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

Idioms n Phrases Quiz 24

Directions: In each of the questions below, a phrase is 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 to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct.

1. Make common cause with

- A. I need to figure out how to fit the piano and the bookshelf in this room.
- B. Environment protesters have parted ways with the local people to stop the establishment of the factory.
- C. The police were acting on a tip from an informer and caught the gang red-handed.
- D. The crowd backed away when the man pulled out a knife and most of them cried for help.
- E. You should always back up important files and documents so that you don't lose all your work if something goes wrong.

2. Bottle up

- A. She bubbled over with joy when she heard her exam results.
- B. She bounced off her feelings even though she was furious with them and kept quiet.
- C. She took a two-week course to brush up her Spanish before she went to Spain.
- D. After the scandal, the politician tried to buff up his public image.
- E. Jennie burnt out after ten years working as a futures broker and went to live in the country.

3. Cave in

- A. The government has refused to chase down despite the protests and demonstrations.
- B. Most of my make-up wore off before I got to the party.
- C. Our cat turned up after we put posters up all over the neighbourhood.
- D. We heard the news as soon as we switched on the car radio.
- E. They hammered out their differences and got the contract signed.

4. Bring around

- A. It took me ages to bring him along to my point of view.
- B. The changes to the law were brought about by the government after the Supreme Court directive.
- C. He breezed into the room and switched the TV on.
- D. The supermarkets have branched out into banking.
- E. The tension had been building up and it boiled over in the meeting.

5. Go over

- A. I tried to get my point across to the judge but she wouldn't listen.
- B. The company will have to close if it can't get over the new regulations.
- C. Please get ahead of your answers before you submit your test
- D. They're finding it increasingly difficult to get by since their daughter was born.
- E. It's time to do away with all of these old tax records.

6. Beast of burden

- A. The child is really nuts about his new friends in the school though his parents are not very excited about.
- B. There is no point discussing this matter now since it is like beating a dead horse.
- C. I don't want to be your big cheese and you have to deal with your problems on your own only.
- D. Being in the birthday suit is the most comfortable thing ever that I have done in my life.
- E. Stop beating around the bush and come to the main point without wasting much time.

7. Actions speak louder than words

- A. By coming to the party, he added insult to injury since he was not expected to be present in the party.
- B. He decided everything at the drop of a hat without giving much thought to the consequences.
- C. Rahul is the apple of the eye of boos and he always favours Rahul over other employees in all matters.
- D. Let him say anything regarding the merger of the companies, it is evident that he is responsible for the merger since all the rage.
- E. The new bungalow cost him an arm and a leg though he decided to go ahead with the decision to purchase it with cash.

8. A dime a dozen

- A. Since I have got a lot on my plate now, I won't be able to devote my time to anything else now
- B. All the orphan children of the rescue home had a field day yesterday at the amusement park.
- C. A little bird told me that some of the new employees are not as honest as they show themselves to be.
- D. Such actors are aces in the hole in Mumbai and that is why they do not get jobs here.
- E. Could we have a penny for your thoughts? We really need your expert opinion regarding settling this issue.

9. Shoot in the foot

- A. I think the boss has a bit of an axe to grind with you over the way the account was handled.
- B. He'd have a real shot at winning the election if he didn't keep calling himself names with such inflammatory remarks.
- C. The pep talk was a real shot in the arm for all the guys.
- D. I never got the big promotion and have been playing second fiddle ever since.
- E. The CEO was quick to call the junior board member to heel.

10. A white elephant

- A. At first, Vikas was excited to inherit the bungalow, but it soon proved to be blessing in disguise.
- B. The regional council must decide whether a private toll bridge is better than no bridge at all - it's a Hobson's choice.
- C. Ms. Neeta was suddenly viewed as a dark horse when she displayed her beautiful sculptures at the art fair.
- D. They have an eagle eye for spotting wildlife.
- E. It was Dutch courage that made the football fan attack the policeman.

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Correct Answers:

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

Explanations :

1. Make common cause with: work together in order to achieve something that both groups want.

Option A: Figure out (Phrasal Verb): to understand or solve something. This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Option B: Parted Ways (Phrasal Verb): To separate or depart (from someone); to stop associating (with someone). This has not been used correctly in the sentence as it does not suit the context. Thus it can be replaced by the given idiom '**make common cause with**'.

Option C: Acting on (Phrasal Verb): To take action that is strongly influenced by certain information or advice. This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Option D: Backed away (Phrasal Verb): To retreat on a particular idea or course of action. This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Option E: Back up (Phrasal Verb): To save copies of computer files in another place. This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Hence, option B is the correct choice.

2. Bottle up (Phrasal Verb): *to not express your feelings.*

Option A: Bubbled over (Phrasal Verb): *become very excited.* This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Option B: Bounced off (Phrasal Verb): *to test ideas.* 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 '**bottle up**'.

Option C: Brush up (Phrasal Verb): *Improve a skill quickly.* This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Option D: Buff up (Phrasal Verb): *Improve.* This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Option E: Burnt out (Phrasal Verb): *Lose enthusiasm and energy to continue in a demanding job.* This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Hence, option B is the correct choice.

3. Cave in (Phrasal Verb): *Stop resisting or refusing.*

Option A: Chase down(Phrasal Verb): *Try hard to find or get something.* 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 '**cave in**'.

Option B: Wore off(Phrasal Verb): *fade away.* This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Option C: Turned up(Phrasal Verb): *appear suddenly.* This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Option D: Switched on(Phrasal Verb): *start the energy flow, turn on .* This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Option E: Hammered out (Phrasal Verb): *Negotiate and reach an agreement.* This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Hence, option A is the correct choice.

4. Bring around(Phrasal Verb): Persuade or convince someone.

Option A: Bring along(Phrasal Verb):*Bring someone or something to a certain place.* 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 '**bring around**'.

Option B: Brought about(Phrasal Verb): *Make something happen.* This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Option C: Breezed into(Phrasal Verb): *Enter a place quickly.* This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Option D: Branched out(Phrasal Verb): *Move into a different area of business, etc.* This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Option E: Boiled over(Phrasal Verb): *When people lose their tempers and things get nasty.* This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Hence, option A is the correct choice.

5. Go over(Phrasal Verb): *Review, Revise, look at something.*

Option A: Get across(Phrasal Verb): *communicate, make understandable.* This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Option B: Get over(Phrasal Verb): *overcome a problem.* This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Option C: Get ahead of(Phrasal Verb): *Move in front of.* 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 '**go over**'.

Option D: Get by(Phrasal Verb): *Have just enough money to live on.* This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Option E: Do away with(Phrasal Verb): *discard.* This has been used correctly in the sentence.

Hence, option C is the correct choice.

6. **Beast of Burden (Idiom):** *Someone who carries the problems of others.*

Nuts about (Idiom): *Being very excited about something.* The given idiom has been used in the correct sense and no replacement is required to be carried out in this sentence.

Beating a dead horse (Idiom): *Discussing about an issue that is beyond resolution.* The idiom has been used in the correct sense in the given statement.

Big Cheese (Idiom): *An important person.* In the given statement, this idiom is not correct since it means somebody who can carry the problems of others. The given idiom *beast of burden* should be used in the given statement rather to imply the intended meaning.

The birthday suit (Idiom): *Naked.* The idiom has been used in the correct sense in the given statement.

Beating around the bush (Idiom): *Avoid talking about something specifically.* This idiom has been used in the statement in the correct manner and no replacement is required in the given sentence.

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

7. **Actions speak louder than words (Idiom):** *Judge someone by what he does rather than by what he says.*

Add insult to injury (Idiom): *Worsen an unfavorable situation.* The idiom has been used in the correct sense in the given statement and no replacement is required in the statement.

At the drop of a hat (Idiom): *Instantly.* This idiom has also been used correctly in the given statement.

Apple of the eye (Idiom): *Favorite of somebody.* This idiom is correct in this statement and no replacement is required in this sentence.

All the rage (Idiom): *Popular.* This has not been used correctly in the given statement since it is about judging someone by actions rather than by words. The given idiom *actions speak louder than words* can be used here in the correct sense.

An arm and a leg (Idiom): *Very expensive.* This idiom has been used correctly in the given statement and therefore no replacement is required for this idiom also.

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

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8. A dime a dozen (Idiom): *Very commonplace.*

A lot on my plate (Idiom): *Being very busy with many things.* The idiom has been used correctly in the given statement.

A field day (Idiom): *An enjoyable day.* This idiom has also been used correctly in the given statement.

A little bird told me (Idiom): *Little secret about something.* This idiom is correct in its usage in the given context.

Ace in the hole (Idiom): *A hidden strength.* This has not been used correctly in the given statement and it has to be replaced. The given idiom *A dime a dozen* can be used in this context to imply the intended meaning of the given statement.

A penny for your thoughts (Idiom): *Asking for advice.* This idiom has also been used correctly in the given context and no replacement is required here.

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

9. Shoot in the foot (Idiom) : to damage or impede one's own plans, progress, or actions through foolish actions or words.

Have an axe to grind (Idiom): have a private reason for doing or being involved in something.

Ex. He has no political axe to grind.

The given idiom has been used correctly in the sentence given as option A.

Call names (Idiom) : to mock or disparage one with rude or offensive names.

The given idiom doesn't make any sense in the sentence given as option B. In place of this, the idiom 'shoot in the foot' can be used here to make the sentence contextually correct.

Shot in the arm (Idiom) : Something that revitalizes, reinvigorates, or encourages someone or something.

The idiom has been used correctly in the sentence given as option C.

Play second fiddle to (Idiom) :

To have a subordinate, lesser, or smaller role, position, or part (in something)

The idiom has been used correctly in the sentence given as option D.

Call (someone) to heel (Idiom) : To force someone to obey one's wishes or commands; to make someone act in accordance with one's authority.

The idiom has been used correctly in the sentence given as option E.

Evidently, option B is the correct answer.

10. A white elephant (Idiom) : A possession that is useless or troublesome, especially one that is expensive to maintain or difficult to dispose of.

Blessing in disguise (Idiom) : An apparent misfortune that eventually has good results.

The idiom isn't contextually correct in the sentence given as option A as usage of the conjunction 'but' brings contradiction of thoughts. In place of this, the idiom 'a white elephant' fits in well.

Hobson's choice (Idiom) : A choice of taking what is available or nothing at all.

The idiom is used correctly in the sentence given as option B.

A dark horse (Idiom) : Someone who surprises others with their skills or talents.

The idiom is used correctly in the sentence given as option C.

An eagle eye (Idiom) : Excellent eyesight, especially for something in particular.

The idiom is used correctly in the sentence given as option D.

Dutch courage (Idiom) : Unusual or artificial courage arising from the influence of alcohol.

The idiom is used correctly in the sentence given as option E.

Evidently, option A is the correct answer.



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