



Date : 11th Jan 2024

English Vocabulary – Idioms & Phrases

English

**Q:1 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**

On the ball

1. To be alert
2. Doing a bad job
3. Doing an average job
4. To be lazy

**Q:2 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**

Bear the palm

1. To bring joyful news
2. To lose a game
3. To advocate peace
4. To be a winner

**Q:3 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**

Cut a poor figure

1. In a poor state
2. To put a good impression
3. To put a bad impression
4. Bad physical form

**Q:4 Select the most appropriate idiom that can substitute the italicised words in the given sentence.**

Some people still feel that they have *very little freedom* to be innovative in their work.

1. elbow room
2. an old lady
3. an old head on young shoulders
4. to make a pile

**Q:5 Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom in the given sentence.**

The lecture by the French professor seemed Latin and Greek to the young students.

1. Interesting
2. Lucid
3. Unbiased
4. Incomprehensible

**Q:6 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**

A rolling stone gathers no moss

1. A person who settles for a short time and runs

from place to place, enjoying his freedom

2. A person who does not settle anywhere for a short time, and is always searching for gold
3. A person who settles for a long time and leads a boring and useless life
4. A person who does not settle in one place for a long time, does not gain wealth, name or fame

**Q:7 Select the most appropriate idiom that can substitute the italicised words in the given sentence.**

The world needs a global leader who can hold out a *gesture of peace*.

1. mother wit
2. halcyon days
3. a grass widow
4. an olive branch

**Q:8 Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom that can be substituted in the following sentence.**

The young boy was born with a silver spoon in his mouth.

1. born with a spoon stuck in his mouth
2. born to riches and luxury
3. born with a spoon that was not of gold
4. born to not so rich parents

**Q:9 Select the idiom from the given options that gives the most appropriate meaning of the highlighted text in the following sentence.**

The announcement of the new tourism policy of the government has **made some people excited or interested**.

1. Pull out all the stops
2. Run around in circles
3. Quicken the pulse
4. Reach for the moon

**Q:10 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**

In hot waters

1. To be in trouble
2. To dip in hot water
3. To be in a hot climate
4. To feel relaxed



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## Answer Key

1. (1)	2. (4)	3. (3)	4. (1)	5. (4)
6. (4)	7. (4)	8. (2)	9. (3)	10. (1)

## Answers and Solutions

**Q:1** The correct answer is **Option 1** i.e. **To be alert**.

- The meaning of the given idiom, **on the ball**, is 'alert to new ideas, methods, and trends'.

Thus, the most appropriate choice among the given options is **'to be alert'**.

**Q:2** The correct answer is **Option 4** i.e. **To be a winner**.

- The meaning of the given idiom, **'Bear the palm'** is 'to be the winner; take the prize.'

Thus, the most appropriate choice among the given options is **'To be a winner'**.

**Q:3** The correct answer is **Option 3** i.e. **To put a bad impression**.

- The meaning of the given idiom, **Cut a poor figure**, is **to appear or behave badly**.

Therefore, the most appropriate choice among the given options is **'to put a bad impression'**.

**Q:4** The correct answer is **Option 1** i.e. **elbow room**.  
The meaning of the given idioms is:

- **Elbow room**: Refers to having enough space or freedom to move or work comfortably without feeling restricted or crowded.
- **An old lady**: Refers to a woman who is advanced in age, typically considered to be elderly.
- **An old head on young shoulders**: Describes a young person who displays wisdom, maturity, or sensible behavior beyond their years.
- **To make a pile**: Refers to making a significant amount of money or accumulating a large sum of wealth.

Thus, the most appropriate idiom for the italicized segment of the sentence is **elbow room**.

**Q:5** The correct answer is **Option 4** i.e. **Incomprehensible**.

- The meaning of the given idiom, **'Latin and Greek'** is "something difficult to understand; incomprehensible".

Thus, the most appropriate choice among the given options is **Incomprehensible**.

**Q:6** The correct answer is **option 4** i.e. **A person who does not settle in one place for a long time, does not gain wealth, name or fame**.

- The meaning of the given idiom i.e., **A rolling stone gathers no moss** is **a person who does not settle in one place will not accumulate wealth or status, or responsibilities or commitments**.

Thus, the most appropriate choice among the given options is **'A person who does not settle in one place for a long time, does not gain wealth, name or fame.'**

**Q:7** The correct answer is **option 4** i.e. **an olive branch**.

- The meaning of the italicised idiom, **gesture of peace**, is an action or symbol that is intended to convey a peaceful intent or reconciliation, often used in the context of resolving conflicts or promoting harmony between individuals or nations.

Thus, the most appropriate choice among the given options is **'an olive branch'**.

**Q:8** The correct answer is **option 2** i.e. **born to riches and luxury**.

- The meaning of the underlined idiom, **born with a silver spoon in his mouth**, is **'born into a very wealthy family'**.

Thus, the most appropriate choice among the given options is **'born to riches and luxury'**.

**Q:9** The correct answer is **option 3** i.e. **Quicken the pulse**.

The meaning of the following idioms is:

- **Quicken the pulse**: To cause the heart rate to increase, often due to excitement, anticipation, or fear.



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**Pull out all the stops:** To make a maximum effort, using all available resources or strategies.

- **Run around in circles:** To engage in activity or behavior that is unproductive, aimless, or repetitive, without making progress or achieving a desired outcome.
- **Reach for the moon:** To set ambitious goals or aspirations, often aiming for something that seems difficult or beyond reach.

Thus, the most appropriate idiom for the given sentence is '**Quicken the pulse**'.

Q:10 The correct answer is **option 1** i.e. **To be in trouble**.

- The meaning of the given idiom, **in hot waters** is **in trouble or disgrace**.

Therefore, the most appropriate choice among the given options is '**To be in trouble**'.

