a D E G W E** .............................. between people and destroy good relationships.
11. I hope someone will **knock Bill off his C E H R P** .............................. one day. He's a mere assistant, but considers himself to be as important as the manager.
12. Don't expect me to support the demonstrations you organize. You know I **hold no I R B F E** .............................. for any kind of violence.
13. Eat healthy food and keep doing physical exercise. Fitness will always **stand you in good T D A S E** ..............................
14. I thought you said Monday the 15th, not Sunday the 16th. I'm afraid we **got our E S I R W** .............................. **crossed** and that's why we didn't meet each other.
15. I remember when they both used to **lock S H R N O** .............................. about every opinion, but now they work in perfect partnership.
16. You'll be **laughed out of O T C R U** .............................. if you claim your amateurish paintings outdo those by Van Gogh.
Complete the phrases with the appropriate adjectives or adverbs.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>above</th>
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<th>proper</th>
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<tr>
<td>betwixt</td>
<td>far</td>
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<td>breezy</td>
<td>high</td>
<td>null</td>
<td>square</td>
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1. There is no point in inviting the Wilsons. They are too prim and ........................................ a couple to enjoy our wild parties.
2. We don’t have any skill requirements. We will accept all and ........................................ as anyone can do the job.
3. 'Dave told the boss that it was only him who worked on the project. He didn't even mention our names although we helped him a great deal.'
   'That's typical of him. He always plays fast and ........................................ with people.'
4. We had no umbrellas or even a raincoat, so we got well and ........................................ wet when the storm broke out so unexpectedly.
5. 'Which political party do you support, Peter?' 'Well, I'm ........................................ and between. Sometimes, it's the left-wing I support and another time the right-wing.
6. However risky it was, the taxi driver went ........................................ and beyond his responsibility by trying to help the pregnant woman with the baby delivery.
7. I will not accept your rough and ........................................ reports any more. By now you should have learned to write a detailed report on your daily tasks.
8. The real trouble may arise when somebody finds out your work permit has been ........................................ and void since January. You may be sent home.
9. This part of the city is highly industrialized. Places of natural beauty are few and ........................................ between here. There are only factories and offices here.
10. The company owner isn't interested in a small-scale venture as he has already acquired the taste for making money ........................................ and fast.
11. How can you stay so cool, calm, and ........................................ seeing that everybody is trying to make a fool of you?
12. Imagine how ......................... and dry we were when it turned out that our money, passports and tickets had been stolen from our hotel room.
13. Phil never loses his good humour and confident manner. Though he has nothing to be proud of he's always so bright and .................................
14. There was no cheating on our part. We won the competition fair and ........................................ . We were the best team, simply.
15. 'What's worrying you, honey?' 'I'm ......................... and bothered about Julia. She's never been late from school.'
1. The cardiologists say that only the heart surgery may give my husband a **new** of life. I hope everything goes well.

2. Professor Cox is a **of habit**. He always has a cup of green tea before giving a lecture.

3. Suddenly, the bus started skidding off the road and the driver only managed to put on the brakes in the **of time**, thus averting a tragedy.

4. Patrick has been on the **of a dilemma**. He must decide whether to change his citizenship or leave the country for ever.

5. I'm thinking of giving these dogs away to someone. They are the **of my existence** with all the troubles they give me daily.

6. For almost twelve years, she had been living in the **of luxury** until her wealthy husband got tired of her extravagance and asked for a divorce.

7. The judge said that no other offences deserve so much condemnation as child molestation and that molesters are the **of the earth**.

8. I really admire Josh's inventiveness and readiness to help. But the point is that his ideas are rather impracticable. They're just **of fancy**.

9. We would like to build a shopping centre here in the future. But, the plan is not definite yet. It's only a **of a concept**.

10. Many a good relationship has broken up because of money. As they say, the blind love of money is the **cause of all evil**.

11. The violent football fans caught by the police will stand trial for **of the peace** in a public place.

12. Mr Beck's candidacy cannot be taken seriously. He tends to take decisions on the **of the moment** without giving them any serious consideration.

13. The young man's situation is no **of laughs**. For the false bomb alarm he caused last month, he may even be given a prison sentence.

14. 'Can't Leo express himself more clearly?' 'I'm afraid he can't. He's always had that awkward **of phrase.'

15. The letter from one of our customers was nothing but a **of abuse**. Hence we decided to take him to court.
Multiple choice

Choose the correct answer.

1. I did my ................. best to apologise for the mistake, but I couldn't soften Judy up by even the most honest explanation.
   a) utmost      b) level       c) regular     d) extreme

2. What you have just said will forever ................. heavy on your reputation. Nobody's going to justify an insult like this.
   a) sit         b) stand       c) rest        d) lie

3. At first, the guard refused to let us enter the night club, but on .................. thoughts he took the money and let us in.
   a) other       b) second      c) extra       d) further

4. It was the hilarious comedian that .................. the show even though the rock group were supposed to be the special guests.
   a) stole       b) robbed      c) grabbed    d) seized

5. Before you set off, let me please .................. a note of advice. Avoid shouting as it may trigger an avalanche.
   a) hit         b) punch       c) strike     d) beat

6. These magnificent surroundings invariably .................. my appetite for staying longer here. Perhaps, I'll settle down here for good one day in the future.
   a) arise       b) urge        c) provoke    d) whet

7. Politicians who are friendly towards common people, smile during interviews and never say unpopular things always .................. a good harvest at elections.
   a) earn        b) grow        c) reap       d) gather

8. Did she tell you she was a witch? She must have taken leave of her .................
   a) mind        b) brains      c) senses     d) logic
9. I wouldn't expect to earn a high income in the first year. The idea of a chain-trade is only starting to .................. ground in this region.

a receive    b gain    c win    d attract

10. How is that possible that the rival company always stays one .................. ahead of us? Someone must be revealing them our investment plans.

a jump    b move    c thing    d act

11. Sheila's been eating her .................. out because someone else won the first prize in the painting competition.

a head    b tongue    c heart    d mouth

12. The salesman was .................. packing because he was caught cheating.

a sent    b made    c let    d forced

13. The statement that the defence minister made .................. the question of whether our military presence in the war-torn country is really necessary.

a pleases    b expects    c begs    d demands

14. Enough of that indulgence! It's high time to take a firm .................. against pickpockets.

a line    b measure    c penalty    d strike

15. Our hotel was situated right at the foot of the great volcano. We got scared out of our .................. when it came alive one night.

a powers    b senses    c wits    d moods

16. This winter we'll be arriving in the spa with only five people since the rest of us cut .................. from our group last summer.

a apart    b free    c aside    d loose

17. Evelyn tends to buy things on a .................. without thinking first whether she's going to need them or not.

a wick    b wit    c whim    d wham

18. My .................. was in my mouth when I suddenly realized I was lost alone in the middle of the forest.

a stomach    b finger    c heart    d nose
1. All work and no play  
2. A rolling stone  
3. Fools rush in  
4. He who pays the piper  
5. It takes all sorts  
6. Many hands  
7. Needs must  
8. One good turn  
9. The proof of the pudding  
10. Where there's a will

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- Only the person who gives money for something can decide how it is spent.
- You can say whether something is good or not only when you have tried it.
- Work is done easily if it is shared by many people.
- It’s good to have some relax instead of working all the time.
- If someone has done something good for you, you should do the same in return.
- Inexperienced people try to do something too difficult or too dangerous for them.
- Someone who is determined to achieve something will always find good means.
- There’s a place for people with all kinds of needs or preferences on the planet.
- A person who often changes their places of stay or work has no responsibilities.
- Sometimes you have to do something that you would not prefer to do.
Rewrite the sentences using the appropriate idioms. The original meanings of the sentences should be retained.

be riding for a fall  meet sb halfway
hang by a thread  pack the house
have a crush on sb  poke one's nose into sth
hit the nail on the head  split one's sides
keep a tight rein on sb/sth  take sb for granted

1. It is not polite to interfere in other people's private matters, Bob.

2. Do their concerts still attract so big an audience as they did before?

3. You will be risking a failure if you entrust this serious task to Malcolm.

4. I burst into laughter when I heard about Harry's adventure with the bull.

5. The hiker's life was in serious danger when he was bitten by a poisonous snake.

6. With that comment of yours you did say what was exactly right.

7. Finally, we reached an agreement by accepting some of our partner's demands.

8. As a young girl, I was strongly infatuated with my teacher of Spanish.

9. It's crucial for us to control the juvenile inmates in a very strict way.

10. Your husband doesn't show you much respect because you have always waited on him hand and foot.
**DO the crossword puzzle. Write in the names of animals.**

**DOWN**

1. As an excuse for his truancies Jack gave the teacher one of his cock and .......... stories about having been abducted by aliens. Of course, she didn’t believe it.

2. Judy never loses her temper. When her friends quarrel about things, she is the person that will run with the .......... and hunt with the hounds.

3. I was getting tired of my boss screaming at me and running me down all the time, and the accusation of embezzlement was the straw that broke the ..........’s back. I quit the job.

4. It was silly of me to tell Dan about my investment plans. He cooked my .......... by putting them in operation before me. Now, it’s him who runs a successful ice-cream shop.

5. During the first week, I felt like a/an .......... out of water because I was new in the team. But, soon my new workmates accepted me and started to respect my opinions.

6. ‘Excuse me! How can I get to the nearest petrol station?’

‘As the .......... flies, it’s six kilometres from here if you take this bumpy road.’

7. This machine is an old model. And the one that we’re starting to produce will be a completely different .......... Ultra-modern and sophisticated.

8. Andy was as sick as a/an .......... when Sylvia refused to date him. He’d been in love with her for years.

9. When you start a business, you should first earn some money and then think about spending it on enjoyment. The other way round is like putting the cart before the .......... .

10. These old buildings here are no use to man or .......... . They are ruined and may collapse at any moment.

11. Don’t worry about Amy when you move your house. Children can adapt to new conditions much faster than adults. You’ll see she will take to it like a/an .......... to water.

12. Can you see those crowds at the box office? We don’t have a/an ..........’s chance to see the performance tonight.

**ACROSS**

3. When our third child was born, we decided to buy a house. In that small flat there was no room to swing a/an .......... any more.

5. This young man could easily find work in the shipyard, but he doesn’t want to work too hard. So, when he comes to beg for money, we usually send him off with a .......... in his ear.
6 Robert made an impression of a worried husband when his wife, Nicole, was so seriously ill. But as soon as she got better, he turned into a ruthless despot again. Now, I know he only cried ................. tears.

7 Every time the boss goes on a business trip, everything in the office is in the shambles. As they say, when the cat's away, the ................... will play.

11 Don’t be such an eager ................., Paul. The old workmates don’t like a young apprentice to be too keen and make them look lazy.

13 ‘How did you manage to buy a ticket for the concert? When I went to buy it, they were sold out.’ ‘The early bird catches the ................... Don’t you know? I went there early in the morning.’

14 Uncle Chuck is a real ................... of passage. He has moved his house at least a hundred times in his life.

16 That elderly widow wearing those teenage clothes is a laughing stock in our town. She is a/an ................. dressed as a lamb.

17 With so many applicants for the job of a bodyguard, it was a useful idea to carry out the tests of physical fitness. It helped us sort out the ................. from the goats.

18 Why do you always ask your parents what you are supposed to do? You’re grown up now and can do anything you want. Come on! The world is your .................

19 Don’t expect Alex to change into a home bird just because he’s married you. He’s always been a good-timer. A/an ................. cannot change its spots, you know.

21 ‘One day I’ll become an astronaut and will travel in space.’ ‘Sure you will. And ................. might fly.’

89
Fill the gaps with the appropriate names to complete the idioms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Jane</th>
<th>Pandora</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bob</td>
<td>Joe Bloggs</td>
<td>Paul</td>
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<td>Dick</td>
<td>Joneses</td>
<td>Pete</td>
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<td>Harry</td>
<td>McCoy</td>
<td>Sam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Robinson</td>
<td>Midas</td>
<td>Tom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. The prime minister says that in order to increase the salaries of the medical staff, the government might need to cut expenditure on public safety. In other words, they will have to rob Peter to pay .......... .
2. 'You can ask me any question about economy. I know everything about it.'
   'Go on, then, clever .......... . How does deflation differ from inflation?'
3. 'How long will it take you to fix my shoe heel?' 'I'll have done it before you can say .......... , madam.'
4. To change the batteries in the device, you unscrew the cover, take out the used batteries, put in the new ones and .......... 's your uncle. As easy as that.'
5. Aristocrats and wealthy people never make good politicians. How can anyone who has always lived a life of luxury understand the needs of an average .......... ?
6. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941, the US President Franklin D. Roosevelt decided that Uncle .......... would go to war.
7. Betty does not attract many men. She's a plain .......... , always in the shadow of her more attractive sister, Lucy.
8. 'It isn’t an original paratroopers’ jacket, is it?’ 'The real .......... . I got it from my grandfather. He was an infantry paratrooper in Normandy.'
9. Look! Our car has been broken into. Let’s call the Old .......... .
10. By putting all blame for the riots on the Muslim minority, the chief of the police opened up a real .......... 's box.
11. I need someone really good to do the job. Not just any Tom, Dick or .......... .
12. For .......... 's sake, why have you brought yet another stray dog home?
13. Let's get out of here before someone finds out we're here. Don't be a peeping .......... . Haven't you seen enough yet?
15. Every firm that she has established has done a roaring trade. She seems to have the .......... touch.
1. You may reprimand Steven several times a day, but it will cut no ......................... with him. He's more obstinate than any other child.

2. Judging by the way the reporter praised the English tennis player to the .........................., he must have been his great fan.

3. I have never done a roller coaster ride. It might be enjoyable, so next time I am in the amusement park, I will give it a/an ......................... .

4. Once he ruled the corporation with an iron hand. But when he was dismissed for affairs he lost his sense in life. Now, he's a/an ......................... of his former self.

5. It's rather unlikely that Hugh will work out any practical scheme. He's got his head in the ......................... all the time. He's more of a dreamer than a realist.

6. As a security officer, you must keep a/an ......................... eye open for any sign of danger during the presidential visit.

7. When the confidential files disappeared from the cabinet, we were prepared to move ......................... and earth to find them and never let the information be leaked to the press.

8. The recent report of how real the danger of a terrorist attack may be has put the ......................... up the country citizens.

9. One of the neighbours has given us ......................... for playing football in the garden although it doesn't even belong to him.

10. We've been on the road for over two days. I haven't slept well and haven't had a shower for all this time. I must look like nothing on ......................... .

11. When he came round in hospital, he was in a/an ......................... . He had no idea what had happened to him.

12. 'The price he gave for the flat seems rather exaggerated. How did he get it?'

   'He must have plucked it out of the ........................., unreasonable as it is.'
He's the kind of man who will use his influences to settle his matters.

He looked really embarrassed when that funny thing happened to him.

That taxi driver deceived me by charging me more than he should have for the drive.

I'm dreaming of having a rest when I finish doing this horrible job.
5. The Browns had a lavish party to celebrate their thirtieth anniversary.

6. Some of us don't have a place to live.

7. They give him everything he wants, and he is never grateful for their kindness.

8. To my horror, he challenged me to fight him over Justine's hand.

9. Al found it too hard to choose between being a good-timer and a family man.

10. They drained quite a few bottles to rejoice over the baby's birth.
Complete the idioms with the appropriate nouns.

1. If you pull up .................., you leave your home and start living in a different place.
2. If you pick up the .................. of your activity, you start it again after a break.
3. If you go .................. in hand to someone, you beg them respectfully for something.
4. If you bring someone to .................., you make them face the responsibility of their wrongdoing.
5. If you cut a .................., you impress people with your brilliant appearance.
6. If you make a .................. of some activity, you do it in a completely wrong way.
7. If you blow away the .................., you get or do something that makes you feel refreshed and gives you energy.
8. If you rub .................. into someone's wounds, you make their suffering more acute.
9. If you pass the .................., you refuse to take responsibility for a mistake and try to make someone else accept it.
10. If something puts a new .................. on a fact or situation, it makes it look different.
11. If you draw a .................. over something unpleasant, you avoid talking about it.
12. If you get the .................., you are dismissed from work.
13. If you are clutching at .................., you are trying to find a solution to a difficult situation by any means, even though you realize you are likely to fail.
14. If something bursts your .................., it brings an end to your hopes or dreams.
15. If you have got .................. in the belfry, you are crazy or eccentric.
16. If you cut .................., you do things quickly and in a careless and easy way without giving them proper attention.
17. If you put someone off their .................., you divert their attention, so they stop doing their things well.
18. If you walk on .................., you act in a very careful way because you don't want to disturb or upset someone.
19. If you take the .................. of someone, you test someone’s value and make an opinion about them in order to be able to deal with them.
20. If you give someone the .................., you make them very angry.
Join the appropriate phrases to make dialogues.

1. I've heard you're going to close down your shop. Why is that, Jimmy?
2. I had no idea you were so ill, Tom. What happened?
3. What did you do when they started arguing with each other?
4. I thought you and Frank were friends. But now I see it's the other way round.
5. Why didn't you stay till the end? You missed the best part of the celebration.
6. What did you do when you saw the boys painting graffiti on your house wall?
7. Why don't you step on it, dad? Look, the cyclists are overtaking us!
8. Why did you quit? Didn't your work in the factory give you enough satisfaction?

A. I've had a down on him ever since he started spreading nasty gossips about me.
B. And what do you think I did? I cut up rough.
C. Something laid me low for weeks. Still, I don't know what it really was.
D. I had to cut it short because I got a phone call from my pregnant wife.
E. To get it alone was the only thing I could do. I hate working under someone.
F. I've been having a thin time of it for months.
G. Easy boy. I'd much rather play it safe than risk our lives.
H. I made myself scarce immediately. I had no wish to witness that.
74 Four-letter words

Write in the correct four-letter words to complete the idioms.

1. Nobody likes to do business with Tom. He is known to **drive a _ _ _ bargain**.
2. Our voices may still be ignored, but we must **keep the _ _ _ flying**. We can't let the government forget about the needs of pensioners.
3. The baby’s scream at night gave me a shock. I nearly **jumped out of my _ _ _ n.**
4. I can't stand his hostile manner towards me. It **drives me up the _ _ _ l _ _ _**.
5. It was Roger who **set my mind at _ _ _ t** with the comforting news about my mother's health getting better.
6. Never before have the police carried out a large-scale investigation like this in the country. They have really **gone to _ _ _ o _ _ _ over it**.
7. If you want to make Lisa angry, just ask her about her former boyfriend. It always **gets a _ _ _ out of her**.
8. The sergeant was reprimanded strongly for **pulling _ _ _ on his soldiers** and making them buy him things at their cost.
9. You really **put your _ _ _ t in it** by asking Mrs Grace about her husband's condition. Didn't you know he’d died two months before?
10. 'What's that man's name?' 'Don't ask me. I **don't know him from _ _ _ d _ _ _**.'
11. The TU leader's idea of going out on strike **left most of us _ _ _ l _ _ _**. None of us wanted to risk losing the job by standing against the management.
12. 'How do you know they are planning to reduce the production line staff by half?'
   "I **got w _ _ _ of it** when I was cleaning windows in their office.'
13. Nobody trusts politicians in the country. They're said to be **rotten to the _ _ _ r _ _ _**.
14. She never minces her words. And this time, too, she **laid it on the _ _ _ e** warning her subordinates against any cases of slacking in the office.
15. 'Did you and your guests enjoy the New Years’ Eve party?'
   'We really did. It **went like a b _ _ _**.'
16. I’m dying of thirst. A bottle of cold beer would **hit the _ _ _ t** nicely. We don’t have any in the fridge, do we?
17. The film star made a clear statement at her press conference and cut all speculations about her possible divorce in **one _ e _ _ swoop**.
18. I’d rather keep the collection of the old coins, but if _ _ _ s comes to shove and we have noting to live on, I will sell it.
19. **It makes no _ _ _ d _ _ to me** which job offer you choose as long as you are paid a good salary.
20. We did our utmost to avoid an open conflict, but **when the chips were _ _ _ o _ _ _**, we had no other choice but to take this matter to court.
Complete the phrases with the appropriate words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>act</th>
<th>cream</th>
<th>glare</th>
<th>labour</th>
<th>sleigh</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>baptism</td>
<td>flavour</td>
<td>holy</td>
<td>leave</td>
<td>soul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>code</td>
<td>frame</td>
<td>kiss</td>
<td>salt</td>
<td>stroke</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. the **of the earth** - someone good you can always trust and rely on
2. a **of love** - work you do for pleasure, not for money
3. the **of the crop** - the best people/things in their group
4. an **of God** - a natural event that cannot be prevented or controlled by people
5. **of absence** - an official permission to be away from work
6. **of hand** - something done with very skillful and fast movements of the hands
7. the **of holies** - a special place that only certain people can enter
8. a **of practice** - a set of rules or principles that should be obeyed by certain people
9. a **of fire** - the first unpleasant experience of something that someone has to deal with in life
10. a **of mind** - a particular way of thinking or feeling about something
11. **of the month** - someone very popular at the very moment
12. the **of discretion** - someone who can be confided in
13. the **of death** - an action or event that seems good, but is certain to lead to something unpleasant
14. a **of luck** - an example of unexpected luck
15. a **of publicity** - a permanent attention of the mass media, especially if it is unwanted by someone
1. Jake doesn’t need to be reminded to clean his room, he usually does it off his own

2. Linda was in a cold ....................... when she saw the two big dogs running straight onto her.

3. Since I agreed to lend Daniel my car, I’ve been in his good .........................

4. In ......................... of the beautiful weather that had been forecast, it rained all the time during our excursion.

5. The sculptor says he’s got no more of genuine inspiration and so his career is on the .........................

6. What our party needs at present is support from the local population. We must win it by fair ......................... or foul.

7. Since they have purchased the major part of our shares they have us over a .......................... We have nothing to say. It’s them who rules the firm now.

8. I’m out of my ......................... when someone talks about politics. I don’t know a thing about it.

9. The head of the corporation was arrested under the allegations of having worked in ......................... with a gang of criminals.

10. There was little we could do to stop the thieves. We only saw them go away at full ......................... on their motorbikes.

11. Ervin is determined to become rich quickly, by hook or by .........................

12. Let’s do something to cheer George up. He’s been so down in the ......................... since he failed his final exams.

13. My wife’s political views are totally different from mine. We are at ......................... with each other whenever politics is the case.

14. Before the policeman even thought about a chase, the motorcyclist was a long way away. He must have been riding at a fair .........................

15. ‘For two ........................., I’d go and tell your boss that he pays you too little.’

‘Don’t do that mom, please.’
Complete the sayings and proverbs with the appropriate words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>actions</th>
<th>curiosity</th>
<th>hope</th>
<th>necessity</th>
<th>pride</th>
<th>beauty</th>
<th>familiarity</th>
<th>ignorance</th>
<th>practice</th>
<th>truth</th>
<th>charity</th>
<th>fortune</th>
<th>love</th>
<th>prevention</th>
<th>variety</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>is only skin deep.</td>
<td>springs eternal.</td>
<td>is stranger than fiction.</td>
<td>is the mother of invention.</td>
<td>begins at home.</td>
<td>makes perfect.</td>
<td>is the spice of life.</td>
<td>speak louder than words.</td>
<td>is blind.</td>
<td>favours the brave.</td>
<td>comes before a fall.</td>
<td>is better than cure.</td>
<td>killed the cat.</td>
<td>is bliss.</td>
<td>breeds contempt.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Don't worry. I will ask Mike to fix your mincer. He is a/an .................. hand at repairing home appliances.

2. My uncle's collection of the ancient artefacts is in ..................... condition. He spends a lot of time making them look like new.

3. Considering Danny's determination to arrange a long-term loan for the company, he must have a/an ...................... interest in keeping the business alive.

4. It's no use asking these people to pay the rent. They are squatters and certainly ................... broke.

5. The police suspected that the theft was a/an ......................... job because only the store workers knew the code deactivating the alarm.

6. Susan may not be as intelligent as her sister, but without doubt, she's the most kind-hearted person you could ever meet. She is a real ....................... diamond.

7. Soon before the major action, a few of the young agents got ..................... feet as they hadn't been informed that the thrilling task was only a part of their training.

8. Mr Cox has held the position of Attorney General for five years in succession and it's a/an ...................... conclusion that he will stay for another term of office.

9. The Browns have not yet paid us a penny of what they owe us, not by a ....................... chalk.

10. During the weekend, I typically do the ......................... jobs around the house, like fixing or cleaning something.

11. The minister says he can reduce the rate of unemployment by half. But to most people in the country it sounds like ...................... thinking only.

12. This rising rate of inflation is giving us a/an .................... ride. There's less and less money left in our pockets.

13. 'Are you very busy tonight, Danny?' 'No. I'm at a ......................... end, in fact.'

14. What people usually say to me is just ..................... soap. They only do it as they hope to get some money out of me.

15. Tony's had that terrible pain in his eye since morning. I'm afraid some ....................... body must have got inside it and is bringing him discomfort.
Choose the appropriate words to complete the idioms.

1. There are more of these gnat-like insects in the vicinity of the lake than you can shake a .................. SWAT / STICK at.
2. Mark and Harry won't stop arguing unless someone goes in there and pours .................. OIL / ACID on troubled waters.
3. Mrs McGrath was the best accountant that we have ever had in the firm. Since she quit the job, nobody has been able to hold a .................. CANDLE / LIGHT to her.
4. It is expected that the international company will prime the .................. PUMP / GEAR in our mining industry with a new investment.
5. One of the party members suggested having an open TV debate to confront the opposing opinions. Yet, surprisingly, the other parties did not take up the .................. SWORD / GAUNTLET.
6. Sean's testimony let me off the .................. GALLOWS / HOOK. He told the police I was out when the accident in the school laboratory occurred.
7. I won't buy these dresses from you as they don't fit me. I'm too broad in the .................. BELT / BEAM to wear them.
8. Unfortunately, the remarks that the leader of the opposition made added FUEL / COAL .................. to the fire and the hopes for a peaceful settlement of the conflict faded away.
9. All my efforts have come full .................. CIRCLE / ROUND as after going through all these documents I found I had to read them again.
10. It's useless to ask Mick for a loan. It would be like getting blood out of a .................. ROCK / STONE.
11. He claims his scheme is flawless, but when you study it more closely you will certainly find a .................. SCRATCH / CHINK in the armour.
12. What the young assistant said at the meeting was ruled out of .................. FORUM / COURT. It was not worth being considered at all.
13. I would like to know where all his riches come from. To my knowledge, the man hasn't done a hand's .................. TURN / SHIFT in his whole life.
14. The atmosphere of tolerance makes it easier for people of a different sexual orientation to come out of the .................. CLOSET / WARDROBE.
15. No witness's description of the thief could ever prove to be near the .................. HINT / MARK as he would often change his disguise.
Rearrange the mixed letters into correct words.

1. 'You should be careful when you do business with Edward Wallace.'
   'Don't worry. I've got his UBNREM ..................... I know he can cheat.'
2. My brother’s plans for the future are nothing but SLATCSE ................ in the air. In fact, he has never done a thing to put them into practice.
3. As far as I know, Muriel is very fond of any kind of social activity, so I expect she will go BVOROEADR ................ about the charity collection.
4. In his youth, he ran the whole UMTAG ....................... of medical treatment as he used to suffer from a number of diseases.
5. Sensibility and the skill of taking prompt decisions are the most desirable features of a good lifeguard. One must be able to keep his ISWT ................ about him.
6. I was seething with indignation when I heard him spread the gossips. That time I resolved that I was not going to pull my HUPCSNE ......................
7. The Barths never complain about their hard life. They certainly have learned to make ITHLG ................ of it.
8. I'm throwing a farewell party tonight. You’re welcome to come, Alice. It's the last GIFLN ..................... I'm having before I join the army for the services.
9. We started to feel the ICPHN ....................... when the food prices went up so drastically. Unfortunately, our salaries still remained at the same low level.
10. Because the chairman failed to set the CRDROE ....................... straight none of us could figure out what had really happened.
11. To make the ARDGE ..................... as a TV reporter, you need to gain a lot of working experience and a little bit of good luck.
12. The police had been hot on the heels of the escaped prisoner for weeks, but when he got to the mountains, he managed to give them the ISPL ......................
13. We're not expecting anything wrong to happen during the President's address, but it's always necessary to keep our EPRWDO ....................... dry.
14. If you want to tell me how I should behave, you had better first put your own UOESH ..................... in order because you don’t seem to realize how many people you have hurt with your inconsiderate acting.
15. I don't need to be told what to do any longer. I think I'm old enough to be able to paddle my own OECNA .....................
Complete the idioms with the appropriate verbs and match them with their definitions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>blaze</th>
<th>buck</th>
<th>dice</th>
<th>labour</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pick</td>
<td>right</td>
<td>rub</td>
<td>stake</td>
<td>tug</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>with death</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>someone's brains</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>up your ideas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>out your claim to something</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>the point</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>someone up the wrong way</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>fly at someone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>at someone's heartstrings</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>a/the trail</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>your wrongs</td>
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A. offend someone or make someone angry, usually without intention  
B. continue to explain or talk about something that is already clear  
C. do something to correct the bad things that you have done  
D. make someone feel sad or very emotional about something  
E. risk one's life by doing something very dangerous  
F. ask someone for information about a topic that they know a lot about  
G. be the first to do something important or exciting  
H. attack someone fiercely  
I. start to work harder and become more active  
J. say firmly that you have a right to own something
<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>82</strong></td>
<td><strong>Parts of the body</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Write in the puzzle the names of the parts of the body that occur in the idioms. The solution will be another idiom.

1. put your .......... to the wheel  
   have a chip on your ..........  
   give sb the cold ..........  

2. have a sharp ..........  
   bite your ..........  
   say sth with your .......... in your cheek  

3. work your fingers to the ..........  
   have got a .......... to pick with sb  
   be as dry as a ..........  

4. not lift your .......... to do sth  
   keep your .......... on the pulse  
   wrap sb around your little ..........  

5. let your .......... down  
   tear your .......... out  
   make sb's .......... stand on end  

6. be up to your .......... in sth  
   breathe down sb's ..........  
   stick your .......... out  

7. do sb's .......... good  
   feel sick at ..........  
   do sth with a sinking ..........  

8. work .......... in glove with sb  
   bite the .......... that feeds you  
   show your ..........  

9. fly in the .......... of sth  
   laugh in sb's ..........  
   set your .......... against sth  

10. do sth in the .......... of risk/danger etc.  
    lie through your ..........  
    get your .......... into sth  

11. put your best .......... forward  
    get your .......... In the door  
    have got one .......... in the grave  

12. live from hand to ..........  
    put your head in the lion’s ..........  
    be all .......... and no trousers  

13. play your cards close to your ..........  
    get sth off your ..........  
    put hairs on your ..........  

14. bury your .......... in the sand  
    give sb their ..........  
    be banging your .......... against a brick wall  

104
This man is quite long in the tooth, isn't he?
Combine two appropriate words from the domino blocks to make the correct compounds.

Example: BOOK TITLE WORM BUG someone who likes to read books very much

1. CAT DOG DOZE NAP a short sleep
2. RED BLACK LEG FOOT a worker who refuses to join in a strike and continues to work
3. WAR BATTLE BULL HORSE a soldier who has fought many battles and still enjoys war experiences
4. STORM WIND THROW FALL a gift of money that you get unexpectedly
5. SIGHT EYE SORE WOUND an ugly object, especially a building
6. TOM BOB BOY GUY a girl who behaves like a boy and likes to play with boys’ toys
7. DOOR GATE BREAKER CRASHER someone who comes to a party uninvited
8. BUSY NOisy BODY FLESH someone who interferes in other people’s private matters
9. BOMB BULLET SHELL POD a piece of news that is very unpleasant and comes unexpectedly
10. CLUE KEY GROUND STONE the central and most important part of a process or a concept
11. BLUE CYAN GORE BLOOD someone who belongs to a royal family or nobility
12. JABBER CHATTER BOX CAN someone who talks too much
13. WINDOW WALL PLANT FLOWER a girl or woman who does not attract men’s attention at parties
14 KILL MURDER FUN JOY someone who spoils other people's good time
15 FLAME FIRE BRAND MARK someone who agitates people to change a government or law
16 WATER AIR SHED SLOPE a time or event in history or in someone's life when important changes occurred
17 HEAD BRAIN FLOW WAVE a sudden brilliant idea
18 DEAD GONE FINISH END a situation in which one cannot make any progress or improvement
19 CREAM EGG BRAIN HEAD someone intelligent who spends most of their time reading books and learning
20 FOOL'S IDIOT'S GOLD JEWEL something that one hopes will be very good and attractive, but in fact is not
21 HOLE PIT FALL DROP a difficulty or a problem that appears unexpectedly during a job or activity
22 FLAG BANNER SHIP BOAT the best product that a particular company produces
23 LORD GOD GIFT SEND something good that happens to you at the very moment when you need it
24 EDGE CORNER STONE ROCK something very important on which everything else depends; a foundation
25 BRAIN MIND PUMP DRAIN an exodus of qualified workers from their own country to a country where they earn more
26 HURRAY HEY DAY TIME the period of time when someone was very popular or powerful
27 SOUL HEART BEAT THROB a famous actor or singer who attracts attention of many women
28 DOGS ANTS BODY BEING someone who does the unimportant small duties that nobody else wants to do
29 FACE HEAD WAY PATH progress or improvement
30 STOP WAIT SPARE GAP something worse that you use only for a short time until you find a better replacement for it
Write in the missing letters to complete the words in the idioms.

1. If you go into a __ u __ d __ e with someone, you move close to them because you want to talk to them in private.
2. If you pick up the p __ c __ s, you try to put things in order after a disaster.
3. If you beat the living __ y __ g __ s out of someone, you beat them severely or frighten them very much.
4. If you make a __ i __ u __ of necessity, you act in a moral way because you have no other choice in a particular situation.
5. If you carry __ a __ s to Newcastle, you bring something to a place where there is already plenty of it.
6. If you turn up __ u __ s, you offer (financial) help to someone who is in desperate need of it.
7. If you mend your f __ s with someone, you find a way to bring an end to a disagreement with them.
8. If you are in the __ r __ g line, you find yourself in a situation where you are likely to be attacked or criticized.
9. If you send someone about their __ s __ s, you make them stop interfering in other people's matters.
10. If you drop a __ l __ g __ r, you make an unsuitable and offensive remark without intending to do so.
11. If you have a s __ b at learning Chinese, for instance, you try to do it.
12. If you take someone down a __ e __, you prove their position is not as remarkable or important as they consider it to be.
13. If you put a t __ l on someone, you have them followed by a private detective.
14. If you jump on the b __ d __ n, you try to do the same kind of activity as many other people do because it is profitable or attractive.
15. If you take a __ h __ e to someone, you start to like them the moment you meet them.
16. If you play the __ o __ t, you behave in a foolish way.
17. If you go over something with a fine-tooth __ b, you search or analyse it very carefully.
18. If someone is as nutty as a f __ i __ c __ k, he or she is completely crazy.
19. If you have got the m __ k __ s of something, you have the necessary skills or qualities to become it or to do a particular job.
20. If a large group of people raise the __ o __ f, they make a great noise.
Fill the gaps with the appropriate prepositions.

AT FOR IN OFF ON ROUND UNDER

1. As we were in an urgent need of syringes and other medical equipment, the aid organisation promised to deliver them .................. the double.
2. I think our neighbour, Mr Cranks, has gone .................. the bend. He's been sitting on the roof and singing songs since morning.
3. The elderly woman says she doesn't feel lonely living .................. the bosom of her pet animals.
4. Only after a few minutes of the discussion did we realise we were .................. cross purposes talking about completely different matters.
5. The Chancellor didn't want his remarks to be quoted by the press as they were rather .................. the record.
6. It's been kept .................. wraps where the famous actress is going to be accommodated for the sake of her own safety.
7. 'Why did you steal the bicycle, young man?' 'Just .................. kicks, sir.'
8. 'Was it you who ordered the unit to march across the hills all day round?'
   'Of course not. They must have done it .................. some other officer's bidding.'
9. Just wait until the concert is .................. full swing, you'll certainly find it enjoyable.
10. Since the time of the bloody rebellion, the mountainous regions of the country have been .................. the heel of the guerilla forces.
11. As usual, the Turners have organised a clearance sale in their stores this spring.
    You can get even high-quality goods .................. the cheap.
12. I cannot remember why and since when, but it's definitely a long time since
    Spike and Jules have been .................. daggers drawn with each other.
13. 'When do you think the new models of your cars will come .................. stream?'
    'As soon as the funds are allocated, we'll start the production.'
14. In a place like this danger lurks everywhere. We'd better be .................. our guard.
15. Several of the new bills are still .................. the pipeline. That is why the enactment of the new penal code has been delayed.
Match the phrases in italics with the idioms expressing a synonymous meaning.

- A blot your copybook
- B build bridges
- C do a bunk
- D drop your bombshell
- E find fault with
- F hit home
- G give sb a roasting
- H give sb a wide berth
- I lay down the law
- J overplay your hand
- K run out of steam
- L stick your oar in sth
- M sweat blood
- N take the gilt off the gingerbread
- O turn the corner

1. The sappers made a great effort to clean the fields of land mines.
2. You have only yourself to blame, Fred. It's your recklessness that has ruined your reputation.
3. I decided to quit my cooperation with the agent. He never stopped criticising the music I composed.
4. Don't you think the fact that the most beautiful pieces of Mozart were performed by an amateur pianist really made the performance less attractive?
5. We lent Tom a lot of money for his business and he promised to give it back. So, we were distraught when he suddenly told us the bad news. He was bankrupt.
6. The way he approaches us really drives me crazy. He will give orders in this domineering manner to everyone as if he were in authority here.
7. Ed's condition had been critical for weeks. But when he was treated by the Chinese healer he went through the worst part of the illness and started to get better.
8. At first most of the kids enjoyed acting in the school theatre. But when the other children started making fun of them, they lost their enthusiasm.
9. Mark considered himself to be much better than the other candidates and did not prepare well for the job interview. That's why he lost his chance of becoming the branch manager.
10. I must hurry with the task. If I don't keep the deadline, my boss will reprimand me strongly again.
11. In your report, you can't forget to mention senator Levinson's effort to establish more friendly relationships between the sides of the conflict.
12. I don't think Joe's aim is to give advice. He's simply interfering in the dispute for the reasons that I don't understand.
13. By the way Nigel's behaviour has improved, I can see that my reprimands and criticism of him really made him understand his mistakes.
14. Whenever I see Paul, I try to avoid meeting him. He's such a crashing bore.
15. The lady says she only caught a glimpse of the two fair-haired men escaping through the balcony door with her valuable paintings.

I found it really hard to build bridges between Luke and Terry.
### Adjective + Noun

Fill the gaps in the phrases with the missing adjectives and nouns.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>acid</th>
<th>hot</th>
<th>open</th>
<th>sea</th>
<th>short</th>
<th>sticky</th>
<th>vicious</th>
<th>blow</th>
<th>dip</th>
<th>flame</th>
<th>hours</th>
<th>shot</th>
<th>spot</th>
<th>suit</th>
<th>tooth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1. **blind** | something you find difficult to understand
2. | test | the test of the true value of something
3. **big** | an important and influential person
4. **sesame** | an easy way to achieve something
5. **small** | the earliest time of a new day
6. | end | miserable and violent death
7. **sweet** | fondness of sweets
8. **circle** | a set of problems that cause the same problems again and again
9. **old** | someone that you loved in the past
10. | spot | a place of common fights and conflicts
11. **bitter** | an unpleasant thing that you must accept
12. | fuse | the quality of getting angry very quickly
13. **strong** | something that you are good at
14. | change | a great change in something
15. **lucky** | a situation fully dependent on good luck
1. The knight’s determination in protecting the princess’s life was immeasurable. He would go through ........................................ for her.
2. Don’t trust Wes. He’s a slick trickster. He’s only giving himself ........................................ to make a good impression on you.
3. Dave says he wants a wife that will wait on him ................................. . Perhaps, that’s why he is still a bachelor.
4. I looked in every ........................................ in the house, but couldn’t find my wallet.
5. Ed may earn well as a stuntman, but this kind of life is not all ................................. .
6. It was all ........................................ in the headquarters as the notice about the President’s visit had only been delivered one hour before his arrival.
7. We had to give up going climbing as it was raining ................................. .
8. We remember that party very well. The guests ate us out of ................................. .
9. According to the new regulations, motorists accused of driving without due ........................................ are subject to much stricter fines.
10. ‘Have you bought anything special?’ ‘Rather not. Only some ........................................ . Mostly for the kids.’
11. Turning that old decrepit house into a modern luxurious villa must have cost the owners ........................................ .
12. Nothing else seems to give David so much pleasure as his diving hobby. It's really ........................................ to him.
13. If you want to learn to make your own wine, talk to uncle Pete. He knows all the ........................................ of it.
14. They both went at it ................................. . We could hardly make them calm down after several minutes of a fierce row.
15. When she realized that more and more people listened to her music, Sheila threw herself ........................................ into her singing career. She wanted to be the queen of pop.
Accidents will happen
A new broom sweeps clean
A trouble shared is a trouble halved
Better to be safe than sorry
Let sleeping dogs lie
One swallow does not make a summer
The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence
There’s no smoke without fire
There’s one born every minute
The road to hell is paved with good intentions
Waste not, want not
You can lead a horse to water, but you can’t make it drink

1. Jenny says she’d rather live in Italy. She thinks life’s much easier there.

2. Sam always promises never to cheat on me again, but he does it. I know it.

3. I don’t understand why I should put on the life jacket. I can swim, can’t I?
   Don’t complain, Max.

4. Everyone says it was Joe who stole the bike. But I can’t believe it was him.
   The people may be right.
5. Do you think I should ask Lucy about her quarrel with the boss?
   No, don’t do it. You’d better

6. Sue paid the man a thousand pounds for the ring. He told her it was gold.
   How stupid!

7. I’m sorry, Alice. I have just broken your flower pot.
   Don’t worry, Tim.

8. Mom, I don’t want any more of the sandwich. I will throw it away.
   Don’t ever throw your food away, son.

9. Can you believe it? We’ve won the game. What a victory!
   Easy boy. It doesn’t mean you’ll win the Cup.

10. She’s only been with us for a month, but has introduced many changes.
    Good for the department.

11. We’ve paid a lot of money for Alan’s studies, but he doesn’t want to learn.

12. Do you think I should tell someone about my worries?
    You can tell me, Sally.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Idiom</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If a Prime Minister goes to the country</td>
<td>□ she/he dissolves the government</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ she/he declares a general amnesty</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ he/she holds a general election</td>
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<td>If you have a field day</td>
<td>□ you have a bad day at work or school</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ you have to do a hard physical work</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ you enjoy doing what you like best</td>
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<td>If you are a good mixer</td>
<td>□ you like meeting and talking to people</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you interfere in other people’s matters</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ you make a mess of everything you do</td>
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<tr>
<td>If you lick your wounds after a defeat</td>
<td>□ you try to gather strength and confidence</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you pity yourself to a great extent</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>□ you spend time recovering in hospital</td>
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<td>If your efforts come to naught</td>
<td>□ you achieve a great success</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ you fail to achieve your goals</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ you are not willing to make any effort</td>
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<td>If you go into raptures about sth</td>
<td>□ you are very worried about it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you are very mad about it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you are very enthusiastic about it</td>
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<tr>
<td>If you spread your wings</td>
<td>□ you escape from your home</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ you have a rest during a car journey</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>□ you develop and take up new activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>If you come out of the woodwork</td>
<td>□ you come to take advantage of a situation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you appear suddenly to scare someone</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>□ you come to wish someone good luck</td>
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<tr>
<td>If you keep someone on a string</td>
<td>□ you show them a way to their destination</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you have a full control over them</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ you place all your confidence in them</td>
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<tr>
<td>If you never set the world on fire</td>
<td>□ you never pollute the environment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ you never express your opinions openly</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you never do anything exciting or unusual</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>If you live beyond your means,</strong></td>
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<td>---</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you live on more money than you earn</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you are rich but live a modest life</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you share your money with people in need</td>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>If you flip your lid,</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you refuse to talk to anyone</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you turn very angry</td>
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<td></td>
<td>□ you reveal the truth about your past</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>If you are nobody’s fool,</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ anyone can make a fool of you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you behave in a silly and irresponsible way</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you are clever and hard to cheat</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>If you push the panic button,</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you react in an irrational way to a danger</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you manage to avoid getting into a panic</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you have a control over a danger situation</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>If you are onto a good thing,</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you are about to become a parent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you are likely to achieve a success</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you are in a beneficial position</td>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>If you carry the can for someone,</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you set a trap for them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you take their blame upon yourself</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you leave them when they need help</td>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>If you come running,</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you do everything without care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you understand things very quickly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you gladly do everything someone wants</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>If you put a premium on something,</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you consider it valuable or important</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you exaggerate the worth of it</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you pay too much attention to it</td>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>If you go down in the world,</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you die</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you go on a trip to your dream destination</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you lose your prestige or become poor</td>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>If you take the plunge,</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you are beaten by someone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you decide to do something risky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>□ you lose money on bad investments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>a chance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>a duck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>a violet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>a point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>a match</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>a power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>a sin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>a boy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>a block</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>a partner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>a knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>a price/rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>a ground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>a point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>a acquaintance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. My boss criticised me for not keeping my deadlines.
   My boss hauled .................................................................
2. Since I had this argument with William, we haven't spoken to each other.
   Since I crossed .................................................................
3. You must do anything you can to make the negotiations successful.
   You must pull out .............................................................
4. Children enjoy unwrapping their Christmas presents. (a kick)
   ......................................................................................
5. When simultaneous interpreting is the matter, Mia can do it much better than the other interpreters. (rings)
   ......................................................................................
6. You lost the game because you failed to give the good answer to the question.
   You lost the game because you missed ....................................
7. He hid the truth about the matter because he didn't want to lose his high position.
   He swept ............................................................................
8. When I asked him about the money, he suddenly turned very angry.
   ...................................................................................... the deep end.
9. The prisoner grabbed the keys and ran quickly towards the door. (a bolt)
   ......................................................................................
10. She's only happy when somebody does all her jobs for her.
    She's only happy when somebody dances ...................................
11. For two years, the company was in a difficult position making nothing but losses.
    ...................................................................................... a bumpy ride
12. When he made friends in the new place, Ron became less shy and reserved.
    ...................................................................................... shell.
13. As I expected, my designs have outdone the designs of the other architects.
    ...................................................................................... a cocked hat.
14. Before you start working on the project, first finish doing the minor jobs.
    Before you start working on the project, first clear ................................
15. It's my last night before joining the army, so I am going to enjoy myself a lot.
    ...................................................................................... the razzle.
Choose the correct answer.

1. 'Why do turtles lay eggs deep under ground?' 'I don't know. I haven't the foggiest .................. .'
   a) clue    b) thought    c) idea    d) notion

2. Since his father left on holiday, Jeffrey has been throwing his ................. about in the shop.
   a) weight    b) mass    c) figure    d) body

3. I've had to forget about gambling. I've been down on my ................. since I lost my job.'
   a) fate    b) luck    c) money    d) fortune

4. Take the doctor's advice into consideration. He's in ................. earnest about the epidemic.
   a) mortally    b) fatally    c) deadly    d) gravely

5. I knew the frown on the constable's face ................. ill for me. And indeed, I got a ticket for parking my car in the wrong place.
   a) boded    b) stood    c) pointed    d) hinted

6. The policeman got on his ................. horse when the driver who was caught speeding questioned his authority.
   a) big    b) fat    c) clever    d) high

7. It's true I am late for the meeting, but by ................. of excuse let me tell you that my plane was delayed in Hannover.
   a) means    b) aid    c) way    d) reason

8. It was Neil Armstrong who ................. history as the first human to put his foot on the moon.
   a) fulfilled    b) led    c) made    d) underwent
9. After the revolution, the Emperor of China, his family and many other aristocrats on hard times and ended up as poor ordinary people.
   a moved   b landed   c dropped   d fell

10. We’d better not stick our necks out at the moment. In the .................. of time, we will take steps to regain control over the region.
   a rightness   b fullness   c greatness   d correctness

11. Most of the students were shaking in their .................. at the thought of having to take the exam again with professor Adams.
   a trousers   b suits   c shirts   d shoes

12. The boys could not take their eyes off Sheila at the party. She was dressed to .....................
   a murder   b kill   c execute   d die

13. The newspapers wrote that our team had given a good .................. of themselves in the semi-final.
   a performance   b display   c achievement   d account

14. The place we stayed at was horrible. There were no tourist attractions, our hotel was no hotel at all, and to .................. it all, we all got food poisoning.
   a top   b sum   c total   d peak

15. The TV interview was a perfect chance for the farmers to .................. their grievances about the inadequate financing of their farms.
   a blow   b wind   c puff   d air

16. However he managed to keep his .................. up while suffering so much during the therapy is a mystery to me.
   a end   b self   c frame   d edge
1. If you do not turn a FAIR, you stay completely calm when something dangerous or surprising is happening.
2. If you put your SLATES on, you hurry up.
3. If you stick to your GUMS, you carry on with your activity or maintain your views despite being criticised or troubled by something.
4. If you give HEEL to something, you pay careful attention to it.
5. If you put someone through the MILE, you make them go through a hard experience.
6. If you do not do a STRIKE of work, you do no work at all.
7. If you are at the top of the HEAT, you have a high social position.
8. If something drops into your TAP, you obtain it without any effort.
9. If you lay your head on the CLOCK, you expose yourself to criticism.
10. If you make a NOD for your own back, you do something that will bring you trouble or punishment in the future.
11. If something suits your LOOK, it is useful and convenient for you.
12. If you stir your STAMPS, you start to hurry.
13. If you have got something down to a fine ARM, you accomplish the skill of doing it with perfection.
14. If you make a DIRT for some place, you move quickly in this direction.
15. If your arrangements go by the BEARD, they are rejected or not practical any longer.
16. If problems or mistakes come out in the WASP, they are not worth being worried about because they will be solved in the future.
17. If someone pulls the HUG out from under your feet, they suddenly stop giving you help and support.
18. If some medicine holds a disease in CHEEK, it prevents it from developing any further.
19. If you take someone to TUSK about something, you reprimand them strongly for not doing it correctly.
20. If you hide your FIGHT under a bushel, you are a modest person and do not boast about what you are good at.
Complete the phrases with the appropriate nouns.

- bottom
- colours
- hand
- love
- snowball's
- breath
- deal
- hell
- manna
- stick
- coin
- ground
- honour
- rub
- streets

1. Fifty pounds from the local administration is not ....................... from heaven, but we can take it as a token of good luck for our charity.
2. Mary wasn't the only client who was given a raw ....................... by the disrespectful official. There were more complaints about his behaviour.
3. You needn't thank us. We felt ....................... bound to help you in those hard times.
4. The project of the human settlement on another planet doesn't seem to have a ....................... chance in hell of being put into practice in this century.
5. Their debts may be high, but the other side of the ....................... is that they keep making large-scale investments in the protection of the natural habitats in Africa.
6. Considering their mutual hatred, there's no ....................... lost between Peter and Rob.
7. Jerry Blair used to be a top performer, but since the quality of his records reached rock ....................... his popularity has been declining.
8. This is the first time in my life that I have been caught in a cleft ....................... like this. Believe me, I have no idea how to get out of this horrible situation.
9. Controversial as it is, the jury have awarded the first prize to Mr Cohen although the other competitors' knowledge was ....................... ahead of his.
10. The young criminal told the court he attacked much younger and smaller children just for the ....................... of it.
11. On entering the hall in the maternity ward, the doctors saw a few men waiting with bated ....................... for any news from their wives.
12. There's only one man I know who can tune pianos with such unmatched mastery. It's Mr Tandy, he's an old ....................... at the job.
13. Mark's victory in the snooker tournament surprised everyone. He must have had the ....................... of the green for he's only a beginner.
14. We only needed a few days to recognise Sean's true ....................... He is neither hard-working nor ambitious.
15. There's nothing to be seen in this museum. It is just a dumping ....................... for worthless finds.
Match the prepositional phrases with the italicised parts of the sentences that express a similar meaning.

**a** at a premium  **f** in the works  **k** on the trot  
**b** at large  **g** in two shakes  **l** on the warpath  
**c** in bad odour with sb  **h** on the cards  **m** up the pole  
**d** in mothballs  **i** on the nod  **n** up to scratch  
**e** in the first flight  **j** on the sly  **o** up the spout

1. Would you mind waiting a minute in the hall? I'll come down **in a short while**.
2. All the money we paid for Terry's rehabilitation was **wasted**. It didn't help him a bit.
3. A scandal broke out in the intelligence agency when one of the secretaries was caught copying classified documents **secretly**.
4. Someone must have told Alexander I criticised his appearance. I've been **in his disfavour** since then.
5. In spite of the hot pursuit, the escaped convict is reported to be still **free**.
6. Because of the heavy snowfall, flight cancellations are **quite likely to happen**.
7. During the great crisis, all kinds of commodities were **difficult to obtain**.
8. Thanks to the pioneering training techniques, the German ski jumper won the world championship three times **in succession**.
9. Lots of these celluloid tapes are **stored unused** in the institute cellar.
10. The report says that the security at the airport is not **at the expected standard**.
11. Don't say a thing about Mickey's mistakes or he'll be **furious and ready to argue**.
12. 'Were there any protests against the notion in the parliament?' 'Actually, not. It was accepted **by a general agreement**.'
13. The price of the digital camera may be exorbitant, but you can't deny it's **of the best quality**.
14. People say that Mr Buchanan is **a bit crazy**. But I have never seen him behaving in a strange way.
15. 'Is the amendment to the penal code ready yet?' 'No. It's still **being prepared**.'
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Adjective 1</th>
<th>Adjective 2</th>
<th>Noun</th>
<th>Phrase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1a</td>
<td>DEAD</td>
<td>KILLED</td>
<td>DUCK</td>
<td>a plan, idea or project that has become a failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2a</td>
<td>HOT</td>
<td>COLD</td>
<td>AIR</td>
<td>promises that sound impressive, but are worthless</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3a</td>
<td>LIGHT</td>
<td>SOFT</td>
<td>TOUCH</td>
<td>someone easy to deceive and take advantage of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4a</td>
<td>CLEAN</td>
<td>PLAIN</td>
<td>SHEET</td>
<td>a period of work when no mistakes have been made</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5a</td>
<td>CLOSE</td>
<td>NEAR</td>
<td>MISS</td>
<td>a situation in which an accident is only just avoided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6a</td>
<td>ROARING</td>
<td>HOWLING</td>
<td>SUCCESS</td>
<td>a great success</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7a</td>
<td>SENIOR</td>
<td>OLD</td>
<td>WOMAN</td>
<td>a man who worries too much about unimportant things</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8a</td>
<td>GUMMY</td>
<td>STICKY</td>
<td>WICKET</td>
<td>a situation in which you cannot defend yourself against an attack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9a</td>
<td>FIRM</td>
<td>STIFF</td>
<td>DRINK</td>
<td>a strong alcoholic drink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>PRICKLY</td>
<td>ITCHY</td>
<td>FEET</td>
<td>a desire or habit of travelling or moving to new places very often</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>WIDE</td>
<td>FAT</td>
<td>BOY</td>
<td>someone who cheats at business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>SOLE</td>
<td>RARE</td>
<td>BIRD</td>
<td>someone or something very unusual because of their unique qualities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>DAMP</td>
<td>SOGgy</td>
<td>SQUIB</td>
<td>an event or activity that is expected to be very special and exciting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>SMALL</td>
<td>TINY</td>
<td>BEER</td>
<td>something unimportant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>PLASTIC</td>
<td>PAPER</td>
<td>TIGER</td>
<td>someone who is less powerful or dangerous than they appear to be</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>COLD</td>
<td>FOGGY</td>
<td>COMFORT</td>
<td>something that is expected to make you feel better or relieved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>SMART</td>
<td>WISE</td>
<td>ALEC(K)</td>
<td>someone who is irritating because he/she claims to know everything</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Icy</td>
<td>SLIPPERY</td>
<td>SLOPE</td>
<td>the way of acting that is likely to lead to a disaster or danger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>WET</td>
<td>DRY</td>
<td>BLANKET</td>
<td>someone who does not enjoy anything and prevents other people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>STIFF</td>
<td>HARD</td>
<td>LINE</td>
<td>the way of dealing with something or someone very strictly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Various idioms

Do the crossword puzzle by completing the idioms with the correct words.

DOWN

1. There was nobody to show me how to operate the Caterpillar tractor. So I had to fly by the seat of my ...................... to do the job.
2. For sure, Howard Black is not the only ...................... on the beach. The other candidates’ skills should also be taken into consideration.
3. As there was no demand for carpet-cleaning services in the area, the Smith and Company soon went ...................... .
4. The poor mother hasn’t heard from her daughter for two months now. No wonder she’s been on the ...................... .
5. I never really know what professor Beckers is talking about. He tends to go off at a/an ...................... , quite often.
6. Susan started her career in the company as a mere messenger, but after three years she’s come up through the ...................... . Now, she’s a manager.
7. The school record reads that you must either mend your ...................... or you’ll be expelled from the college.
8. One of the party members decided to blow the ...................... on some of his colleagues when he discovered they were telling lies to their voters.
9. Did she tell you it was a deadly infection? Don’t worry. She tends to pile on the ...................... whenever she catches a cold.
10. As you can see, I’m not in the first ...................... of enthusiasm after having failed the driving test so many times.
11. Betty looks a bit out of ...................... this morning. We’d better not disturb her until her mood changes for more cheerful.
12. There are so many problems that need to be solved. You should put your thinking ...................... on if you want to keep your family business going.

ACROSS

3. Eric’s victory in the tournament was more by accident than ...................... . He’s not a professional tennis player.
4. Most of the younger scouts who joined our pack last year have fallen by the ...................... . Our rules of behaviour must have been too strict for them.
7. Seeing that the accusations against Robert were unfair, I decided to take up the ................ for him. I knew he was an honest person.

10. Don't be so stiff, Jim. You needn't stand on ................ cause it's not an official meeting. It's a party. Enjoy yourself!

11. Look at all those documents. It's going to be a hard job of separating the ................ from the chaff. But we need to know which of them are rubbish.

14. Jason has been walking ..................... . But he certainly has got a reason. He's been promoted to branch director.

15. I'm afraid that by advocating Steven to carry the ................ for his workmates' offences, the defence just want to make a scapegoat out of him.

16. You are the one who has drawn the short .................., Nick. It's your duty to clean the toilets.

19. Arresting the sect leaders without any tangible evidence against them will be nothing short of jumping the .................. .

20. When his older brother Gregory went to prison, Mike was automatically tarred with the same .................. as everyone considered him a troublemaker, too.

21. The major sponsor's sudden withdrawal from the charity collection has played .................. with all the arrangements that had been made by that time.

23. The political negotiations have brought no consensus as yet. The parties are still .................. apart.

24. I'm ready to answer any questions related to taxes. I know the subject off .................. .
Complete the idioms with the appropriate names of parts of the body.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>arm</th>
<th>face</th>
<th>heel</th>
<th>nose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>back</td>
<td>fingers</td>
<td>hip</td>
<td>palm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bone</td>
<td>hand</td>
<td>lips</td>
<td>skin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cheek</td>
<td>head</td>
<td>mouth</td>
<td>teeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ear</td>
<td>heart</td>
<td>nerve</td>
<td>thumbs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. If you **twiddle your** ........................., you waste your time doing nothing useful.
2. If you were **born with a silver spoon in your** ........................., you were born in a rich family and live the life of luxury and wealth.
3. If you **come to** ........................., you start obeying rules and orders.
4. If you **strain every** ........................., you make a big effort to achieve your goals.
5. If you are ......................... **by jowl with someone**, you are very close to them.
6. If you **show your** ........................., you do something that reveals your intentions.
7. If you are **out on your** ........................., you are dismissed from work or forced to leave the place where you are staying.
8. If you **bite someone's** ......................... **off**, you speak to someone angrily even though you have no good reason to do so.
9. If you **put someone's** ......................... **up**, you cause great annoyance to them.
10. If you **keep your** ......................... **crossed**, you are hoping for good luck.
11. If you **get your** ......................... **into** something, you do it with great enthusiasm because it interests you very much.
12. If you **work your fingers to the** ........................., you work very hard.
13. If something **gets up your** ........................., it makes you angry and annoyed.
14. If you **have someone in the** ......................... **of your hand**, you have a full control over them.
15. If you **chance your** ........................., you risk doing something although the likelihood of a failure is big.
16. If you **fall flat on your** ........................., your attempts at achieving something turn into a spectacular failure.
17. If your ......................... **goes out to someone**, you feel sympathy for them.
18. If something **makes your** ......................... **crawl**, it makes you feel frightened.
19. If something is **on everyone's** ........................., then everyone talks about it.
20. If you **shoot from the** ........................., you react quickly without thinking first.
Complete the comparisons with the appropriate words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ABC</th>
<th>clam</th>
<th>fiddle</th>
<th>mule</th>
<th>Punch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bell</td>
<td>clockwork</td>
<td>hatter</td>
<td>mustard</td>
<td>rock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bone</td>
<td>dog</td>
<td>hills</td>
<td>nails</td>
<td>sin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brass</td>
<td>doornail</td>
<td>houses</td>
<td>peacock</td>
<td>silk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>button</td>
<td>dust</td>
<td>life</td>
<td>post</td>
<td>whistle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Nobody likes the girl. She is as proud as a
2. Jack is not afraid to criticise his boss. He is as bold as
3. Don't shout. He won't hear you. He's as deaf as a
4. He won't move. He's as dead as a
5. I'd never date that girl. She's as ugly as
6. Tommy is a wonder kid. He is as bright as a
7. It won't take me long to repair the brakes. It's as easy as
8. Everyone knows this story. It's as old as the
9. He always does the same things in the morning, as regular as
10. When I returned from the spa, I felt as fit as a
11. You won't convince her. She's as stubborn as a
12. There's no water in the well. It's as dry as a
13. She's passed all her exams! She's as happy as a
14. And I have passed my driving test! I am as pleased as
15. Don't expect much sympathy from Bob. He's as hard as
16. 'How is your health, Nicky?' 'Fine. I'm as sound as a
17. I'm awfully bored. This performance is as dry as
18. He would never do anything illegal. He's as clean as a
19. Mr Banks is really crazy. He's as mad as a
20. Believe me, I saw her in the cafe with some boy, as large as
21. Sue really wants to go on the expedition. She's as keen as
22. I must have eaten something stale. I was as sick as a
23. Just touch the baby's skin. It's as smooth as , isn't it?
24. I've parked your car in the backyard. It's as safe as there.
25. The house may be old, but its structure is still as solid as a
1. The risk is much lower if you do not do something dangerous only by yourself.
2. It is your own family that matters more than any other people.
3. If you have made a mistake doing something, another time you are more careful.
4. You are mad at Tom because he got up late, but you, too, didn’t get up till midday.
5. Our situation is not so bad as it looks. We still have a chance to win.
6. Something bad may happen if you are too confident of your success.
7. You should be satisfied with what you get as you do not have another choice.
8. Anything can happen and you can’t be absolutely sure that things will go well.
9. If you like something, it doesn’t mean that everybody else likes the same.
10. There is a time for everyone in life to have good luck or achieve a success.
11. It’s senseless to do harm to someone just because they have done harm to you.
12. It always takes longer for something too happen if you are too impatient.
13. If the opportunity is good, take advantage of it immediately!
14. It’s not the gift that matters, but the fact that you remembered about my birthday.
15. If something goes wrong, act immediately, before the situation gets much worse.
16. She will succeed for sure because she’s very determined and nothing can stop her.
17. Before you do something risky, first think well about the possible consequences.
18. The people who have nothing serious to do, may start doing something wrong.
19. No matter how bad a situation may be, there’s always something good about it.
20. She had divorced the man who beat her, but then she married another monster.
Complete the idioms with the appropriate verbs.

blow fly pale screw steal
bluff heap pick set tear
fish hedge run spare touch

1. ....................... into insignificance  - appear to be much less important than some other matter
2. ....................... scorn on someone  - criticise or look down on someone
3. ....................... for compliments  - encourage someone to say nice things about you
4. ....................... up one's courage  - force oneself to find enough courage to do something brave
5. ....................... one's way out  - succeed in doing something by deception
6. ....................... around in circles  - try to do something very hard but achieve no success in it
7. ....................... the gaff  - reveal a secret
8. ....................... into a rage  - suddenly become very angry
9. ....................... your sights high/low  - have high/low expectations or ambitions in your life
10. ...................... a fight with someone  - provoke a quarrel with someone
11. ...................... your bets  - try to avoid losing all your money by investing it in different ways
12. ...................... your forelock  - show too much respect to a person in authority
13. ...................... a march on someone  - do something secretly or quicker to gain advantage over them
14. ...................... no expense  - spend as much money as necessary
15. ...................... someone off a strip  - criticise someone for something wrong they have done
Complete the idioms with the appropriate adjectives and adverbs.

cold  easy  good  low  smooth
dear  fast  hard  proud  sour
dumb  flat  just  short  thick

1. The hosts of the small seaside hotel were very hospitable. They did us ......................... with every service they could offer.
2. Do you remember that you've promised to buy me a pearl necklace if I agree to become your wife? Does your promise still hold ........................?  
3. William was sold ........................ by being offered the job of a junior clerk.  
   Undoubtedly, he deserves a more attractive and responsible position.
4. You are always shouting at your employees and reprimanding them. Why don't you go ......................... on them one day for a change?
5. After a few years, our relations with the neighbours turned ........................ as some of them were spreading nasty gossips.
6. Adrian thinks it's fun to bully younger children. I can't wait to see him getting his ........................ deserts from someone stronger than him.
7. With only four minutes left we had to run ......................... out to catch our bus.
8. As most of the soldiers of were laid ........................ with measles the manoeuvres had to be cancelled.
9. You'll get a ........................ ear if you don't stop fooling around, Jack.
10. We were struck ........................ when we heard the news of the plane crash.
11. It was not until the government had changed in the country that the political prisoners were set free. They did take a few ........................ knocks.
12. Don't ever give him any money. He's not a poor man. He's just trying to pull a ........................ one on people.
13. Just listening to the terrifying story of your adventure in the jungle made my blood run ......................... .
14. The camping site was quite good and although it lacked basic amenities the scouts were well prepared to take the rough with the ......................... .
15. It was a bad decision to withdraw from the negotiations. I'm afraid it may cost us ......................... in the future.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compound</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>take</td>
<td>the amount of food or drink that you take</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>come</td>
<td>the final result of an action, negotiations etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>take-off</td>
<td>the moment when a plane leaves the ground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>line-up</td>
<td>the team of players taking part in a game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>break</td>
<td>an escape from prison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-product</td>
<td>an additional unexpected result of an activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shoot</td>
<td>a new branch of an organization or company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hold-up</td>
<td>a delay in traffic or an obstacle to something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>set</td>
<td>the beginning of a process or activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>start</td>
<td>a young disrespectful and cheeky person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pile-up</td>
<td>a traffic accident involving many vehicles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>break-in</td>
<td>an important discovery or advancement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>let</td>
<td>a shop or store where products are sold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>knock</td>
<td>someone or something very attractive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>set</td>
<td>an arrangement or a secretly made trap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lay</td>
<td>a very lazy person who avoids work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>set</td>
<td>the beginning of something bad like illness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pass</td>
<td>a major road that goes round the town</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crack</td>
<td>radical steps or action taken against crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>run-down</td>
<td>a short practice before an exam, play etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shot</td>
<td>the final result of a situation or action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>draw</td>
<td>a disadvantage or obstacle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>put</td>
<td>the amount of goods produced by a factory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>set</td>
<td>a problem that makes a situation worse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>turn</td>
<td>an increase or a change for better</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. I've been so busy this morning, but have not done much of what I've planned yet.

2. No wonder his wife has left him. He gets blind drunk almost every day.

3. Another set of tools is missing! It seems someone is stealing them here.

4. Everybody laughed when the minister made this embarrassing mistake.
She made me angry by criticising me for everything that was wrong in the house.

Why don't we make a mutual effort to blow out all the candles?

I had no chance to defend myself. The reporter was criticising me all the time.

It may hurt, I know. But you have to take the pain.

It was the private detective who gave us a clue that helped solve the murder case.

Mark would do just anything to attract Betty's attention.
### Noun + Noun

| A | razor edge | F | hush money | K | the rat race |
| B | home stretch | G | head start | L | elbow grease |
| C | shelf life | H | mother tongue | M | night cap |
| D | road hog | I | nest egg | N | cleft stick |
| E | the jet set | J | wild goose chase | O | cupboard love |

### Pairs

1. thumbs 6. parcel 11. gloom
2. chalk 7. life 12. kith
3. death 8. touch 13. dribs
4. nail 9. span 14. vim
5. rack 10. bobs 15. tucker

### Choose the noun

1. hammer 6. school 11. ground
2. circle 7. hide 12. leg
3. hairs 8. books 13. elements
4. lid 9. day 14. flag
5. shop 10. water 15. fat

### Guess the meaning


### Mind, head or brain?

1. head 2. mind 3. head 4. mind 5. brains 6. mind 7. mind 8. head
6 Four-letter words

1. keep 6. gift 11. sack
2. part 7. book 12. life
3. line 8. turn 13. pass
4. mark 9. pace 14. hair
5. time 10. dash 15. dole

7 Adjective + Noun

1. old chestnut 6. hot potato 11. red herring
2. wet blanket 7. eager beaver 12. odd jobs
3. (the) last straw 8. dead wood 13. clean sweep
4. narrow squeak 9. golden handshake 14. easy game
5. white lie 10. ivory tower 15. lame duck

8 Definitions

1. willies 6. flak 11. moon
2. bay 7. time 12. houses
3. avenue 8. mincemeat 13. dust
4. grain 9. hoops 14. jackpot
5. deal 10. knot 15. bait

9 Choose the idiom

1. pull your socks up 6. change his spots
2. bearing a grudge against me 7. thread our way through
3. run in his blood 8. called his bluff
4. met his Waterloo 9. put them through their paces
5. make his mouth water 10. pop the question

10 -ING adjectives

1. roaring 6. melting 11. cutting
2. forwarding 7. extenuating 12. teething
3. flying 8. going 13. damning
4. laughing 9. growing 14. saving
5. spitting 10. tearing 15. running
### Prepositional Phrases

1. off the cuff  
2. in tatters  
3. in the offing  
4. on cloud nine  
5. at odds  
6. on the blink  
7. beyond the pale  
8. in aid of  
9. in the saddle  
10. At first glance  
11. over the hill  
12. on the hop  
13. off the peg  
14. in deep water  
15. under the weather

### Choose the Verb

1. nail  
2. pluck  
3. cry  
4. read  
5. poke  
6. burning  
7. lead  
8. shed  
9. working  
10. spare  
11. hit  
12. reap  
13. split  
14. stew  
15. fanned

### Parts of the Body

1. chin  
2. heart  
3. palm  
4. face  
5. nose  
6. teeth  
7. hair  
8. lip  
9. back  
10. leg  
11. shoulder  
12. bone  
13. neck  
14. eye  
15. thumb

### 'Of' Phrases

1. freak  
2. walk  
3. bed  
4. hive  
5. slip  
6. can  
7. horse  
8. apple  
9. quirk  
10. load  
11. spot  
12. spice  
13. ward  
14. neck  
15. sleight

### Multiple Choice

1. b  
2. c  
3. c  
4. a  
5. d  
6. b  
7. a  
8. d  
9. c  
10. b  
11. c  
12. a  
13. c  
14. d  
15. c  
16. a  
17. c  
18. b  
19. a  
20. c
16 Definitions

1. brick  2. wick  3. wind  4. boil  5. mill
6. wall  7. fort  8. bucket  9. hay  10. surface

17 Musical idioms

1. trumpet  4. chord  7. note  10. song
2. fiddle  5. dance  8. bell  11. tune
3. drum  6. tango  9. music  12. sound

18 Colours

2. green  7. grey  12. green  17. pink  22. silver  27. red
3. pink  8. colour  13. blue  18. blue  23. grey  28. black
5. white  10. blue  15. colour  20. red  25. green  30. silver

19 Paraphrases

1. Read the manual if you want to get the hang of operating the welding machine.
2. Is she still in two minds about marrying Alexander?
3. This building will be dedicated to the families who are on the breadline.
4. He will do just anything to curry favour with the teachers.
5. It took us four years to put down (new) roots in the new surroundings.
6. We only trade with the retailers who pay us on the nail.
7. Nothing of what you speak has ever come to pass.
8. It’s about time the government got to grips with the problem of unemployment.
9. I felt creeps all over my back when the tutor looked daggers at me.
10. As usual, Sam makes heavy weather of the job.
11. Seeing how poor the people looked, I did not have the heart to charge them for the meals.
12. Last time I went to visit Evelyn she looked down in the dumps.
13. Stop complaining about your life and count your blessings.
14. Just because I am his wife he expects me to wait on him hand and foot.
15. Nancy is the kind of person who likes to have a finger in every pie.
## Noun phrases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>arms</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>straw</th>
<th>G</th>
<th>castles</th>
<th>J</th>
<th>bolt</th>
<th>M</th>
<th>needle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>fly</td>
<td>E</td>
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## Adjectival phrases

1. fresh  
2. tall  
3. big  
4. stiff  
5. hot  
6. trump  
7. blind  
8. easy  
9. close  
10. full  
11. tight  
12. dead  
13. flat  
14. deep  
15. short

## Comparisons

1. houses  
2. mouse  
3. sheet  
4. sin  
5. rain  
6. eel  
7. grave  
8. peas  
9. lamb  
10. lord  
11. rock  
12. word  
13. sheep  
14. bee  
15. cucumber  
16. hills  
17. Larry  
18. rake  
19. Pie  
20. ice

## Clothing

1. hat  
2. trousers  
3. belt  
4. sock  
5. knickers  
6. boots  
7. shirt  
8. shoes  
9. suit  
10. pants  
11. coat  
12. sleeve  
13. belt  
14. hat  
15. pants

## Nature

1. thunder  
2. ebb  
3. rain  
4. water  
5. night  
6. air  
7. dust  
8. storm  
9. earth  
10. moon  
11. tide  
12. weather  
13. river  
14. ice  
15. wind
### Food
1. beans  
2. pie  
3. biscuit  
4. cherry  
5. onions  
6. fig  
7. salt  
8. bacon  
9. oats  
10. fat  
11. apple  
12. soup  
13. egg  
14. pudding  
15. meal

### Misprints
1. SORTS  
2. DOOM  
3. PIE  
4. DRAIN  
5. PILL  
6. MOON  
7. NOSE  
8. DUST  
9. LIMB  
10. LEAF  
11. SKIN  
12. TORCH  
13. WOOL  
14. CHEST  
15. TOLL  
16. BANG  
17. FORE  
18. SACK  
19. WINDS  
20. DANDER  
21. PRIDE  
22. STRIDE  
23. OAR  
24. HASH  
25. BONE

### Pairs
1. sick and tired  
2. long and short  
3. thick and thin  
4. high and low  
5. straight and narrow  
6. hale and hearty  
7. black and blue  
8. hot and bothered  
9. safe and sound  
10. fair and square

### Matching meanings

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### Guess the meaning

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### Choose the verb
1. keep  
2. steer  
3. get  
4. run  
5. make  
6. cut  
7. put  
8. mince  
9. blow  
10. save
31 Parts of the body
1. skin 6. stomach 11. heart
2. face 7. mouth 12. back
3. breast 8. blood 13. hair
4. hand 9. nose 14. spine
5. fist 10. feet 15. eye

32 Multiple choice
1. a 6. c 11. c 16. c
2. c 7. a 12. a 17. b
3. d 8. c 13. b 18. a
4. b 9. b 14. b 19. c
5. d 10. c 15. d 20. d

33 Guess the meaning

34 Animals
1. pig 6. rat 11. dogs
2. goat 7. dodo 12. bull
3. cows 8. monkey 13. duck
4. bird 9. lion 14. turkey
5. horse 10. bee 15. cat

35 Prepositional phrases

36 Adjectives & Adverbs
1. thin 4. heavy 7. hollow 10. askance 13. hard
2. astray 5. afoul 8. quick 11. short 14. fine
3. wide 6. shy 9. backwards 12. even 15. beside
37 -ING adjectives
1. redeeming  6. burning  11. sitting
2. hopping   7. shooting  12. waking
3. crashing  8. working   13. piping
4. flaming   9. receiving  14. finishing
5. striking  10. breathing 15. rolling

38 Three-letter words
1. eye  6. red  11. dot  16. end
2. cog   7. bed  12. pie  17. log
3. cap   8. lid  13. hot  18. law
4. job   9. cat  14. day  19. ear
5. fat  10. way  15. fry  20. hot

39 True or False?

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40 ‘Of’ - phrases

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41 Paraphrases
1. He spat on my doormat and I went spare.
2. Soon after they met each other, they got on/along (AmE) like a house on fire.
3. You’ll be for the high jump if someone discovers you’ve fiddled the company books.
4. Dave makes no bones about criticizing his superiors’ decisions.
5. I was left in the middle of the woods to my own devices.
6. It was Jack who broke the news of the tragedy.
7. Her pension is rather low, so she scrapes a living.
8. Whatever happens, I can take every problem in my stride.
9. The man’s name is on the tip of my tongue.
10. Mr Abercrombie is over eighty, but he’s still full of beans.
11. The ministry put a spoke in our wheel by changing the tax law.
12. You're riding for a fall if you steal stationery from your office.
13. The teacher sent the boy out, because he was playing/acting the goat.
14. The failed exam has put paid to Ann's chance of becoming a sworn translator.
15. Don't be too hard on Andy; he's an absolute beginner.

42 Proverbs & Sayings

43 Numbers

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44 Adjectival & Adverbial

1. are slow off the mark
2. do the dirty on someone
3. break even
4. gain the upper hand
5. fall on hard times
6. take something amiss
7. are soft in the head
8. run wild
9. take French leave
10. fall short of something
11. come clean
12. play merry hell with someone
13. fly high
14. go straight
15. strike it rich
16. keep an open mind on something
17. go off to a flying start
18. go one better
19. take something lying down
20. keep a level head

45 Nature

**DOWN**
1. winds
2. gooseberry
3. clover
4. ocean
5. clouds
6. grapes
7. roses
8. nettle
9. tree

**ACROSS**
10. daisies
13. iceberg
14. roots
15. water
16. acorns
17. thorn
18. whisker
11. leaf
19. grass
Multiple choice


Parts of the body

1. fingers 6. feet 11. arm 16. eye 21. back
2. back 7. eye 12. neck 17. finger 22. arm
3. ear 8. mouth 13. leg 18. mouth 23. shoulder
5. knuckle 10. heels 15. hair 20. knees 25. neck

Guess the meaning


Pairs of verbs

1. live and learn 6. wheel and deal
2. ummed and aahed 7. chop and change
3. come and go 8. huff and puff
4. bow and scrape 9. lived and breathed
5. grin and bear 10. wined and dined

Clothing

1. seams 6. boots 11. hat
2. hat 7. shirt 12. socks
3. shoes 8. pants 13. pocket
4. apron 9. bootstraps 14. clogs
5. pockets 10. cap 15. pants
Noun phrases
1. stage fright 6. sea dog
2. donkey's years 7. elbow room
3. rat race 8. flash point
4. poverty line 9. sheep's eyes
5. hatchet man 10. home truths

Dialogues with sayings
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Prepositional phrases

DOWN
1. flash 12. bat
2. cloud 13. person
5. belt 14. blow
6. depth 15. pinch
9. stroke 17. blood
11. keeps 18. board

ACROSS
3. wall 14. beam
4. liberty 16. league
6. doldrums 17. breadline
7. hump 19. bounds
8. heel 20. cards
10. tenterhooks 21. numbers

Misprints
1. nail-tail 6. boot-boat 11. coats-coals
2. vest-nest 7. mist-miss 12. hose-nose
3. grass-brass 8. dusk-dust 13. shop-chop
5. hook-book 10. blond-blood 15. huts-guts

Combinations
1. kill the fatted calf 6. come to a sticky end
2. settle an old score 7. keep a straight face
3. drive a hard bargain 8. fight a losing battle
4. walk a thin line 9. take a free ride
5. play silly buggers 10. go great guns
Animals & Nature

1. c  6. d  11. b
2. b  7. b  12. d
3. a  8. d  13. a
4. c  9. a  14. b
5. a  10. c  15. d

‘Of’ - phrases

1. mine  6. thumb  11. mark
2. fish  7. apple  12. debt
3. hat  8. stroke  13. pound
4. prime  9. bones  14. bundle
5. whale  10. quirk  15. tricks

Various idioms

1. volumes  6. edgeways  11. draw
2. lurch  7. mark  12. sidelines
3. umbrage  8. aegis  13. mickey
4. chip  9. burton  14. cackle
5. medium  10. roost  15. shrift

Definitions with verbs

1. ring  6. trim  11. rake
2. give  7. bend  12. gild
3. stick  8. nip  13. spare
4. poke  9. grit  14. beat
5. down  10. wipe  15. shift

Similar meanings

1. fly off the handle - blow a fuse
2. take sb for a ride - pull a fast one
3. lead the field - make it big
4. be dead from the neck up - have nothing between your ears
5. pick up the threads - start from scratch
6. cook the books - have your fingers in the till
7. kick the bucket - bite the dust
8. be in fine fettle - be in the pink
9. call the tune - run the show
10. keep body and soul together - keep the wolf from the door
11. pull a long face - be down in the mouth
12. be in the family way - be in the club

61 Adjective + Noun

1. first water  6. fair crack  11. common cause
2. great shakes  7. safe bet  12. beaten track
3. easy terms  8. high dudgeon  13. full bloom
4. dim view  9. good books  14. tight corner
5. close quarters  10. charmed life  15. full blast

62 Reshuffled letters

1. WORLD  5. POINT  9. ROAD  13. STEAD
2. CRUNCH  6. HATCHET  10. WEDGE  14. WIRES
3. FIGURE  7. BOARD  11. PERCH  15. HORDNS
4. PIECE  8. HOG  12. BRIEF  16. COURT

63 Adjectival & Adverbial pairs

1. proper  6. above  11. collected
2. sundry  7. ready  12. high
3. loose  8. null  13. breezy
4. truly  9. far  14. square
5. betwixt  10. thick  15. hot

64 'Of' - phrases

1. lease  6. lap  11. breach
2. creature  7. scum  12. spur
3. nick  8. flights  13. bundle
4. horns  9. germ  14. turn
5. bane  10. root  15. stream

65 Multiple choice

1. b   4. a   7. c   10. a   13. c   16. d
2. d   5. c   8. c   11. c   14. a   17. c
3. b   6. d   9. b   12. a   15. c   18. c
Proverbs & Sayings

1. It is not polite to poke your nose into people's private matters, Bob.
2. Do their concerts still pack the house as they did before?
3. You will be riding for a fall if you entrust this task to Malcolm.
4. I split my sides when I heard about Harry's adventure with the bull.
5. The hiker's life hung by a thread when he was bitten by a poisonous snake.
6. With that comment of yours you did hit the nail on the head.
7. Finally, we met our partner halfway.
8. As a young girl, I had a crush on my teacher of Spanish.
9. It's crucial for us to keep a tight rein on the juvenile inmates.
10. Your husband takes you for granted because you have always waited on him hand and foot.

Animals

DOWN
1. bull
2. hare
3. camel
4. goose
5. fish
6. crow
7. mouse
8. crow
9. animal
10. parrot
11. beaver
12. horse
13. worm
14. duck
15. beast
16. mutton
17. crocodile
18. oyster
19. bird
20. dog

ACROSS
3. cat
5. flea
7. mice
11. beaver
13. worm
14. bird
16. mutton
17. sheep
18. oyster
19. leopard
20. pigs

Names and surnames

1. Paul
2. Dick
3. Jack Robinson
4. Bob
5. Joe Bloggs
6. Sam
7. Jane
8. McCoy
9. Bill
10. Pandora
11. Harry
12. Pete
13. Tom
14. Joneses
15. Midas
Nature

1. ice  4. shadow  7. heaven  10. earth
2. skies  5. clouds  8. wind  11. fog
3. whirl  6. weather  9. hell  12. air

Cartoons

1. pull strings  6. have a roof over our heads
2. had egg on his face  7. casting pearls before swine
3. took me for a ride  8. threw down the gauntlet
4. putting my feet up  9. fell between two stools
5. pushed the boat out  10. wetted the baby’s head

Definitions

1. stakes  6. muck  11. veil  16. corners
2. threads  7. cobwebs  12. chop  17. stride
3. cap  8. salt  13. straws  18. eggshells
5. dash  10. complexion  15. bats  20. hump

Dialogues

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
F C H A D B G E

Four-letter words

1. hard  6. town  11. cold  16. spot
2. flag  7. rise  12. wind  17. fell
3. skin  8. rank  13. core  18. push
4. wall  9. foot  14. line  19. odds
5. rest  10. Adam  15. bomb  20. down

‘Of’ - phrases

1. salt  4. act  7. holy  10. frame  13. kiss
2. labour  5. leave  8. code  11. flavour  14. stroke
3. cream  6. sleigh  9. baptism  12. soul  15. glare
### Prepositional phrases

1. bat  
2. sweat  
3. books  
4. lieu  
5. skids  
6. means  
7. barrel  
8. depth  
9. cahoots  
10. tilt  
11. crook  
12. dumps  
13. loggerheads  
14. lick  
15. pins

### Proverbs & Sayings

1. Beauty  
2. Hope  
3. Truth  
4. Necessity  
5. Charity  
6. Practice  
7. Variety  
8. Actions  
9. Love  
10. Fortune  
11. Pride  
12. Prevention  
13. Curiosity  
14. Ignorance  
15. Familiarity

### Adjectival phrases

1. dab  
2. mint  
3. vested  
4. stony  
5. inside  
6. rough  
7. cold  
8. foregone  
9. long  
10. odd  
11. wishful  
12. bumpy  
13. loose  
14. soft  
15. foreign

### Choose the word

1. stick  
2. oil  
3. candle  
4. pump  
5. gauntlet  
6. hook  
7. beam  
8. fuel  
9. circle  
10. stone  
11. chink  
12. court  
13. turn  
14. closet  
15. mark

### Reshuffled letters

1. number  
2. castles  
3. overboard  
4. gamut  
5. wits  
6. punches  
7. light  
8. fling  
9. pinch  
10. record  
11. grade  
12. slip  
13. powder  
14. house  
15. canoe
Choose the verb

1. dice  6. rub
2. pick  7. let
3. buck  8. tug
4. stake 9. blaze
5. labour 10. right

Parts of the body

1. shoulder  6. neck  11. foot
2. tongue  7. heart  12. mouth
3. bone  8. hand  13. chest
4. finger  9. face  14. head
5. hair  10. teeth

rozwiązanie: long in the tooth

Compounds domino

1. CATNAP  6. TOMBOY  11. BLUE-BLOOD
2. BLACKLEG  7. GATECRASHER  12. CHATTERBOX
3. WARHORSE  8. BUSYBODY  13. WALLFLOWER
4. WINDFALL  9. BOMBSHELL  14. KILLJOY
5. EYESORE  10. KEYSTONE  15. FIREBRAND
16. WATERSHED  21. PITFALL  26. HEYDAY
17. BRAINWAVE  22. FLAGSHIP  27. HEARTTHROB
18. DEAD END  23. GODSEND  28. DOGSBODY
19. EGGHEAD  24. CORNERSTONE  29. HEADWAY
20. FOOL's GOLD  25. BRAINDRAIN  30. STOPGAP

Missing letters

1. huddle  6. trumps  11. stab  16. goat
2. pieces  7. fences  12. peg  17. comb
3. daylights  8. firing  13. tail  18. fruitcake
5. coals  10. clanger  15. shine  20. roof
Prepositional phrases

1. on/at  4. at  7. for  10. under  13. on
2. round  5. off  8. at  11. on  14. on
3. in  6. under  9. in  12. at  15. in

Guess the meaning

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Adjective + Noun

1. spot  6. sticky  11. blow
2. acid  7. tooth  12. short
3. shot  8. vicious  13. suit
4. open  9. flame  14. sea
5. hours  10. hot  15. dip

Pairs

1. fire and water  6. hustle and bustle  11. an arm and a leg
2. airs and graces  7. cats and dogs  12. meat and drink
3. hand and foot  8. house and home  13. ins and outs
4. nook and cranny  9. care and attention  14. hammer and tongs
5. beer and skittles  10. odds and ends  15. heart and soul

Proverbs & Sayings

1. The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence.
2. The road to hell is paved with good intentions.
3. Better to be safe than sorry.
4. There’s no smoke without fire.
5. Let sleeping dogs lie.
6. There’s one born every minute.
7. Accidents will happen.
8. Waste not, want not.
9. One swallow does not make a summer.
10. A new broom sweeps clean.
11. You can lead a horse to water, but you can’t make it drink.
12. A trouble shared is a trouble halved.
Choose the meaning

1. he/she holds a general election  
2. you enjoy doing what you like best  
3. you like meeting and talking to people  
4. you try to gather strength and confidence  
5. you fail to achieve your goals  
6. you are very enthusiastic about it  
7. you develop and take up new activities  
8. you come to take advantage of a situation  
9. you have a full control over them  
10. you never do anything exciting or unusual  
11. you live on more than you earn  
12. you turn very angry  
13. you are clever and hard to cheat  
14. you react in an irrational way to a danger  
15. you are in a beneficial position  
16. you take their blame upon yourself  
17. you gladly do everything that someone wants  
18. you consider it valuable or important  
19. you lose your prestige or become poor  
20. you decide to do something risky

- ING adjectives

1. fighting  
2. sitting  
3. shrinking  
4. sticking  
5. slanging  
6. staying  
7. besetting  
8. whipping  
9. stumbling  
10. sleeping  
11. working  
12. going  
13. stamping  
14. turning  
15. nodding

Paraphrases

1. My boss **hauled me over the coals for** not keeping my deadlines.  
2. Since I **crossed swords with** William, we haven’t spoken to each other.  
3. You must **pull out all the stops** to make the negotiations successful.  
4. Children **get a kick out of** unwrapping their Christmas presents.  
5. When simultaneous interpreting is the matter, Mia can **run rings around** the other interpreters.  
6. You lost the game because you **missed the mark**.  
7. He **swept the matter under the carpet** because he didn’t want to lose his high position.  
8. When I asked him about the money, he **went off the deep end**.  
9. The prisoner grabbed the keys and **made a bolt for** the door.  
10. She’s only happy when somebody **dances attendance on** her.  
11. For two years, the company **had a bumpy ride** making nothing but losses.  
12. When he made friends in the new place, Ron **came out of his shell**.  
13. As I expected, my designs have **knocked the designs of the other architects into a cocked hat**.  
14. Before you start working on the project, first **clear the decks**.  
15. It’s my last night before joining the army, so I am going to **go out on the razzle**.

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**Multiple choice**

1. c  5. a  9. d  13. d  
2. a  6. d  10. b  14. a  
3. b  7. c  11. d  15. d  
4. c  8. c  12. b  16. a  

**Misprints**

1. HAIR  6. STROKE  11. BOOK  16. WASH  
2. SKATES  7. HEAP  12. STUMPS  17. RUG  
3. GUNS  8. LAP  13. ART.  18. CHECK  
5. MILL  10. ROD  15. BOARD  20. LIGHT  

**Miscellaneous phrases**

1. manna  6. love  11. breath  
2. deal  7. bottom  12. hand  
3. honour  8. stick  13. rub  
4. snowball’s  9. streets  14. colours  
5. coin  10. hell  15. ground  

**Prepositional phrases**

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15  
GO JCBHAKDNLIEMF  

**Adjective + Noun**

1. dead duck  6. roaring success  11. wide boy  16. cold comfort  
2. hot air  7. old woman  12. rare bird  17. smart alec(k)  
3. soft touch  8. sticky wicket  13. damp squib  18. slippery slope  
5. near miss  10. itchy feet  15. paper tiger  20. hard line  

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Various idioms

**DOWN**
1. pants 11. ways
2. pebble 12. whistle
4. bust 13. agony
5. rack 17. flush
8. tangent 18. sorts
9. ranks 22. cap

**ACROSS**
3. design 15. can
6. wayside 16. straw
7. cudgels 19. gun
10. ceremony 20. brush
11. wheat 21. havoc
14. tall 23. poles
24. pat

Parts of the body

1. thumbs 6. hand 11. teeth 16. face
2. mouth 7. ear 12. bone 17. heart
3. heel 8. head 13. nose 18. skin
5. cheek 10. fingers 15. arm 20. hip

Comparisons

1. peacock 6. button 11. mule 16. bell 21. mustard
2. brass 7. ABC 12. bone 17. dust 22. dog
3. post 8. hills 13. clam 18. whistle 23. silk
5. sin 10. fiddle 15. nails 20. life 25. rock

Proverbs & Sayings

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20
RE JP AM D Q K G S CN HB TI O FL
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103 Adjectives & Adverbs
1. proud 6. just 11. hard
2. good 7. flat 12. fast
3. short 8. low 13. cold
4. easy 9. thick 14. smooth
5. sour 10. dumb 15. dear

104 Compounds
1. in 6. by 11. up 16. about 21. up
2. out 7. off 12. through 17. on 22. back
3. off 8. up 13. out 18. by 23. out
5. out 10. up 15. up 20. through 25. up

105 Cartoons
1. be running around like a headless chicken
2. drink like a fish.
3. have got sticky fingers.
4. slip on a banana skin
5. throw the book at someone
6. join hands with someone
7. eat someone alive
8. bite the bullet
9. cast/shed/throw new light on something
10. move mountains
1 Noun + Noun

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

2 Pairs

(sb's) best bib and tucker - someone's best clothes worn on special occasions
bits and bobs - small things of various kinds
(be) as different as chalk and cheese - completely different from each other
doom and gloom - pessimism or a feeling of loss of all hope
(in) drabs and drabs - in small amounts or numbers
(be all) fingers and thumbs - be clumsy or unable to hold things in one's hands
(sb's) kith and kin - family, relatives or friends
(be a matter of) life and death (to sb) - be a matter of great importance
(be) life and soul (of the party) - be very cheerful, sociable and enthusiastic
(be) part and parcel of sth - an inseparable part of something
(go to) rack and ruin - get into very bad condition or ruin because of bad care
spick and span - clean, neat, tidy
(fight) tooth and nail (for sth) - fight with great determination
(be full of) vim and vigour - be full of life and energy

3 Choose the noun

brave the elements - go out or do something outside in spite of bad weather
break new ground - make an important discovery
call it a day - stop working or doing something
chew the fat - chat or talk about unimportant matters
come under the hammer - be offered for sale at an auction
cook the books - change company accounts in order to steal money
hold water - be or sound true
pull sb's leg - tell someone a lie just for fun
put the lid on (sb's hopes, plans etc.) - ruin or bring an end to plans, hopes etc.
show/wave the flag - do sth brave to encourage others to act in the same way
split hairs - argue about small and unimportant details of a matter
square the circle - try to do or achieve something that is impossible
talk shop - talk about business matters during a social meeting
tan sb's hide - punish someone by beating them
tell tales out of school - reveal secrets of a group or company to someone who does not belong or work for it
Guess the meaning

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

Mind, head or brain?

- blow one's mind - make someone very excited or pleased about something
- give sb their head - give someone the freedom to do what they want
- have got half a mind to do sth - have an intention or plan to do something
- have sth on the brain - think or talk a lot about something
- (be) head over heels (in love) - be deeply in love
- (be) in two minds about sth - be unable to decide what to do
- keep a level head - remain calm and not lose cool blood in a difficult situation
- keep one's head above water - stay out of debt; manage to deal with a problem
- make up one's mind - make one's decision
- (be) on sb's mind - be thinking about or considering something
- pick sb's brains about sth - ask someone for information about sth they are good at
- rack one's brains - think very hard about sth; try hard to remember sth
- set one's mind/heart on sth - want to do or achieve sth very much
- speak one's mind - speak openly what one thinks about sth
- turn sb's head - make someone too proud or self-confident

Four-letter words

- be on the dole - be unemployed and live on the government money
- bring sb to book - punish someone or make them explain their acting
- come to a pretty/sorry pass - become or reach a sad and miserable state
- come to life - become more exciting or interesting
- do sb a good turn - help or do something useful for someone
- draw the line at sth - object to something that you do not accept
- earn your own keep - earn money for your own life
- give sb/be given the sack - make sb/be made redundant
- have got the gift of the gab - the ability to persuade people by talking to them
- keep pace with sb - move, work or develop at the same speed as someone else
- Keep your hair on! - Be calm! Don't be angry! Don't panic!
- live on borrowed time - (of someone very ill) live longer than expected by doctors
- make a dash for - run quickly in a particular direction
- take sth in good part - not get offended by something unpleasant
- (be) up to the mark - (be) as good as expected

Adjective + Noun

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.
Definitions

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

Choose the idiom

- dislike or be offended with sb for sth bad they did to you
- challenge sb to do what they threaten to do
- change one's nature, behaviour, way of thinking
- make sb feel hungry or want something very much
- be finally defeated after a long time of being on top
- ask your girlfriend to marry you
- start working harder or being more determined
- test sb's ability by making them do something difficult
- inherit certain qualities or abilities from your ancestors
- move through a crowded place

ING adjectives

- be at the most advanced level of development
- the evidence that definitely proves sb's guilt
- the circumstances that justify breaking the rules
- the address that your post is sent to when you move out
- a good business that brings good profits
- the difficulties that occur at the beginning of development
- be in a great hurry, do something in a hurry
- something serious and important
- a place where people of various races or origins live together
- a great success
- the costs of maintaining something
- the only quality that makes sth or sb useful or acceptable
- look exactly like somebody else
- difficulties that you have when you learn to do something new
- in a very good and successful way

Prepositional phrases

- judging by first look or first appearances
- in disagreement with sb
- offensive, socially unacceptable
- What is the purpose of it? What is it used for?
- in a dangerous situation
- torn (clothes); ruined (plans, hopes etc.)
- likely to happen soon
- in a position of control and responsibility
- without thinking or considering first
off the peg - ready to wear, not tailored (clothes)
on cloud nine - very happy
on the blink - not working properly (device, machine etc.)
(catch sb) on the hop - surprise sb by doing something they are not ready to deal with
over the hill - past one's best time, not young anymore
under the weather - slightly ill, sick; depressed

Choose the verb

- get little sleep because of being busy from early morning till late at night
- make something even worse (feeling, anger, fury etc.)
- it's a waste of time to be sad or worry about something wrong that has been done and cannot be changed
- persuade someone to act in a wrong or foolish way
- leave sb to suffer the effects of their wrong actions
- prove that what someone says is not true
- find enough courage in oneself to do something
- make fun of someone, tell bad jokes about someone
- be able to find the hidden and real meaning of what someone says
- benefit or suffer from the result of what you have done
- give new facts that help understand or solve a problem
- spend or offer as much effort, money etc. as necessary
- agree on an amount that is halfway between two others
- do one's job very slowly and according to all possible rules as a way of protest

- burn the candle at both ends
- fan the flames of sth
- it's no good/use crying over spilt milk
- lead sb astray
- let sb stew in their own juice
- nail a lie
- pluck up the courage (to do sth)
- poke fun at sb
- read between the lines
- reap a (good/bad) harvest
- shed new light on sth
- spare no pains/expense/trouble (to)
- split the difference
- work to rule

Parts of the body

- be reprimanded or punished for your misbehaviour
- treat someone in a very unfriendly way
- give sb money to make them settle a matter for you
- have a reason to complain to someone about
- change one's approach toward sb or sth for more friendly or considerable
- be in a difficult situation to which there's no easy solution
- Don't lose your optimism! Stay cheerful!
- tell lies without being embarrassed about it
- not able to prove that what you say is true or valid
- show no emotions when one is expected to
- promise to support sb, but do nothing to prove it
- make sb angry by not paying much attention to them
- object strongly to something
- be noticeable in an unpleasant way; expose oneself to laughter, criticism etc.
- something is more interesting/complex etc. than it seems when one looks at it

get it in the neck
give sb the cold shoulder
grease sb's palm
have a bone to pick with sb
have a change of heart
have one's back to the wall
Keep your chin up!
lie through one's teeth
not have a leg to stand on
not turn a hair
pay lip-service to sth
put sb's nose out of joint
set one's face against sth
stick/stand out like a sore thumb
there's more to it than meets the eye

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14 ‘Of’ - phrases

apple of discord - the reason for disagreement
be a bed of roses - be nice, pleasant and enjoyable
can of worms - something that causes a lot of problems
freak of nature - something unusual that does not typically occur in nature
hive of activity - a place full of people who are busy working or doing something
horse of a different colour - a matter or thing that is different from what one considers it to be
load of (old) cobblers - someone's opinions that you reject; nonsense
neck of the woods - in a particular place or part of a country
quirk of fate - a strange occurrence that happens completely by chance
slight of hand - skilful movements of hands when doing a magic trick; tricks and lies used to deceive someone
slip of the tongue - a small mistake made when one is speaking
spot of bother - a reason for disagreement; a place where conflicts break out often
spice of life - life is complete and more exciting if you have different interests, experiences and do various activities
walk of life - someone's social or professional position
ward of court - an underage person who is under a legal protection of court or a legal person

15 Multiple choice

argue the toss - continue to argue or disagree about something that cannot be changed
bend sb's ear (about sth) - to talk to someone about your problems
bend/stretch the rules - allow to break the rules to some extent for some reason
break the deadlock - do something that helps achieve an agreement in a dispute etc.
bring the house down - make people enjoy a performance or a theatre play a lot
carry weight (with sb) - be important or influential to someone
cast aspersions on sb - make critical or rude remarks about someone
come in handy - become useful
cramp sb's style - limit someone's freedom to do what they want
fly in the face of - be opposite of something that is expected; not match expectations
follow suit - act in the same way as someone else
it stands to reason (that) - it is obvious/clear that ...
know the ropes - know how to do a certain job, task etc.
lay sth waste - destroy completely, especially in a war
play tricks on sb - try to deceive someone
pour/heap scorn on bs/sth - criticize or run down someone or something
pull oneself together - stop being sorry for yourself and collect you thoughts to act in a reasonable way
stand/hold one's ground - defend and not change your views or policies under sb's influence
strike a bargain (with sb) - reach an agreement (about a price), especially in business
take liberties (with sb/sth) - act or treat sb/sth too freely; allow yourself too much freedom with doing something
Definitions

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

Musical idioms

(be) as sound as a bell  -  be fit and healthy
bang/beat the drum for sb/sth  -  speak in support of someone or something
blow one's own trumpet  -  praise yourself, speak proudly about your skills, experiences etc.
dance to sb's tune  -  act in the way or do everything that someone wants you to
face the music  -  accept and deal with the unpleasant effects of one's wrong actions
(buy sth) for a song  -  (buy sth) at a very low price
it takes two to tango  -  two people must share interests or feelings to make a good couple or team
lead sb a (merry) dance  -  cause someone a lot of trouble or worry
play second fiddle  -  be of lower rank or importance than someone else
ring a bell  -  help sb remember something; sound familiar
strike/touch a chord (with sb)  -  do or say sth that influences someone or touches their feelings
strike/hit the right/wrong note  -  do or say sth that is suitable for a particular occasion

Colours

be tickled pink  -  be very pleased, happy or amused
bleed sb white/dry  -  take away all someone's money or possessions
a bolt from the blue  -  a sudden and surprising occurrence or piece of news
every cloud has a silver lining  -  in even the worst situation there is something hopeful
given sb the green light  -  allow someone to start doing something
(be) green about the gills  -  look like someone is going to be ill; look sick
(be) green with envy  -  be very jealous
grey area  -  a matter or area of subject that is not well known or clear
(sb's) grey matter  -  intelligence, common sense
hand sth to sb on a silver platter  -  give or offer something to someone without expecting them to offer something in return or be thankful
(be sunk) in a brown study  -  be thinking very hard about something
(be) in the black  -  have money in your bank account
(be) in the pink  -  be in excellent condition and health
lend colour to sth  -  be a proof of something, make something look probable
like a red rag to a bull  -  likely to make someone angry
look black  -  look pessimistic, show no improvement
not as black as one is painted  -  not as bad as one is said to be
(feel) off colour  -  feel ill
once in a blue moon  -  very rarely
out of the blue  -  unexpectedly, suddenly
paint the town red  -  enjoy oneself in bars, clubs etc.
the red-carpet (ceremony/welcome)  -  an official and special welcome given to an important guest
red-letter day - a special or very important day
scream blue murder - scream loudly and make a lot of fuss because one is very
dissatisfied with something
see pink elephants - see things that do not exist when one is very drunk
see red - become very angry and violent
see the colour of sb's money - make sure that someone has enough money to pay you for
the thing(s) that they want to buy from you
(do sth) till one is blue in the face - do something with great effort and for a long time, but
achieve no success
whiter than white - morally clean, honest, decent
(be) yellow-bellied - cowardly, timid, shy

19 Paraphrases

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

20 Noun phrases

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

21 Adjectival phrases

(be) blind drunk - very drunk
be bored stiff (with sth) - be very bored with something
be on easy street - live a comfortable and luxurious life without any worries
be thrown in at the deep end - be forced to do something that one is not experienced at
close shave - a situation in which a disaster or accident is only just avoided
(be) dead beat - very tired
fall flat - fail to have the intended effect; fail to attract people's attention
give sb/sth a short shrift - give sb/sth very little attention; treat with ignorance
hot air - impressive but empty promises
(be) in a tight corner - in a very difficult situation; in great trouble
(be) in full swing - at the busiest or most lively time; at the peak of activity
make a fresh start - start something from the very beginning
play one's trump card - use one's advantage over someone, especially unexpectedly
tell tall stories - say stories that are improbable and hard to believe
think big - make ambitious and optimistic plans for one's future

22 Comparisons

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.
Clothing

beat the pants off sb (ame) - beat or defeat sb in a competition
below the belt - unkind, unfair, unpleasant (remark, comment etc.)
catch sb with their pants down - surprise someone with something unpleasant when they are not prepared for it
cut one's coat according to one's cloth - do only what you can do on the money you possess
fill sb's boots/shoes - replace someone at work when they are out or away
get one's knickers in a twist - react to a situation in an angry or violent way
keep sth under one's hat - keep something secret
laugh up one's sleeve (at sb/sth) - be amused by something without showing it
pick sth out of hat - choose something by chance
put a sock in it - be quiet, stop making noise
put one's shirt on sth - bet or invest all one's money in something
(by sb)'s strong suit - something that one is good, skilled or experienced at
tighten one's belt - start saving money and buying less than before
(by) too big for one's boots - consider oneself to be more important than one really is
wear the trousers - (in a marriage) be the spouse who rules in the house

Nature

(be) at a low ebb - not as good, successful or powerful as usual
come rain or (come) shine - no matter what happens
cost the earth - cost a lot of money
hold water - appear to be true
make a night of it - enjoy oneself all night
make heavy weather of (doing) sth - make something look more difficult than it really is
not see sb for dust - not see someone because they have left very quickly
(by) over the moon - be happy and excited
put sth on ice - postpone doing something, decide to do something later
sail close to the wind - speak or behave in a way that may offend someone
sell sb down the river - betray someone who trusts you; treat someone unfairly
steal sb's thunder - spoil someone's surprise by doing it first
swim against the tide/stream - express opinions or act in a way that is different from what is accepted by everybody else
take sb/sth by storm - be successful, attractive or enjoyable for a big number of people; seize a building or place by a quick attack
walk/float on air - be extremely happy about something

Food

bring home the bacon - be the person who earns money for a family; be successful
have a second bite at the cherry - make another attempt at doing something
have got a finger in every pie - be involved in everything that is happening
(by) in the soup - be in trouble
know one's onions - have good knowledge of a particular subject or activity
leave sb with egg on their face - make someone look stupid
live off/on the fat of the land - live an easy life because one has enough money
make a meal (out) of sth - make something look more important or difficult than it really is
not give/care a fig for/about sb/sth - not care or be interested in something at all
sow one's wild oats - enjoy oneself before settling down and starting a family
spill the beans - reveal something that should be kept secret
take sth with a pinch of salt - not take very seriously what someone says
take the biscuit - be more interesting, exciting, surprising, annoying etc. than anything else
the proof of the pudding is in the eating - you can only estimate the true value of something when you actually experience or try it
upset sb's apple cart - do something that ruins sb's hopes, plans etc.

26 Misprints
Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

27 Pairs
black and blue - all covered with bruises
table and square - in a fair and honest way; according to rules
hale and hearty - in good physical condition
(search) high and low (for sth) - search for sth in every possible place
hot and bothered - worried or annoyed
(the) long and short (of it) - the most important fact(s) of a situation
safe and sound - safe and unharmefull
sick and tired (of sth) - very bored with something
(stay on the) straight and narrow - live an honest and moral life
(through) thick and thin - through good and bad times in life

28 Matching meanings
Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

29 Guess the meaning
Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

30 Choose the verb
Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.
(do sth) by the skin of sb’s teeth - only just manage to do something, nearly fail
(be) down in the mouth - depressed, unhappy, sad
get cold feet - become nervous or afraid before doing something
have no stomach for sth - have no will or desire to do something
lend sb a hand (with doing sth) - help somebody do something
let one’s hair down - get a lot of relax and enjoyment after hard work
make a good/bad fist of sth - make a good/bad job of doing something
make a clean breast of sth - admit that you have done something wrong
make sb’s blood run cold - terrify someone, make someone very scared
(be) one in the eye for sb - a failure, defeat or disappointment for someone
poke/stick one’s nose in/into - interfere in other people’s affairs
pull/wear a long face - look sad, depressed or disappointed
send shivers down sb’s spine - make someone feel fear
turn one’s back on sb - stop supporting or offering your help to someone
wear one’s heart on one’s sleeve - show your emotions openly

**Multiple choice**

- blow the gaff (sb/sth) - reveal a secret
- call it quits - end an argument at the moment when both sides are equal
- carry/win the day - win a competition, contest, bet, an argument etc.
- (be on) common ground - have the same opinions about a particular subject
- fit like a glove - fit perfectly, be the ideal size (clothes)
- fly off the handle - become very angry
- (save/keep sth) for a rainy day - for a bad time that may come in life
- give sb the benefit of the doubt - believe or trust that someone is innocent or right because you cannot prove that they are wrong or guilty of sth
- have an axe to grind - have your own private reason for being involved in sth
- have butterflies in one’s stomach - be nervous or excited before doing something
- have your knife in sb - consider someone your enemy and do harm to them
- it’s the done thing to ... - it’s the socially accepted and correct to do something in a particular way
- keep a stiff upper lip - keep calm and not show emotions in a difficult situation
- knock spots off sb - beat sb at sth, be much better than someone else
- make sb’s day - make someone happy and pleased
- money for old rope - money earned in a very easy way that requires no effort
- pin all one’s hopes/faith on sb - believe or trust fully in someone
- stand the test of time - be useful, valuable or interesting for a long time
- stay put - stay in one place, not move or travel
- the penny drops - understand the meaning or importance of something

**Guess the meaning**

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.
Animals

a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush - it is much better to be happy with what you have
as dead as the dodo - extinct; not existing any more; very old-fashioned
buy a pig in a poke - buy something without examining its value first
flog a dead horse - waste time and effort trying to do something that
get sb’s goat - make somebody angry
have (got) a bee in one’s bonnet about sth - believe that sth is very important and think or talk
let sleeping dogs lie - avoid making a bad situation even worse
let the cat out of the bag - reveal a secret
(make) like water off a duck’s back - have no effect on someone (criticism, ridicule etc.)
(make) the lion’s share (of) - the major share or part of something
make a monkey out of sb - make a fool of someone
smell a rat - suspect that something is wrong or that someone
is trying to cheat you
take the bull by the horns - deal with a difficult problem or situation bravely
talk turkey - have a serious, detailed and meaningful discussion
till/until the cows come home - for a long time, very long

Prepositional phrases

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

Adjectives & Adverbs

(be) beside oneself with sth - feel a strong emotion of a particular kind
cut it/things fine - allow just enough time to do something; be almost late
cut sb to the quick - offend someone, hurt someone’s feelings
feel hard done - feel that you have been treated unfairly
fight shy of sb/(doing) sth - avoid meeting someone or doing something
get even with sb - harm someone in the same way as they have harmed you
know sb/sth backwards - know someone or something very well (from experience)
lay/hang heavy on sb - make someone feel uncomfortable or bad about something
lead sb astray - have negative influence on someone by encouraging them
to do something wrong or illegal
look askance at sb - look at someone in a way that shows disapproval or anger
make short work of doing sth - finish doing something very quickly
ring hollow/false/true/serious etc. - sound or seem hollow/false/true/serious etc.
run afoul of sb/sth - do something illegal or against other people’s beliefs or
standards
wear thin - be running out; become less interesting or enjoyable
(be/fall) wide of the mark - miss the point; be inaccurate or incorrect
- ING adjectives

breathing space - a time to relax between two jobs, tasks etc.
burning issue - a very important matter that needs to be solved
crashing bore - someone or something extremely boring
(put) finishing touches (to sth) - the final details before a work is complete
(in a) flaming temper - in a very bad and angry temper
hopping mad (about/over sth) - extremely mad or angry about something
piping hot - too hot to be eaten, very hot
(be on/at the) receiving end (of sth) - be the target of an unpleasant action (criticism, scorn etc.)
redeeming feature - one good or positive feature or aspect of something that in general is bad or unacceptable
rolling stone - a person who often changes their places of living and working and has few responsibilities, no friends etc.
shooting pains - continuous pains passing all over the body
sitting tenants - someone who lives in a rented flat or house and has a legal right to stay there
(withing) striking distance (of sth) - near, not far away from, easy to reach
waking hours - the time when you are awake
working knowledge (of sth) - good practical knowledge of something

Three-letter words

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

True or False?

bare your soul (7) - tell someone your deepest feelings or secrets
beat about the bush (13) - avoid saying directly what you mean
bury the hatchet (6) - agree to be friends again and forget about the past quarrels and conflicts
case the joint (12) - look around a building in order to plan a theft or burglary
give sb a rocket (19) - criticize someone for something they have done wrong
hold sb in the palm of your hand (10) - have someone fully under your control
make a name for yourself (17) - achieve success and popularity after great effort
put/lay your cards on the table (4) - start talking openly about your intentions and plans
tilt at windmills (3) - waste time attacking enemies that do not really exist

‘Of’ - phrases

a bone of contention - a reason for dispute or disagreement
a breach of confidence - the breaking of a promise
a bundle of nerves - someone who is very anxious, worried or nervous
the crack of dawn - the early hours of the morning
the dead of night - the quietest and darkest hours of the night
the fabric of society - the structure of a society (way of living, customs, traditions etc.)
a feat of endurance - an impressive achievement or display of endurance
a figment of sb’s imagination - something that exists only in someone’s imagination
a flurry of excitement - the time of great excitement
a grain of truth - a small dose of truth
the heart of the matter - the most important, central part of a matter, problem etc.
a lapse of memory - a short period of time when you cannot remember something
a pack of lies - a lot of lies, only lies
a ray of hope - a small hope that gives a chance of improvement
a stroke of luck/fortune - a lucky occurrence that you experience unexpectedly

41 Paraphrases
Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

42 Proverbs & Sayings
All that glitters is not gold - Not everything that at first appears to be attractive or interesting is so when you look at it closer
Better the devil you know than the devil you don’t - It’s much better to deal with someone or something unpleasant or difficult that you are already familiar with than with someone or something that you don’t know at all
Too many cooks spoil the broth - If too many people try to do the same thing at the same time, it is likely that they will not do it well
The early bird catches the worm - The person who starts earlier or gets up earlier is closer to achieving something or being more successful
First come, first served - Those who come before others, will be served or dealt with first
A fool and his money are soon parted - A foolish person spends his money quickly and on useless things
What the eye does not see, the heart does not grieve over - If you do not see or find out about something that might cause you a worry, you do not feel hurt by it
Give someone an inch and they will take a mile - A greedy or tricky person will want more from you if you agree to their small request
Spare the rod and spoil the child - If you do not punish children for their bad behaviour, they will become even worse
When the going gets tough, the tough get going - Ambitious and determined people will work even harder when a situation becomes difficult and requires more effort
If wishes were horses, beggars would ride - The fact that you wish for something, does not mean that you will get it
Still waters run deep - Someone who may at first appear to be shy, timid, unaware etc. may surprise you by acting bravely or knowing something at the right moment

43 Numbers
A chance in a million - an unlikely possibility, a very small chance
A stitch in time saves nine - if you react to a problem quickly, it will not develop into something more difficult to deal with
(be) at one with sb - agree with someone about a particular question
(be) at sixes and sevens - be in a state of confusion, be disorganized
at the eleventh hour - at the last moment, almost too late
(be) dressed up to the nines - be wearing smart and formal clothes
have (got) a one-track mind - think continually only about one subject
(be) knocked for six - be completely surprised
look like a million dollars - look very good, attractive
nine days’ wonder - someone or something that is attractive and attracts a lot of attention, but only for a short time
(talk etc.) nineteen to the dozen - talk a lot and very fast
nine times out of ten - very often, almost always
(be) scattered to the four winds - be scattered to all corners of the world
(be) two/ten a penny - very cheap and common
two’s company and three’s a crowd - when two people have a date, they don’t want to be disturbed by somebody else

44 Adjectival & Adverbial

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

45 Nature

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

46 Multiple choice

catch a fleeting glimpse of sb/sth - see someone only for a very short time
do a good/bad job of a work - do something very well/badly
fly into a rage - become very angry, furious
get into gear - start working hard and effectively
give sb stick - criticize someone
have (got) the edge over sb - have advantage over someone
in your heart of hearts - in your deepest feelings
it’s no skin of my nose - it’s not my business, it does not affect me at all
meet the deadline - finish doing a job or task in a settled time
push one’s luck - take more risk assuming that nothing wrong can happen
rolling in the aisles - laughing a lot
scream blue murder - make a lot of noise screaming loudly
set sb straight (about/on sth) - correct someone who has been wrong about something
stand a chance - have a real chance
stand still - stay in one place, not move, not make progress
stick/stand out a mile - be obvious or easy to notice
(be) the apple of sb’s eye - a favourite, most loved person (usually a child)
the milk of human kindness - kind feelings or sympathetic behaviour
words fail me - I cannot express my feelings (because of anger, shock)
work wonders/miracles (for/on sb/sth) - have very good effect, function in a successful way
Parts of the body

(be) a millstone (a)round sb's neck - something that causes a continual worry or limits sb's freedom
be on sb's back - criticize or annoy someone very often
bring sb to heel - make someone change their behaviour for better
by word of mouth - by a spoken message/information
chance one's arm - take a high risk
gain/get the ear of sb - gain someone's attention and interest in your worries
get in sb's hair - annoy someone and prevent them from doing their duties
get one's fingers burnt - suffer from the result of one's bad action/decision etc.
get sth off one's chest - say openly what is bothering you and feel better
give sb the elbow - end a relationship with someone, stop dating someone
(would) give one's eye teeth for sth - would like to be or get something very much
(be) hot/hard on the heels of sb - be following someone closely in order to catch them
keep one's chin up - stay cheerful and optimistic despite of failure or worry
my knees were knocking near the knuckle - my knees were shaking because of stress or fear
not have a leg to stand on - not be able to prove one's statements
pay an arm and a leg for sth - pay a lot of money for something
pull one's finger out - start working hard and effectively
put a brave/bold face on sth - try to look brave and unaffected in a difficult or terrifying situation
put one's back into sth - start working hard
put one's best foot forward - work, try, run etc. as fast/hard/effectively as you can
stick one's neck out - attract attention by doing something controversial that other people are afraid to do
straight from the horse's mouth - (get information) directly from the person who is involved in a particular situation
(tell sb) straight from the shoulder - tell someone something directly and honestly
with an eye to (doing sth) - with an intention to (doing sth)

Guess the meaning

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

Pairs of verbs

bow and scrape - be polite and kind to someone in order to win their attention and favour
chop and change - change your ideas, intentions, plans too often
come and go - be or exist for some time and then leave or stop existing
grin and bear it - accept something unpleasant without complaining
huff and puff - breathe heavily; show that you are annoyed about something
live and breathe sth - be very fond of something; be enthusiastic about something
um and aah (about sth) - speak about unimportant things in order to gain time for consideration
wheel and deal - do tricky or dishonest dealings in business
wine and dine sb - entertain and serve someone well in a restaurant, pub etc.
you live and learn - you learn from experience and the mistakes you make
at the drop of a hat - at once, immediately
be bursting at the seams - be full, be packed to the full
be tied to your mother’s apron strings - be too much under the influence of your mother
(fly) by the seat of one’s pants - act without careful preparation and planning hoping
that one will achieve one’s goals
give a shirt off one’s back - give everything that one has to someone who is in
need of help
have (got) ants in one’s pants - be unable to stand still or stay in one place because
of excitement or nervousness
if I were in your shoes - if I were in your situation/position
knock/blow sb’s socks off - surprise or impress someone very much
lick sb’s boots - try to win someone’s favour by being too kind or
submissive to them
line your own/one’s pocket - earn money dishonestly by stealing it from your
employer
money burns a hole in sb’s pocket - someone spends money too quickly and without
careful planning
old hat - something old and not interesting any more
pop one’s clogs (humorous) - die
pull oneself up by one’s own bootstraps - get oneself out of trouble by oneself without anybody
else’s help
put one’s thinking cap on - start thinking hard to find a solution to a problem

Noun phrases

(live) below the poverty line - live a very poor life, not have enough money to survive
elbow room - enough freedom to do something; enough space to move in
flash point - a place were sudden outbreaks of fighting or violence are common
for donkey’s years - for a very long time
hatchet man - someone whose job is to introduce radical changes in a company
home truth - an honest critical remark
make sheep’s eyes at sb - look at someone in a way that shows one’s affection toward them
(the) rat race - a continuous and stressful competition for success among young
ambitious workers
sea dog - an experienced sailor who has spent most of his life sailing
stage fright - anxiety or fear before doing something the first time or performing
in front of a larger public

Dialogues with sayings

He who hesitates is lost - If you hesitate or delay doing something for too long, you may lose
a good chance
If you throw enough mud, some of it will stick - People will remember the bad things that they
hear about someone even if it is not true
It never rains, but it pours - Whenever one thing goes wrong, all the others go wrong, too
Never look a gift horse in the mouth - You should not complain about something that you have been given for free or as a present.
The blind leading the blind - A person who has no experience in a subject tries to help or instruct another person how to do something.
The devil looks after his own - Bad people always seem to have more good luck than good people.
The end justifies the means - If an action brings a positive result, then even wrong or illegal methods of achieving it can be justified and accepted.
There’s more than one way to skin a cat - There is more than one method of doing something.
There’s no accounting for taste(s) - It’s natural that different people have different likes and dislikes.
You can’t teach an old dog new tricks - You can’t change an older person’s habits or ways of doing something.

53 Prepositional phrases

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

54 Misprints

be given the chop - be dismissed from work
draw a blank - fail to find something that one is looking for
feather one’s (own) nest - satisfy one’s own needs with the money that should be spent on something else
get down to brass tacks - start dealing with the important details of a matter
give sth a miss - decide to avoid (doing) something
haul sb over the coals - criticize someone strongly
have (got) the guts to do sth - have enough courage to do something
lead sb by the nose - control someone, have someone do what you want
leave no stone unturned - try to find something in all possible places and by all means
(can’t) make head or tail of sth - not be able to understand something
put one’s foot down - use your authority to make someone stop doing something
rock the boat - cause problems, upset a situation
stir sb’s blood - make someone excited or happy
suit sb’s book - be useful or convenient for someone
wait for the dust to settle - wait for a situation to calm down or become clear

55 Combinations

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.
a storm in a teacup - a small problem that one treats as something very serious
be dressed up like a dog's dinner - look silly in the clothes that one is wearing because they are too formal for a particular occasion
between the devil and the deep blue sea - in a situation where you only have a choice between equally bad things
break the ice - make a meeting or a party less formal and tense
(come) hell or high water - no matter what difficulties one has to face
cry wolf - repeatedly warn people against a danger than does not exist and in this way make them less responsive to a real danger
have (got) a frog in one's throat - be unable to speak clearly because of a problem with one's throat
have (got) other/bigger fish to fry - have other, more important things to do
monkey business - dishonest or foolish behaviour
put sb/sth in the shade - be better, more successful or important than sb/sth else
reach for the stars - try to achieve something very difficult or impossible
run sb to ground/earth - find sb/sth after a long and exhausting search
set/put the cat among the pigeons - do something that will cause trouble
take the wind out of sb's sails - make someone less confident or eager by doing or saying something that they do not expect
turn turtle - (of a boat) turn upside down

57 'Of' - phrases

a bag of bones - someone who is very thin
a bundle/bag of nerves - someone who is very nervous or irritated
a debt of gratitude - a favour that you have to do to someone for something good they have done to you
a different kettle of fish - someone or something completely different from sb or sth else
a mark of respect - a sign of respect
a mine of information - someone who knows a lot about a particular subject
a quirk of fate - a strange occurrence
a rule of thumb - a practical and quick but not exact way of measuring or calculating something
a stroke of genius - a sudden brilliant idea that helps find a solution to a problem
at the drop of a hat - immediately, without hesitating
have a whale of a time - have a very good time, enjoy oneself very much
in the prime of sb's life - in the best, most successful years of someone's life
(take your) pound of flesh - take or demand something that someone owes you in full
the apple of sb's eye - someone's favourite person, usually a child
the tricks of the trade - the profound knowledge or clever methods of doing one's job
Various idioms

a chip off the old block - someone who is like one of their parents in appearance or character

cut the cackle - stop talking and start working hard

find a happy medium between - find a balance between two extreme situations

(not) get a word in edgeways - (not) be able to say something because someone else keeps talking too long and too much

give sb/sth short shrift - give someone or something very little attention

gone for a burton - lost, damaged, destroyed

leave sb in the lurch - leave someone who is in a difficult situation and needs help

(be) on the sidelines - waiting and not taking active part in something

overstep the mark/line - go beyond the limit of what is acceptable or tactful

(be) quick/fast on the draw - be ready to react quickly to what is happening

rule the roost - be the one who is in control of a group of people, family etc.

speak volumes for/about sb/sth - express or prove the nature of things

take the mickey out of sb/sth - make fun of/laugh at someone or something

take umbrage at sth - feel offended or mad at something

under the aegis of - with the support from an organization or group

Definitions with verbs

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

Similar meanings

1 fly off the handle - get very angry

shoot your bolt - make a final, but too early attempt at achieving or doing something

blow a fuse - get very angry

2 follow your nose - act in a way that you feel is reasonable and appropriate

take sb for a ride - cheat or deceive someone

pull a fast one on sb - cheat someone in order to get money out of them

3 lead the field - be more successful or better at something than someone else

make it big - be very successful

give sb a pasting - beat someone easily; criticize someone strongly

4 be dead from the neck up - be very stupid

have a thick head - suffer from headache because of illness or alcohol overdose

have nothing between your ears - be stupid

5 pick up the threads - start something again, after a break

start from scratch - start from the very beginning

rise to the bait - react to something in the way that someone expects you to

6 cook the books - change company figures in order to steal money from it

have your fingers in the till - steal money from the place of your work

throw good money after bad - spend more money in an attempt to get back the money that you have lost earlier
7 jump on the bandwagon - start doing the same attractive thing that others are already doing
kick the bucket - die (humorous)
bite the dust - die (humorous)

8 be in fine fettle - be healthy and full of life
be in the pink - be perfectly healthy
be under the weather - be slightly depressed, sad, ill, disturbed

9 call the tune - be in control
play the game - behave in a fair and honest way
run the show - control or supervise a project, plan, department etc.

10 keep up appearances - hide the truth about one's problems and pretend that nothing's wrong
keep body and soul together - stay alive
keep the wolf from the door - earn enough money to pay for basic things like food, rent etc.

11 pull a long face - look sad, depressed or disappointed
be down in the mouth - be depressed and unhappy
be at odds - be in disagreement

12 be in the family way - be pregnant
be at rock bottom - be at the lowest possible level
be in the club - be pregnant

61 Adjective + Noun

at close quarters - within a short distance, not far away
at full blast - at a great speed, with great noise, power etc.
be in sb's good books - have someone's approval or favour
be no great shakes - be not good, suitable or attractive
get a fair crack of the whip - have a fair opportunity to do something
(be) in a tight corner - in a very difficult situation, in trouble
(be) in full bloom - blooming
(be) in high dudgeon - in a bad, angry and irritated mood
lead a charmed life - have a lot of good luck in one's life
it's a safe bet that - it's sure, very likely, highly probable
make a common cause against sb - (of two groups) work together to achieve mutual goals
off the beaten track - in a distant place, far away from a living area
(be) of the first water - be of the best quality
(buy sth) on easy terms - buy something without paying the whole price at once, but
with small regular payments
take a dim view of sb/sth - disapprove or dislike someone or something

62 Reshuffled letters

bury the hatchet - agree to forget the former arguments and be friends again
cut a fine figure - have a fine and attractive appearance
do sb the world/powers of good - benefit someone in a great way
drive a wedge between sb - make two people dislike or misunderstand each other
get one's wires/lines crossed - misunderstand each other
give sb a piece of your mind - criticize or reprimand someone angrily
go the whole hog - do something fully instead of doing only a part of it
hit the road - start a journey
hold no brief for sth - disapprove of sth, not be in favour of sth
knock sb off their perch/pedestal - show someone that they are not so important or attractive as they consider themselves to be
laugh sb/sth out of court - consider sb/sth to be silly or not worth much attention
lock horns (with sb over sth) - quarrel or fight with someone
stand sb in good stead - be useful or beneficial to someone
stretch a point - allow someone to break rules because there is a good reason for it
take sth on board - accept or consider a suggestion, idea etc.
when it comes to the crunch - when the moment to do something about a difficult situation comes, when one has to decide what to do

63 Adjectival & Adverbial pairs

above and beyond - more than expected, needed etc.
all and sundry - everyone, various kinds of people
betwixt and between - neither one nor the other, between two situations
bright and breezy - happy and confident
cool, calm and collected - calm, not excited, undisturbed
fair and square - completely and fully; in an honest way, without cheating
few and far between - not very frequent, rare
high and dry - in trouble, having no money or support
hot and bothered - worried and anxious
null and void - no longer valid, not effective
play fast and loose with sb - treat someone unfairly, without respect
prim and proper - well-behaved, easily shocked by something rude
rough and ready - impolite and disrespectful; prepared quickly and not thoroughly
thick and fast - quickly and in great numbers or amounts
well and truly - completely

64 ‘Of’- phrases

a bundle/barrel of laughs - something funny and amusing
a creature of habit - someone who has firm habits and does certain things regularly
a new lease of life - a great improvement in sb's health
a stream of abuse - continuous series of offensive words
breach of the peace - the crime of fighting or behaving too noisily in a public place
flights of fancy - not sensible, unreal, imaginary ideas
in the lap of luxury - enjoying the comforts of being rich
in the nick of time - just in time, at the last moment
on the horns of a dilemma - being in a difficult situation when one has to choose between two equally unpleasant solutions
(do sth) on the spur of the moment - do something immediately when one gets the idea, without thinking or planning
the bane of sb’s life/existence - someone or something that makes your life unhappy
the germ of a concept/idea - the early, first stage of an idea or plan
the root cause of all evil - the basic cause of everything that is bad in the world
the scum of the earth - someone who is bad, behaves in a wrong way, has no respect for anything and no good qualities
turn of phrase - an extraordinary way of speaking or expressing ideas

Multiple choice

beg the question of - make sb feel the need to ask a particular question
cut/break loose from sb - separate oneself from a group of people and their influence
do one’s level best to do sth - try to do something as hard as one can
eat one’s heart out for sb/sth - be depressed and unhappy because one cannot get what one wants very much
gain ground - become more popular, acceptable and recognized
get scared out of one’s wits - get very frightened
lie/hang heavy on sb - make someone feel uncomfortable or disturbed
my heart was in my mouth - I was very frightened/anxious
(buy sth) on a whim - on a sudden feeling that one wants to have something although there is no need or reason for it
on second thoughts - after reconsidering something and changing your opinion
reap a good harvest - benefit from something very well
send sb packing - dismiss someone from a job; tell someone firmly to leave
stay/be one jump ahead of sb/sth - keep an advantage over someone by doing something before they manage to do it
steal the show - attract more attention than somebody else
strike/sound a note of - express an opinion of a particular kind
take a firm line against/on sth - be determined to make people act in the way you want it
take leave of one’s senses - behave in a silly way or as if one is mad
whet sb’s appetite - make sb hungry; make sb want sth very much

Proverbs & Sayings

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

Paraphrases

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

Animals

a different animal - sb/sth different from sb/sth else
a leopard cannot change its spots - a person cannot change his/her character easily
as sick as a parrot - very disappointed
as the crow flies - in a straight line
be no use/good to man or beast - be completely useless
bird of passage - someone who often changes their places of stay
cock and bull story - a story or explanation that is completely incredible
cook sb’s goose - ruin someone’s plans, hopes or chances
cry crocodile tears - show insincere sadness, sorrow or pity for sb
eager beaver - someone who is very keen on their work
(feel) like a fish out of water - feel uncomfortable or embarrassed in a new place
or among people that one does not know
mutton dressed as a lamb - an elderly woman who tries to look younger or
modern by wearing extravagant clothes
no room to swing a cat - not enough free space, very little space
not have a dog’s chance to do sth - have no chance at all to do sth
pigs might fly - impossible things will never happen
put the cart before the horse - do things in the wrong order
run with the hare and hunt with the hounds - try to be friendly with both sides of a conflict
send sb off/away with a flea in their ear - reject or refuse someone’s request angrily
sort out the sheep from the goats - separate the good people from the bad ones
take to sth like a duck to water - learn or cope with something without effort
the early bird catches the worm - in order to achieve or get something one has to
get up or do something before others
the (last) straw that breaks the camel’s back - be the last in a series of bad events that makes
someone stop accepting a situation
the world is your oyster - you are free to do whatever you want
when the cat’s away, the mice will play - when the person in charge is not around, people
act more freely or do not work so hard

Names and surnames

any Tom, Dick and/or Harry - an ordinary, plain person, not anybody special
before you can say Jack Robinson - very quickly
(and) Bob’s your uncle - it’s as easy as that, you can see how easy sth is
clever Dick - someone who thinks that he is always right or knows
everything better
for Pete’s sake - you say this to show that you are irritated or impatient
have the Midas touch - be skilled in business and making money
Joe Bloggs - an average, ordinary member of a society
keep up with the Joneses - try to live on the same social level, have the same things
and possessions as your neighbours have
Pandora’s box - something that may suddenly cause a lot of trouble
Peeping Tom - someone who likes to watch other people secretly, especially when they are naked
plain Jane - a woman or girl who is not very attractive
rob Peter to pay Paul - take money from someone to give it to someone else
the Old Bill - the police
the real McCoy - the original and best kind or example of something
Uncle Sam - the United States of America (humorous)
Nature

(be) a shadow/ghost of one’s former self
- have much less health, power or influence than one used to have before
- cut no ice with sb
- not affect or impress someone
give sb hell
- reprimand sb angrily; make sb’s life hard
give sth a whirl
- try (doing) something to see if it is fun or interesting
have (got) one’s head in the clouds
- be unable to think in a realistic way; be a dreamer
(be) in a fog (about/over sth)
- be confused or unaware of something
keep a weather eye open for sth
- observe sth carefully in order to react quickly
(look) like nothing on earth
- (look) ill or unattractive
move heaven and earth to do sth
- do everything one can in order to achieve sth
pluck sth out of the air
- give a quick and not accurate answer to a question without thinking about it first
praise sb/sth to the skies
- praise sb/sth very much, admire sb/sth
put the wind up sb
- make sb feel uneasy or afraid of something

Cartoons

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

Definitions

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

Dialogues

- cut sth short: interrupt sth, terminate sth before its normal end
- cut up rough: behave or react angrily or violently
- go it alone: decide to do sth difficult without anybody’s support
- have a down on sb: dislike someone, have a low opinion of someone
- have a thin time (of it): have a hard time in business
- lay sb low: (of an illness) make sb stay in bed
- make oneself scarce: leave a place quickly in order to avoid trouble or embarrassment
- play (it) safe: do something in a safe way, avoid danger

Four-letter words

- drive a hard bargain: always try to gain advantage or better profit in business dealings
- drive sb up the wall: drive sb crazy, make sb very angry
- get a rise out of sb: say something that makes someone react angrily
- get wind of sth: hear something secret or private
- go (like) a bomb: be very successful and enjoyable
- go to town over/on sth: get a lot of entertainment in clubs, pubs, restaurants etc.
- hit the spot: be exactly the thing that one wants or needs
- if push comes to shove: if there is no other choice, if everything else has failed
in/at one fell swoop - all at the same time; with one single action or movement
jump out of one's skin - get suddenly frightened
keep the flag flying - continue to support sth or sb that is losing strength, popularity etc.
lay it on the line - state or explain something in a firm, honest and direct way
leave sb cold - fail to affect or interest someone
make no odds to sb - be unimportant to someone
not know sb from Adam - not know someone at all
pull rank on sb - use one's position of authority in an unfair way
put one's foot in it - unintentionally say something offensive or embarrassing
(set) rotten to the core - be spoilt very much
set sb's mind at rest/ease - make someone stop worrying, make someone calm down
when the chips are down - when steps must be taken immediately

‘Of’ - phrases

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

Prepositional phrases

at a (fair) lick - very fast, at a high speed
  at full tilt - with great speed, power etc.
at loggerheads with sb - arguing strongly with someone
by fair means or foul - using all possible methods, even the unfair ones
by hook or by crook - by any method, honest or not
down in the dumps - depressed, miserable, worried
  for two pins - even though something that you want to do might not be sensible
  in a cold sweat - anxious, worried or very scared
in cahoots with sb - planning in collaboration with someone to do something wrong
in lieu of sth - instead of something
in sb's good books - in someone's favour
off one's own bat - upon your own decision, without anybody else's encouragement
  on the skids - falling into ruin, declining, facing a disaster
out of one's depth - unable to deal with a difficult situation
(have sb) over a barrel - have someone under control and do what you tell them to

Proverbs & Sayings

Actions speak louder than words - What you do is more important than what you say
Beauty is only skin deep - Someone's physical appearance does not tell much about their character or intelligence
Charity begins at home - You should take care of your own family before you start helping other people
Curiosity killed the cat - It is impolite to ask someone too many private questions
Familiarity breeds contempt - You have little respect or warm feelings for someone that you know well or for a long time
Fortune favours the brave - If you are brave and do not fear taking risks, you are more likely to succeed in something
Hope springs eternal - There is always hope, no matter how bad a situation may be.
Ignorance is bliss - You do not need to worry about something that you do not know about.
Love is blind - If you are in love with someone, you are unable to see the person's faults.
Necessity is the mother of invention - Being in a difficult situation makes you think hard about a workable solution.
Practice makes perfect - The more you practice something, the better you are at it.
Prevention is better than cure - It is much better to prevent something bad from happening than to have to deal with the consequences it may cause.
Pride comes before a fall - Being too proud or confident may lead to your failure.
Truth is stranger than fiction - Sometimes the things that happen in reality are stranger than invented stories.
Variety is the spice of life - You have to try doing different things, meet different people or have experiences of various kinds to enjoy or know life fully.

78 Adjectival phrases

be a dab hand at (doing) sth - be very good and experienced at doing something.
be at a loose end - have nothing to do.
be stony broke - have no money at all.
foregone conclusion - a conclusion or result that is easy to predict.
foreign body - a piece of something that gets inside the eye, body etc. and causes a discomfort.
get cold feet - get scared before doing something.
give sb a bumpy ride - treat someone badly, make someone's life hard.
have a vested interest in sth - have a private reason for doing something or making something happen.
in mint condition - in perfect condition, as good as new.
inside job - a conspiracy or a wrongdoing that was committed by someone who is involved in an organization or a business.
not by a long chalk - not at all.
odd jobs - small jobs of various kinds like repairs etc. made at home.
rough diamond - someone who does not seem to be well-educated or erudite, but has in fact many good qualities.
soft soap - nice words of encouragement or praise said to someone to make them do something.
wishful thinking - a belief that something that you expect will happen, but in fact is very unlikely.

79 Choose the word

a chink in sb's armour - a weakness in someone's idea, reasoning, idea, character etc.
add fuel to the fire/flames - make a bad situation even worse by doing something wrong.
(be) broad in the beam - have wide hips.
cannot hold a candle to sb/sth - not be as good as someone or something else.
come/go full circle - return to the starting point after futile effort or series of attempts.
come out of the closet - admit openly something that one has kept secret for a long time.
let/get sb off the hook - help someone avoid punishment.
like getting blood out of/from a stone - very difficult to obtain or get
more than you can shake a stick at - there's a lot of something in a place
(be) near the mark - almost correct or right
not do a hand's turn - do no work at all
pour oil on troubled water(s) - do something that helps end a disagreement or calm
a tense situation
prime the pump - give someone or an organization financial help to start
a business, project, scheme etc.
rule/throw sth out of court - reject, exclude or consider something not worth paying
attention to
take up the gauntlet - accept someone's challenge to compete or fight

80 Reshuffled letters
(build) castles in the air - (have) unreal hopes, plans
feel the pinch - be under pressure because one has not enough money to live on
give sb the slip - avoid meeting someone or escape from someone
go overboard about/for sth - be extremely excited about doing something
have (got) sb's number - understand or know well someone's character or way of thinking
have one last fling - enjoy oneself for the last time before leaving, starting work etc.
keep one's powder dry - be ready to react to a danger or an emergency situation
keep one's wits about one - be ready to act or think quickly in a dangerous situation
make light of sth - treat or consider something as if it is less serious or dangerous
than it is in reality
make the grade - achieve a success or a high standard in an exam, work, effort etc.
paddle one's own canoe - be independent and need no support from anyone
pull one's punches - use less criticism or not many strong words to avoid offending or
upsetting someone
put one's own house in order - improve one's own behaviour or make order in one's own life
before one starts to criticize other people
run the gamut of sth - experience, use, take advantage etc. of a wide range of things
set/put the record straight - correct someone's mistaken way of thinking by giving them the
right version of events, facts, story etc.

81 Choose the verb

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

82 Parts of the body

1 put your shoulder to the wheel - start working hard, get down to work
have a chip on your shoulder - be very sensitive about something that happened in the
past and get offended when someone mentions it
give sb the cold shoulder - treat someone in an unfriendly, cold or unfair way
have a sharp tongue - speak in an unpleasant, rude or offensive manner
bite your tongue - refrain from saying something that might upset someone
say sth with your tongue
in your cheek - say something that is intended to be a joke

work your fingers to the bone - work very hard
have got a bone to pick with sb - have got a reason to complain to someone about
be as dry as a bone - be completely dry

not lift your finger to do sth - do nothing at all, make no effort
keep your finger on the pulse - be well informed and aware of what is happening
wrap sb around your little finger - have complete influence on someone, control someone

let your hair down - have a rest and enjoyment after a period of hard work
tear your hair out - be worried, upset or angry
make sb's hair stand on end - make someone very scared, nervous or shocked

be up to your neck in sth - have a lot of things to do, be deeply involved in something
breathe down sb's neck - make sb feel uncomfortable by watching them too closely
stick your neck out - do something risky or controversial that other people are afraid
to do and attract attention because of this

do sb's heart good - make someone happy, give someone hope, joy etc.
feel sick at heart - be very unhappy or disappointed
do sth with a sinking heart - do something with fear or sorrow

work hand in glove with sb - work or plan something (bad) in close association with sb
bite the hand that feeds you - be disloyal or unpleasant to someone who treats you well
and gives you financial support
show your hand - do something that reveals your intentions or plans

fly in the face of sth - be the opposite of something that is expected
laugh in sb's face - show clearly that you have no respect for someone
set your face against sth - strongly object to something, refuse to accept something

do sth in the teeth of risk/danger - do something even though it is risky or dangerous
lie through your teeth - tell lies although everyone knows that you are lying
get your teeth into sth - do something with enthusiasm and a lot of effort

put your best foot forward - do sth as well as you can, show your best qualities
get your foot in the door - gain acceptance in a group, company, organization etc.
have got one foot in the grave - be old or very ill and quite likely to die soon

live from hand to mouth - spend all the money that you earn on the basic things
and not be able to save any money
put your head in the lion's mouth - deliberately put yourself in a dangerous situation
be all mouth and no trousers - talk a lot about doing something, but be too afraid
to do it in reality
play your cards close  - keep your plans or intentions secret
get sth off your chest  - speak openly about something that has been worrying you for a long time and feel better because you have done it
put hairs on your chest  - make someone feel strong (usually about alcoholic drinks)

bury your head in the sand  - refuse to face or deal with something unpleasant by pretending that it does not exist
give sb their head  - give someone the freedom to do what they want
be banging your head against a brick wall  - try for a long time to achieve something, but keep failing to do so

Rozwiązanie krzyżówki: (be) long in the tooth - (be) very old

83 Compounds domino

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

84 Missing letters

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

85 Prepositional phrases

(be) at cross purposes  - misunderstand what someone is trying to say or do
(be) at daggers drawn with sb  - be ready to argue or fight with someone
at/on the double  - very quickly, at once
at sb’s bidding  - at someone’s order, because someone has told you to do so
come on stream  - (of a machine/factory etc.) start working, producing etc.
for kicks  - (of sth wrong) for fun, pleasure or excitement
go round the bend  - become crazy
in full swing  - at the busiest, most lively or highest time
in the bosom of sb/sth  - protected or surrounded by someone or something
in the pipeline  - being planned, intended, developed, but not in operation yet
keep sth under wraps  - keep something secret or hidden
off the record  - said unofficially, not to be spread to the public
(be) on one’s guard  - be ready to react to or deal with a difficulty, danger etc.
on the cheap  - (of lower quality goods) for less than the normal price, cheaply
under the heel of sb  - dominated by someone, under someone’s total control

86 Guess the meaning

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.
Adjective + Noun

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

Pairs

be meat and drink to sb - be something that someone is very interested in or likes a lot
(not) be all beer and skittles - have both pleasant and unpleasant aspects
be raining cats and dogs - be raining heavily
cost an arm and a leg - cost a lot of money
eat sb out of house and home - eat all the food that someone has in the house
give oneself airs and graces - behave in a formal and elegant, but not natural way in order to impress someone
go at sb/sth hammer and tongs - argue, fight or do something with a lot of noise and power
go through fire and water (to do sth) - go through difficulties and dangers in order to achieve something
hustle and bustle - an activity with a lot of excitement and rush
(look for sth) in every nook and cranny - (look for sth) all over a place, everywhere
know all the ins and outs of sth - know all the details, procedures or facts of something
odds and ends/sods - small invaluable items of various kinds
throw oneself heart and soul into sth - start to do something with a lot of enthusiasm
wait on sb hand and foot - do everything for someone, especially in the house without care and attention - without being careful, cautious and attentive

Proverbs & Sayings

Accidents will happen - you say this when a small accident happens to you or someone does something wrong, in this way you express an excuse or say that nothing serious has occurred
A new broom sweeps clean - a new person in a company can see things in a different light and is more likely to introduce good changes
A trouble shared is a trouble halved - if you tell someone what is bothering you, you start to feel better because you know that someone may help you
Better (to be) safe than sorry - it's much better to be too careful than to act rashly and do something that you will regret
Let sleeping dogs lie - it's better not to disturb a situation or mention something that may cause trouble or upset someone
One swallow does not make a summer - a small sign of change or success does not guarantee greater changes or successes in the future
The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence - people always think that things or life is better in some other place
There's no smoke without fire - if you hear many opinions about something from many people, you may be sure that some of them are true
There's one born every minute - you use this saying to state that someone is stupid
The road to hell is paved with good intentions - it is not enough to have good intentions, you should actually put them into practice.

Waste not, want not - do not waste your food, money etc. and you will have it when you need it.
You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink - you can give someone an opportunity or make something easy for them, but you cannot force them to take advantage of it.

90. Choose the meaning

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

91. - ING adjectives

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

92. Paraphrases

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

93. Multiple choice

- air one's grievances - express one's protests or complaints publicly
- be down on one's luck - be short of money because of bad luck
- be dressed to kill - (of a woman) be dressed in one's best clothes
- be in deadly earnest about sth - speak seriously and in an honest way about something
- be shaking in one's shoes/boots - be very worried, anxious or scared
- bode ill/well for sb - be a bad/good sign for someone
- by way of sth - as a kind or way of something, in a form of
- fall on hard times - suddenly become poor
- get on one's high horse - get annoyed because of being disrespected by someone
- give a good/bad account of oneself - perform or do something in a good/bad way
- in the fullness of time - when enough time has passed
- keep one's end up - remain cheerful and optimistic in a bad situation
- make/go down in history - do something important that will be recorded in history
- not have the foggiest idea - have no idea at all
- throw one's weight about/around - take advantage of a position of authority in order to achieve one's own goals
- to top/crown it all - as the last and at the same time the worst thing of all of that one has mentioned before

94. Misprints

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.
Miscellaneous phrases

a dumping ground - a place where waste and useless things are stored
(be) an old hand at (doing) sth - someone who is experienced at doing something
be (caught) in a cleft stick - be in a difficult situation to which there's no easy solution
be streets ahead of sb/sth - be much better that someone or something else
feel honour bound to do sth - feel the moral need to do something
(just) for the hell of it - for no important reason, just for fun
give sb a raw deal - treat someone unfairly
manna from heaven - unexpected help or gift of money that one receives at the time when one really needs it
there's no love lost between sb - there's no friendship between some people
not have a snowball's chance in hell - have no chance at all
reach/hit rock bottom - reach the lowest possible level of something
the other side of the coin - another aspect or way of seeing a situation
(have) the rub of the green - (have) a lot of luck, especially in sports competition
(sb's) true colours - someone's real character
with bated breath - almost unable to breathe because of anxiety, excitement, fear etc.

Prepositional phrases

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

Adjective + Noun

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

Various idioms

DOWN

blow the whistle on sb/sth - stop or prevent someone from doing something wrong by notifying a person in authority of it
come up/rise through the ranks - reach a high position in one's career after starting from the low level
fly by the seat of one's pants - act spontaneously without thinking or planning one's actions in advance
go bust - go bankrupt, turn into a financial failure
go/fly off at a tangent - suddenly change the topic one is talking about into something different
in the first flush of enthusiasm - when something is new and attracts much attention
mend one's ways - improve one's behaviour, way of living etc.
(be) not the only pebble on the beach - be not the only person to be taken into consideration
(bo) on the rack - (be) in stress, anxiety, pain, fear etc.
(bo/feel/look) out of sorts - (be/feel/look) ill, nervous, upset
pile on the agony - make a bad situation look much worse than it really is because one hopes to gain people’s sympathy
put one’s thinking cap on - start thinking hard to find a solution to a problem

ACROSS

be poles/worlds apart - have different interests, opinions, points of view etc.
carry the can for sb - accept someone’s blame or responsibility for something
draw the short straw - be chosen to do something unpleasant that nobody else wants to do
fall by the wayside - start to act dishonestly or morally wrong; be unable to continue doing something that requires effort
jump the gun - start doing something too quickly, before the right time
know sth off pat - know or be able to do something very well because one has known or done it for a long time
more by accident than design - more by coincidence than a planned action
play/wreak havoc with sth - cause damage, ruin, disruption to something
separate the wheat from the chaff - separate the good things or people from the bad ones
stand on ceremony - behave according to formal rules
take up the cudgels for sb/sth - start to support or defend someone or something
tar sb with the same brush - unfairly consider a whole group of people or things to be bad or wrong because one has had a bad experience with one of them
walk tall - feel very proud

99 Parts of the body

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

100 Comparisons

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

101 Proverbs & Sayings

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

102 Definitions with verbs

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.
103 Adjectives & Adverbs

be struck dumb (with sth) - be unable to speak because of fear, shock, surprise etc.
cost sb dear - cause problems to someone, bring bad effects to someone
do sb proud - look after someone who is your guest as well as you can
get a thick ear - get hit on the side of one's head as a form of punishment
get one's just deserts - get what one deserves, especially punishment, penalty etc.
go easy on sb - give someone only a light punishment for something wrong that they have done
hold good/true - be true, correct, valid etc.
lay sb low - (of an illness) cause someone to stay in bed
make sb's blood run cold - frighten someone strongly
pull a fast one on sb - cheat or tell lies to someone in order to get their money or some possessions
run/work/drive etc. flat out - run/work/drive etc. very fast or with great effort and strength
sell sb short - cheat someone by giving them less or worse quality goods than they have paid for
take a (hard/bad etc.) knock - undergo a hard experience, be made to suffer; be ruined
take the rough with the smooth - accept both the pleasant and unpleasant aspects of something
turn/go sour - become less good, nice, pleasant, enjoyable etc.

104 Compounds

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

105 Cartoons

Znaczenia zwrotów i idiomów zostały wyjaśnione w ćwiczeniu.

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101 EXERCISES jest zbiorem zadań, sprawdzających znajomość angielskich idiomów, stałych zwrotów, powiedzeń oraz przysłów. Książka adresowana jest do osób posiadających co najmniej średnią wiedzę o języku angielskim ponieważ dotyczy komponentów leksykalnych o najwyższym poziomie trudności.

Idiomy, stałe zwroty, a także potoczne powiedzenia i przysłowia stanowią niezwykle bogaty dział słownictwa języka angielskiego i wymagają szczególnej uwagi. Właściwe zrozumienie wyrażeń tego typu staje się niezbędne przy poprawnym odkodowaniu znaczenia wyrażonej myśli.

Testy podzielone zostały według określonych grup tematycznych. Praca z niniejszą książką umożliwia poznanie oraz utrwanie znajomości ponad 1500 wyrażeń idiomatycznych, będących w codziennym użyciu.

Książka stanowi źródło bogatej wiedzy o angielskich idiomach, będąc jednocześnie uzupełnieniem wielu słowników idiomów i stałych wyrażeń. Aby ułatwić zrozumienie znaczeń idiomów pojawiających się w ćwiczeniach, książka została wyposażona w słowniczek, podający czyste objaśnienia w języku angielskim.