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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

(B) At sixes and sevens

(C) At someone's beck and call

#### Column (2)

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

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

(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

(B) A house of cards

(C) A red letter day

#### Column (2)

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

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

(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

(B) Bend your ears

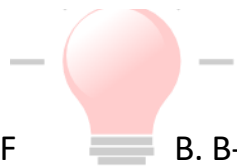
(C) Bite your tongue

**Column (2)**

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

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

(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

(B) Be as clear as mud

(C) Be on cloud nine

**Column (2)**

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

(E) She helps \_\_\_\_\_  
when I am interviewing.

(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  
\_\_\_\_\_.

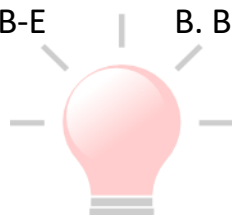
A. A-D, B-E

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

(B) Back the wrong horse

(C) Back to square one

A. A-F, B-E

B. B-E, C-F

**Column (2)**

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

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

(F) Fred \_\_\_\_\_ in the budget hearings.

C. A-D, C-F

D. B-F, A-E

E. None of these

8.

**Column (1)**

(A) Back to the salt mines

(B) Ball of fire

(C) Beat one's head against the wall

A. A-E, B-F

B. B-D, C-E

**Column (2)**

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

(E) When do you get \_\_\_\_\_ after your trip?

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

C. A-F, C-E

D. B-D, A-F

E. None of these



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9.

**Column (1)**

(A) Bark up the wrong tree

(B) Beat one's brain out

(C) Begin to see the light

**Column (2)**

Tutoring helped me

(D) \_\_\_\_\_ about these physics equations.

(E) Joe's \_\_\_\_\_ to finish this puzzle.

(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)**

(A) Behind closed doors

(B) Bet on the wrong horse

(C) Bent on doing

**Column (2)**

(D) She's \_\_\_\_\_ coming here for the weekend, so we better clean the guest room.

(E) I truly believed our candidate would win this election, but it looks like I \_\_\_\_\_.

(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.



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**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:

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:**

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:**

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:**

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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