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# Idioms n Phrases Questions for IBPS Clerk Pre, SBI Clerk Pre and RRB Asst. Pre Exams.

## Idioms n Phrases Quiz 19

Directions: Each question has three set of statements. Each set contains a pair of sentences wherein the first statement consists of an idiom/phrase while the second statement talks about a situation which may or may not depict the meaning of the idiom/phrase. You are required to select the pairs which correctly show the meaning of the idioms in the second statement.

1. I wanted to enter the competition but at the last minute I got **cold feet**.  
A. Unwell                      B. Afraid                      C. Hesitant                      D. Excited                      E. None of the above
2. When she heard the news, she was **like a dog with two tails**.  
A. Very morose                      B. Very enthusiastic                      C. Very greedy                      D. Very happy                      E. None of the above
3. The atmosphere had become so unpleasant that he decided it was time to **clear the air**.  
A. Reduce pollution                      B. Discuss openly                      C. Reveal feelings                      D. Be untruthful                      E. None of the above
4. The customer **said a mouthful** when he gave the reason for his dissatisfaction.  
A. Lengthy remark                      B. Angry remark                      C. Abusive remark                      D. Precise remark                      E. None of the above
5. The boss **laid it on the line** and told Jimmy that if he arrived late for work again he would lose his job.  
A. Scold                      B. Be disappointed                      C. Speak frankly                      D. Resigned                      E. None of the above
6. The Kolkata Municipal Corporation has decided to undertake a special drive to keep the litterbugs **at bay**.  
A. In proximity                      B. To gather                      C. Away                      D. To ignore                      E. None of the above
7. His room was at **sixes and sevens** when I entered.  
A. Scooped                      B. Well decorated                      C. Disarray                      D. Smelly                      E. None of the above
8. Buying gifts for your father on Father's day feels like **a piece of cake** when you compare it to Valentine's Day shopping.  
A. Something very easy                      B. Difficult to achieve                      C. Possible with extra efforts  
D. Absurd                      E. None of the above

9. It's the kind of coincidence that comes only **once in a blue moon**, so random that it could never possibly happen again frequently

- A. for the first time                      B. rarely                      C. Once in 15 days' time  
D. Occasionally                      E. None of the above

10. Analysts **smelt a rat** in Fuel price hikes resuming right after Karnataka election.

- A. To criticize                      B. False allegation                      C. To conspire  
D. To begin to suspect                      E. None of the above

**Correct Answers:**

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

**Explanations :**

1. **Cold feet:** If you get cold feet about something, you begin to hesitate about doing it; you are no longer sure whether you want to do it or not.

As per the meaning above, only *hesitant* matches correctly.

*Excited* is opposite of the correct meaning while *unwell* and *afraid* are both incorrect.

Hence, option C is correct.

2. **Like a dog with two tails:** If someone is like a dog with two tails, they are extremely happy.

*Morose* means *miserable* and is opposite to what the phrase means.

*Greedy* and *enthusiastic* also do not convey the correct meaning.

Only *very happy* matches well.

Hence, option D is correct.

3. **Clear the air:** If you decide to clear the air, you try to remove the causes of fear, worry or suspicion by talking about the problem openly.

As per the meaning above, *discuss openly* fits in well.

*Reduce pollution* takes the phrase literally and is incorrect.

The rest are also incorrect.

Hence, option B is correct.

4. **Say a mouthful:** If you make an important or lengthy remark, you say a mouthful.

*Angry* and *abusive* do not convey the same meaning.

*Precise* is opposite of what the phrase means.

The only option that matches is *lengthy remark*.

Hence, option A is correct.

5. **Lay it on the line:** If you speak frankly and make something very clear, you lay it on the line.

The only option that matches the meaning above is to '*speak frankly*'.

The other options do not match and are incorrect.

Hence, option C is correct.

6. **At bay (Idiom):** forced to face or confront one's attackers or pursuers; cornered.

Ex. They lit smoky fires to keep the mosquitoes at bay.

Hence, option C is hence the correct answer.

7. **At sixes and sevens (Idiom):** In a state of total confusion or disarray.

Ex. After taking care of three sick kids all week, I'm totally at sixes and sevens.

Option C is hence the correct answer.

8. **Piece of cake-** A very easy task or accomplishment.

Ex. I thought I was going to fail the test, but it turned out to be a piece of cake!

Option A is hence the correct answer.

9. **Once in a blue moon (Idiom):** Occasionally; very rarely.

Ex. Rohan only comes out for a drink once in blue moon now that he has kids.

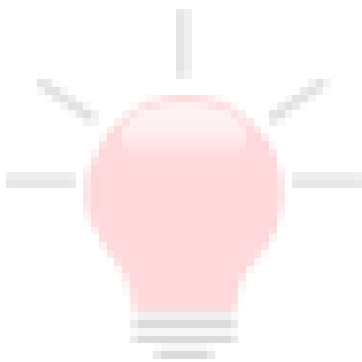
Option B is hence the correct answer.

**10. Smell a rat (Idiom):**

To suspect that someone is guilty of betrayal, deception, or causing a situation to go wrong.

**Ex.** He thought he could smell a rat when he saw smith walking away from the scene of the crime.

Hence, option D is the correct answer.



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