

LY TU TRONG ELITE HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS: 12C2 (2K5-2K6)
(MAJOR IN ENGLISH)

SEFT-TAUGHT NOTEBOOK

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A

ace: make an "A" on a test, homework assignment, project, etc.

"Somebody said you aced the test, Dave. That's great!"

all right (1): expression of reluctant agreement.

A: "Come to the party with me. Please!"

B: "Oh, **all right**. I don't want to, but I will."

all right (2): fair; not particularly good.

A: "How's your chemistry class?"

B: "It's **all right**, I guess, but it's not the best class I've ever had."

all right (3): unharmed; in satisfactory condition.

A: "You don't look normal. Are you **all right**?"

B: "Yes, but I have a headache."

and then some: and much more besides.

A: "I'd guess your new computer cost about \$2,000. "

B: "It cost that much **and then some** because I also bought extra RAM and VRAM."

antsy: restless; impatient and tired of waiting.

"I hope Katy calls soon. Just sitting around and waiting is making me **antsy**."

as easy as pie: very easy.

"I thought you said this was a difficult problem. It isn't. In fact, it's **as easy as pie**."

at the eleventh hour: at the last minute; almost too late.

"Yes, I got the work done in time. I finished it **at the eleventh hour**, but I wasn't late."

B

bad-mouth: say unkind, unflattering, embarrassing (and probably untrue) things about someone.

A: "I don't believe what Bob said. Why is he bad-mouthing me?"

B: "He's probably jealous of your success."

be a piece of cake: be very easy.

A: "Bob said the test was difficult, but I thought it was **a piece of cake**."

be all ears: be eager to hear what someone has to say.

A: "I just got an e-mail message from our old friend Sally."

B: "Tell me what she said. **I'm all ears!**"

be broke: be without money.

"No, I can't lend you ten dollars. **I'm completely broke** until payday."

be fed up with (with someone or something): be out of patience (with someone or something);

be very tired of someone or something.

"Bill, you're too careless with your work. **I'm fed up with** apologizing for your mistakes!"

be in and out: be at and away from a place during a particular time.

"Could we postpone our meeting until tomorrow? I expect to **be in and out** of the office most of the day today."

be on the go: be very busy (going from one thing or project to another).

"I'm really tired. I've **been on the go** all week long."

be on the road: be traveling.

"You won't be able to contact me tomorrow because I'll **be on the road**."

be over: be finished; end.

"I can't see you until around 4 o'clock. My meetings won't **be over** until then."

be up and running: (for a technological process) be operational; be ready to use .

"Dave's ESL Cafe on the Web has **been up and running** since December 1995."

be used to (+Ving/noun): be accustomed to; not uncomfortable with.

"It won't be hard to get up at 5:00 AM. I'm **used to** getting up early."

beat: exhausted; very tired (adj.).

"This has been a long day. I'm **beat!**"

beat around the bush: evade an issue; avoid giving a direct answer.

"Quit **beating around the bush!** If you don't want to go with me, just tell me!"

beat one's brains out: try very hard to understand or do something.

"Can you help me with this problem? I've been **beating my brains out** with it,
but I just can't solve it."

Beats me: I have no idea.

A: "What time's the party?"

B: "**Beats me!**"

before long: soon.

A: "I'm really tired of working."

B: "Just be patient. The weekend will be here **before long.**"

bent out of shape: needlessly worried about something.

"I know you're worried about your job interview, but don't get **bent out of shape.**
You'll do just fine."

bite off more than one can chew: take responsibility for more than one can manage.

"I'm really behind with my project. Can you help me? I'm afraid I **bit off more than I could chew!**"

blabbermouth: a very talkative person--especially one who says things that should be kept secret.

"Don't say anything to Bob unless you want the whole office to know. Bob's quite a **blabbermouth.**"

blow one's top: become extremely angry.

A: "Was your father upset when you came home at 3 AM?"

B: "He was *more than* upset. He **blew his top!**"

boom box: portable cassette/CD player.

"Don't forget to bring your **boom box** to the picnic!"

the bottom line: the most essential information.

"The discussion lasted many hours. **The bottom line** was that the XYZ Company isn't for sale."

Break a leg!: Good luck!

"I understand you have a job interview tomorrow. **Break a leg!**"

break someone's heart: make someone feel very disappointed/discouraged/sad.

"Joe **broke his mother's heart** when he dropped out of school."

broke: without money.

A: "Can you lend me 10 dollars?"

B: "I'm afraid not. I'm **broke**."

buck(s): dollar(s).

"The cheapest tickets for the concert cost 25 **bucks**. Do you still want to go?"

bug: annoy; bother.

"I'm trying to concentrate! Don't **bug** me!"

bull-headed: stubborn; inflexible.

"Don't be so **bull-headed**. Why can't you admit that others' opinions are just as good as yours?"

a bundle: a lot of money.

A: "Your new car is really nice."

B: "It should be. It cost me **a bundle!**"

burn the midnight oil: study/work all night or until very, very late at night.

"I'm not ready for the test tomorrow. I guess I'll have to

burn the the midnight oil."

bushed: very tired; exhausted.

"I'm going to lie down for a while. I'm really **bushed**."

by oneself: alone and without help.

"I can't do this **by myself**. Can you help me?"

by the skin of one's teeth: barely succeed in doing something.

"I'll have to start earlier the next time. This time I only finished **by the skin of my teeth**."

C

call it a day: stop work for the day.

"It's late and you've accomplished a lot. Why don't you **call it a day?**"

can't make heads or tails of something: can't understand something at all; find something confusing and illogical.

"I **can't make heads or tails of** your e-mail. Were you having problems with your computer?"

catch one's eye: attract one's attention/interest.

"This brochure about Tahiti **caught my eye** when I was at the travel agency."

catch some Zs: sleep for a while; take a nap.

"You look tired, Dave. Why don't you **catch some Zs**?"

change one's mind: decide to do something different from what had been decided earlier.

A: "Why are you working this week? I thought you were going to be on vacation."

B: "I changed my mind. I'm taking my vacation next month."

chicken (adjective or noun): cowardly.

"Fred will never ask Lucy for a date. He's **chicken** / **a chicken**."

chow: food.

"How's the **chow** in the university cafeteria?"

chow down: eat.

"It's almost 6:00. Are you ready to **chow down**?"

a cinch: something that's very easy to do.

A: How was the test?

B: It was **a cinch**. I finished it quickly and I know that all my answers were correct."

cool (also *kewl*): neat, special, wonderful.

"The ESL Cafe on the Web is really **cool**!"

Cool it!: calm down.

"There's no need to be so upset. Just **cool it**!"

cost (someone) an arm and a leg: cost a lot; be very expensive.

A: "Your new car is really nice."

B: "It should be. It **cost (me) an arm and a leg**!"

couch potato: someone who spends too much time watching TV.

"You're a real **couch potato**, Jay. You need to get more exercise!"

cram: try to learn as much as possible in a very short time.

"Sidney did well on the test because he crammed for it. However, he probably

won't remember any of the information a couple of days from now."

crash course: short course designed to give a lot of knowledge/information in a very short time.

"Tom's company is sending him to a business meeting in Istanbul. Should he take a **crash course** in Turkish?"

D

Cut it out!: stop doing something (that's annoying).

"You kids are making too much noise. **Cut it out!**"

Don't count your chickens until (before) they hatch (they've hatched).:

Don't assume

that something will happen until it *has* happened.

A: I'm sure that I'm going to win a lot of money in Las Vegas."

B: "**Don't count your chickens until they hatch!**"

dicey: uncertain; taking too much of a chance.

A: A friend of mine says I can make a lot of money if I buy stock in the XYZ company. Should I do it?

B: I wouldn't if I were you. The chances for success are too **dicey**."

ditch class: skip class/play hookey.

"You shouldn't have **ditched class** yesterday. We had an unannounced test."

do a bang-up job: do a very good job; do very well at something.

"Have you seen Frank's home page? He **did a bang-up job** with it."

down in the dumps: depressed; "blue."

A: "Is something wrong?"

B: "Not really, but I feel kind of **down in the dumps**."

drop someone a line: write to someone.

"I haven't written to my parents for a long time. I'd better **drop them a line** today or tomorrow."

drag one's feet: delay; take longer than necessary to do something.

"Joe should have finished his project a week ago. Why is he **dragging his feet**?"

E

an eager beaver: a person who is always willing to volunteer or do extra work.

"Jan is certainly **an eager beaver**. Any time there's work to be done, she's the first to say she'll help."

Easy does it!: Be very careful! / Don't do anything too fast or too hard!

A: "I'm going to move the table just a little further from the window."

B: "**Easy does it!** If you move too fast, you might knock over the plant!"

an egghead: a very intelligent person.

"Jake didn't make very good grades in school, but his sister was a real **egghead.**"

elbow grease: hard work; effort.

"Yes, the car is pretty dirty, but it'll look nice again with a little **elbow grease.**"

every other _____ : alternately; omitting the second one in each group of two.

"In your essays, please write on **every other line**. That will make the essays much easier to read."

F

far-fetched: difficult to accept; difficult to believe.

"That story's pretty **far-fetched**. Nobody's going to believe it."

feel blue: feel sad and depressed.

"I'm **feeling blue** because I haven't had any mail except bills for a long, long time."

fire someone: dismiss someone from a job because of poor performance.

"If you continue to be late for work, the company will **fire you.**"

feel puny: feel unwell, ill.

"Ted was **feeling puny** yesterday, so he decided not to go to work."

fender-bender: automobile accident.

"Traffic was really slow on the freeway this morning because of a **fender-bender** in one of the westbound lanes."

for ages: for a very long time.

"Where's Marie? I haven't seen her **for ages.**"

G

get going: leave.

"Look at the time! I'd better **get going!**"

get it: understand something (often negative).

"I don't **get it**. What do you mean?"

get a kick out of something: find something amusing.

"I really **get a kick out of** listening to children talk. They say some very funny things."

get lost!: go away

"I wish he'd **get lost** and stop bothering me. I don't want to talk to him!"

get on one's nerves: irritate someone; make someone upset.

"I know you like that song, but it's **getting on my nerves**. Can you play something else?"

get a move on: hurry

"If you don't want to be late, you'd better **get a move on**."

get one's wires crossed: be confused or mistaken about something.

A: "Bill said there was a meeting this morning. Don't we have one?"

B: "No. The meeting's tomorrow. I guess Bill **got his wires crossed**."

get out of hand: become out of control; become badly managed.

"Your absences are **getting out of hand**, Bob. You'd better do something quickly to improve the situation if you want to keep your job."

Get real!: Be realistic! / Don't be naive.

A: "I'm going to Las Vegas. I know I'll win a lot of money!"

B: "Get real! You'll probably *lose* a lot of money!"

get up and go: energy.

"I'm really tired. I don't have any **get up and go**."

give someone a hand (1): help someone.

"I can't do this alone. Can you **give me a hand**?"

give someone a hand (2): applaud (to show respect or appreciation for someone/something).

"Dave's done a wonderful job with The ESL Café on the Web.

Let's **give him a hand**!"

a (real) go-getter: a (very) ambitious, hard-working person.

"I'm not surprised that Jean finished before anyone else. She's a **real go-getter**."

go with the flow: take things as they come.

"There's no need to worry. Everything will be OK if you just **go with the flow**."

grab a bite: get something to eat.

"I'm really hungry. Would you like to **grab a bite** with me?"

green: inexperienced.

"I don't think you can depend on Jack to do that job by himself. He's too **green**."

H

had ('d) better: be obliged to; should (strong).

"You'd **better** leave soon. If you don't, you'll miss your bus."

hassle (noun): a troublesome situation; something troublesome that interrupts one's normal routine.

"I know it's a **hassle** to complete this form now, but Mr. Rogers needs it in his office by the end of the day."

hard feelings: anger; animosity; bitter feelings.

A: "I'm sorry that Jim got the job instead of you."

B: "I have no **hard feelings** toward him; I know that he had stronger qualifications."

hard-headed: stubborn; inflexible; unwilling to change.

"I don't think Julie will change her mind. She's pretty **hard-headed**."

hassle (verb): annoy; bother; interrupt one's normal routine.

"If you'd stop **hassling** me, I might get this finished on time!"

have one's hands full: be extremely busy.

A: "Will you be able to help us this afternoon?"

B: "I'm afraid not. I'll **have my hands full** trying to finish my research paper."

have/has ('ve/'s) got: have/has.

"Dave's **got** a son whose name is Benjamin and a daughter whose name is Shannon."

have something down pat: know/understand something completely and thoroughly.

"I know I did well on the test. I **had** all the material **down pat**."

head honcho: person in charge; top boss.

"Dave's the **head honcho** of the ESL Cafe on the Web."

hit the books: study.

"I wish I could go to the movies, but I've got to **hit the books**."

hit the hay: go to bed; go to sleep.

"It's late, so I guess I'll **hit the hay**."

hit the sack: go to bed.

"I'm really tired. I think I'll **hit the sack**."

How come?: Why? (statement word order).

"**How come** you weren't at the party?"

I

if I had my druthers: if I could do what I wanted/preferred.

"**If I had my druthers**, I'd stay home from work today."

in over one's head: in a situation that is too much / too difficult for one to manage.

"Do you have time to help me? I thought I could do this myself, but I'm afraid I'm **in over my head**. I just can't handle things alone."

inside out: with the inner part on the outside and the outer part on the inside.

"Why are you wearing your tee shirt **inside out**?"

in stock: in supply and available to buy / sell.

"I'm sorry, but we just sold our last pair of hiking boots. If you come back

at the end of the week, however, we should have some more **in stock**."

in the black: profitable; not showing a financial loss.

"What did you do to increase profit and eliminate losses?"

We've been **in the black** for two months in a row."

in the red: unprofitable; showing a financial loss.

"We have to do something to increase profit and decrease losses.

We've been **in the red** for two months in a row."

in time: not late.

"I thought I was going to be late for my flight, but it was delayed, so I was still **in time**."

J

jump all over someone: severely criticize / find fault with someone.

A: "What's wrong with Joe?"

B: "He's feeling bad because his boss **jumped all over him** this morning."

jump the gun: do something before it's time to do it.

A: "How did Marsha know about the party? It was supposed to be a surprise."

B: "Chuck **jumped the gun**. Without thinking, he said, 'I'm bringing the cake at your party; I hope you like it!'"

jump to conclusions: decide something too quickly and without thinking about it or considering all the facts.

A: "Angela just doesn't like me. She won't even say hello."

B: "You're **jumping to conclusions**. Actually, she's very shy."

junk mail: unsolicited mail (usually advertisements for something you're not interested in).

"I didn't have any letters today--only **junk mail**."

K

keep an eye on: check something regularly.

"You're busy, so you'll need to **keep an eye on** the time.

Remember that we have to leave at 4:30."

keep an eye out for: watch for.

"I'll **keep an eye out for** John. If I see him, I'll tell him you want to talk to him."

keep one's chin up: remain brave and confident in a difficult situation; don't despair or worry too much.

"I know that things have been difficult for you recently, but **keep your chin up**. Everything will be better soon."

keep one's nose to the grindstone: stay diligent; steadily work hard, without breaks or an uneven pace.

"If I **keep my nose to the grindstone**, I should be finished by the end of the day."

keep/stay in touch (with someone): remain informed (about someone) / in contact (with someone) by writing, calling, sending e-mail, etc. on a regular basis.

"I haven't seen Frank for two or three years but we **keep (stay) in touch** by e-mail."

keep one's fingers crossed: hope for the best.

A: "How did you do on the test?"

B: "I think I passed, but I won't know until tomorrow.

I'm **keeping my fingers crossed!**"

kid (noun): child.

A: "You have three **kids**, don't you?"

B: "That's right. I have two girls and a boy."

kid (verb): playfully say something that isn't true.

"I was **kidding** when I said my teacher was a monster. She's strict, but she's actually a very nice person."

kind of: rather; more or less; a little.

"I'm feeling **kind of** hungry. I think I'll make myself a sandwich."

a klutz: an awkward, uncoordinated person.

"Don't ask Jeff to dance with you. He's a real **klutz** and will probably step on your feet!"

a know-it-all: someone who acts as if he/she knows everything--as if no one

can tell him/her anything that he/she doesn't already know.

"Don't try to make any suggestions to Bob. He's **a know-it-all** and won't pay attention to anything you say."

know something backwards and forwards: know/understand something completely and thoroughly.

"If you have a question about html tags, ask Susan. She knows html **backwards and forwards**."

know something inside out: know/understand something thoroughly.

"If you have a question about grammar, ask Dr. Martin. She **knows** grammar **inside out**."

L

lend someone a hand: help someone.

"I can't do this alone. Can you **lend me a hand**?"

leave well enough alone: do nothing (because doing something would make things worse).

"Don't tell Jim how to discipline his children. **Leave well enough alone**."

a let-down: a disappointment; something that's very disappointing.

"It must've been quite a **let-down** not to be chosen for that job.

I know you really hoped you would get it."

Let sleeping dogs lie.: Don't cause problems by doing something when it isn't necessary.

"I know that what Julie said made you angry, but **let sleeping dogs lie**.

If you say or do anything, you'll only make things worse."

live from hand to mouth: survive on very little money; have only enough money to pay for basic needs.

"Chuck and Alice are **living from hand to mouth** since Chuck lost his job."

live and let live: don't unnecessarily make things difficult; do as you wish and let others do as they wish.

"I'm not going to criticize Alice's family just because their habits are a little strange. My motto is '**Live and let live.**'"

a low blow: a big disappointment.

A: "Fred seems depressed. Is he OK?"

B: "He's OK, but not good. It was **a low blow** for him to be laid off from his job."

lousy: terrible; very bad.

"Why did you speak so rudely to your grandmother? That was a **lousy** thing to do!"

M

macho: super masculine / masculine to an extreme (in appearance and behavior).

"Her husband would never agree to help with the housework; he's too **macho** to do that."

make a mountain out of a molehill: make something seem much more important than it really is.

"Calm down. There's really nothing to worry about. You're **making a mountain out of a molehill.**"

make up one's mind: decide what to do.

A: Where are you going on your vacation?

B: Maybe Canada, maybe Mexico. I can't **make up my mind.**"

N

No way!: Absolutely not! / Definitely not!

A: "You didn't open this letter addressed to me, did you?"

B: "**No way!** I'd *never* read look at else's mail!"

nosh: snack.

"There's plenty in the refrigerator if you want something to **nosh** on."

Not on your life!: Absolutely not! (a strong "no").

A: "Someone said you cheated on the test. Did you?"

B: "**Not on your life!**"

now and then: occasionally; from time to time.

A: "Do you see Jennifer often?"

B: "No, not really. I see her **now and then**, but not regularly."

nuke: heat in a microwave.

"If your coffee's cold, just **nuke** it for about a minute."

nuts: crazy.

A: "Stuart says some really strange things sometimes."

B: "Sometimes? All the time! He's **nuts!**"

O

OK: (1) yes (to show agreement--often reluctant agreement).

A: "Come on, Al. We really need your help!"

B: "Oh, **OK**; I may be crazy, but I'll help you."

OK: (2) neither good nor bad; so-so.

A: "How was the movie?"

B: "**OK**, I guess, but I've seen better ones."

OK: (3) in satisfactory condition; well.

A: "You look awfully pale. Are you **OK**?"

B: "Actually, I'm not. I have a terrible headache. "

OK: (4) approve (verb).

A: "Did your boss **OK** your vacation plans?"

B: "No, but he said that taking them two weeks later would be all right.

on the dot: exactly at a given time.

"We're leaving at 9:00 **on the dot**. If you're late, we'll go without you."

on time: at the scheduled time.

"It's getting late. You'd better hurry if you want to get to work **on time**."

(on the) cutting edge: using the most recent technology.

"The university's computer lab is **(on the) cutting edge**. It has all the latest hardware and software."

once in a while: occasionally; from time to time.

A: "Would you like coffee or tea?"

B: "Coffee, please. I drink tea **once in a while**, but I generally drink coffee."

over one's head: too difficult or complicated for someone to understand.

"This explanation of cgi scripting is **over my head**."

Can you explain it in a less technical way?"

P

pay the piper: face the consequences for something you've done.

"I stayed up too late tonight. Tomorrow I'll have to **pay the piper**."

plastic: credit card(s).

"Oh, no! I forgot to get any cash! I hope this restaurant accepts **plastic**!"

pooped: very tired; exhausted.

"I went to bed really early last night. I was **pooped**!"

pop quiz: unannounced short test.

"You shouldn't have missed class yesterday. We had a **pop quiz**."

pretty (adv.): rather; somewhat.

"That car's **pretty** expensive. Are you sure you can afford it?"

pull an all-nighter: study or work all night without getting any sleep.

A: "You look really tired."

B: "I am. I **pulled an all-nighter** to get ready for the meeting this morning."

pull someone's leg: tease someone by trying to make her/him believe something

that's exaggerated or untrue.

A: "Wow! Carl has done some really amazing things!"

B: "Don't believe everything he tells you. He was probably **pulling your leg**."

Q

quite a few: several; numerous.

"I don't think I can meet you after work. I have **quite a few** errands that I have to do."

a quick study: someone who learns new things quickly and easily.

A: "Annie seems to be doing well at her new job."

B: "I'm not surprised. She's **a quick study**."

R

R and R: rest and relaxation (a vacation).

"I think you're working too hard, Dave. You need some **R and R**."

rain or shine: (describing something scheduled) no matter what the weather is.

"We're leaving tomorrow, **rain or shine**."

rain cats and dogs: rain very hard.

"You can't leave just now! It's **raining cats and dogs** and you don't have an umbrella or raincoat!"

read someone's mind: know what someone is thinking.

A: "I'll be you're thinking of what you're going to have for dinner."

B: "Hey, did you **read my mind**?"

A: "No. I just know that you're always hungry and lunch was several hours ago!"

rub someone the wrong way: irritate someone; bother or annoy someone.

"All my little brother says is 'Why?' Usually I'm patient with him, but sometimes all his questions **rub me the wrong way**."

run-down: (1) not well; weak; fatigued.

"Are you eating regularly and getting enough sleep? You look **run-down**."

run-down: (2) in poor condition; needing repair.

"This must be a poor neighborhood. All the buildings look really **run-down**."

S

savvy: knowledgeable about ____ .

"If you're having problems with your hard disk, talk to Jim.
He's very **computer-savvy**. "

schmooze: make relaxed, casual conversation.

"No, we weren't talking about anything important.
We were just **schmoozing**."

shoot the breeze: make relaxed, casual conversation.

"No, we weren't talking about anything important.
We were just **shooting the breeze**."

sleep on it: take at least a day to think about something before making a decision.

"The job that you're offering me sounds really good, but I'd like to **sleep on it** before giving you my final decision."

a snap: something that's very easy to do.

A: "Is your job difficult?"

B: "No, actually it's **a snap**. In fact, it's so easy that it's a little bit boring."

Someone's made his/her own bed; now let him/her lie in it.: Someone has caused

his/her own problems; he/she will have to solve them himself/herself.

A: Jim upset everyone when he got angry at the meeting. Can we do anything to make the situation better?

B: No. **He's made his own bed; now let him lie in it.**"

sooner or later: eventually.

"You've been working too hard for too long. If you don't relax a little, **sooner or later** you're going to get sick."

sort of: rather; somewhat.

"I think I'll lie down. I feel **sort of** dizzy."

so-so: fair; not particularly good.

A: "How're you doing?"

B: "**So-so**. I've been better, but I've also been worse."

state of the art: using the latest technology.

"The company is very proud of the equipment in its computer room. It's **state of the art**."

Step on it!: Hurry up!

"**Step on it!** The taxi will be here at any time and you're not even dressed!"

T

take it easy: relax.

"I don't have any special vacation plans. I'm just going to **take it easy.**"

tell a white lie: say something that isn't true in order not to hurt or offend someone.

"The cake that Susan made tasted terrible, but I knew that she made it because she wanted to please me, so when she asked if I liked it, I **told a white lie** and said it was good."

toss something: throw something away; put something in the trash.

"These shoes are worn out. I guess I'll have to **toss them.**"

tough: difficult.

"Question number three is a **tough** one. Do you know the answer?"

There, there.: expression of comfort.

"**There, there.** Everything's going to be OK."

tight-fisted: very frugal; unwilling to spend money unnecessarily.

A: Do you think Charlie will donate any money to the activities fund?

B: No way! He's too **tight-fisted!**

a tightwad: someone who is very frugal and unwilling to spend money unnecessarily.

A: Will Charlie donate any money to the activities fund?

B: Absolutely not! He's a real **tightwad!**"

tricky: easily confused or misunderstood.

"This problem is **tricky.** I don't really understand it."

two-faced: deceitful; disloyal; someone who pretends to be a friend but isn't.

"I thought he was my friend, but he's **two-faced.** He says nice things to me when we're together, but makes jokes about me when we aren't."

U

under the weather: ill; sick; unwell.

"Ted was feeling **under the weather** yesterday, so he decided not to go to work."

until hell freezes over: forever.

"Chris can practice the piano **until hell freezes over**, but he'll never play well because he's tone-deaf."

Note: This expression is used to describe something that will not change, no matter how long or how often it's done.

until you're blue in the face: forever.

"You can talk **until you're blue in the face**, but I won't change my mind."

Note: This expression is used in the same way as "until hell freezes over."

update: make current; add information to show what has happened recently.

"I need to **update** my résumé. It doesn't show what I've done during the last year."

upside down: with the bottom part on top and the top part on bottom.

"Put the glasses **upside down** in the dishwasher. If you don't do that, they'll fill with water and you'll have to dry them by hand."

used to (+ V): an action that was true in the past but is not true now.

"Jane **used to** live in Austin, Texas. She lives in San Francisco now."

W

Was my face red!: I was very embarrassed.

"When I got to the meeting I noticed that I was wearing one black sock and one brown one. **Was my face red!**"

wear out one's welcome: make someone uncomfortable by visiting too long.

A: "Can't you stay two or three more days?"

B: "No. I don't want to **wear out my welcome**."

wet behind the ears: inexperienced and naive.

"Don't include Fred as part of the bargaining team. He's just started working here and is still too **wet behind the ears**."

What for?: Why?

A: "Come here for a minute. I need you."

B: "What for?"

Note: "What" and "for" can be separated--with "for" at the end of the question:

B: "What do you need me for?"

What's up?: What's new? What's happening?

"Hi, Dave. **What's up?**"

a white lie: a lie that is told to avoid offending someone or hurting his / her feelings.

"The cake that Susan made tasted terrible, but I knew that she made it because she wanted to please me, so when she asked if I liked it, I told a white lie and said it was good."

wishy-washy: uncommitted; without an opinion of one's own.

"Don't be so **wishy-washy**. Tell us how you really feel."

with bells on: very eagerly; with the feeling that one will have a very good time.

A: "Are you going to Sandra's party?"

B: "I'll be there **with bells on!**"

would ('d) just as soon: would ('d) rather; prefer.

"I know we have a lot of work to do, but I'm tired. I'd **just as soon** leave and finish tomorrow. Is that OK with you?"

y

a yes-man: someone who tries to get approval by agreeing with everyone.

A: "Why does the boss think Arnold is so intelligent?"

B: "Because Arnold is **a yes-man**. He agrees with everything the boss says!"

You don't say!: Really? / Is that really true?

A: "Have you heard the news? Jessica got married!"

B: "**You don't say!**"

You've got to be kidding!: You can't be serious! (What you said can't be true.

What you said is very surprising/hard to believe.) "

A: "Did you know that Bob quit his job?"

B: "**You've got to be kidding!**"

yucky: terrible; distasteful; very unpleasant.

"Don't eat the soup at the cafeteria. It's **yucky!**"

yummy: delicious.

"Have you tried the cookies that Jonathan baked? They're **yummy!**"

Z

zilch: nothing.

A: "How much money do you have?"

B: "**Zilch**. I'm broke until payday."

Zip your lip!: keep something secret; promise not to tell what has just been said.

"What I told you is really important, so **zip your lip!**"

Dave Sperling's
ESL SLANG PAGE

airhead: stupid person.

"Believe it or not, Dave can sometimes act like an **airhead!**"

amigo: friend (from Spanish).

"I met many **amigos** at Dave's ESL Cafe."

ammunition: toilet paper.

"Help! We're completely out of **ammunition!**"

antifreeze: alcohol.

"I'm going to need a lot of **antifreeze** tonight!"

armpit: dirty, unappealing place.

"This cheap motel is an absolute **armpit!**"

ass [offensive] (1): backside.

"I fell on my **ass** on the ski slopes."

ass (2): an unworthy and hated person.

"I cannot be friends when you act like an **ass.**"

awesome: great and impressive.

"Dave's ESL Cafe is truly **awesome!**"

baby boomer: a person born from the end of the Second World War until the early 1960s.

"Dave Sperling was born in 1961, so he's considered a **baby boomer.**"

ball (1): a fun time.

"I really had a **ball** in Dave's ESL class."

ball [offensive] (2): a testicle.

"After getting kicked in the **balls**, his voice seemed much higher."

bang (1): a very powerful thing.

"Disneyland is really a **bang!**"

bang (2): a powerful effect.

"Japanese sake really has a **bang!**"

barf (1): vomit.

"My dog **barfed** all over the carpet."

barf (2): vomit.

"Don't step on the **barf!**"

barf-out: a displeasing person or affair.

"That restaurant was a real **barf-out.**"

bazillion: an infinite number of something.

"Has Dennis really taught a **bazillion** students?"

B-ball: basketball.

"Do you wanna play **b-ball** with me?"

beans: money.

"I've worked for this company for ten years, but I still don't have **beans.**"

beat: tired.

"I'm really **beat** because I was awake all night."

beemer: a BMW.

"He wants to buy a **beemer** when he makes more money."

biggie: something important.

"I was hoping to get my homework completed, but it's no **biggie.** "

biker: a motorcycle rider.

"Dave used to be a **biker** until he got into a serious motorcycle accident."

bitch [offensive] (1): a very unpleasant woman.

"My boss can be such a **bitch** sometimes."

bitch [offensive] (2): complain.

"Stop **bitching** and finish your homework!"

bitchy [offensive]: moody.

"I like my friend Steve, even though he can be really **bitchy**."

bod: body.

"Stalone has a great **bod**!"

bonkers; go bonkers: crazy.

"If Dave works too hard, he sometimes goes slightly **bonkers**!"

booboo: a mistake.

"I made a **booboo** on the last question of the exam."

boob tube: television.

"Benjamin is always in front of the **boob tube**."

booze: alcohol.

"The ESL party was fun, even though there wasn't any **booze**."

boss: excellent; great.

"Dave's ESL Cafe is totally **boss**!"

bread: money.

"Can I borrow some **bread**?"

brew (1): coffee.

"Every morning Dave needs a fresh cup of **brew**."

brew (2): beer.

"Do you want another **brew**, dude?"

brewski: beer.

"I love drinking **brewskies**!"

B.S.: bullshit; lies.

"I'm tired of listening to your **B.S.**"

bull: bullshit; lie.

"That's a bunch of **bull!**"

bullshit [offensive]: lie; dishonesty.

"I don't like people that **bullshit** me"

buns [possibly offensive]: the rear end; buttocks.

"Don't stare at my **buns!**"

bushed: extremely tired.

"I'm completely **bushed.**"

butt: the buttocks.

"Stop sitting on your **butt** and help me wash the dishes!"

catch some rays: get some sunshine.

"Let's go to the beach and catch some **rays.**"

cheesy: cheap; outmoded.

"Why are you wearing such **cheesy** clothes?"

chicken: coward.

"Don't be such a **chicken!**"

cool: excellent; superb.

"Dave's ESL Cafe is totally **cool!**"

cooler, the: jail.

"If you drink and drive, you'll end up spending time in the **cooler.**"

couch potato: a person who watches too much television.

"Why did I have to marry such a **couch potato?**"

crap [offensive] (1): something worthless.

"My furniture is a bunch of cheap **crap.**"

crap [offensive] (2): excrement.

"Yuck! I stepped on dog **crap!**"

crap [offensive] (3): falsehoods and lies.

"I've had enough of your **crap**."

deck: to hit someone.

"His wife almost **decked** him when he returned home with lipstick on his shirt."

dicey: unpredictable; risky.

"Gambling is a **dicey** occupation."

dinero: money (from Spanish).

"I wish I had more **dinero**!"

dirt: extremely bad person.

"My ex-boyfriend was **dirt**."

dirty: offensive; pornographic.

"Stop looking at the pictures in that **dirty** magazine!"

dorky: strange; peculiar.

"If you keep acting so **dorky**, you'll never get a girlfriend!"

dude: a male.

"That's really cool, **dude**!"

dynamite: powerful; excellent.

"Dave gave a **dynamite** presentation."

dinosaur: something old fashioned or out of date.

"I'd love to surf the Net, but unfortunately my computer is a **dinosaur**."

el cheapo: something cheap.

"Since I don't make much money, I always purchase the **el cheapo** brand."

evil: great; excellent.

"Your car is really **evil**!"

eyeball: to stare long and hard at someone or something.

"Dave **eyeballed** his daughter's new boyfriend."

eyepopper: something or someone visibly astounding.

"Wow, that girl is truly an **eyepopper!**"

fab: fabulous.

"Dave's ESL Cafe is really **fab!**"

face-off: confrontation.

"I think it's time we had a **face-off.**"

fart [offensive]: to expel intestinal gas.

"It's embarrassing to **fart** on the first date."

fender-bender: small accident.

"This morning I had a **fender-bender** on the Ventura Freeway."

flaky: unpredictable.

"I waited four hours for my **flaky** friend to show up."

flashback: sudden memory.

"In Little Tokyo I had a **flashback** to my days living in Japan."

flick: movie.

"Let's go out tonight and watch a **flick.**"

fox: attractive, alluring person.

"Is it true that Dave is a **fox?**"

freebie: something that does not cost money.

"My trip to New York was a **freebie.**"

French kiss [possibly offensive]: kissing with the tongue.

"Dave's dog is always trying to **French kiss** him!"

geek: someone who works too hard, is more intelligent than usual, and is slightly unattractive.

"Bill Gates is kind of a **geek.**"

get it: to understand something.

"Sorry, but I just don't **get it**."

get naked [possibly offensive]: to completely relax and have a good time.

"Let's **get naked** tonight!"

glitch: flaw.

"There must be a glitch in this **software**."

go bananas: go slightly mad.

"This project is causing me to **go bananas!**"

gomer: a dumb person.

"Stop acting like a **gomer!**"

goof (1): a silly and foolish person.

"What a **goof** you are!"

goof (2): make a mistake.

I really **goofed** on the test today."

goof off (1): waste time.

"Stop **goofing off** and help me clean the house!"

goof-off (2): someone who wastes time and isn't serious.

"A **goof-off** never does well in school"

goof up: make a mistake.

"Oh no! I really **goofed up!**"

goofy: silly.

"Kids always make me feel **goofy!**"

grabbers: hands.

"Have you washed your **grabbers**, Benjamin?"

grand: one thousand dollars.

"He's making over a hundred **grand** a year!"

grass: marijuana.

"Have you ever smoked **grass**?"

grub: food.

"Where's the **grub**?!"

grubby: not clean.

"I always feel **grubby** in the morning."

grungy: unclean and stinky.

"**Grungy** people are not allowed in Dave's house!"

gut: a person's stomach; belly.

"Dave is getting a big **gut** because he loves chocolate ice cream and beer!"

guts (1): courage.

"It took a lot of **guts** to ask his boss for a raise."

guts (2): the nature of something.

"Let's get to the **guts** of Dave Sperling!"

hairly: difficult; dangerous.

"The steep and windy road was really **hairly**."

hang a left: make a left turn.

"**Hang a left** at the next corner."

hang a right: make a right turn.

"**Hang a right** at the next corner."

head: toilet.

"I really need to use the **head**!"

hep: sensible; informed.

"She's a really **hep** student."

hickey: a love bite on the skin.

"Wow! Is that a **hickey** on your neck?"

hip: sensible; informed.

"He really tries hard to be **hip**."

hooker [possibly offensive]: prostitute.

"You'll find a lot of **hookers** in the red light district."

horny [possibly offensive]: sexually stimulated; in the mood for sex.

"Red wine seems to make my boyfriend **horny**."

hot (1): popular.

"Brad Pitt is really **hot** now."

hot (2): sexy.

"Wow! Cindy Crawford is really **hot!**"

humungous: really big.

"American supermarkets are **humungous**."

hungries, to have: be hungry.

"I don't know about you, but I've got the **hungries**."

hyper: overly excited.

"Children often get **hyper** when they are tired."

icky: unpleasant.

"The food is really **icky** in the school cafeteria."

I.D.: identification.

"If you want to order a beer, you'll need your **I.D.**"

I'm outta here: I'm leaving; I'm departing.

"Sorry, but **I'm outta here**, dude."

in: fashionable.

"Ray-Ban sunglasses are really **in** now."

ivories: teeth.

"Tom Cruise has really beautiful **ivories**."

jack around [possibly offensive]: waste time.

"Will you please stop **jacking around**?"

jam, in a (1): trouble.

"If you're in a **jam**, I promise to help you."

jam (2): improvise (musically).

"I'd love to **jam** with Bon Jovi!"

jamming, to be : going well.

"Dave's ESL Cafe is really **jamming**!"

jerk: stupid or annoying person.

"How could you go out with such a **jerk**?"

jillion: an immense number.

"Do you really have a **jillion** problems?"

jock: someone good at sports.

"I've never been much of a **jock**."

john: toilet.

"Where's the **john**?"

K (k): a thousand.

"I could retire with 100 **K (k)**!"

kick back: relax and enjoy.

"I wish I could **kick back** at the beach today."

kick off: die.

"My dog finally **kicked off**."

killer: something exceptional or great.

"Wow, your boyfriend is **killer!**"

knock: condemn.

"Don't **knock** it unless you've tried it."

knockout: beautiful woman; handsome man.

"Benjamin is already a **knockout!**"

kook: peculiar person.

"Stop acting like a **kook!**"

laid back: relaxed; calm.

"I always feel **laid back** at the beach."

lame: incompetent.

"Dave is really **lame** when it comes to fixing his car."

lip: cheeky talk.

"My students are always giving me **lip!**"

loser: a bungling and worthless person.

"Why are you dating such a **loser?**"

love handles: excess fat around the waist.

"Is it possible for Dave to lose his **love handles?**"

luck out: to be lucky or fortunate.

"You really **luck out** by visiting Dave's ESL Cafe!"

make waves: cause problems.

"Teachers don't like students to **make waves.**"

max, to the : maximum.

"I'm happy to the **max.**"

mega: big.

"American restaurants serve **mega** portions of food."

megabucks: a large amount of money.

"It takes megabucks to live in Japan."

mellow: relaxed.

"I'm feeling very **mellow** this evening."

mickey-mouse: unimportant; time-wasting.

"I'm sick of this **mickey-mouse** job."

monkey bite: a kiss that leaves a mark on the skin.

"I don't want any **monkey bites** tonight, okay?"

munch out: to eat voraciously.

"Let's **munch out** on a large pizza!"

nada: nothing (from Spanish).

"I know **nada** about politics."

neat: cool; great.

"Isn't my new car **neat**?"

noid: someone that's paranoid.

"Why are you so **noid**?"

nuke (1): nuclear weapon.

"This world had too many **nukes**."

nuke (2): destroy; delete.

"Sorry, but I accidentally **nuked** your e-mail message."

nuke (3): cook something in the microwave oven.

"Can you **nuke** this frozen pizza for me?"

nut (1): odd or crazy person.

"Why are you always acting like a **nut**?"

nut (2): someone passionate about something.

"I'm a nut about **computers**."

nuts [offensive]: testicles.

"Don't ever kick me in the **nuts**."

okay: decent.

"My boss is an **okay** person."

OK: decent.

"Dave is an **okay** person."

pad: someone's home.

"Can I sleep at your **pad** tonight?"

party: celebrate.

"Let's **party** tonight!"

party animal: someone that loves parties.

"Dave has been known to sometimes be a **party animal**."

paws: hands.

"Get your **paws** off me!"

peanuts: very little money.

"I love my job, but the pay is **peanuts**."

pee: to urinate.

"I always have to **pee** after drinking beer."

pickled: drunk.

"He got **pickled** on vodka."

pig out: eat too much.

"Dave is famous for **pigging out** on chocolate ice cream."

piss: to urinate.

"My dog **pissed** on me!"

pissed (off): angry; upset.

"I'm really **pissed (off)** at you."

plastered: drunk.

"Why does he always get **plastered**?"

pad: someone's home.

"Can I sleep at your **pad** tonight?"

poop, the (1): knowledge; information.

"What's the **poop** on Michael Jackson?"

poop [offensive] (2): defecation; shit.

"Be careful not to step on dog **poop**."

poop out: get tired and quit.

"I got **pooped out** after spending eight hours at Disneyland."

pot (1): toilet.

"Who's on the **pot**?"

pot (2): marijuana.

"It's easy to buy **pot** in the big city."

pro: someone who's good at something; professional.

"She's really a **pro** at golf."

psycho: crazy person.

"Stay away from that **psycho**!"

puke: vomit.

"Alcohol makes some people **puke**."

pumped (up): excited.

"I'm really **pumped (up)** about Dave's ESL Cafe!"

puss: the face.

"My girlfriend slapped me right on the **puss**."

quarterback: leader.

"Dave is the **quarterback** of Dave's ESL Cafe."

quick and dirty: done fast, but not well.

"The mechanic did a **quick and dirty** repair on my car."

racket (1): noise.

"Small kids can make a lot of **racket**."

racket (2): something that's dishonest or deceptive.

"The Tobacco Industry is quite a **racket**."

racket (3): an occupation.

"I've been in the ESL **racket** for fourteen years."

rank: give someone a difficult time.

"She's always **ranking** her teacher."

rat: a despicable person.

"I thought I loved you, but now I know you're really a **rat**."

razz: annoy someone.

"Will you please stop **razzing** me?"

rear (end): buttocks.

"Dave fell on his **rear (end)**."

riot, a : something or someone very funny.

"Jim Carrey is a **riot!**"

rip off (1): stealing.

"Someone **ripped off** my car."

rip off (2): fraud.

"I paid \$10,000 for my computer. What a **rip off!**"

rocking: great; excellent.

"Dave's ESL class is really **rocking!**"

rubbish: nonsense; not true.

"That rumor is a bunch of **rubbish.**"

rug rat: a child.

"Dave has a couple of **rug rats** at home."

runs, the: diarrhea.

"Oh no! I've got **the runs!**"

scarf: to eat.

"I can easily **scarf** an entire banana split."

screw up: to make a mistake.

"I **screwed up** on the driving test, so I didn't pass."

screw-up: a person who makes a mistake.

"Why are you such a **screw-up?**"

scum: a despicable individual.

"Don't hang around with that kind of **scum.**"

shades: sunglasses.

"Those are really cool **shades!**"

shoot some hoops: play basketball.

"Let's shoot some **hoops!**"

silks: clothing.

"Those are really awesome **silks!**"

smarts: intelligence.

"It takes a lot of **smarts** to become a doctor."

smurfbrain: a dumb or stupid person.

"Stop acting like a **smurfbrain!**"

snookered: cheated.

"I got **snookered** into buying swamp land in Florida."

sofa spud: a person who watches too much television.

"I'm usually a **sofa spud** on Sunday."

solid (1): really good; cool.

"Dave's ESL Cafe is totally **solid!**"

solid (2): consecutive.

"It's been raining for seven **solid** days."

specs: eyeglasses.

"I didn't know that you wore **specs.**"

split: to leave.

"Let's **split** from here now."

spunk: spirit.

"She might be small, but she's got a lot of **spunk.**"

stoned (out): drunk from drugs or alcohol.

"I'm really **stoned (out)**, dude!"

street smart: knowledgeable about city life.

"Since Dave is from Los Angeles, he's very **street smart.**"

suck: to be bad and unacceptable.

"That song really **sucks!**"

technicolor yawn, to do a : vomit.

"My dog just did a **technicolor yawn** all over the carpet!"

thou: thousand.

"I need to borrow a hundred **thou**."

threads: clothing.

"My wife spent \$900 on new **threads**."

ticker (1): the heart.

"My grandfather has a bad **ticker**."

ticker (2): a watch.

"Wow! That's a really cool **ticker**!"

tints: sunglasses.

"You have to wear **tints** in California."

totally: really; completely.

"That's **totally** awesome, dude!"

to the max: maximum.

"I studied **to the max**."

turkey (1): failure; flop.

"Thank goodness that Dave's ESL Cafe is not a **turkey**!"

turkey (2): dumb person.

"**Turkeys** are not allowed to work for this company."

turn-off: something that repulses a person.

"Bad breath is a real **turn-off**."

umpteen: many; countless.

"I've asked you **umpteen** times to show me the money!"

unlax: relax.

"Dave needs to definitely **unlax** with his family."

upchuck: vomit.

"She got sick and **upchucked** three times."

uptight: nervous; anxious.

"Why are you so **uptight**?"

vanilla (1): plain.

"She drives a **vanilla** car."

vanilla (2): Caucasian.

"The Midwest is too **vanilla** for me."

wad: roll of money.

"It's dangerous to carry a big **wad** in your pocket."

wasted: killed.

"A lot of people get **wasted** in the streets of New York."

wheels: car; motorcycle.

"If you want to live in Los Angeles, you've got to get some **wheels**"

whitebread: plain; boring.

"Dave's ESL Cafe is definitely not **whitebread**!"

whiz (1): someone who shows a special talent for something.

"Einstein was a **whiz** in Physics."

whiz [offensive] (2): to urinate.

"I really have to take a **whiz**."

wimpy: weak.

"Don't be so **wimpy**!"

winks, get some: sleep.

"I really need to get some **winks**"

wrongo: wrong.

"That is totally **wrongo**!"

yank (1): bother; harass.

"Stop **yanking** me, okay?"

Yank (2): a Yankee; an American.

"Dave is a **Yank**."

zero: an unimportant person.

"If you don't work hard, you'll end up a **zero**."

zip (1): nothing.

"I don't know **zip** about you."

zip (2): energy; vigor.

"I need something that will give me more **zip**."

zit: pimple; acne.

"Teens often have a lot of **zits**."

Idioms Beginning with A

1. "A bit" means ____.
 - a. some thing to eat
 - b. to help someone
 - c. a small amount
2. "About time" means ____.
 - a. at the right time
 - b. soon
 - c. at last
3. "Across the board" means ____.
 - a. everyone or everything is included
 - b. to travel between countries
 - c. uninteresting
4. To "act up" means ____.
 - a. to share an idea
 - b. to behave badly
 - c. to pretend to be rich
5. A man "after my own heart" means ____.
 - a. liking the same things as me
 - b. looks like me
 - c. follows me
6. "Against the clock" means ____.
 - a. a new record
 - b. a test of speed or time
 - c. an impossible task
7. "All along" means ____.
 - a. all the time
 - b. to agree
 - c. altogether
8. "All hours" means ____.
 - a. at regular times
 - b. at irregular times
 - c. every hour
9. "Along in years" means ____.
 - a. getting old
 - b. getting tired
 - c. becoming successful
10. "And then some" means ____.
 - a. not many

- b. and only a few
- c. and a lot more

Idioms Beginning with B

1. A "babe in the woods" means ____.
 - a. someone who cuts trees
 - b. someone who is young
 - c. someone who is innocent
2. To "back down" means ____.
 - a. to give up a claim
 - b. to sit down
 - c. to fight for something
3. To "back out" means ____.
 - a. to support someone
 - b. to be trapped
 - c. to get out of an agreement
4. A "bad trip" means ____.
 - a. to lose money
 - b. an unpleasant drug experience
 - c. to be unsuccessful
5. "He didn't bat an eye" means the same as ____.
 - a. he didn't see
 - b. he wasn't happy
 - c. he didn't show surprise
6. To "bear in mind" means ____.
 - a. to forget something
 - b. to be crazy
 - c. to remember something
7. To "beat around the bush" means ____.
 - a. to not know
 - b. to avoid a question
 - c. to go on a hike
8. To "beef up" means ____.
 - a. to go crazy
 - b. to have fun
 - c. to make something stronger
9. "Behind the scenes" means ____.
 - a. in a different place
 - b. privately
 - c. in a difficult position
10. "Below the belt" means ____.
 - a. good
 - b. secretly
 - c. unfairly

Idioms Beginning with C

1. To "call it a day" means ____.
 - a. to quit
 - b. it becomes evening
 - c. to say good morning
2. To "call the tune" means ____.
 - a. to sing a song
 - b. to give orders
 - c. to give advice
3. To "carry off" means ____.
 - a. to move
 - b. to kill
 - c. to drop
4. To put the "cart before the horse" means ____.
 - a. to plan ahead
 - b. that you can't do something
 - c. to do things in the wrong order
5. To "catch on" means ____.
 - a. to understand
 - b. to be punished
 - c. to grab something
6. To "be caught short" means ____.
 - a. to be in an embarrassing situation
 - b. to take a short sleep
 - c. not to have enough of something when needed
7. "Cheap skate" means ____.
 - a. a winter sports activity
 - b. someone who doesn't spend much money
 - c. something that isn't expensive
8. To "check up" means ____.
 - a. to search
 - b. to investigate
 - c. to make a mark to show something has been counted
9. To "cheer up" means ____.
 - a. to become happy
 - b. to become sad
 - c. to become lost
10. "Chicken feed" means ____.
 - a. a lot of food
 - b. a small amount of money
 - c. A group of people gathering together

Idioms Beginning with D

1. I "dare say" means ____.
 - a. I don't know at all

- b. I definitely know
- c. I suppose
- 2. To "dash off" means ____.
 - a. to do, make, or draw something quickly
 - b. to be deeply asleep
 - c. to be precise
- 3. "Dead tired" means ____.
 - a. no longer living
 - b. very tired
 - c. someone doesn't have long to live
- 4. To be in "deep water" means ____.
 - a. to be lazy
 - b. to be in serious trouble
 - c. to not care about things
- 5. If something "dies down", it means it ____.
 - a. falls over
 - b. dies quickly
 - c. fades away
- 6. To "die out" means ____.
 - a. to fail
 - b. to die quickly
 - c. to disappear slowly
- 7. A "dime a dozen" means ____.
 - a. it is expensive
 - b. something is unusual
 - c. something is easy to get
- 8. To "dish out" means ____.
 - a. to serve
 - b. to gossip
 - c. to make
- 9. To "do away with" something means ____.
 - a. to treat something
 - b. to stop something
 - c. to hide something
- 10. If someone is "down to earth", they are ____.
 - a. strange
 - b. practical
 - c. shy

Idioms Beginning with E

- 1. "Easy does it" means ____.
 - a. let's do it later
 - b. let's do it carefully
 - c. let's do it quickly
- 2. To "eat your words" means ____.
 - a. to apologise
 - b. to shout loudly
 - c. to be quiet

3. To "eat out" means ____.
 - a. to rot away
 - b. to eat in a restaurant
 - c. to eat everything
4. To "edge out" means ____.
 - a. to move in slowly
 - b. with the narrow side outwards
 - c. to force out
5. To "eke out" means ____.
 - a. to rush out
 - b. to do with difficulty
 - c. to make easily
6. "En masse" means ____.
 - a. one by one
 - b. nobody
 - c. as a group
7. If you "keep an eye out" it means ____.
 - a. watch carefully
 - b. you are in charge
 - c. you don't pay attention
8. To "eat like a horse" means ____.
 - a. to eat noisily
 - b. to eat a little
 - c. to eat a lot
9. To "egg on" means ____.
 - a. to eat enough
 - b. to encourage
 - c. to annoy
10. To "ease up" means ____.
 - a. to make less nervous
 - b. to increase pressure
 - c. to go faster

Idioms Beginning with F

1. To "face the music" means ____.
 - a. accept your punishment
 - b. listen carefully
 - c. ask a lot of questions
2. When it's "fair and square" it's ____.
 - a. unusual
 - b. confused
 - c. honest
3. To "fall behind" means to ____.
 - a. not keep up
 - b. hurt yourself
 - c. get angry
4. If something "falls through" it ____.
 - a. happens perfectly

- b. explodes
- c. fails to happen
- 5. "Far and wide" means ____.
 - a. in a limited area
 - b. everywhere
 - c. at one time
- 6. "Fat chance" means ____.
 - a. very lucky
 - b. no possibility
 - c. unlucky
- 7. "If it's a "feather in your cap" it means it's ____.
 - a. a problem
 - b. cowardly
 - c. an honour
- 8. If you are "fed up" you have ____.
 - a. had enough
 - b. eaten enough
 - c. drunk too much
- 9. If you "feel like" something you ____.
 - a. want to touch something
 - b. don't like something
 - c. want to do something
- 10. To "feel out" means to ____.
 - a. test an idea
 - b. tell a secret
 - c. hide something

Idioms Beginning with G

- 1. To "gather in" means to ____.
 - a. collect
 - b. give out
 - c. organize
- 2. The "gift of the gab" means you are ____.
 - a. experienced
 - b. very intelligent
 - c. skilled in talking
- 3. To "gloss over" means to ____.
 - a. encourage
 - b. praise
 - c. try to hide
- 4. "To go like clockwork" means to ____.
 - a. run smoothly
 - b. go crazy
 - c. cost a lot of money
- 5. A "golf widow" is a woman who is ____.
 - a. left at home when her husband plays golf
 - b. in charge of the house
 - c. not married

6. To "grin and bear it" means to ____.
 - a. put up with something
 - b. be angry
 - c. misunderstand
7. "To gun for" means to ____.
 - a. try to help
 - b. try to stop
 - c. try to hurt
8. If someone is "gung ho", they are ____.
 - a. stupid
 - b. childish
 - c. enthusiastic
9. "Great guns" means ____.
 - a. slow and precise
 - b. big and heavy
 - c. fast and hard

Idioms Beginning with H

1. If something is "half baked", it's ____.
 - a. very useful
 - b. incomplete
 - c. unusual
2. To "hail from" means to ____.
 - a. send from
 - b. come from
 - c. send to
3. To "hand it to" means to ____.
 - a. give credit to
 - b. take from
 - c. allow
4. To "hang your head" means to ____.
 - a. feel shameful
 - b. be brave
 - c. be over-confident
5. "No hard feelings" means the same as ____.
 - a. don't worry
 - b. thank you
 - c. please
6. If your "heart goes out to someone", you ____.
 - a. try to help them
 - b. feel sorry for them
 - c. love them
7. If you get a "head start", you ____.
 - a. are the winner
 - b. are lost
 - c. begin before the others
8. If something is "heavy-duty", it ____.
 - a. weighs a lot

- b. is tough and powerful
- c. must be done
- 9. To "hook up" with means to ____.
 - a. lose
 - b. fight
 - c. connect
- 10. If it's "hush-hush" it's ____.
 - a. easy
 - b. secret
 - c. difficult

Idioms Beginning with I

- 1. If you are "in the family way", you are ____.
 - a. shy
 - b. popular
 - c. pregnant
- 2. If it's "in the wind", it's ____.
 - a. imminent
 - b. lost
 - c. furnished
- 3. If you are "in the dog house", you are ____.
 - a. enthusiastic
 - b. in trouble
 - c. happy
- 4. "In the pink" means to be ____.
 - a. drunk
 - b. healthy
 - c. rich
- 5. To "iron out" means to ____.
 - a. complete small details
 - b. make problems
 - c. plan ahead
- 6. "In toto" means ____.
 - a. no where
 - b. something
 - c. everything
- 7. The "ins and outs" are ____.
 - a. the small details
 - b. everyone
 - c. complications
- 8. If something is "in your hair", it's ____.
 - a. interesting
 - b. amusing
 - c. annoying
- 9. "In hand" means ____.
 - a. unmanageable
 - b. under control
 - c. difficult

10. "In the nick of time" means ____.
- a. too late
 - b. on time
 - c. in time

Idioms Beginning with J

1. To "jazz up" means to ____.
- a. go faster
 - b. make something more exciting
 - c. make a lot of noise

Answer

2. To "join forces" means to ____.
- a. fight
 - b. be strong
 - c. unite

Answer

3. "Joking apart" means you ____.
- a. are serious
 - b. are trying to make people laugh
 - c. are not united

Answer

4. If you "jump at" something you ____.
- a. are scared
 - b. don't understand
 - c. accept it quickly

Answer

5. If it is "just what the doctor ordered" it's ____.
- a. still a dream
 - b. what you need
 - c. totally wrong

6. "Just about" means ____.
- a. soon
 - b. nearly
 - c. too much

7. To "jump through hoops" means ____.
- a. be in charge
 - b. obey any order
 - c. be naughty

8. To "jump down someone's throat" means to ____.
- a. run away
 - b. make a joke
 - c. scold them

9. To "jump on the bandwagon" means to ____.
- a. continue
 - b. rest
 - c. join in

10. A girl who is "jailbait" is ____.
- a. very loud
 - b. interested in fishing
 - c. still a minor

Idioms Beginning with K

1. To "kick around" means to ____.
 - a. treat badly
 - b. hide
 - c. look for something
2. To "kick the bucket" means to ____.
 - a. get married
 - b. have a baby
 - c. die
3. "Knock it off" means the same as ____.
 - a. buy it
 - b. yes, please
 - c. stop it
4. To "know the ropes" means to be ____.
 - a. experienced
 - b. confident
 - c. ignorant
5. If you are a "know-it-all", you are ____.
 - a. over confident
 - b. shy
 - c. a little strange
6. If a woman is a "knock-out" she's ____.
 - a. intelligent
 - b. powerful
 - c. very attractive
7. To "kick up a fuss" means to ____.
 - a. be honest
 - b. behave badly
 - c. have a good time
8. If someone says to you to "keep your shirt on", you should ____.
 - a. take control
 - b. leave
 - c. calm down
9. To "keep on" means to ____.
 - a. stop
 - b. continue
 - c. start
10. If you "keep something down", you ____.
 - a. control it
 - b. lose it
 - c. hide it

Idioms Beginning with L

1. To "lash out" means to ____.
 - a. shout at someone
 - b. relax
 - c. kick or punch someone
2. To "laugh off" means to ____.
 - a. make lots of jokes
 - b. make lots of noise
 - c. not take something seriously
3. To "lean on" someone means to ____.
 - a. entertain them
 - b. pressure them
 - c. annoy them
4. "In less than no time" means ____.
 - a. in a few days
 - b. much later
 - c. very soon
5. To do it "like mad" means to do it ____.
 - a. enthusiastically
 - b. sloppily
 - c. carefully
6. If you have a "long face", you look ____.
 - a. angry
 - b. sad
 - c. proud
7. "Look alive" means ____.
 - a. act busy
 - b. be quiet
 - c. listen carefully
8. To "lose heart" means to ____.
 - a. take offense
 - b. make a mistake
 - c. become unenthusiastic
9. The "low down" is ____.
 - a. the problem
 - b. the total truth
 - c. the solution
10. To "lap it up" means ____.
 - a. take it in eagerly
 - b. act confidently
 - c. give encouragement freely

Idioms Beginning with M

1. If it takes a "month of Sundays", it ____.
 - a. happens quickly

- b. won't happen
- c. feels like a long time
- 2. If someone "means business", they are ____.
 - a. serious
 - b. interested
 - c. bored
- 3. To "mark time" means to ____.
 - a. be idle
 - b. be busy
 - c. rush around
- 4. To "make up your mind" means to ____.
 - a. decide
 - b. be confused
 - c. be efficient
- 5. A "matter of course" means ____.
 - a. as a rule
 - b. maybe
 - c. when you want to
- 6. To "make off with" means to ____.
 - a. leave behind
 - b. kiss
 - c. steal
- 7. To "make believe" means to ____.
 - a. forget
 - b. hope
 - c. pretend
- 8. If you are "mixed up", you are ____.
 - a. in a hurry
 - b. confused
 - c. lost
- 9. If something "makes sense", it ____.
 - a. isn't practical
 - b. seems reasonable
 - c. is impossible
- 10. To "make a difference" is to ____.
 - a. lose something
 - b. matter
 - c. be in charge

Idioms Beginning with N

- 1. To "nail it down" means to ____.
 - a. start it
 - b. finalize it
 - c. talk about it
- 2. In this "neck of the woods" is ____.
 - a. the way we do something
 - b. around here
 - c. the way things were

3. "Never mind" means ____.
 - a. don't worry about it
 - b. pardon
 - c. why
4. "No doubt" means ____.
 - a. maybe
 - b. definitely not
 - c. certaintyTo "nose around" is to ____.
 - a. be difficult
 - b. explore
 - c. lose
5. "No sweat" means ____.
 - a. it's easy to do, ok
 - b. work harder
 - c. I'm sorry
6. If you are "no spring chicken" you ____.
 - a. are inexperienced
 - b. aren't energetic
 - c. aren't young
7. To "nip it in the bud" means to ____.
 - a. prevent it at the start
 - b. encourage something
 - c. expect greatness from it
8. To be "neck and neck" means to be ____.
 - a. angry with each other
 - b. like someone a lot
 - c. exactly even
9. If your "name is mud" you are ____.
 - a. well liked
 - b. well respected
 - c. in trouble

Idioms Beginning with O

1. "Of age" means to be ____.
 - a. capable
 - b. not able
 - c. old enough
2. If you are "off the hook", you are ____.
 - a. going to do something bad
 - b. out of trouble
 - c. crazy
3. If something is "old hat", it ____.
 - a. isn't new
 - b. isn't popular
 - c. well known
4. "Of service" means to be ____.
 - a. efficient

- b. useful
- c. desirable
- 5. "Once in a blue moon" is ____.
 - a. often
 - b. sometimes
 - c. rarely
- 6. To be "on edge" is to be ____.
 - a. ignorant
 - b. nervous
 - c. knowledgeable
- 7. "On time" means ____.
 - a. late
 - b. expected to be late
 - c. not late
- 8. "Out like a light" means to ____.
 - a. run away
 - b. work very hard
 - c. go to sleep quickly
- 9. "Out of order" means it ____.
 - a. is untidy
 - b. doesn't work
 - c. is unavailable
- 10. "Out of shape" means to be ____.
 - a. unfit
 - b. energetic
 - c. or do something unusual

Idioms Beginning with P

- 1. To "pack off" means to ____.
 - a. put away
 - b. give away
 - c. send away
- 2. A "pain in the neck" means something is ____.
 - a. unusual
 - b. bothersome
 - c. difficult to see
- 3. To "pair off" means to ____.
 - a. separate things
 - b. make large groups
 - c. put two things together
- 4. If it is "par for the course", it is ____.
 - a. typical
 - b. very good
 - c. terrible
- 5. To "part with" means to ____.
 - a. belong to
 - b. a section of
 - c. be separated from

6. To "pass over" means to ____.
 - a. overtake
 - b. ignore
 - c. give up
7. "Pint-size" is ____.
 - a. very big
 - b. average
 - c. small
8. To "pop up" means to ____.
 - a. volunteer
 - b. appear suddenly
 - c. raise your head
9. "To pull off" means to ____.
 - a. lose something
 - b. succeed
 - c. plan
10. To "put down" means to ____.
 - a. crush or stop
 - b. encourage or excite
 - c. fast or erratic movement

Idioms Beginning with Q

1. If it's "on the QT", it's ____.
 - a. quick
 - b. on credit
 - c. secret
2. If you are "quaking in your boots", you are ____.
 - a. brave
 - b. afraid
 - c. confident
3. If you are "quick on the trigger", you are quick to ____.
 - a. respond
 - b. make mistakes
 - c. quit or finish something
4. "Quick on the uptake" means you are quick to ____.
 - a. do things
 - b. understand
 - c. volunteer
5. "Quiet as a mouse" describes someone who is ____.
 - a. interesting
 - b. loud
 - c. timid

Idioms Beginning with R

1. To "raise eyebrows" is to ____.
 - a. question something

- b. be afraid
- c. shock
- 2. If something will happen "rain or shine", it'll happen ____.
 - a. at some point, but we don't know when
 - b. outside
 - c. no matter what
- 3. To "rattle off" is to ____.
 - a. break something
 - b. say things quickly
 - c. be old
- 4. "Razzle dazzle" is ____.
 - a. a fancy display
 - b. an unusual event
 - c. something impossible
- 5. The "rear end" is ____.
 - a. the start of something
 - b. a one way street
 - c. the back part
- 6. To "ride out" something is ____.
 - a. finish successfully
 - b. to survive safely
 - c. give up
- 7. If it's to the "right and left" it's ____.
 - a. rare
 - b. very quick
 - c. all around
- 8. If something "rings a bell", it ____.
 - a. makes a lot of noise
 - b. is frightening
 - c. sounds familiar
- 9. To "rip into" means to ____.
 - a. enjoy
 - b. attack
 - c. savour
- 10. To "run away with" means to ____.
 - a. lend
 - b. steal
 - c. borrow

Idioms Beginning with S

- 1. If it's "safe and sound", it's ____.
 - a. not allowed
 - b. beautiful
 - c. not harmed
- 2. If someone says "same here", they are ____.
 - a. agreeing
 - b. arguing
 - c. disagreeing

3. To "say the word" means to ____.
 - a. give a sign
 - b. apologize
 - c. give up
4. To "screw up" is to ____.
 - a. do it perfectly
 - b. make a mess
 - c. go higher and higher
5. If you "see eye to eye" with someone, you ____ them.
 - a. oppose
 - b. encourage
 - c. agree with
6. To "set your sight" on something means to ____ something.
 - a. aim for
 - b. look for
 - c. ask for
7. To "shell out" for something is to ____.
 - a. hide it
 - b. spend money on it
 - c. try to find it
8. If you are "sick and tired", you are ____.
 - a. exasperated
 - b. jealous
 - c. angry
9. "Shut your trap" is an impolite way of saying "please ____".
 - a. leave".
 - b. go away".
 - c. be quiet".
10. If you are "stuck up", you are ____.
 - a. snobbish
 - b. in trouble
 - c. problimatical

Idioms Beginning with T

1. To "take charge" is to ____.
 - a. follow
 - b. lead
 - c. misunderstand
2. To "talk back" is to ____.
 - a. ask a question
 - b. shout
 - c. answer rudely
3. To "tell something apart" is to ____.
 - a. put it aside for later use
 - b. correct someone
 - c. find the differences
4. "The works" is ____.
 - a. the boss

- b. everything
- c. movement
- 5. To "think up" is to ____ something.
 - a. aim for
 - b. improve
 - c. invent
- 6. To "think twice" is to ____.
 - a. create something
 - b. tell a lie
 - c. hesitate
- 7. To go "through thick or thin" is to ____.
 - a. lose a lot of weight
 - b. get married
 - c. have many kinds of experiences
- 8. To "throw up" is to ____.
 - a. get rid of something
 - b. vomit
 - c. give up
- 9. To "tip off" someone is to ____ them.
 - a. warn
 - b. attack
 - c. like
- 10. To do something "to a T" is to do it ____.
 - a. badly
 - b. perfectly
 - c. shortly

Idioms Beginning with U

- 1. "Uh-huh" means the same as ____.
 - a. no
 - b. yes
 - c. maybe
- 2. If it's "under your nose", it's ____.
 - a. well hidden
 - b. your fault
 - c. within sight
- 3. To have the "upper hand" is to have ____.
 - a. the advantage
 - b. permission
 - c. the next go
- 4. If you get "used to" something, you ____ it.
 - a. get rid of
 - b. take care of
 - c. become accustomed to
- 5. If it's "up in the air", it's ____.
 - a. important

- b. undecided
- c. unwanted
- 6. "Under your breath" means to ____.
 - a. whisper
 - b. tell a secret
 - c. hesitate
- 7. "Under the sun" means ____.
 - a. it's impossible
 - b. it's unusual
 - c. on earth
- 8. If you are "up front", you are ____.
 - a. bold
 - b. sincere
 - c. brave
- 9. "Under wraps" means ____.
 - a. in secret
 - b. with difficulty
 - c. in a small space
- 10. If you are "up tight", you are ____.
 - a. rich
 - b. worried
 - c. an executive

Idioms Beginning with V

- 1. "Very well" can mean the same as ____.
 - a. no
 - b. later
 - c. giving consent
- 2. To "vote down" is to ____ something.
 - a. accept
 - b. defeat
 - c. propose
- 3. To "veg out" means to ____.
 - a. get angry
 - b. get excited
 - c. relax
- 4. If someone talks about "vibes", they are talking about ____.
 - a. feelings
 - b. experiences
 - c. desires

Idioms Beginning with W

- 1. If you "walk off with", something you ____ it.
 - a. steal

- b. forget
- c. borrow
- 2. "Walking on air" means you are ____.
 - a. happy
 - b. depressed
 - c. upset
- 3. To "walk all over" someone is to ____ them.
 - a. mislead
 - b. aggravate
 - c. impose on
- 4. "Watch out" means ____.
 - a. be careful
 - b. relax
 - c. hurry up
- 5. "Water down" means to ____.
 - a. make stronger
 - b. have a beer
 - c. weaken
- 6. The "way the wind blows" is ____.
 - a. how things were
 - b. the way things are
 - c. how things are going to be
- 7. To "wear on" someone is to ____ them.
 - a. agree with
 - b. annoy
 - c. ignore
- 8. To say "word for word" means to ____.
 - a. condense it
 - b. change what was said
 - c. say it exactly the same
- 9. To "wet one's whistle" is to ____.
 - a. be happy
 - b. have a problem
 - c. have a drink

Idioms Beginning with Y

- 1. If you are "yellow bellied", you are ____.
 - a. brave
 - b. conceited
 - c. cowardly
- 2. "You bet" means ____.
 - a. no
 - b. certainly
 - c. if I can
- 3. "You don't say" shows ____.
 - a. disbelief

- b. annoyance
- c. surprise
- 4. "You tell them" ____ someone.
 - a. encourages
 - b. disciplines
 - c. corrects
- 5. "Year in, year out" means ____.
 - a. never
 - b. constantly
 - c. eventually
- 6. "You can say that again" shows ____.
 - a. condemnation
 - b. acceptance
 - c. agreement
- 7. If you are a "yes man" you always ____.
 - a. argue
 - b. agree
 - c. question
- 8. If something is "yummy", it's ____.
 - a. delicious
 - b. horrible
 - c. frightening

Idioms Beginning with Z

- 1. To "zonk-out" is to ____.
 - a. daydream
 - b. get excited
 - c. fall asleep quickly
- 2. To "zip your lip" is to ____.
 - a. shut up
 - b. be loud
 - c. talk about things you don't know
- 3. To "zero in on" is to ____ something.
 - a. aim for
 - b. adjust
 - c. alter

Idiomatic Preposition - Come

- 1. To start with, let me tell you that I come ____ Niigata.
- 2. She has been busy all week, and now she is coming ____ with a cold.
- 3. When the police asked him questions, everything started coming ____.
- 4. The guests started to come ____ before the concert began.

5. The new magazine is scheduled to come ___ next week.
6. After the typhoon, mild winds came ___ in the afternoon.
7. You can come ___ to my house anytime. I am always around.
8. They put up a small business last year, but it did not come ___.

Quiz on Idiomatic Preposition: COUNT

1. Count ___ twenty and then open your eyes.
2. They are starting to count ___ before the spacecraft takes off.
3. I love pizza, so if you're planning to buy one, please count me ___.
4. I can't go to the party next week so please count me ___.
5. Form groups of four; then start counting ___ from one to four.
6. You can count ___ me when you are in trouble.

Answer

7. J. T. is counted ___ the best singers / dancers in the 20th century.

Answer

8. J. F. was counted ___ in the seventh round.

Answer

9. I didn't count ___ arriving late for the meeting today.

Answer

10. She has lost count ___ how many times she has watched the program.

Answer

Idiomatic Preposition - Keep

1. The mother is keeping an eye ___ the baby because it might fall.
2. It is hard to keep pace ___ the hard life in the university.
3. Please try to keep the secret ___ yourselves.
4. Don't go beyond the line; keep ___ the left side of the street.
5. She is trying to keep away ___ the influence of bad friends.
6. You have been doing so well; keep ___ the good work.
7. The policemen asked the onlookers to keep ___.
8. We have been trying to keep our expenses ___.

Food Idioms

1. The "cream of the crop" means it is ____.
 - a. the worst
 - b. the best
2. To "egg on" means to ____.
 - a. encourage
 - b. discourage

3. If it's "just your cup of tea", it is ____.
 - a. perfect
 - b. all wrong
4. If you are "cool as a cucumber", you are ____.
 - a. panicked
 - b. calm
5. If you "have a finger in the pie", you are ____ in something.
 - a. involved
 - b. disinterested
6. "Use your noodle" means ____.
 - a. act
 - b. think
7. "In a nutshell" means ____.
 - a. concisely
 - b. it is finished
8. "In the soup" means ____.
 - a. in serious trouble
 - b. having a good time
9. "A hot potato" is a question which ____.
 - a. answers itself
 - b. is difficult to settle
10. If you "eat humble pie" you ____.
 - a. accept shame
 - b. are defensive

Idioms - Matching Quiz

Click on the answer button to see if your answer is correct.

| |
|--------------------------|
| 1. As ____ as a bat. |
| 2. As ____ as a bee. |
| 3. As ____ as a bell. |
| 4. As ____ as a daisy. |
| 5. As ____ as an eel. |
| 6. As ____ as a feather. |
| 7. As ____ as a fox. |
| 8. As ____ as the hills. |
| 9. As ____ as a mouse. |
| 10. As ____ as a mule. |

Idioms with Body Parts

Choose the equivalent or near-equivalent sentences.

Use the boxes on the left to write your choices.

Then click on the answer button to see if your answer is correct.

1. You did it. You **have to face the music**.
2. Yes. You **hit the nail on the head**.
3. You two don't **see eye to eye**.
4. You have to **learn it by heart**.
5. You are **an old hand** at teaching.
6. That's great! You keep everything **under your thumb**.
7. You don't want to **stick your neck out**, do you?

- a. You have to memorize it.
- b. You're experienced.
- c. You have control of the situation.
- d. You don't want to take the risk.
- e. You have to accept the consequences of you actions.
- f. You don't agree with each other.
- g. You're absolutely right.

Idioms with Numbers

Click the answer button to see the correct answer.

1. If you are dressed up to the ____, you are wearing fancy clothes.
2. If you are at ____, you are confused and don't know what to do.
3. A ____ letter word is one that is considered rude or vulgar.
4. If someone talks very fast, they talk ____ to the dozen.
5. If you understand immediately what someone is trying to say, they might say to you "Got it in ____."
6. If you begin to draw conclusions about something, you put two and ____ together.
7. Someone who looks out for number ____ is someone who only thinks about his or her interests.
8. The basics of education are sometimes called "the ____ R's."
9. If a man hasn't shaved for a day or two, you say he has a ____ o'clock shadow.
10. Things that are very cheap and common are ____ a penny.

Slang Words Beginning with A

1. Wow, that is a **great** car!
 - a. awesome
 - b. able
 - c. action
2. After **staying awake late at night** studying, I felt tired the next day.
 - a. an angel
 - b. an all-nighter
 - c. an atmosphere
3. This place is so boring, I want some **excitement**.
 - a. action
 - b. ape
 - c. aggrevation
4. He is such an **ill-mannered person**.
 - a. ant
 - b. action
 - c. animal
5. I don't want to stay in this **dirty, smelly place**.
 - a. ark
 - b. armpit
 - c. apple
6. I can't believe he put salt in the sugar basin. He's such a **stupid person**.
 - a. an airhead
 - b. an ace
 - c. an artist
7. Dave is the **best** player on the team...
 - a. action
 - b. apple
 - c. ace

Slang Words Beginning with B

1. The director gave the little-known actor his first **chance**.
 - a. broad
 - b. bone

- c. break
- 2. That **motorcycle rider** looks really tough in his leather outfit.
 - a. boss
 - b. biker
 - c. babe
- 3. I shouted at the boys to **stop it**, but they continued to fight.
 - a. break it up
 - b. bust it up
 - c. blow it up
- 4. Will you lend me a **dollar**?
 - a. bonus
 - b. bag
 - c. buck
- 5. I feel really **depressed** when I think of how many problems I have.
 - a. bummed out
 - b. blow out
 - c. bent out
- 6. Can you spare some **money**?
 - a. bread
 - b. bag
 - c. buns
- 7. Where's the **alcohol** kept around here?
 - a. brains
 - b. bacon
 - c. booze
- 8. It's only a small **mistake** so don't worry about it.
 - a. boo-boo
 - b. bacon
 - c. blind
- 9. We were really **overwhelmed** by your kindness.
 - a. blown up
 - b. blown away
 - c. blown down


Slang Words Beginning with C

- 1. You made a good **decision** there.
 - a. crow
 - b. call
 - c. catch
- 2. He's in the **toilet** at the moment.
 - a. can
 - b. cupboard
 - c. cold
- 3. I'm really busy, but next time I see you we'll talk.
 - a. I'll catch you later.
 - b. I'll be on your case.
 - c. I'll cash it in.

4. I wouldn't live in such a **cheap** place if I didn't have to.
 - a. croak
 - b. carrot
 - c. cheesy
5. Don't be such a **coward** and go do it.
 - a. cow
 - b. carrot
 - c. chicken
6. He's so **relaxed**. He never looks rushed.
 - a. cold
 - b. curry
 - c. cool
7. You should phone the **police** and tell them.
 - a. corpses
 - b. cops
 - c. cowboys
8. Watching T.V. all day is turning you into a **lazy, good-for-nothing**.
 - a. carrot
 - b. chair
 - c. couch potato
9. I'll have to **study really hard** to pass this test.
 - a. cram
 - b. corn
 - c. crack
10. The other team **beat** us even though their best player wasn't there.
 - a. canned
 - b. creamed
 - c. cooked
11. He's really upset because his fish **died** last night.
 - a. cooled
 - b. cracked
 - c. croaked
12. This is such a **simple** job. A kid could do it.
 - a. cushy
 - b. cozy
 - c. comfy

Slang Words Beginning with D

1. The disco is really **quiet** tonight.
 - a. dead
 - b. deep
 - c. down
2. The boys **abandoned** the stolen motorbike in the park.
 - a. downed
 - b. ditched
 - c. duped
3. There sure is a lot of **marijuana** smoking these days.
 - a. dome

- b. dog
 - c. dope
 - 4. Can you give me some **money** for groceries?
 - a. dip
 - b. dice
 - c. dough
 - 5. Wasn't that a really **obscene** movie?
 - a. dirty
 - b. dusty
 - c. damp
 - 6. I felt so angry that I wanted to **hit him so hard that he would fall over.**
 - a. dig him
 - b. dust him
 - c. deck him
 - 7. Could you tell me **what the amount of the bill is?**
 - a. what's the dirt
 - b. what's the doc
 - c. what's the damage
 - 8. Things are a little **unsure** right now. I can't give you a firm answer.
 - a. dopey
 - b. deep
 - c. dicey
 - 9. We were late so we **ate the meal really quickly.**
 - a. dug the meal
 - b. directed the meal
 - c. downed the meal
- Answer 
- 10. This morning was **really boring.** Let's do something interesting later.
 - a. a ditch
 - b. a drag
 - c. a dope
 - 11. Who's the **man** with the big car?
 - a. drop
 - b. dude
 - c. duck
 - 12. The new play was **excellent.**
 - a. dynamite
 - b. digging
 - c. duplicate

Slang Words Beginning with E

- 1. My mom **really shouted at me for coming home late.**
 - a. gave me elephants
 - b. gave me evil
 - c. gave me an earful
- 2. Tom has lost a lot of weight so something must be **worrying** him.
 - a. egging

- b. eating
- c. encouraging
- 3. Wow! This movie is **really great**.
 - a. earning
 - b. easy
 - c. evil
- 4. The two cowboys **looked at** each other and then walked on.
 - a. egged
 - b. entered
 - c. eyeballed

Slang Words Beginning with F

- 1. This jazz is **really great**.
 - a. faded
 - b. far-out
 - c. foggy
- 2. The heroin addict needed a **dose of drugs** really badly.
 - a. five
 - b. fix
 - c. flag
- 3. He's too **unreliable** to keep that job.
 - a. flaky
 - b. forty
 - c. flexed
- 4. He **lost control of himself suddenly** when he heard the news.
 - a. filled up
 - b. flopped
 - c. flipped-out
- 5. You should listen to the **other** side of the argument before you decide.
 - a. flip
 - b. fox
 - c. five
- 6. I can't believe he called the police about the noise. He's such **an old-fashioned person**.
 - a. a fossil
 - b. a fish
 - c. a foam
- 7. Wow! She's really **sexy**
 - a. farming
 - b. fighting
 - c. foxy

Slang Words Beginning with G

1. I really **became interested in** computers at school.
 - a. got into
 - b. gave out to
 - c. got off on
2. I'm sorry, but I just don't **understand**.
 - a. get with it
 - b. go for it
 - c. get it
3. **Hurry up and get busy**. There is a lot of work to do.
 - a. Get with it
 - b. Go for it
 - c. Go get it
4. Did you see the rock group's **performance** last night?
 - a. girdle
 - b. gig
 - c. giggle
5. She's so **fashionable and glamorous**. I can't understand why she's with him.
 - a. grass
 - b. glitzy
 - c. gifted
6. Let me have a **try**.
 - a. gift
 - b. go
 - c. geezer
7. Stop acting so **silly**.
 - a. gravy
 - b. goofy
 - c. great
8. **I've caught you** and you can't get away.
 - a. Golfer
 - b. Goosey
 - c. Gotcha
9. That car must have cost over twenty **thousand dollars**.
 - a. grand
 - b. grapes
 - c. guns
10. Do you have any **marijuana**?
 - a. grass
 - b. gravy
 - c. grease
11. That's a really **disgusting** thing to say.
 - a. groovy
 - b. ground
 - c. gross
12. I always look so **untidy and unclean** after a long airline trip.
 - a. green
 - b. grubby
 - c. geared up

Slang Words Beginning with H

1. When Todd drives it really is **both a dangerous and frightening experience**.
 - a. hairy
 - b. harmless
 - c. hanging
2. She has a **serious obsession** about men.
 - a. harsh
 - b. heavy
 - c. hang-up
3. This matter is too **important and serious** for me.
 - a. happy
 - b. heavy
 - c. hip
4. Alice is **in the past now**. I don't go out with her anymore.
 - a. history
 - b. hip-hop
 - c. hash
5. That play was a **great success**.
 - a. hot
 - b. hoot
 - c. hit
6. Who's the **boss** there these days?
 - a. hip
 - b. honcho
 - c. hole
7. I'll **get in** a taxi and come right away.
 - a. hip
 - b. hid
 - c. hop
8. Many movies are successful only because of the **heavy promotion and advertising**.
 - a. hoe
 - b. hype
 - c. horn
9. The children are **a little overexcited**.
 - a. hot
 - b. hanging
 - c. hyper

Slang Words Beginning with I

Click on the answer button to see the correct answer.
Keep your score if you like.

1. They **checked our identification cards** at the door.
 - a. inked us
 - b. I.D.ed us
 - c. iced us

2. **I'm leaving right this minute.**
 - a. I'm hopping.
 - b. I'm outa here.
 - c. I'm blue.
3. The car accident left her **seriously injured**.
 - a. in a bad way
 - b. ironed
 - c. inside-out
4. Marriage is too **serious a business** for me.
 - a. intense
 - b. internal
 - c. icy

Slang Words Beginning with J

1. I hear he's in **trouble** at the moment.
 - a. a jam
 - b. a jive
 - c. a jump
2. You shouldn't **waste his time** or he is going to get angry one of these days.
 - a. jazz him
 - b. jerk him around
 - c. jangle him
3. He's a real **athlete** these days.
 - a. jock
 - b. jim
 - c. juice
4. I need to go to the **toilet**. Can you show me where it is?
 - a. jump
 - b. john
 - c. jug
5. My father thinks that all **heavy drug users** should be put in jail.
 - a. joints
 - b. johnies
 - c. junkies

Slang Words Beginning with K

1. I don't know how he **stays calm and relaxed** when she shouts like that.
 - a. ketchups
 - b. knights
 - c. keeps his cool
2. Wow! This disco is really **wild** tonight.
 - a. kickin'
 - b. kissing
 - c. kaput

3. I wish he wasn't such a **stupid person**.
 - a. kayak
 - b. kennel
 - c. klutz
4. How can he **criticize** it so much when he's never been to that city.
 - a. knit
 - b. knock
 - c. kill
5. Dave's dating a **really stunning** woman. Have you seen her?
 - a. krone of a
 - b. kunkle
 - c. knockout

Slang Words Beginning with L

1. You wouldn't exactly call her **calm and relaxed**.
 - a. limber
 - b. lacking
 - c. laid back
2. That's just like her to be so **inept**.
 - a. lame
 - b. lacquer
 - c. latent
3. Don't give me that **story** again. I've heard it before.
 - a. load
 - b. line
 - c. lump
4. I hope dieting will get rid of these **lumps of fat around my waist**.
 - a. leathers
 - b. ladles
 - c. love handles
5. I **am really fortunate** getting that seat.
 - a. looked-out
 - b. lucked-in
 - c. lucked-out

Slang Words Beginning with M

1. It isn't a good idea to **cause trouble** when you can't speak the language.
 - a. mix up
 - b. make waves
 - c. mud up
2. I am **exhausted** after working at nights and studying by day.
 - a. maxed out

- b. marbled
- c. made
- 3. David is a **really excellent** golf player.
 - a. mad
 - b. modern
 - c. mean
- 4. I'm sick of his **dumb and stupid** questions.
 - a. Mickey Mouse
 - b. mash potatoe
 - c. marshmallow

Slang Words Beginning with N

- 1. The police **arrested** him outside his house.
 - a. nicked
 - b. noted
 - c. nough
- 2. Let's have a **small drink** of brandy before we go to bed.
 - a. nip
 - b. nose
 - c. node

There is no problem and it doesn't matter.

 - a. No heat.
 - b. No go.
 - c. No sweat.
- 3. You want me to tell him? **I won't do it.**
 - a. No way.
 - b. Not on the way.
 - c. Not a way.
- 4. He is such a **dull and boring person.**
 - a. nerd
 - b. navel
 - c. note
- 5. This is a bit cold. Can you **put it in the microwave and heat it up?**
 - a. not it
 - b. nuke it
 - c. near it
- 6. She is **crazy** if she thinks I care.
 - a. nude
 - b. numb
 - c. nuts

Slang Words Beginning with P

1. This is a great **place to live**.
 - a. pal
 - b. pad
 - c. pail
2. He is such a **difficult and annoying person**.
 - a. peach
 - b. palm
 - c. pain in the neck
3. Get your **hands** off me.
 - a. pole
 - b. paws
 - c. pagoda
4. It was **cheap**.
 - a. peanuts
 - b. papaw
 - c. parallel
5. She drank so much beer that she is really **drunk**.
 - a. pickled
 - b. parked
 - c. paraded
6. It's **really easy to do**.
 - a. a pear
 - b. a peel
 - c. a piece of cake
7. No wonder you are overweight. You always **overeats**.
 - a. pig-out
 - b. perform
 - c. peter out

Slang Words Beginning with Q

1. He only likes doing jobs where he can make **an easy profit**.
 - a. a quick buck
 - b. a quote
 - c. a queen
2. Her work is always **rapidly, but carelessly done**.
 - a. queer
 - b. quick and dirty
 - c. quick tempered
3. His solution is always of the impermanent, unsatisfactory type.
 - a. quick fix
 - b. quick sand
 - c. queasy
4. Let's go to the pub for a **quick beer**.
 - a. quilt
 - b. quick one
 - c. queue

Slang Words Beginning with R

1. There really isn't any news in this **newspaper** anymore.
 - a. road
 - b. rear
 - c. rag
2. I wish they didn't make such a **lot of noise** this late at night.
 - a. race
 - b. rail
 - c. racket
3. He **got** a lot of points the last round.
 - a. racked up
 - b. rained
 - c. read
4. The business is doing very well and they are really **making a lot of money**,
 - a. running it over
 - b. raking it in
 - c. right here
5. The weather is really **cold and harsh** at this time of year.
 - a. red
 - b. raw
 - c. ripe
6. Let's go to the beach and get some **sunshine**.
 - a. rays
 - b. root
 - c. rage
7. This is **very important** so make sure you give it to him right away.
 - a. red nose
 - b. red hot
 - c. run over
8. She is so young and innocent. It is no wonder she got **exploited**.
 - a. ripped-off
 - b. roped-in
 - c. rounded-up
9. Did you see the size of the **diamond** on her finger?
 - a. rig
 - b. rock
 - c. roast
10. He has got **diarrhea**.
 - a. the rises
 - b. the rookies
 - c. the runs
11. He has two **young children** running around his house.
 - a. rug rats
 - b. riddles
 - c. rolls

Slang Words Beginning with S

1. He was **dismissed from work** yesterday.
 - a. sold
 - b. snatched
 - c. sacked
2. There is always some kind of **swindle** going on over there.
 - a. swift
 - b. sweet
 - c. scam
3. I wish they wouldn't just rush in, **eat really quickly**, and then leave.
 - a. snippet
 - b. stop it up
 - c. scarf it down
4. Tom is trying hard to **succeed in buying** some hash.
 - a. single
 - b. score
 - c. store
5. Nobody is interested so let's just **cancel** the whole thing.
 - a. scratch
 - b. sell
 - c. surf
6. I don't know why she likes him. He's so **dirty and unkept**.
 - a. simple
 - b. scruffy
 - c. sharp
7. That band plays some **excellent** tunes, you know.
 - a. serious
 - b. showy
 - c. sick
8. Wow, those are really cool **sunglasses**.
 - a. slits
 - b. slides
 - c. shades
9. Go on and have another **try**.
 - a. spade
 - b. shot
 - c. stick
10. They all **criticized** me, but it wasn't my fault.
 - a. slammed
 - b. shaded
 - c. shot
11. I'm not going to a **horrible and dirty** place like that.
 - a. sleazebag
 - b. solid
 - c. sober
12. Look at the time! We should **leave**.
 - a. speak

- b. split
 - c. stalk
13. He comes from a **very old-fashioned** family.
- a. shrill
 - b. shody
 - c. square

Slang Words Beginning with T

1. The stolen car has New York **license plates**.
 - a. tags
 - b. ticks
 - c. togs
2. The whole city was **completely destroyed** in the war.
 - a. taped
 - b. tapestry
 - c. taken out
3. I'll be there in just a **few seconds**.
 - a. tick
 - b. tale
 - c. tea
4. Mum was **really angry** with me last night.
 - a. toy
 - b. ticked-off
 - c. tramp
5. He **completely wrecked** the car last night.
 - a. transplanted
 - b. totalled
 - c. tricked
6. You really should **throw out** most of this stuff.
 - a. track
 - b. tame
 - c. trash
7. There's nothing on the **television** tonight.
 - a. tax
 - b. tube
 - c. time
8. His breath is **totally repellant**.
 - a. a turnoff
 - b. a takeoff
 - c. a tangle.
9. I can't believe she was **dating someone else** when she was still my girlfriend.
 - a. tainting
 - b. two-timing
 - c. telling
10. Why are all the men at school such **fools**.
 - a. twits

- b. tins
- c. tanks

Slang Words Beginning with U and V

1. I've told him **many, many** times not to do that.
 - a. untimely
 - b. ugly
 - c. umpteen
2. They often try to **increase** the price if you can't speak the language.
 - a. up
 - b. use
 - c. unit
3. It's still **available**, if you want it.
 - a. unique
 - b. up for grabs
 - c. united
4. It costs \$2,000 in **advance**.
 - a. unknown
 - b. up front
 - c. unmoved
5. She is such an **anxious** woman.
 - a. uptight
 - b. urban
 - c. uniform
6. Let's **stop work and relax** this weekend.
 - a. vent
 - b. veg
 - c. vary
7. I get bad **feelings** about him.
 - a. vibes
 - b. valuables
 - c. vitals
8. This is a **great** meal. I can't believe you made it.
 - a. vulgar
 - b. vicious
 - c. volcanic

Slang Words Beginning with W

1. It looks like he's got a **lot of money** in his pocket.
 - a. wand
 - b. wish
 - c. wad
2. That was an **easy victory**. I thought it would be harder.
 - a. a walkover
 - b. a wander
 - c. a white-out

3. Gosh, I was **really drunk** last night. What did I have?
 - a. wasted
 - b. wrinkled
 - c. wilting
4. Hello, Tom. **What's been happening lately?**
 - a. What's in?
 - b. What's next?
 - c. What's up?
5. He's **very talented** when it comes to computers.
 - a. a worm
 - b. a whiz
 - c. a wood
6. Those are **great** shoes. Where did you get them.
 - a. windy
 - b. wicked
 - c. worthless
7. Don't be such a **weak and inept person**.
 - a. wimp
 - b. wretch
 - c. witch
8. I hadn't expected them today, so I ended up **improvising**.
 - a. willing it
 - b. worshipping
 - c. winging it
9. He's really **nervous** about the exam.
 - a. wet
 - b. wide
 - c. wired

Expressions with Break

Read the sentences and choose the best alternative.
Then click the answer button to see the correct answer.

1. The firefighters had to break the door ____ to rescue the little girl.
 - a. into
 - b. out
 - c. down
2. The burglar broke ____ the house and stole all their money and jewelry.
 - a. away
 - b. into
 - c. forth

3. I don't know why their marriage is breaking ____ .
 - a. through
 - b. in
 - c. up
4. After two hours of hard work, we decided to break ____ for a little cup of coffee.
 - a. off
 - b. up
 - c. into
5. We have to break ____ all our emotional barriers to feel free.
 - a. away
 - b. down
 - c. into
6. When he spread the news, panic broke ____ in the city.
 - a. in
 - b. away
 - c. out
7. Scientists will break ____ in their search for new sources of energy.
 - a. up
 - b. through
 - c. out
8. Mary feels miserable, for she's just broken ____ her boyfriend.
 - a. with
 - b. up
 - c. down

Expressions with Come

Read the sentences and choose the best alternative.
Then click the answer button to see the correct answer.

1. The idea came ____ her while she was reading "Hamlet".
 - a. to
 - b. about
 - c. before
2. The farmer himself came ____ the intruders.
 - a. before
 - b. along
 - c. after
3. I came ____ Madonna at that big hotel.
 - a. about
 - b. apart
 - c. across
4. The terrible scene of the crime continues to come ____ to me now and then.
 - a. back
 - b. between
 - c. down
5. The properties will come ____ him on his father's death.
 - a. after

- b. to
c. on
6. Nobody wants to come ___ as a witness of the crime.
a. over
b. forward
c. at
7. The Canadian swimmer came ___ first.
a. in
b. round
c. off
8. I wonder why his experiment never came ____ .
a. from
b. upon
c. off
9. Look how beautiful it is! All the flowers are coming ____ . It's springtime.
a. out
b. off
c. down
10. He came ___ with a good solution to the problem.
a. apart
b. out
c. up
11. He was lucky to come ___ without any scratches.
a. through
b. under
c. by
12. Be careful! It's really fragile. I don't want it to come ___ in your hands.
a. away
b. out
c. apart

Expressions with Get

Read the sentences and choose the best alternative.
Then click the answer button to see the correct answer.

1. The manager failed to get his ideas ___ to the employees.
a. across
b. down
c. in
2. I don't think they can easily get ___ from prison.
a. away
b. into
c. down
3. She is very well-paid, so she can get ___ without any help from him.
a. about
b. over
c. by

4. Ok. It's time to get ___ to business.
 - a. in
 - b. down
 - c. away
5. I hope you don't get ___ trouble again.
 - a. into
 - b. on
 - c. in
6. The teacher was lucky to get the truth ___ of him.
 - a. up
 - b. out
 - c. away
7. Stop getting ___ my nerves!
 - a. on
 - b. at
 - c. down
8. I doubt she'll ever get ___ her trauma.
 - a. out
 - b. over
 - c. i
9. I can't get ___ all this work. I need some help.
 - a. about
 - b. away
 - c. through
10. What time do you usually get ___ ?
 - a. on
 - b. up
 - c. about
11. The rumors of his dismissal will soon get ___ .
 - a. along
 - b. away
 - c. about
12. If you're in trouble, get ___ to a lawyer.
 - a. by
 - b. on
 - c. in

Expressions with Give

Use the correct preposition to complete these expressions with give.
Click the answer button to see the correct answer.

1. The little boy was forced to give ___ to his brother's wishes.
2. I give ___ . This problem is too difficult to solve.
3. He gave ___ all his fortune to charities.
4. Don't forget to give my books ___ . I need to study for my exams.
5. After a week camping, all our food supplies gave ___ .
6. Remember to give all your papers ___ by Monday morning so that I can grade them.
7. This must be a special type of writing paper, for it gives ___ a very pleasant smell.

8. It used to be a tradition for the bride to be given ___ by her father.
9. His time after school was given ___ to sports.

Expressions with Go

Read the sentences and choose the best alternative.
Then click the answer button to see the correct answer.

1. Why did he go ___ on his word?
 - a. after
 - b. back
 - c. away
2. I don't think you should go ___ a job in that company.
 - a. after
 - b. in
 - c. to
3. Time goes ___ quickly, my dear.
 - a. by
 - b. for
 - c. in
4. The price of gas did not go ___ as we expected.
 - a. off
 - b. about
 - c. down
5. My complaint goes ___ you, too.
 - a. on
 - b. for
 - c. in
6. John is not happy because his son went ___ the Army.
 - a. for
 - b. forward
 - c. into
7. I believe she'll never go ___ for sewing.
 - a. in
 - b. down
 - c. out
8. What's going ___ here!
 - a. round
 - b. in
 - c. on
9. I guess John didn't go ___ well with Mary's parents.
 - a. by
 - b. to
 - c. over
10. Don't you think we should go ___ our plans again?
 - a. down
 - b. through
 - c. on

11. Love and hate normally go ____ .
 - a. together
 - b. about
 - c. forth
12. What he said goes ____ his principles.
 - a. against
 - b. off
 - c. ahead

Expressions With Keep

Read the sentences and choose the best alternative.
Then click on the answer button to see the hidden answer.

1. Shut the door and keep the dogs ____ of the house.
 - a. away
 - b. off
 - c. out
2. Try to keep the children ____ from the fire. They may get burn.
 - a. away
 - b. out
 - c. off
3. She always reads the paper and watches TV to keep ____ with the latest news.
 - a. up
 - b. in
 - c. at
4. If he doesn't keep ____ the expenses, he'll go bankrupt.
 - a. off
 - b. in
 - c. down
5. You will succeed if you keep ____ doing it well.
 - a. in
 - b. with
 - c. on
6. He never let us down, for he always kept ____ his promises.
 - a. at
 - b. to
 - c. back
7. Bob is trying hard to keep ____ with the rest of his class.
 - a. up
 - b. on
 - c. in
8. We should advise children to keep ____ drugs.
 - a. out
 - b. off
 - c. away

9. She couldn't keep the secret ___ from her parents.
 - a. out
 - b. away
 - c. back
10. Look! The sign says: "Keep ___ the grass".
 - a. out
 - b. off
 - c. away
11. If you keep ___ your work, you'll like it.
 - a. in
 - b. with
 - c. at

Expressions with Look

Read the sentences and choose the best alternative.
Click the answer button to see the correct answer.

1. Who is going to look ___ the child while her mother is away?
 - a. after
 - b. for
 - c. at
2. When she got the promotion, she started to look ___ on the people she used to work with.
 - a. up
 - b. for
 - c. down
3. At this moment, it's nonsense to look ___ results.
 - a. about
 - b. for
 - c. in
4. We must look ___ all the applications before we decide to hire someone.
 - a. for
 - b. up
 - c. over
5. People looked ___ him as a great leader.
 - a. on
 - b. forward
 - c. in
6. I'm looking ___ to visiting my relatives in California.
 - a. for
 - b. forward
 - c. up
7. He is really lucky! He got a room that looks ___ on the sea.
 - a. up
 - b. over
 - c. out
8. I'm sure you have written that down. Look ___ your notes and you will find it.
 - a. round

- b. at
 - c. together
9. Students usually look ___ the counselor to help them choose a career.
- a. at
 - b. to
 - c. into
10. If you don't know the word, look it ___ in the dictionary.
- a. up
 - b. for
 - c. at

Expressions With Make

You need a browser, such as Netscape, which can display forms to use this page.
Read the sentences and choose the best alternative.
Then click on the answer button to see the hidden answer.

1. The room was big, so they made it ___ a conference room.
- a. into
 - b. of
 - c. on
2. The police don't know who made ___ with the money of that big company.
- a. for
 - b. out
 - c. off
3. I have already made ___ my mind about it.
- a. over
 - b. into
 - c. up
4. Nothing will make ___ for their inefficiency.
- a. in
 - b. out
 - c. up
5. Before going to the supermarket, make ___ a list of items you want to buy.
- a. into
 - b. out
 - c. for
6. How is he making ___ with his new girlfriend?
- a. out
 - b. off
 - c. away
7. Don't trust him. He always makes ___ stories.
- a. up
 - b. out
 - c. after
8. The thief ran but the police made ___ him and caught him.
- a. up

- b. off
 - c. after
9. Only good employer-employee relationships can make ___ good production.
- a. at
 - b. for
 - c. after
10. I can hardly make ___ the letters on that sign. They are too small.
- a. in
 - b. off
 - c. out

Expressions With Pass

You need a browser, such as Netscape, which can display forms to use this page.
Read the sentences and choose the best alternative.
Then click on the answer button to see the hidden answer.

1. When he sees blood, he passes ____ .
- a. over
 - b. out
 - c. on
2. I'm so sorry to hear that your father has passed ____ .
- a. by
 - b. away
 - c. off
3. He tried to pass himself ____ as the leader of the community.
- a. up
 - b. out
 - c. off
4. He's passed ____ bad moments in his life.
- a. through
 - b. out
 - c. away
5. If you're clever, you should never pass ____ an opportunity.
- a. up
 - b. out
 - c. on
6. He is too young to pass ____ a member of this committee.
- a. into
 - b. off
 - c. for
7. The children remained quiet as the parade passed ____ .
- a. in
 - b. by
 - c. off
8. Read the book and then pass it ____ to a friend.
- a. in

- b. on
- c. off

Expressions With Run

You need a browser, such as Netscape, which can display forms to use this page.
Read the sentences and choose the best alternative.
Then click on the answer button to see the hidden answer.

1. Why did he try to run ___ from home?
 - a. off
 - b. out
 - c. away
2. I always run ___ old students of mine when I go to that cafeteria.
 - a. after
 - b. across
 - c. over
3. He runs ___ every pretty girl he sees at school.
 - a. on
 - b. after
 - c. in
4. Yesterday I ran ___ an old friend of mine at the supermarket.
 - a. for
 - b. down
 - c. into
5. He ran ___ with his best friend's girlfriend.
 - a. off
 - b. into
 - c. on
6. The police ran ___ all the people who were near the scene of the horrible crime.
 - a. in
 - b. over
 - c. on
7. The thief ran ___ with all the money and jewelry he found in the house.
 - a. away
 - b. after
 - c. at
8. That man runs ___ his monthly salary in less than a week.
 - a. at
 - b. through
 - c. in
9. I don't know how many candidates are running ___ President.
 - a. up
 - b. for
 - c. off
10. They ran ___ against several problems when they tried to build the bridge in that area.
 - a. off

- b. on
- c. up
- 11. We ran ___ of beer when the party was half over.
 - a. away
 - b. out
 - c. off
- 12. John didn't notice he had run ___ his neighbor's little dog.
 - a. over
 - b. on
 - c. off

Expressions with Take

Read the sentences and choose the best alternative.
Click the answer button to see the correct answer.

1. Don't forget to take ___ notes of everything he says at the conference.
 - a. down
 - b. over
 - c. on
2. Little children like to take their toys _____.
 - a. away
 - b. out
 - c. apart
3. The shop owner decided to take US\$5.00 ___ the price.
 - a. out
 - b. off
 - c. away
4. John did not accept the job, for he did not want to take ___ all those responsibilities.
 - a. on
 - b. out
 - c. for
5. How can I take all these stains ___ from my tablecloth?
 - a. apart
 - b. away
 - c. out
6. I know you are tired and disappointed, but don't take it ___ on me.
 - a. off
 - b. out
 - c. after
7. Have the children taken ___ their new teacher?
 - a. up
 - b. to
 - c. over
8. You should take your brother ___ on his offer to help you do it.
 - a. up
 - b. in
 - c. at

9. The plane will take ___ in ten minutes.
 - a. out
 - b. in
 - c. off
10. These big books shouldn't be taken ___ from the library.
 - a. after
 - b. in
 - c. away
11. Take ___ account everything he's done for us.
 - a. into
 - b. for
 - c. after
12. Don't let yourself be taken ___ by anyone.
 - a. into
 - b. in
 - c. on

Expressions with Turn

Use the correct preposition in these sentences with turn.
Click the answer button to see the correct answer.

1. This room is too dark. You'd better turn the lights _____.
2. I wonder why he hasn't turned _____ yet. The meeting will start in ten minutes.
3. He wanted to join the army, but was turned _____ due to his health problems.
4. The teacher asked me to turn this piece of prose _____ verse.
5. One's success usually turns _____ one's qualifications.
6. Only one hundred people were admitted to the stadium. All the other people had to be turned _____.
7. Before leaving the house, don't forget to turn _____ the lights.
8. He turned _____ the management of the company to his oldest son.

Expressions

Read the sentences and choose the best alternative.
Then click the answer button to see the correct answer.

1. He ___ asleep during the long lecture.
 - a. fall
 - b. fell
 - c. felt
 - d. feel
2. I can't ___ out what has happened to him.
 - a. fill
 - b. fall
 - c. figure
 - d. think

3. The boys ___ fire to a big haystack.
 - a. settled
 - b. set
 - c. placed
 - d. caught.
4. Must I ___ back the book, or is it a gift I may keep?
 - a. turn
 - b. hold
 - c. return
 - d. give
5. I used to ___ on to my Mom's dress when we crossed the street.
 - a. hang
 - b. hand
 - c. pull
 - d. push
6. The Great Wall of China was not thick enough to ___ back the invading hordes.
 - a. hold
 - b. play
 - c. give
 - d. go
7. ___ in mind that you are working to improve your ability, not to earn money.
 - a. Think
 - b. Be
 - c. Put
 - d. Keep
8. He ___ after his father in that he has blue eyes.
 - a. looks
 - b. takes
 - c. goes
 - d. gets
9. I don't know what ___ about her tears.
 - a. caused
 - b. thought
 - c. brought
 - d. said
10. Why do I always have to ___ over backwards to please him?
 - a. turn
 - b. move
 - c. bend
 - d. go

Strange Expressions

Do you know what these idioms mean?
Click the answer button to see the answer.

1. What does the expression "If I do not get a job soon, I will be up a creek" mean?

- a. I like to swim instead of work.
 - b. Tomorrow, I will go to the creek to see if there is work there.
 - c. I will be in trouble.
 - d. I will be angry.
 - e. I can not swim, and I can not get a job.
2. What does the expression "out to lunch" mean when the person described is not literally having lunch?
- a. The person is eating.
 - b. The person likes lunch and eats all day long.
 - c. The person is uneducated.
 - d. The person is not concentrating or focusing and seems weird.
 - e. The person has a great sense of humor.
3. If someone said, "You are the bomb!" she or he probably would be telling you:
- a. You have a bad temper.
 - b. You are a war weapon.
 - c. You are exceptional and/or wonderful.
 - d. You are happy.
 - e. You are dangerous.
4. If I tell you my boss is "a snake in the grass," I most likely mean:
- a. My boss is tall.
 - b. My boss is sneaky or deceitful.
 - c. My boss likes to be outdoors.
 - d. My boss eats mice.
 - e. My boss is a wonderful human being.
5. If you were to tell me to "get a move on it," you probably would be saying:
- a. Get a date for moving furniture.
 - b. Get a stamp of approval on something.
 - c. Jump up and down.
 - d. Hurry up or go quickly.
 - e. Mail a letter.
6. When someone is described as being "flighty" that person described is probably:
- a. Light.
 - b. Indecisive and unpredictable.
 - c. Someone who loves flyng.
 - d. Someone who flys kites.
 - e. An airline pilot.
7. What does it mean "to take down" an enemy?

- a. To take the enemy's pictures off the wall.
 - b. To kill the enemy.
 - c. To make friends with the enemy.
 - d. To ignore the enemy.
 - e. To unite with the enemy for a common goal.
8. What does it mean when someone is described as being a "pill"?
- a. The person is difficult or bad-tempered.
 - b. The person is sickly.
 - c. The person is a doctor.
 - d. The person is fun to work with.
 - e. The person is wealthy.
9. What does it mean to "live and let live"?
- a. To live forever.
 - b. To stay alive as long as you can.
 - c. To do what one wishes and let others do the same.
 - d. To save dying animals.
 - e. To resist aging.
10. What does it mean to "ace a test"?
- a. To earn an "A" or "100%" on an exam or assignment.
 - b. To skip the test.
 - c. To fail the test even after studying.
 - d. To play cards instead of taking the test.
 - e. To throw the test away.

Phrasal Verbs - Crime

Click the answer button to see the answer.

1. To get into a building or car using force is to ____.
- a. break out
 - b. break down
 - c. break in
2. To steal money from a bank by using force is a ____.
- a. hold in
 - b. hold down
 - c. hold up
3. To steal or take something without asking is to ____.
- a. run off with

- b. do without
 - c. do over
4. To hurt someone badly by hitting or kicking is to ____.
- a. pull them over
 - b. beat them up
 - c. put one over
5. To kill someone in informal English is to ____ with them.
- a. do away
 - b. have away
 - c. stay
6. To destroy something with a bomb is to ____.
- a. beat it up
 - b. blow it up
 - c. knock it over
7. To take a criminal to the police is to ____.
- a. turn them over
 - b. turn them in
 - c. turn them down
8. To put someone in prison is to ____.
- a. lock them up
 - b. do them in
 - c. blow them up
9. To not punish someone for their crime is to ____.
- a. give them over
 - b. let them off
 - c. put them away
10. To succeed in not being punished for a crime is to ____ it
- a. get away with
 - b. make off with
 - c. pick through

Phrasal Verbs with "Down"

Click the answer button to see the answer.

- 1. To be hit by a car or bus is the same as to be ____ down.
 - a. cooled
 - b. marked
 - c. knocked
- 2. To reduce the amount you do something is the same as to ____ down.
 - a. cut
 - b. tear
 - c. fall
- 3. To fail to do something when someone is relying on you is the same as to ____ down someone.
 - a. let
 - b. quieten
 - c. sit

4. To let something become less hot is the same as to let it ___ down.
 - a. lie
 - b. cool
 - c. tone
5. If it is raining very heavily, it is the same as to ___ down rain.
 - a. pour
 - b. cut
 - c. tear
6. To have a lot of stress is similar to being ___ down by a lot of problems.
 - a. poured
 - b. cut
 - c. weighted
7. To pass things from father to son is the same as to ___ down from generation to generation.
 - a. calm
 - b. hand
 - c. climb
8. To relax from stress is the same as to ___ down.
 - a. wind
 - b. lie
 - c. let
9. To write a note is the same as to ___ down something.
 - a. jot
 - b. scale
 - c. tie
10. To make something appear less serious than it is is the same as to ___ down something.
 - a. slam
 - b. set
 - c. play

Phrasal Verbs - Emotions

Click the answer button to see the answer.

1. To make someone unhappy is to _____.
 - a. get over them
 - b. get on with them
 - c. get them down
2. To make someone feel upset or angry is to _____.
 - a. jump them
 - b. get to them
 - c. do them in
3. To make someone feel good is to _____.
 - a. perk them up
 - b. peep them in
 - c. rack them up
4. To stop feeling upset or angry about something is to _____.
 - a. clam up

- b. wash out
- c. calm down
- 5. To be so excited that you lose control is to get ____.
 - a. carried away
 - b. carried off
 - c. carried over
- 6. To start behaving in a violent or strange way is to ____.
 - a. liven up
 - b. freak out
 - c. throw out

Phrasal Verbs - Food and Drink

Click the answer button to see the answer.

- 1. To eat food very quickly is to ____.
 - a. bolt it down
 - b. pig out
 - c. whip it up
- 2. If you only eat a small amount of a meal, you ____.
 - a. gnaw it
 - b. bolt it down
 - c. pick at it
- 3. To eat a lot of food is to ____.
 - a. pig out
 - b. roll out
 - c. wear out
- 4. To eat less of something to improve your health is to ____ on it.
 - a. strip down
 - b. cut back
 - c. run
- 5. To drink a lot of alcohol is to ____.
 - a. knock it over
 - b. knock it in
 - c. knock it back
- 6. To heat food again that has already been cooked is to ____.
 - a. ruffle it up
 - b. warm it up
 - c. pick it up

Phrasal Verbs with "Keep/Bring"

Click the answer button to see the answer.

- 1. She couldn't keep ____ the payments so she lost the house.
 - a. on
 - b. off
 - c. up

2. She likes to keep ___ with the latest fashions.
 - a. away
 - b. off
 - c. up
3. The doctor said that I have to keep ___ alcohol.
 - a. on
 - b. off
 - c. up
4. This spray will keep ___ the bugs.
 - a. away
 - b. off
 - c. on
5. She keeps ___ about him even though he has left.
 - a. away
 - b. back
 - c. on
6. Does this bring ___ memories.
 - a. in
 - b. on
 - c. back
7. She had to bring ___ the children by herself.
 - a. on
 - b. up
 - c. out
8. Did he ever bring ___ that book?
 - a. back
 - b. up
 - c. on
9. Can I bring ___ my friend?
 - a. up
 - b. along
 - c. out
10. Being a teacher doesn't bring ___ much money.
 - a. up
 - b. back
 - c. in

Phrasal Verbs with "Make/Pull"

Click the answer button to see the answer.

1. If there is an earthquake, you should make ___ the park.
 - a. out
 - b. up
 - c. for
2. It was so foggy that she couldn't make ___ the road ahead.
 - a. out
 - b. over
 - c. up

3. It took 20 years for them to make ___ after their fight.
 - a. up
 - b. over
 - c. out
4. The man made ___ with all her money.
 - a. for
 - b. off
 - c. up
5. I wish she wouldn't make ___ stories like that.
 - a. for
 - b. up
 - c. over
6. Can you help me pull ___ these boots?
 - a. off
 - b. our
 - c. in
7. The doctors think she can't pull ___ another heart attack.
 - a. back
 - b. through
 - c. out
8. I think I just saw dad's car pull ___ the driveway.
 - a. into
 - b. over
 - c. by
9. A famous man like him always pulls ___ the crowds.
 - a. out
 - b. over
 - c. in
10. The sun is so bright. Do you mind if I pull ___ the blinds.
 - a. in
 - b. over
 - c. down

Phrasal Verbs with "Put"

Click the answer button to see the answer.

1. She doesn't exercise anymore so she has put ___ weight.
 - a. on
 - b. in
 - c. by
2. He put ___ for a transfer, but it was refused.
 - a. on
 - b. in
 - c. by
3. My father put ___ the money to buy the house.
 - a. up
 - b. in
 - c. on

4. Taxes are going to be put ___ next year.
 - a. in
 - b. up
 - c. over
5. My back is really painful, since I put it _____.
 - a. out
 - b. on
 - c. down
6. I told her she couldn't come down until all her clothes were put _____.
 - a. off
 - b. in
 - c. away
7. People often put ___ her opinions.
 - a. down
 - b. in
 - c. out
8. The game was put ___ until next month.
 - a. over
 - b. off
 - c. away
9. Will you help me put ___ this poster?
 - a. over
 - b. through
 - c. up
10. Will the last one to leave please put ___ the candles?
 - a. out
 - b. in
 - c. by

Phrasal Verbs with "Go/Come"

Click the answer button to see the answer.

1. What colour did he go ___?
 - a. over
 - b. with
 - c. for
2. Let's go ___ for dinner tonight?
 - a. in
 - b. around
 - c. out
3. Why did the alarm go ___ like that?
 - a. out
 - b. off
 - c. through
4. Put the milk in the fridge or it will go _____.
 - a. out
 - b. off
 - c. down

5. Let's go ___ to the river to swim.
 - a. out
 - b. down
 - c. through
6. Will the stain come ___ if I wash it?
 - a. out
 - b. in
 - c. up
7. His aunt just died so he will come ___ a lot of money.
 - a. out
 - b. up
 - c. into
8. The question didn't come ___ so I was happy.
 - a. up
 - b. in
 - c. down
9. That book will come ___ very useful.
 - a. up
 - b. in
 - c. down
10. She said she would come ___ and visit today.
 - a. for
 - b. over
 - c. through

Phrasal Verbs - Illness

Click the answer button to see the answer.

1. To get an illness from someone is to ____.
 - a. pick it up
 - b. truck it in
 - c. take it away
2. To try hard to get rid of an illness is to ____.
 - a. tide it over
 - b. cave in
 - c. fight it off
3. If a part of your body gets bigger and rounder because of injury or illness it ____.
 - a. comes out
 - b. kicks in
 - c. swells up
4. Another expression for vomiting is to ____.
 - a. throw up
 - b. toss out
 - c. pass out
5. To be able to eat or drink without vomiting is to ____.
 - a. keep it down
 - b. get over it
 - c. dip into

6. To become unconscious is to ____.
- a. go out
 - b. black out
 - c. knock over

Phrasal Verbs with "Into"

Click the answer button to see the answer.

1. To inherit money is the same as to ____ into money.
 - a. come
 - b. move
 - c. keep
2. To join the army is the same as to ____ into the army.
 - a. go
 - b. let
 - c. look
3. To make a quick decision about something is the same as to ____ into something.
 - a. look
 - b. rush
 - c. break
4. To meet someone unexpectedly is the same as to ____ into someone.
 - a. bump
 - b. get
 - c. check
5. To fit into something later is the same as to ____ into it.
 - a. let
 - b. make
 - c. grow
6. To suddenly cry is the same as to ____ into tears.
 - a. fly
 - b. burst
 - c. run
7. To drive off the road into a gasoline station is the same as to ____ into the gas station.
 - a. pull
 - b. get
 - c. let
8. To go and register at a hotel is the same as to ____ into a hotel.
 - a. look
 - b. tune
 - c. check
9. To have to borrow money is the same as to ____ into debt.
 - a. get
 - b. make
 - c. crowd
10. To check and find out what happened is the same as to ____ into something.
 - a. look
 - b. make
 - c. pull

Click the answer button to see the answer.


1. To think carefully about an idea before making a decision is to ____.
 - a. figure out
 - b. think over
 - c. chip in
2. To think of a suggestion, a solution or plan is to ____.
 - a. come up with
 - b. come out with
 - c. come over
3. To think about something that has happened is to ____.
 - a. run over
 - b. go over
 - c. go with
4. To create an idea, or plan using your imagination is to ____.
 - a. work out
 - b. think over
 - c. think up
5. To stop yourself from thinking about something is to ____.
 - a. think it out
 - b. bring it out
 - c. shut it out
6. To think of a very imaginative and not really possible plan is to ____.
 - a. dream it up
 - b. go over it
 - c. come out with
7. To think about an idea, but not seriously is to ____.
 - a. toy with it
 - b. dream about it
 - c. work it out
8. To find the answer to something through deep thinking is ____.
 - a. think it up
 - b. figure it out
 - c. play with it

Phrasal Verbs - Speaking

Click the answer button to see the answer.

1. If you speak for a long time, you ____.
 - a. get on
 - b. go on
 - c. edge on
2. If you talk too long on one subject, you ____.
 - a. run out
 - b. run over
 - c. run on
3. Another way to say this is ____.
 - a. tread on


- b. unwind
 - c. ramble on
4. If you say something you have learned quickly and without stopping, you ____.
- a. knock down
 - b. rattle off
 - c. rabbit on
5. An informal word that means the same is to ____.
- a. reel off
 - b. rope off
 - c. tie off
6. To say something while another person is talking is to ____.
- a. butt in
 - b. figure out
 - c. go over
7. To say something suddenly and without thinking is to ____.
- a. ease up
 - b. rub in
 - c. blurt out
8. To make someone stop talking is to ____.
- a. shut up
 - b. shut out
 - c. shut in
9. To speak to someone without letting them answer is to ____.
- a. talk over
 - b. talk at
 - c. talk to
10. To suddenly stop talking in the middle of a speech because you have forgotten what to say it to ____.
- a. wipe out
 - b. dry up
 - c. go over.

Answer 


Phrasal Verbs - Travel

Click the answer button to see the answer.

1. To go on holiday especially because you need a rest is to ____.
- a. get over
 - b. go off
 - c. get away

Answer 

2. To show your ticket and get your seat at the airport is to ____.
- a. check out
 - b. check off
 - c. check in

Answer 

3. When the aircraft leaves the ground it ____.
- a. takes off
 - b. takes over
 - c. takes in
4. To start on a journey is to ____.
- a. set in
 - b. set by
 - c. set off
5. The time a train, bus or plane arrives is when it ____.
- a. gets away
 - b. gets in
 - c. gets over
6. To visit somewhere for a short time when you are going somewhere is to ____.
- a. stop off
 - b. stop away
 - c. stop on
7. To stay somewhere for a length of time when you are on a long journey is to ____.
- a. stop by
 - b. stop over
 - c. stop on

Phrasal Verbs with "Up"

Click the answer button to see the answer.

1. To stick a poster to a wall is the same as to ____ up a poster.
- a. liven
 - b. put
 - c. stand
2. To go from sitting to standing is the same as to ____ up.
- a. shoot
 - b. speak
 - c. stand
3. To go from being a child to being an adult is the same as to ____ up.
- a. heal
 - b. grow
 - c. hurry
4. To ask someone to talk loudly so that you can hear them is the same as to ____ up.
- a. talk
 - b. ask
 - c. speak

5. To rush so that you aren't late is the same as to ___ up.
 - a. hurry
 - b. fill
 - c. cheer
6. To become happy after being sad or miserable is the same as to ___ up.
 - a. put
 - b. look
 - c. cheer
7. To put nice clothes on and look smart is the same as to ___ up.
 - a. stand
 - b. lock
 - c. dress
8. To clean a room is the same as to ___ up.
 - a. clean
 - b. seal
 - c. cheer
9. To explode a bomb in a building is the same as to ___ up a building.
 - a. blow
 - b. mess
 - c. make
10. To not go to bed early is the same as to ___ up.
 - a. look
 - b. stay
 - c. lock

Phrasal Verbs with "Up"

Click the answer button to see the answer.

1. To go faster and faster is the same as to ___ up.
 - a. shoot
 - b. call
 - c. speed
2. If a problem suddenly happens, it is the same as a problem has just ___ up.
 - a. lit
 - b. beat
 - c. cropped
3. To divide into groups is the same as to ___ up.
 - a. screw
 - b. split
 - c. beat
4. To admit you have done something wrong is the same as to ___ up.
 - a. own
 - b. dig
 - c. lighten
5. To fasten your coat is the same as to ___ up your coat.
 - a. sum

- b. tighten
 - c. do
6. To make or create trouble is the same as to ___ up trouble.
- a. try
 - b. stir
 - c. liven
7. To try to find some information or thing from the past is the same as to ___ up something.
- a. try
 - b. hold
 - c. dig
8. To redo your lipstick and tidy up your hair and appearance is the same as to ___ up.
- a. pull
 - b. freshen
 - c. kick
9. To make something louder is the same as to ___ up the volume.
- a. turn
 - b. polish
 - c. call
10. If you hit, punch or kick someone, it's the same as to ___ up someone.
- a. pull
 - b. bottle
 - c. beat
11. To finish your drink quickly because you are leaving is the same as to ___ up.
- a. keep
 - b. kick
 - c. drink
12. If you form a queue to get something, it is the same as to ___ up.
- a. line
 - b. hold
 - c. call
13. To not share your feeling with anyone is the same as to ___ up your feelings.
- a. bottle
 - b. sum
 - c. pile
14. To stop outside of somewhere is the same as to ___ up outside.
- a. turn
 - b. fold
 - c. pull
15. To make a mistake is the same as to ___ up.
- a. screw
 - b. hang
 - c. flare
16. To practice a skill you have already is the same as to ___ up a skill.
- a. fold
 - b. kick
 - c. polish
17. To not be able to speak or move because of fright or worry is the same as to ___ up.
- a. keep

- b. freeze
 - c. hang
18. To support something or stop something is the same as to ___ it up.
- a. hold
 - b. kick
 - c. brush
19. To appear uninvited is the same as to ___ up.
- a. draw
 - b. hold
 - c. turn

New Year's Eve Phrasal Verbs

Click the answer button to see the answer.

1. One New Year's Eve, my neighbors asked me to come ___ to their house for a party.
2. I invited my friend to go with me. At first he didn't want to go, but I talked him ___ it.
3. We put ___ our party hats and went to the party.
4. We showed ___ late.
5. By the time we got there, they had already opened ___ a case of champagne.
6. Everyone was getting ___ very well.
7. The guests were talking ___ what they had done for the year.
8. We thought ___ different things we wanted to do for the upcoming year.
9. So we wrote ___ our New Year's Eve resolutions.
10. As we counted ___ to the New Year, everyone started to get excited.
11. At the stroke of midnight, the fireworks went ___.
12. The sky was lit ___.
13. At the party, my friend ran ___ his boss.
14. So my friend took ___ as soon as he could.

I got ___ home when the sun came ___.

Phrasal Verb Practice -Assorted Verbs

Click the answer button to see the answer.

1. The concert was ___ because of the rain.
 - a. called off
 - b. blacked out
 - c. turned off
2. How did he ___ their bad behavior.
 - a. come to
 - b. account for
 - c. jot down
3. He must be about 90. He is really _____.
 - a. getting on

- b. bringing up
- c. bringing forward
- 4. In the end everything ___ OK.
 - a. turned out
 - b. wore out
 - c. climb up
- 5. Can you ___ all right or should I get a ladder?
 - a. fall through
 - b. climb down
 - c. barge in
- 6. I am sorry that I am late. I got ___ in traffic.
 - a. lifted off
 - b. held down
 - c. caught up
- 7. I was so angry that I ___ in protest.
 - a. gave up
 - b. walked out
 - c. ran over
- 8. The man was ___ of jail early for good behavior.
 - a. let out
 - b. bent down
 - c. sent down
- 9. Even though he was tired, he ___ going.
 - a. kept on
 - b. brought out
 - c. fell over
- 10. After the accident a lot of people _____.
 - a. turned out
 - b. set out
 - c. crowded around

Phrasal Verb Practice Using "Up"

Click the answer button to see the answer.

- 1. I am so tired today because I ___ up early.
 - a. built
 - b. cheer
 - c. got
- 2. I missed a lot of classes so I have to work hard to ___ up.
 - a. save
 - b. catch
 - c. lock
- 3. I don't know the telephone number so I'll have to ___ it up.
 - a. mix
 - b. look
 - c. use
- 4. If you don't ___ up, we will be late.
 - a. hurry

- b. bring
- c. draw
- 5. Her husband died so she had to ___ up the children alone.
 - a. blow
 - b. bring
 - c. crop
- 6. The traffic was ___ up because of road work.
 - a. held
 - b. freshend
 - c. kept
- 7. The police ___ up the political demonstration.
 - a. got
 - b. turned
 - c. broke
- 8. You should always ___ up any words you don't know in a dictionary.
 - a. get
 - b. look
 - c. cheer
- 9. I can't believe he ___ up the bill and paid for our dinner.
 - a. set
 - b. put
 - c. picked
- 10. The boy ___ up his seat to the old lady.
 - a. made
 - b. gave
 - c. cam

ANSWER SHEETS OF IDIOMS

a/ IDIOMS BEGINNING WITH A TO Z:

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|--------------|------------|------|------|-----|------|-------|-------|------|----|----|
| A | C | C | A | B | A | B | A | B | A | C |
| B | C | A | C | B | C | C | B | C | B | C |
| C | A | B | A | C | A | C | B | B | A | B |
| D | C | A | B | B | C | C | C | A | B | B |
| E | B | A | B | C | B | C | A | C | B | A |
| F | A | C | A | C | B | B | C | A | C | A |
| G | A | C | C | A | A | A | C | C | C | |
| H | B | B | A | A | A | B | C | B | C | B |
| I | C | A | B | B | A | C | A | C | B | C |
| J | B | C | A | C | B | B | B | C | C | C |
| K | A | C | C | A | A | C | B | C | B | A |
| L | C | C | B | C | A | B | A | C | B | A |
| M | C | A | A | A | A | C | C | B | B | B |
| N | B | B | A | C | B | A | C | A | C | C |
| O | C | B | A | B | C | B | C | C | B | A |
| P | C | B | C | A | C | B | C | B | B | A |
| Q | C | B | A | B | C | | | | | |
| R | C | C | B | A | C | B | C | C | B | B |
| S | C | A | A | B | C | A | B | A | C | A |
| T | B | C | C | B | C | C | C | B | A | B |
| U | B | C | A | C | B | A | C | B | A | C |
| V | C | B | C | A | | | | | | |
| W | A | A | C | A | C | B | B | C | C | |
| Y | C | B | C | A | B | C | B | C | | |
| Z | C | A | A | | | | | | | |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Count | (up) to | down | in | off | off | on | among | out | on | of |
| Keep | on | with | to | to | from | up | back | down | | |
| Come | from | down | back | in | out | round | over | of | | |

b/ Food Idioms:

1-b ; 2-a ; 3-a ; 4-b ; 5-a ; 6-b ; 7-a ; 8-a ; 9-b ; 10-a

c/ Idioms - Matching Quiz:

1-blind ; 2-busy ; 3-clear ; 4-fresh ; 5-slippery ; 6-light ; 7-cunning ; 8- old; 9-quiet; 10-stubborn.

d/ Idioms with Body Parts:

1-e ; 2-g ; 3-f ; 4-a ; 5-b ; 6-c ; 7-d

e/ Idioms with Numbers:

1-nines ; 2-sixs and sevens ; 3-four ; 4-nineteen ; 5-one ; 6-two ; 7-one ; 8-three ; 9-five ; 10-ten.

ANSWER SHEETS OF SLANG

| | <i>1</i> | <i>2</i> | <i>3</i> | <i>4</i> | <i>5</i> | <i>6</i> | <i>7</i> | <i>8</i> | <i>9</i> | <i>10</i> | <i>11</i> | <i>12</i> | <i>13</i> |
|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| A | a | b | a | c | b | a | c | | | | | | |
| B | c | b | a | c | a | a | c | a | b | | | | |
| C | b | a | a | c | c | c | b | c | a | b | c | a | |
| D | a | b | c | c | a | c | c | c | c | b | b | a | |
| E | c | b | c | a | | | | | | | | | |
| F | b | b | a | c | a | a | c | | | | | | |
| G | a | c | a | b | b | b | b | c | a | a | c | b | |
| H | a | c | b | a | c | b | c | b | c | | | | |
| I | b | b | a | a | | | | | | | | | |
| J | a | b | a | b | c | | | | | | | | |
| K | c | a | b | c | c | | | | | | | | |
| L | c | a | b | c | c | | | | | | | | |
| M | b | a | c | a | | | | | | | | | |
| N | a | a | c | a | a | b | c | | | | | | |
| P | b | c | b | a | a | c | a | | | | | | |
| Q | a | b | a | b | | | | | | | | | |
| R | c | c | a | b | b | a | b | a | b | c | a | | |
| S | c | c | c | b | a | b | a | c | b | a | a | b | c |
| T | a | c | a | b | b | c | b | a | b | a | | | |
| U&V | c | a | b | b | a | b | a | b | | | | | |
| W | c | a | a | c | b | b | a | c | | | | | |

ANSWER SHEETS OF EXPRESSIONS

1/ EXPRESSIONS

a/ From Expressions With Break Turn To Expressions With Break

| Stt | Break | Come | Get | Give | Go | Keep | Look | Make | Pass | Run | Take | Turn |
|-----|-------|------|-----|------|----|------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|
| 1 | C | A | A | in | B | C | A | A | B | C | A | on |
| 2 | B | C | A | up | A | A | C | C | B | B | C | up |
| 3 | C | C | C | away | A | A | B | C | C | B | B | down |
| 4 | A | A | B | back | C | C | C | C | A | C | A | into |
| 5 | B | B | A | out | B | C | A | B | A | A | C | on |
| 6 | C | B | B | in | C | B | B | A | C | A | B | away |
| 7 | B | A | A | off | A | A | C | A | B | A | B | off |
| 8 | A | C | B | away | C | B | C | C | B | B | A | over |
| 9 | | A | C | over | C | C | B | B | | B | C | |
| 10 | | C | B | | B | B | A | C | | C | C | |
| 11 | | A | C | | A | C | | | | B | A | |
| 12 | | C | B | | A | | | | | A | B | |

b/ Expressions and Strange Expressions

| Stt | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| Expressions | B | C | B | D | A | A | D | B | C | C | | | |
| Srange expressions | C | D | C | B | D | B | B | A | C | A | | | |
| Eggs and Bunnies13 | B | A | C | A | C | B | B | A | A | B | A | C | B |

3/ PHRASAL VERB

Interesting Things for ESL Students

Commonly-Used Proverbs -

| Stt | Crime | Down | Emotion | Food&drink | Keep/bring | Make/pull | Put | Go/come |
|-----|-------|------|---------|------------|------------|-----------|-----|---------|
| 1 | C | C | C | A | C | C | A | C |
| 2 | C | A | B | C | C | A | B | C |
| 3 | A | C | A | A | B | A | A | B |
| 4 | B | B | C | B | A | B | B | B |
| 5 | A | A | A | C | C | B | A | B |
| 6 | B | C | B | B | C | A | C | A |
| 7 | B | B | | | B | B | A | C |
| 8 | A | A | | | A | A | B | A |
| 9 | B | A | | | B | C | C | B |
| 10 | A | C | | | C | C | A | B |

| Stt | Ill-ness | Into | Thin king | Spea king | Tra-vel | up | up | Practic e using "up" | Assor ted verbs | New Year's Eve | |
|-----|----------|------|-----------|-----------|---------|----|-----|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|
| 1 | A | A | B | B | C | B | C C | C | A | over | off |
| 2 | C | A | A | C | C | C | C A | B | B | into | up |
| 3 | C | B | B | C | A | B | B A | B | A | on | into |
| 4 | A | A | B | B | C | C | A C | A | A | up | off |
| 5 | A | C | C | A | B | A | C A | B | B | up | bach/up |
| 6 | B | B | A | A | A | C | B C | A | C | along | |
| 7 | | A | A | C | B | C | C B | C | B | over/about | |
| 8 | | C | B | A | | A | B A | B | A | up/of | |
| 9 | | A | | B | | A | A C | C | A | down | |
| 10 | | A | | B | | B | C | B | C | down | |

Proverbs are well-known short sayings.

By Charles I. Kelly & Lawrence E. Kelly

A bad penny always turns up.

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

A chain is no stronger than its weakest link.

A fool and his money are soon parted.

A friend in need is a friend indeed.

A man is known by his friends.

A man is known by the company he keeps.

A man's home is his castle.

A rolling stone gathers no moss.

A stitch in time saves nine.

A woman's place is in the home.

A woman's work is never done.

Absence makes the heart grow fonder.

Actions speak louder than words.

After a storm comes a calm.

All good things must come to an end.

All is fair in love and war.

All roads lead to Rome.

All that glitters is not gold.

All the world loves a lover.

All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.

All's well that ends well.

An apple a day keeps the doctor away.

Appearances are deceptive.

April showers brings May flowers.

As soon as man is born he begins to die.

As you make your bed, so must you lie in it.

As you sow, so shall you reap.

Ask no questions and hear no lies.

Bad news travels fast.

Barking dogs seldom bite.

Beauty is only skin-deep.

Beggars can't be choosers.

Better late than never.

Better be safe than sorry.

Better die with honor than live with shame.

Better the devil you know than the devil you don't know.

Better to be alone than in bad company.

Birds of a feather flock together.

Blood is thicker than water.

Boys will be boys.

Business before pleasure.

Business is business.

Charity begins at home.

A self-taught notebook

Christmas comes but once a year.

Cleanliness is next to godliness.

Crime does not pay.

Curiosity killed the cat.

Dead men have no friends.

Dead men tell no tales.

Death is the great leveler.

Diligence is the mother of good fortune.

Discretion is the better part of valor.

Divide add rule.

Do as I say, and not as I do.

Do not wear out you welcome.

Do unto others as you would like them to do unto you.

Don't count your chickens before they are hatched.

Don't cut off your nose to spite your face.

Don't go near the water until you learn how to swim.

Don't put all your eggs in one basket.

Don't wash your dirty linen in public.

Early to bed and early to rise, make a man healthy, wealthy and wise.

Easier said than done.

Every bird loves to hear himself sing.

Every dog has his day.

Every family has a skeleton in the cupboard.

A self-taught notebook

Every man has his faults.

Every man has his price.

Every man is his own worst enemy.

Every picture tells a story.

Experience is the best teacher.

Experience is the mother of wisdom.

Failure teaches success.

Faith will move mountains

Familiarity breeds contempt.

Fear is stronger than love.

Fear of death is worse than death itself.

Fight fire with fire.

Finders keepers, losers weepers.

First come, first served.

First things first.

First think, and then speak.

Fools rush in where angels fear to tread.

Garbage in, garbage out.

Give credit where credit is due.

Give him an inch and he'll take a yard.

Give the devil his due.

God helps them that help themselves.

Good fences make good neighbors.

Goodness is better than beauty.

Great minds think alike.

He is the best general who makes the fewest mistakes.

He that is master of himself, will soon be master of others.

He that knows nothing, doubts nothing.

He that plants a tree plants for posterity.

He who hesitates is lost.

Honesty is the best policy.

If a job's worth doing, it's worth doing well.

Ignorance is bliss.

Ignorance of the law excuses no man.

In for a penny, in for a pound.

It is best to be on the safe side.

It is no use crying over spilt milk.

It never rains, but it pours.

It takes two to tango.

Jack of all trades, master of none.

Keep your mouth shut and your ears open.

Laughter is the best medicine.

Let bygones be bygones.

Let sleeping dogs lie.

Let the buyer beware.

Let the dead bury their dead.

A self-taught notebook

Life is just a bowl of cherries.

Lightning never strikes twice in the same place.

Like father, like so.

Like mother, like daughter.

Live and learn.

Live and let live

Look after number one.

Look before you leap.

Look on the bright side.

Love conquers all.

Love is blind.

Love makes the world go round.

Love sees no faults.

Love will find a way.

Make hay while the sun shines.

Man cannot lie by bread alone.

Many hands make light work.

Marriages are made in heaven.

Might is right.

Mind your own business.

Money is the root of all evil.

Money isn't everything.

Necessity is the mother of invention.

A self-taught notebook

Never judge from appearances.

Never look a gift horse in the mouth.

Never mix your liquor.

Never say die.

Never speak ill of the dead.

Never too late to learn.

Never too late to repent.

No man can serve two masters.

No man is indispensable.

No news is good news.

No pain, no gain.

Nothing is certain but death and taxes.

Nothing succeeds like success.

Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

Old habits die hard.

Old soldiers never die, they simply fade away.

One good turn deserves another.

One man's loss is another man's gain.

Opportunity seldom knocks twice.

Out of sight, out of mind.

Patience is a virtue.

Penny wise, pound foolish.

Practice make perfect.

A self-taught notebook

Practice what you preach.

Prevention is better than cure.

Rain, rain, go away, come again another day.

Rats desert a sinking ship.

Revenge is sweet.

Robbing Peter to pay Paul.

Scratch my back and I'll scratch yours.

Seeing is believing.

Silence is golden.

Something is better than nothing.

Spare the rod and spoil the child.

Speak when you are spoken to.

Still waters run deep.

Strike while the iron is hot.

Sweet things are bad for the teeth.

The best go first.

The best of friends must part.

The best things in life are free.

The bigger they are, the harder they fall.

The burnt child dreads the fire.

The early bird catches the worm.

The end justifies the means.

The female of the species is more deadly than the male.

A self-taught notebook

The first step is the hardest.

The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence.

The last straw breaks the camel's back.

The more one knows, the less one believes.

The more you get, the more you want.

The pot calls the kettle black.

The proof of the pudding is in the eating.

There are only twenty-four hours in a day.

There are two sides to every question.

There is a time and a place for everything.

There is no honor among thieves.

There is more than one way to skin a cat.

There is safety in numbers.

There's a black sheep in every flock.

There's no fool like an old fool.

There's no place like home.

There's no smoke without fire.

There's one law for the rich, and another for the poor.

They that dance must pay the fiddler.

Things are not always what they seem.

Those who live in glass houses should not throw stones.

Time cures all things.

Time flies.

Time is a great healer.

Time is money.

To err is human.

Tomorrow is another day.

Too many cooks spoil the broth.

True love never grows old.

Trust is the mother of deceit.

Turn the other cheek.

Two heads are better than one.

Two is company, three is a crowd.

Two wrongs do not make a right.

United we stand, divided we fall.

Variety is the spice of life.

Virtue is its own reward.

Walls have ears.

Waste not, want not.

What you don't know can't hurt you.

When in doubt, do nothing.

When in Rome, do as the Romans do.

When the cat's away, the mice will play.

Where there is no trust there is no love.

Where there's a will there's a way.

You can't make an omelette without breaking eggs.

A self-taught notebook

You can't please everyone.

You can't take it with you when you die.

You can't tell a book by its cover.

You can't win them all.

You cannot have it both ways.

You cannot have your cake and eat it.

You don't get something for nothing.

You win some, you lose some.