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Idioms n Phrases Questions for SBI PO Pre, IBPS PO Pre, SBI Clerk Mains IBPS Clerk Mains and IBPS SO Pre Exams.

Idioms n Phrases Quiz 21

Directions: In each of the questions given below, a phrase/idiom is given in bold followed by five sentences with some part of it as bold. You have to identify the sentence in which the bold part can be replaced by the given bold phrase/idiom to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct.

1. Back down

- A. We beefed up our home by having a garden built.
- B. John figured on in the argument out of respect for his employer.
- C. The tutor demonstrated the procedure once and then backed off.
- D. I told the driver to back up as we had driven past the building.
- E. The truck seemingly beat up, is in a perfect condition.

2. Keep from

- A. Gymnastics seems difficult but is fun when you keep at it.
- B. Mike is smart enough to be kept down by his friends.
- C. She cannot keep on smiling whenever the kid is around.
- D. (D)The doctor has suggested him to keep off the medicine for some time.
- E. The recipe is too good to keep to yourself.

3. Dime a dozen

- A. The Indian cricket team chased down the big score because the captain is an ace in the hole.
- B. Ethical hackers are a beast of burden in today's digital world.
- C. Accepting her defeat was a bitter pill to swallow.
- D. The police investigated the crime with a fine-tooth comb.
- E. The new Mercedes had cost him an arm and a leg.

4. Hit the road

- A. The project has been delayed as they have hit a snag.
- B. You have been doing a lot of hard work lately, it's time you hit the sack
- C. Being late for the class, the teacher told me to hold my horses.
- D. Afghanistan holds all the aces against Bangladesh this time.
- E. Vikram has the upper hand being an experienced cueist.

5. Off the cuff

- A. Seeing my performance in the nets, I don't think I would be able to make the cut.
- B. Lewis Hamilton and Nico Rosberg were neck and neck until the end.
- C. The company has asked us to design an advanced engine which is off the hook.
- D. Passing the exam in the first attempt is surely a long shot.
- E. Arshi is over the hill yet so energetic and passionate about travelling.

6. Entered upon

- A. I have no time to engage in tittle-tattle.
- B. The president has just moved on another term of office
- C. There is a narrow bridge ahead, so you should ease down.
- D. She laid aside her knitting to rest her eyes for a moment.
- E. He launched into a long series of excuses for his behaviour

7. Profit From

- A. When I tried to lift the cup, the handle came off.
- B. The army was pulled back from the valley after the battle
- C. His protracted illness has pulled him down a lot.
- D. I have immensely salvaged from her sound advice
- E. He worked hard to provide for his large family.

8. Break off

- A. They coped with all their problems cheerfully.
- B. In spite of financial difficulties he held on to his dreams and was successful in the long run .
- C. The talks between India and Pakistan blew over owing to the terror attacks in Jammu.
- D. His brother was asked after you the other night when I met him at the party.
- E. Always keep from selfish people because they can harm you anytime.

9. Think back

- A. Let's run over these lines one more time before the show.
- B. I passed up the job because I am afraid of change
- C. When I think over on my youth, I wish I had studied harder.
- D. Mark was sick and had to miss the party, so please don't bring it up, I don't want him to feel bad for missing it.
- E. Anything I lose usually turns up under the couch.

10. Chase your trail

- A. He played a whole bag of tricks but still could not get the information required to crack the case.
- B. The teacher examined the assignment with a fine tooth comb but still could not find any fault with the students.
- C. The Government decided to do away with all kinds of direct benefit transfer programs till further orders from the Supreme Court of India.
- D. Since I have given this assignment to a new person, let us hope that he delivers the goods within the given time.
- E. The new employee has been cutting the ground from under feet but he has not been able to impress the boss.

Correct Answers:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
B	C	B	C	C	B	D	C	C	E

Explanations :

1. **Back down:** It means *to withdraw your position*

Ex: Seeing his friends arrive, the bully backed down.

Beef up: It means *to make changes or amendments*

It has been used correctly in option A

Figure on: It means *to expect or plan for something*

In the sentence B, the phrase – figured on makes no sense and back down is a perfect fit, thus the answer.

Back off: It means *to withdraw your position*

It has been used correctly in option C

Back up: It means *to support, to drive backwards or to make a copy*

It has been used correctly in option D

Beat up: It describes an object in a bad condition due to overuse.

It has been used correctly in option E

Hence, option B is correct.

2. **Keep from:** It means *to stop someone from doing something or to prevent or resist something*

Ex: Nothing can keep Manav from watching soccer.

Keep at: It means *to continue an activity*

It has been used correctly in option A.

Keep down: It means *to lower something or to stop someone from achieving their full potential.*

It has been used correctly in option B.

Keep on: It means *to continue an activity*

The sentence C is grammatically correct but illogical. Here, keep from would be the right replacement.

Keep off: It means *to stay away from, avoid or abstain*

It has been used correctly in option D.

Keep to: It means *to stay within limits or to keep any information secret.*

It has been used correctly in option E.

Hence, option B is correct.

3. A dime a dozen means *commonly and easily available anywhere*

Ex: Spies are a dime a dozen in this city.

An ace in the hole: It means *a hidden strength or advantage*

It has been used correctly in option A.

Beast of burden: It is used for *someone who carries others' problems*.

The sentence in option B is grammatically correct but is illogical. Here, a dime a dozen should replace the given idiom.

A bitter pill: It means *something unpleasant that must be accepted*.

It has been used correctly in option C.

A fine-tooth comb: It means *to do something with minute precision and in detail*

It has been used correctly in option D.

To cost an arm and a leg: It is used to denote *something very expensive*.

It has been used correctly in option E.

Hence, option B is correct.

4. Hit the road: It means *to leave*.

Ex: As soon as the whistle blew, the coach told the players to hit the road.

Hit the snag: It means *to face a sudden problem*.

It has been used correctly in option A.

Hit the sack: It means *to go to sleep*.

It has been used correctly in option B.

Hold your horses: It means *to be patient*.

Option C is grammatically correct but contextually and logically incorrect. Hit the road would be a perfect replacement in this case.

Hold all the aces: It means *high probability to win*.

It has been used correctly in option D.

Have the upper hand: It means *to have a better chance of winning*.

It has been used correctly in option E.

Hence, option C is correct.

5. Off the cuff: It means *improvised*.

Ex: The latest Android version is off the cuff.

Make the cut: It means *to be chosen or be selected*.

It has been used correctly in option A.

Neck and neck: It means *very close*.

It has been used correctly in option B.

Off the hook: It means *to escape obligation*.

Option C is incorrect and illogical. Here, off the hook should be replaced with off the cuff.

Long shot: It means *a difficult thing to accomplish*.

It has been used correctly in option D.

Over the hill: It is used to denote *old age*.

It has been used correctly in option E.

Hence, option C is correct.

6. Entered upon(Phrasal Verb): *begin something , make a start on something*. We have to find the statement wherein the phrase has been used incorrectly and can be replaced with the given phrase.

Option A- Engage in(Phrasal Verb): *to cause somebody to take part in or be occupied with something*. This is used correctly in the sentence.

Option C- Ease down(Phrasal Verb):*reduce speed*. This is used correctly in the sentence.

Option D-Laid aside(Phrasal Verb): *put down or place something to one side*. This is used correctly in the sentence.

Option E-Launched into(Phrasal Verb):*begin a long involved speech often in a vigorous way*. This is used correctly in the sentence.

Option B- Moved on(Phrasal Verb): *go or cause to leave somewhere, progress*. This is not used correctly in the sentence as it does not suit the context. Thus it can be replaced by the given phrasal verb 'entered upon' in the following case.

Hence option B is the correct answer.

7. **Profit from: benefit from or be helped by something.** We have to find the statement wherein the phrase has been used incorrectly and can be replaced with the given phrase.

Option A- came off (Phrasal Verb): become detached or separated. This is used correctly in the sentence.

Option B- pulled back(Phrasal Verb)retreat or withdraw. This is used correctly in the sentence.

Option C-pulled down(Phrasal Verb): weaken somebody. This is used correctly in the sentence.

Option D-salvaged from(Phrasal Verb):rescue or save something worthwhile from a situation which has suffered damage. This is not used correctly in the sentence as it does not suit the context. Thus it can be replaced by the given phrasal verb 'profit from' in the following case.

Option E- provide for(Phrasal Verb): supply somebody what he needs especially the basic amenities of life. This is used correctly in the sentence.

Hence option D is the correct answer.

8. **Break off (Phrasal Verb): Come to an end unsuccessfully.** We have to find the statement wherein the phrase has been used incorrectly and can be replaced with the given phrase.

Option A- Cope with (Phrasal Verb): Manage. This is used correctly in the sentence.

Option B- hold on(Phrasal Verb):carry on, persist. This is used correctly in the sentence.

Option D-asked after(Phrasal Verb):ask about welfare, inquire after. This is used correctly in the sentence.

Option E- Keep from(Phrasal Verb): refrain from not mix with. This is used correctly in the sentence.

Option C- blow over(Phrasal Verb): pass off without harm. This is not used correctly in the sentence as it does not suit the context. Thus it can be replaced by the given phrasal verb 'break off' in the following case.

Hence option C is the correct answer.

9. **Option A- Run over(Phrasal Verb): rehearse, review.** This is used correctly in the sentence.

Option B- Passed up(Phrasal Verb): decline (usually something good). This is used correctly in the sentence.

Option C-Think over(Phrasal Verb): consider . This is not used correctly in the sentence as it does not suit the context. Thus it can be replaced by the given phrasal verb 'think back' in the following case.

Option D-Bring Up(Phrasal Verb): to mention something. This is used correctly in the sentence.

Option E-Turns up(Phrasal Verb): When something that was lost is found unexpectedly. This is used correctly in the sentence.

Hence option C is the correct answer.

10. Chase your trail (Idiom): *Spending a lot of time and energy in doing a lot of things but ultimately achieving too little*

Whole bag of tricks (Idiom): *Trying all the clever means to achieve something.* The given sentence is correct with this idiom.

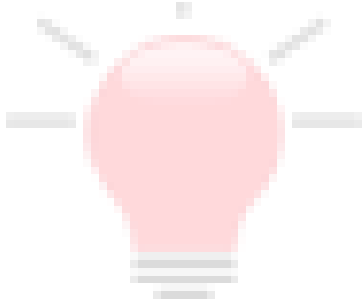
Fine tooth comb (Idiom): *In a detailed manner.* This idiom has been used correctly in the given sentence.

Do away with (Phrasal Verb): *Cancelling something or eliminating something.* The sentence is correct with the given phrasal verb since it has been used correctly in the given statement.

Delivers the goods (Idiom): *Doing what is expected or promised.* The sentence is correct with this idiom in place and that is why this idiom cannot be replaced.

Cut the ground from under the feet (Idiom): *To do something to weaken the position of the other person.* This idiom has not been used in the correct sense in the given sentence whereas *chase your trail* can be used in the sentence to imply the correct intended meaning.

This makes option E the correct choice among the given options.



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