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Idioms and Phrases Questions for IBPS Clerk Pre & SBI Clerk Pre

Idioms and Phrases Quiz 9

Directions: Identify the words that are similar in meaning to the phrase in underline. If none of option conveys the correct meaning, mark (E) as your answer. The options do not necessarily need to be grammatically correct.

1. Asked after his re-election if he would run for yet another term in office, Putin laughed off the idea.

- A. Omit B. Considered C. Illuminate D. Dismiss E. None of the above

2. Looking back on the 3-0 series loss against Australia in the ODI, Raj suggested the heavy defeats had much to do with the fragility of the middle order and the inability of the bowling unit to perform at its consistent best.

- A. Inferior B. Imagine C. Anticipate D. Remember E. None of the above

3. Rahul Gandhi was fighting an unequal battle with his back to the wall but he negotiated with the local agitators and managed to bring them into the Congress platform.

- A. Start all over again B. Few viable options C. Become fit and healthy
D. Responsible for problems E. None of the above

4. The Chinese media in a backhanded compliment hailed the ISRO launching 104 satellites but not before reminding India it had the world's largest number of poor and its space technology lagged China by miles.

- A. Admiring B. Insulting C. Gauging D. Judging E. None of the above

5. Economic growth is a crucial measure of a country's success and thus the data put out by the Indian government needs to be above board, allowing investors and voters to make well-informed choices.

- A. Complete B. Covert C. Legitimate D. Dishonest E. None of the above

6. In negotiations with the EU, the Europeans hold all the aces while the British Prime Minister has a bus ticket and a half-filled Costa loyalty card.

- A. Secret talks B. Subordinate position C. Controlling position D. Trump card
E. None of the above

7. The comedian says his role in the new anti-hero comic book movie Deadpool is right up his alley.

A. Perfection B. Precise C. Suitable D. Tasty E. None of the above

8. Talking about the PNB crisis, Chief Economic Adviser Arvind Subramanian said that it amounted to a looting of our country's future by some in the business community, in cahoots with some lenders.

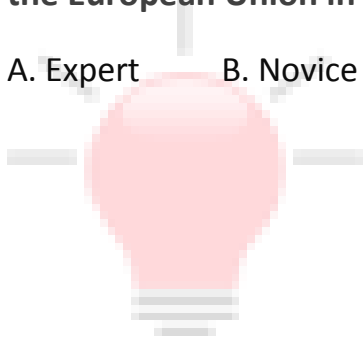
A. Conspiring B. Alliance C. Collusion D. Both A and C E. All of the above

9. The threat of tariffs has opened a can of worms, prompting threats of counter measures that risk further souring of key international relations, not least with China.

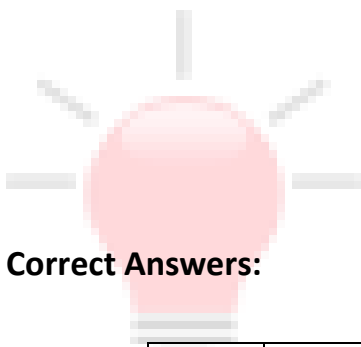
A. Complicated B. Initiative C. Painful D. Disgusting E. Both A and D

10. He might have a new suit and be a dab hand at shareable videos, but underneath it all, Jeremy Corbyn is still the same man who voted against the constitutional underpinnings of the European Union in 2007.

A. Expert B. Novice C. Amateur D. Technocrat E. None of the above



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Correct Answers:

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

Explanations:

1.

Laugh off: To dismiss something or someone as ridiculous or laughable.

Ex: She laughed off the critic's conclusion that the show was a flop.

The only option that is suitable here is dismiss.

Omit means to leave out something.

Considered means to think over something

Illuminate means to light up something.

Hence, option D is correct.

2

Looking back on: To think of or remember what has happened in the past.

Ex: She looked back on her career with a great deal of satisfaction.

Anticipate means to expect something.

Remember is the only option that fits in here.

Hence, option D is correct.

3.

Back to the wall: If you have your back to the wall, you are in serious difficulty with very few options available.

Ex: With his back to the wall, the supplier had to accept the deal.

Option B is the only one that matches the correct meaning.

Hence, option B is correct.

4.

Backhanded compliment: A remark that appears to express admiration but could also be interpreted as an insult.

Ex: He said my presentation was "surprisingly clear". How's that for a backhanded compliment! Does that mean that I am usually not clear?"

Gauging and judging mean the same. Out of all the options, insulting matches the meaning well.

Hence, option B is correct.

5.

Above board: If a situation or business is described as above board, it is open, honest and legal.

Ex: There are not secret negotiations. Our dealings have always been above board.

Covert means hidden while dishonest is opposite of the correct meaning.

Complete is irrelevant.

Legitimate is correct and means honest.

Hence, option C is correct.

6.

Hold all the aces: A person who holds all the aces is in a very strong position because they have more advantages than anyone else.

Ex: Given the high unemployment figures in some countries, employers hold all the aces.

Subordinate means secondary and is incorrect.

Trump card refers to a valuable resource that may be used, especially as a surprise, in order to gain an advantage. It does not fit with the context.

Only Controlling position matches the correct meaning.

Hence, option C is correct.

7.

Right up their alley: If something is (right) up or down your alley, it is exactly the sort of thing that will suit your tastes or abilities.

Ex: Alex loves reading, so the job in the bookshop is right up his alley.

Perfection means excellence and is incorrect.

Precise means exact and is irrelevant.

Suitable is the correct word here.

Hence, option C is correct.

8.

In cahoots with: If one person is in cahoots with another, they are working in close partnership, usually conspiring to do something dishonest.

Ex: There was a rumour that the Mayor was in cahoots with a chain of supermarkets.

All the words convey the correct meaning of the idiom and are correct.

Hence, option E is correct.

9.

A can of worms: To describe a situation as a can of worms means that it is complicated, unpleasant and difficult to deal with.

Ex: The discovery of the transfer of funds turned out to be a real can of worms.

Only complicated fits in well. The rest are meaningless.

Hence, option A is correct.

10.

A dab hand at: If you're a dab hand at something, you're very good at doing it.

Ex: Why don't you call Suzy? She's a **dab hand** at planning parties.

A technocrat is an exponent or advocate of technocracy. It is irrelevant here.

Amateur and novice mean a person new to and inexperienced in a job or situation.

Expert is the correct meaning of the idiom.

Hence, option A is correct.



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