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# Idioms and Phrases Questions for Exams SSC Exams (CGL Tier 1, CGL Tier 2 & SSC 10+2), CLAT and CDS Exams

## Idioms and Phrases Quiz 5

Directions: For each of the following sentences four alternatives are given. You are required to choose the correct meaning of the idiom or phrase given underlined in the sentence.

1. He is a queer fish. I have failed to understand him.

- A. funny person'      B. sensitive person      C. strange person      D. quarrelsome person

2. The involvement of teacher in the scheme of education proved to be a mare's nest.

- A. a false invention      B. a noble thing      C. an unsuccessful task      D. a timely sleep

3. Chandu used very ugly words against his kind uncle. He threw down the gauntlet before him.

- A. abused and insulted      B. threw the challenge      C. behaved as an important person  
D. put conditions

4. The present undergraduate syllabus leaves very little elbow room for teachers to be innovative.

A. room for elbow      B. well-ventilated      C. freedom to act      D. rest room

**5. The members of the group were at odds over the selection procedure.**

A. acting foolishly      B. in dispute      C. unanimous      D. behaving childishly

**6. There is no love lost between the two neighbours.**

A. close friendship      B. intense dislike      C. a love-hate relationship      D. cool indifference

**7. I did not mind what he was saying. he was only talking through his hat.**

A. talking insultingly      B. talking irresponsibly      C. talking ignorantly      D. talking nonsense

**8. If you pass this difficult examination, it will be a feather in your cap.**

A. to get a reputed job      B. additional achievement      C. to win accolades even from enemies

D. to get a scholarship for higher studies

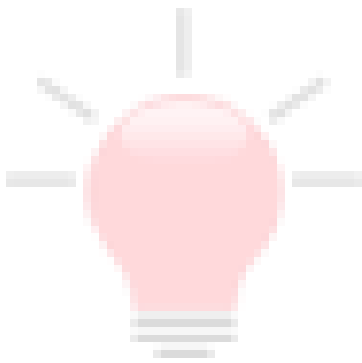
**9. If you rub him the wrong way, he is bound to react.**

A. annoy him      B. abuse him      C. flatter him      D. encourage him

**10. There was opposition to the new policy by the rank and file of the government.**

A. the majority      B. the ordinary members      C. the cabinet members

D. the official machinery



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**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>
C	A	B	C	B	B	D	B	A	B

**Explanations:**

**1.**

**A queer fish:**

A person whose behaviour seems strange or unusual.

**Ex.** They have invariably chosen the queer fish in preference to the more or less recognizable member of the human race.

option C is the correct answer.

**2.**



**A mare's nest:**

An idea or a discovery that seems interesting and exciting but is found to be false or have no value.

**Ex.** I fancy this will prove to be a mare's nest! We have had these mysteries before.

**Ex.** In a global socio-economic order dominated by the striving for private profit, together with the divergent aims of capitalist nation-states and imperialist great powers, the project has already become a mare's nest of conflicting interests.

Option A is hence the correct answer.

**3.**

**To throw down the gauntlet:**

To challenge someone to an argument, to declare or issue a challenge

**Ex.** The senator threw down the gauntlet on the abortion issue.

**Ex.** Just as much as SP and BSP have thrown down the gauntlet in Gorakhpur and Phulpur, the BJP with its unmatched money and muscle power and the state machinery at its disposal will leave no stone unturned to hold on to these seats.

Option B is hence the correct answer.

**4.**

**Elbow room:**

The freedom and ability to act as one wants.

**Ex.** If you're worried about her having too much elbow room as student council president, you should impose limitations.

**Ex.** KCR is now banking on the feeling of resentment among many states that too many powers are vested at the Centre, giving them little elbow room.

Option C is hence the correct answer.

**5.**

**At odds:**

in conflict or at variance.

**Ex.** His behaviour is at odds with the interests of the company.

**Similar Idioms:** in conflict, in disagreement, on bad terms, at cross purposes, at loggerheads, etc.

Option B is hence the correct answer.

**6.**

**No love lost:**

Of two people, having nothing but animosity, disdain, or disrespect for one another.

**Ex.** It's public knowledge that there's no love lost between the president and his counterpart across the border.

**Ex.** We experienced no love lost between Srilanka and Bangladesh in recently held triangular Cricket series.

**7.**

**To talk through hat:**

To say foolish things; to talk of nonsense.

**Ex.** Don't pay Amrish any mind, he's just talking through his hat again.

Option D is hence the correct answer.

**8.**

**A feather in (one's) cap:**

An accomplishment or achievement that one takes pride in.

**Ex.** If this clinical trial is successful, it will be a real feather in her cap.

**Ex.** The Bharat Ratna award is a feather in Sachin's cap.

option B is hence the correct answer.

**9.**

**To rub someone('s fur) the wrong way:**

to irritate someone.

**Ex.** I'm sorry I rubbed your fur the wrong way. I didn't mean to upset you.

Option A is hence the correct answer.

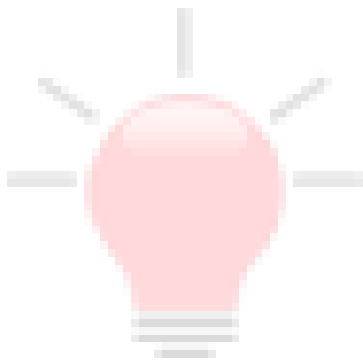
**10.**

**Rank and file:**

The ordinary members of an organization as opposed to its leaders.

**Ex.** The rank and file of the Labour Party ...

Option B is hence the correct answer.



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