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# Idioms n Phrases Questions for SBI PO Mains, IBPS PO Mains and RBI Grade B Exams.

## Idioms n Phrases Quiz 12

Directions: In each of the given questions, three sentences are given with a phrase/idiom highlighted in bold. You have to select the answer choice that states the combination of statements in which the idiom has been correctly used.

1. I. She had a big argument with her husband and **in the fire of the moment**, left him.  
II. He was so excited about the new car that he **had a cow**.  
III. He seemed so decent that it's hard to believe he would have an **egg on his face**.

A. Only I                      B. Only II                      C. Only I and III                      D. Only II and III  
E. None of the above

2. I. She is **playing hardball** in a world dominated by men 20 years her senior.  
II. The Government **put the cart before the horse** by investing heavily before making major reforms.  
III. It is unfair to assume all men are **cut from the same cloth**.

A. Only I                      B. Only III                      C. Only I and II                      D. All of the above  
E. Only I and III

3. I. You're the **low hanging fruit** as If you challenge him about his decision, he's going to be annoyed but if you don't, your staff is going to hate you.  
II. He realized he was in the wrong and promised to **turn over a new leaf**.  
III. They said they wanted to hire someone else for the job. What am I, **chopped liver**?

A. Only II                      B. Only II and III                      C. Only I and III                      D. All of the above  
E. Only III

4. I. Do you mind if I **take a rain check** on that dinner? I have to work late tonight.  
II. The New Zealand Government should **let sleeping dogs lie** and must implement the Dementia Care Act urgently as Dementia is one the biggest healthcare issues affecting four out of five Kiwis.  
III. Facebook's latest attempt **to steal someone's thunder** is through the video chat app Bonfire, which is very similar to the app Houseparty?

A. Only I                      B. Only II and III                      C. Only III                      D. Only I and III  
E. All of the above

5. I. I can't still wrap my head around the news that he decided to call it quits.  
II. Queen Elizabeth **gave the cold shoulder** to President Obama for breaking protocol offering a toast to the Queen while they were playing the National Anthem of the United Kingdom  
III. He decided, on the spur of the moment, to cut the mustard and ran away.

A. Only I                                      B. Only III                                      C. Only I and II                                      D. Only II and III  
E. All of the above

6. I. She was so exhausted that she **hit the sack** the moment she got back.  
II. She then proceeded **to make a long short story** and described her entire experience in great detail.  
III. She got **bent out of shape** because things were not going the way she had imagined.

A. Only I and III                                      B. Only II and III                                      C. Only I and II                                      D. Only II  
E. All of the above

7. I. Unlike London, Berlin still lacks a deep pool of successful digital start-ups, as well as senior engineers and developers that come **a dime a dozen** in Britain's more established tech community.  
II. The government must **bite the bullet** and slash the deficit instead of focusing too much on the near-term costs of austerity.  
III. The NGOs claim that regulators cut corners, ignored environmental injustice and climate destruction, and usurped state authority in approving construction.

A. Only I                                      B. Only III                                      C. Only I and II                                      D. Only II and III  
E. All of the above

8. I. The life where one can fulfill one's responsibilities is not the life **for the birds**.  
II. Its not always good to have **tongue in the cheek** all the time.  
III. Padma Vibhushan awardee, Professor Yashpal **bought the farm** at his residence in Noida.

A. Only II and III                                      B. Only I and III                                      C. Only II                                      D. Only III  
E. All of the above

9. I. Danny's family screamed loudly to **break a leg** right before he went up on the stage.  
II. After the riots in the countryside, both the parties **extended the olive branch** in the farm.  
III. Numerous road accidents have resulted many people **in stitches**.

A. Only II                                      B. Only I and III                                      C. Only I and II                                      D. Only II and III  
E. All of the above

10. I. The autobiography of Karan Johar has divulged **skeleton in the closet**.  
 II. After he was cut by the team, he **turned over a new leaf** and quibbled to the authorities.  
 III. I have done the research literature into Human Behavior and training in psychology so I cannot be in a position to **sit on the fence**.

- A. Only I and II                      B. Only II and III                      C. Only III                      D. Only I  
 E. All of the above

**Correct Answers:**

<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
E	D	B	D	C	A	E	E	C	D

**Explanations :**

1. I. The correct idiom is **in the heat of the moment** and refers to a rash decision made in a frantic moment. This is incorrect.  
 Eg: Reckless spending is almost always the result of a heat-of-the-moment decision- an unplanned, impulse purchase where you hand over your credit card without thinking.
- II. **To have a cow** is an idiom which means to have a fit. The original is thus incorrect.  
 Eg: He had a cow when he saw the mess we made
- III. **Egg on your face** refers to *being caught in an awkward moment* and means that you're embarrassed and ashamed. This is incorrect.  
 Eg: This latest scandal has left the government with egg on its face.

Hence, **option E** is correct.

2. I. To tell someone that you're now *playing hardball* means you're not taking it easy any more. You will do anything that is necessary to achieve what you want, even if this involves being harsh or unfair. This is correct.  
 Eg: I think it's time we play hardball with the suspect—he's not going to talk otherwise.
- II. This idiom means *trying to run before you can walk*. It refers to something that is done contrary to a conventional or culturally expected order or relationship. This is correct.  
 Eg: With sudden clarity he realized that he needed to backtrack and make better plans, he'd been putting the cart before the horse and it was time to make corrections. This is correct.
- III. To be *cut from the same cloth* means that you're identical or very, very similar to someone else.  
 Eg: That boy and his dad are definitely cut from the same cloth.  
 Hence, **option D** is correct.



3. I. A **low hanging fruit** refers to a course of action that can be undertaken quickly and easily as part of a wider range of changes or solutions to a problem. The original sentence is absurd as it conveys a different meaning. This is incorrect.

Eg: Let's attempt *the low-hanging fruits* before the more difficult projects.

II. The word 'leaf' means a page of a book. If you "*turn over a new leaf*" you are turning to a fresh page, starting again, cleaning up your act. The statement is correct.

Eg: He was a naughty child, but turned over a new leaf as a teenager.

III. *Chopped liver* refers to someone that's not of worth and insignificant. Usually, you refer to yourself as "*chopped liver*" to call attention to the fact that you've been left out of a conversation. The statement is correct.

Eg: "And what am I? Chopped liver"

Hence, **option B** is correct.

4. I. **Take a rain check:** If you take a rain check, you decline an offer now, suggesting you will accept it later.

Ex: I'm sorry, Mimi, I'm just too exhausted to go out tonight. Could I take a rain check?

The idiom is used correctly in statement I.

II. **Let sleeping dogs lie:** This means *to not disturb a situation and leave it as it is* to avoid further trouble or complications.

Ex: Jane knew she should report the accident but decided to let sleeping dogs lie.

The statement above conveys the opposite and is incorrect.

III. **Steal someone's thunder** refers to take credit for something someone else did.

Ex: She did not announce the news at the party because her friend was getting married and she did not want to steal her thunder.

The statement above conveys the meaning well. This is correct.

Hence, option D is correct.

5. I. Wrap your head around something means to comprehend something that one considers confusing, or a foreign concept. The statement conveys this meaning and is correct.
- II. Give someone the cold shoulder means to ignore someone. The statement conveys this meaning and is correct.
- III. Cut the mustard means to do a good job. The statement here is absurd and does not convey this meaning.

Hence, option C is correct.

6. I. Hit the sack means to go to sleep. The statement conveys this meaning and is correct.
- II. Make a long story short means to tell something briefly and is incorrect as the statement above conveys the opposite.
- III. To get bent out of shape means to get upset. The statement conveys this meaning and is correct.

Hence, option A is correct.

7. I. **A dime a dozen** means something common. The statement conveys this meaning and is correct.
- II. **Bite the bullet** means to get something over with because it is inevitable. The statement conveys this meaning and is correct.
- III. **Cutting corners** means doing something poorly in order to save time or money. The statement conveys this meaning and is correct.

Hence, option E is correct.

8. **For the birds** means worthless, which is correctly expressed in the statement I.

**Tongue in the cheek** means to joke or to show unseriousness. Thus, statement II also renders the exact meaning of the idiom.

**Bought the farm** means to die. The statement III also refers to the death of Prof. Yashpal at his residence. Thus, it gives the correct meaning as well.

Hence option E is correct.

9. **Break a leg** means to wish Good luck. Thus statement I gives the correct meaning of the idiom by wishing Danny good luck just before his stage performance.

**Extend the olive branch** means to make efforts for peace. Statement II also infers the correct sense in a way that after the riots , both the parties made efforts to maintain peace.

**In stitches** means to laugh uncontrollably. But statement III renders an entirely different meaning.

Thus, only statements I and II give the correct meaning of the idioms.

Hence option C is correct.

10. **Skeleton in the closet** means some facts kept as a secret due to fear of society. Thus statement I renders the correct meaning of the idiom in a way that the autobiography has revealed such secrets.

**Turned over a new leaf** means to make a fresh start or to improvise oneself. Statement II renders an opposite connotation to the actual meaning of the idiom. As the employee turned over a new leaf means he improved his behavior, then there is no sense of making complaint to the authorities.

**Sit on the fence** means to be neutral. Statement III therefore does not give the correct idea of the idiom, as the one who has done a research in human behavior and training in psychology can easily be in such a position where one remains neutral and good to both the sides.

Since only statement I renders the correct meaning of idiom.

Hence option D is correct.



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