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Idioms n Phrases Questions for IBPS RRB Scale - I (Mains) Exams.

Idioms n Phrases Quiz 28

Direction: Using idioms from column 1, fill in the blanks in the sentences in column 2. Choose the option that gives the correct combination of idioms from column 1 and the respective blank in which they will fit from column 2.

1.

Column (1)

(A) Asleep at the switch

Column (2)

(D) No matter what time of day it
is, she is always at his

_____.

(B) At sixes and sevens

(E) I don't want to be
_____ with you.

(C) At someone's beck and
call

(F) Several publishers were
_____ , and missed
the book's potential.

A. A-E, B-F

B. B-D, C-E

C. A-F, C-D

D. B-D, A-F E. None of these

2.

Column (1)

(A) At the bottom of the
ladder

Column (2)

(D) It was a _____ for
United, who won a place in
Saturday's final.

(B) A house of cards

(E) If we hire you, you'll have to
begin _____.

(C) A red letter day

(F) We build _____ up
and up, failing to face realities.

A. A-F, B-E B. B-E, C-F C. A-D, C-F D. B-F, A-E E. None of these

3.

Column (1)

(A) A nine days wonder

Column (2)

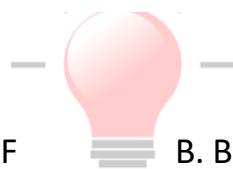
(D) It is better to _____
than to say something
nasty about someone
else.

(B) Bend your ears

(E) She left her husband and
ran away with a younger
man as it was
_____.

(C) Bite your tongue

(F) I had to _____ for
over an hour with
all her problems.



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A. A-E, B-F

B. B-D, C-E

C. A-F, C-E

D. B-D, A-F E. None of these

4.

Column (1)

(A) Break the ice

Column (2)

(D) The grandmother was on
_____ to see her
grandson after a long
time.

(B) Be as clear as mud

(E) She helps _____
when I am interviewing.

(C) Be on cloud nine

(F) His instructions were as
_____.

A. A-E, B-F

B. B-D, C-E

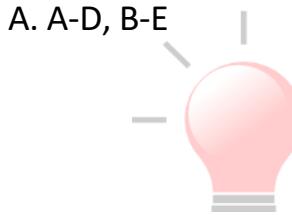
C. A-F, C-E

D. B-D, A-F E. None of these

5.

	Column (1)	Column (2)
(A)	Between the devil and deep blue sea	(D) I spent a lot of time _____ for our plans for the future.
(B)	Be in the doldrums	(E) The property market has _____ for months.
(C)	Beat the drum	(F) Trying to please both his boss and his wife puts him _____.

A. A-D, B-E B. B-E, C-D C. A-D, C-F D. B-F, A-E E. None of these



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6.

	Column (1)	Column (2)
(A)	Be on the edge	(D) It was a very dramatic trial, with the prosecutor and the defense attorney constantly _____.
(B)	Be in seventh heaven	(E) Since they got married, they've been _____.
(C)	Be at each other's throat	(F) When the stock market crashed, their whole future was _____.

A. A-E, B-F B. B-D, C-E C. A-F, C-D D. B-D, A-F E. None of these



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7.

Column (1)

(A) Batten down the hatches

Column (2)

(D) She stared at him, digesting
the idea that they were

_____.

(B) Back the wrong horse

(E) A natural tendency in times of
recession is to _____.

(C) Back to square one

(F) Fred _____ in the
budget hearings.

A. A-F, B-E

B. B-E, C-F

C. A-D, C-F

D. B-F, A-E E. None of these

8.

Column (1)

(A) Back to the salt mines

Column (2)

(D) I have tried many times to
convince him to stop smoking,
but I'm _____.

(B) Ball of fire

(E) When do you get
_____ after your trip?

(C) Beat one's head against
the wall

(F) I always knew that Lauren
would grow up to be
successful—she was a real
_____ as a kid

A. A-E, B-F

B. B-D, C-E

C. A-F, C-E

D. B-D, A-F E. None of these



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9.

	Column (1)	Column (2)
(A)	Bark up the wrong tree	(D) Tutoring helped me _____ about these physics equations.
(B)	Beat one's brain out	(E) Joe's _____ to finish this puzzle.
(C)	Begin to see the light	(F) All along he was misleading us and we were all _____.

A. A-D, B-E B. B-E, C-D C. A-D, C-F D. B-F, A-E E. None of these

10.

	Column (1)	Column (2)
(A)	Behind closed doors	(D) She's _____ coming here for the weekend, so we better clean the guest room.
(B)	Bet on the wrong horse	(E) I truly believed our candidate would win this election, but it looks like I _____.
(C)	Bent on doing	(F) The legislature allows its business to be completed _____.

A. A-E, B-F B. B-D, C-E C. A-F, C-D D. B-D, A-F E. None of these



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Correct Answers:

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

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Explanation:

1. **Asleep at the switch (Idiom):** not attentive or alert.

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

At someone's beck and call (Idiom): always having to be ready to obey someone's orders immediately.

Coming to the columns, we have to make combinations in which the idioms/phrases from Column 1 will match with the sentences with blanks in the Column 2 so that the given sentences become meaningful and contextually correct.

A-F:

Several publishers were **asleep at the switch**, and missed the book's potential.

The sentence above conveys a meaningful context.

C-D:

No matter what time of day it is, she is always at his **beck and call**.

The sentence above conveys a meaningful context too.

There is no other combination that will fall into place here and this makes Option C the correct choice among the given options.

2. **At the bottom of the ladder (Idiom):** at the lowest level.

A house of cards (Idiom): used to refer to an insubstantial or insecure situation or scheme.

A red letter day (Idiom): an important day.



Remember: We have to make combinations in which the idioms/phrases from Column 1 match with the sentences with blanks in the Column 2 to form a meaningful and contextually correct sentence.

B-F:

We build **a house of cards** up and up, failing to face realities.

The above mentioned sentence is contextually correct and fulfils the requirement.

A-E:

If we hire you, you'll have to begin **at the bottom of the ladder**.

Evidently, option D is the correct option.

3. **A nine days wonder (Idiom):** pleasure for a short time.

Bend your ears (Phrasal Verb): to talk to someone for a long time, especially in order to complain about something or to discuss a problem.

Bite your tongue (Idiom): make a desperate effort to avoid saying something.

Coming to the columns, we have to make combinations in which the idioms/phrases from Column 1 will match with the sentences with blanks in the Column 2 so that the given sentences become meaningful and contextually correct.

A-E:

She left her husband and ran away with a younger man as it was **a nine days' wonder**.

The sentence above conveys a meaningful context.

B-F:

I had to **bending my ear** for over an hour with all her problems.

The sentence above conveys a meaningful context too.

There is no other combination that will fall into place here and this makes Option A the correct choice among the given options.

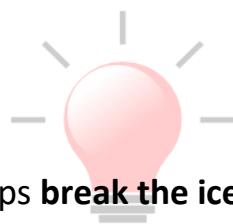
4. **Break the ice (Phrasal Verb):** to do or say something to relieve tension or get conversation going in a strained situation or when strangers meet.

Be as clear as mud (Idiom): to be impossible to understand.

Be on cloud nine (Phrasal Verb): to be very happy.

Coming to the columns, we have to make combinations in which the idioms/phrases from Column 1 will match with the sentences with blanks in the Column 2 so that the given sentences become meaningful and contextually correct.

A-E:



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She helps **break the ice** when I am interviewing.

The sentence above conveys a meaningful context.

B-F:

His instructions were as **clear as mud**.

The sentence above conveys a meaningful context too.

There is no other combination that will fall into place here.

This makes Option A the correct choice among the given options.



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5. **Between the devil and deep blue sea (Idiom):** in a difficult situation where there are two equally unpleasant choices.

Be in the doldrums (Idiom): to be depressed or in low spirits; to be lethargic, sluggish, or lacking energy.

Beat the drum (Idiom): to speak eagerly about something you support.

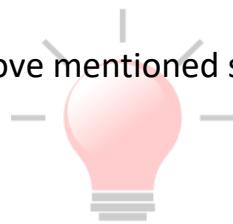
Remember: We have to make combinations in which the idioms/phrases from Column 1 match with the sentences with blanks in the Column 2 to form a meaningful and contextually correct sentence.

B-E:

The property market has **been in the doldrums** for months.

The above mentioned sentence is contextually correct and fulfils the requirement.

C-D:



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I spent a lot of time **beating the drum** for our plans for the future.

It is also a valid sentence as it is correct by all means. There is no other combination(s) in the given question which makes into a perfect sentence.

Evidently, option B is the correct option.



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6. **Be on the edge (Idiom):** in a precarious position; also, in a state of keen excitement, as from danger or risk.

Be in seventh heaven (Idiom): extremely happy.

Be at each other's throat (Idiom): arguing or fighting.

Coming to the columns, we have to make combinations in which the idioms/phrases from Column 1 will match with the sentences with blanks in the Column 2 so that the given sentences become meaningful and contextually correct.

A-F:

When the stock market crashed, their whole future was **on the edge**.

The sentence above conveys a meaningful context.

C-D:

It was a very dramatic trial, with the prosecutor and the defense attorney constantly **at each other's throats**.

The sentence above conveys a meaningful context too.

There is no other combination that will fall into place here and this makes Option C the correct choice among the given options.



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7. **Batten down the hatches (Phrasal Verb):** to prepare for a difficulty or crisis.

Back the wrong horse (Phrasal Verb): to make a wrong or inappropriate choice.

Back to square one (Idiom): back to where one started, with no progress having been made.

Remember: We have to make combinations in which the idioms/phrases from Column 1 match with the sentences with blanks in the Column 2 to form a meaningful and contextually correct sentence.

A-E:

A natural tendency in times of recession is to **batten down the hatches**.

The above mentioned sentence is contextually correct and fulfils the requirement.

B-F:

Fred **backed the wrong horse** in the budget hearings.

It is also a valid sentence as it is correct by all means. There is no other combination(s) in the given question which makes into a perfect sentence.

Evidently, option D is the correct option.

It is also a valid sentence as it is correct by all means. There is no other combination(s) in the given question which makes into a perfect sentence.

Evidently, option B is the correct option.



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8. **Back to the salt mines (Idiom):** back to something that you don't want to do.

Ball of fire (Idiom): active and energetic.

Beat one's head against the wall (Phrasal Verb): to try to do something that is hopeless.

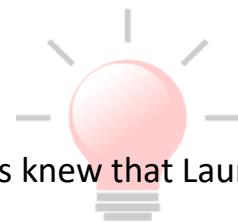
Coming to the columns, we have to make combinations in which the idioms/phrases from Column 1 will match with the sentences with blanks in the Column 2 so that the given sentences become meaningful and contextually correct.

A-E:

When do you get **back to the salt mines** after your trip?

The sentence above conveys a meaningful context.

B-F:



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I always knew that Lauren would grow up to be successful—she was a real **ball of fire** as a kid.

The sentence above conveys a meaningful context too.

There is no other combination that will fall into place here and this makes Option A the correct choice among the given options.



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9. **Bark up the wrong tree (Phrasal Verb):** to make a wrong assumption.

Beat one's brain out (Phrasal Verb): to make a great mental effort to understand, solve, or remember something.

Begin to see the light (Phrasal Verb): to start to understand something, especially something that one was previously confused about or skeptical of.

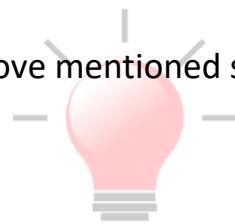
Remember: We have to make combinations in which the idioms/phrases from Column 1 match with the sentences with blanks in the Column 2 to form a meaningful and contextually correct sentence.

B-E:

Joe's **beating his brains out** to finish this puzzle.

The above mentioned sentence is contextually correct and fulfils the requirement.

C-D:



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Tutoring helped me **begin to see the light** about these physics equations.

It is also a valid sentence as it is correct by all means. There is no other combination(s) in the given question which makes into a perfect sentence.

Evidently, option B is the correct option.



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10. Behind closed doors (Idiom): taking place secretly or without public knowledge.

Bet on the wrong horse (Phrasal Verb): to misread the future.

Bent on doing (Phrasal Verb): to be determined to do something.

Coming to the columns, we have to make combinations in which the idioms/phrases from Column 1 will match with the sentences with blanks in the Column 2 so that the given sentences become meaningful and contextually correct.

A-F:

The legislature allows its business to be completed **behind closed doors**.

The sentence above conveys a meaningful context.

C-D:

She's **bent on** coming here for the weekend, so we better clean the guest room.

The sentence above conveys a meaningful context too.

There is no other combination that will fall into place here and this makes Option C the correct choice among the given options.



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