

IDIOMS & PHRASES BASED GENERAL ENGLISH PRACTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS PDF WITH EXPLANATION

For All Competitive SSC, Bank, IBPS, UPSC, Railway, IT & Other Govt. Exams

Created By [Careericons](#) Team

Directions:

In the following questions, four alternatives are given for the Idiom/Phrase given in bold in the sentence. Choose the one that best expresses the meaning of the Idiom/Phrase in the sentence.

[SSC CAPFs SI, ASI 2016]

Q1. She is quite **at sea** and does not know what course of action to take in the matter.

- a) displeased
- b) perplexed
- c) danger
- d) at ease

Q2. I have a **bone to pick with** you in this matter.

- a) selfish motive
- b) selfless motive
- c) desire
- d) am angry

Q3. The smell from the kitchen makes my **mouth water**.

- a) makes me vomit
- b) stimulates my appetite
- c) makes me sick
- d) makes me giddy

Q4. To work on this project is like **flogging a dead horse**.

- a) dragging something too far
- b) over-spending money
- c) None of these
- d) harp upon a question that has been settled

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Q5. The inspector was caught **red-handed**.

- a) caught in the act of committing the crime
- b) caught with dirty hands
- c) found with hands tied
- d) quickly

Q6. It is time that professors came down from their **ivory towers** and studied the real needs of present-day students.

- a) detachment and seclusion
- b) dreamlands
- c) a tower made of ivory
- d) expensive fee

Q7. The cashier wiped the nose of his employer by presenting false bills.

- a) cheated
- b) slapped
- c) doomed
- d) abused

Q8. His boss was always **breathing down his neck**.

- a) giving him strenuous work
 - b) abusing and ill-treating him
 - c) watching all his actions closely
 - d) shouting loudly at him
-

Q9. My friend **got the sack from his** first job.

- a) got tired of
 - b) was dismissed from
 - c) was demoted from
 - d) resigned
-

Q10. She was in **a brown study** and did not notice my entrance.

- a) dream
 - b) fear
 - c) reverie
 - d) sleep
-

Directions:

In each of the following questions, four alternatives are given for the Idioms/ Phrases. **Choose the one that best expresses the meaning of the Idiom/ Phrase.**

[SSC CGL Tier-II 2016]

Q11. a storm in a tea cup

- a) something which encourages
- b) big fuss over a small matter
- c) special positions
- d) steam while having tea

Q12. keep body and soul together

- a) continue with his work
- b) to have just enough to sustain
- c) be physical and spiritual
- d) maintain his health

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Q13. blue- blooded

- a) of noble birth
- b) of unknown origin
- c) unhealthy
- d) inferior

Q14. mare's nest

- a) worthless thing
- b) joyful event
- c) huge mistake
- d) phenomenal discovery

Q15. throw in the towel

- a) acknowledge defeat
 - b) get success
 - c) concentrate more
 - d) fight with vigour
-

Answers to the above questions :

Q1. Answer: (b)

perplexed

at sea : confused and not knowing what to do.

Q2. Answer: (d)

am angry

have a bone to pick with somebody : to be angry with somebody about something

Q3. Answer: (b)

stimulates my appetite mouth-watering : the food looks or smells so good that you want to eat it immediately; tempting

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Q4. Answer: (c)

None of these

flog a dead horse : to waste your effort by trying to do something that is no longer possible.

Q5. Answer: (a)

red-handed : caught in the act of doing something wrong or illegal.

Q6. Answer: (a)

detachment and seclusion

ivory tower : a situation where you are separated from the problems and practical aspects of normal life.

Q7. Answer: (a)

cheated

Q8. Answer: (c)

watching all his actions closely breathe down somebody's neck: to watch closely what somebody is doing in a way that makes them feel anxious or annoyed.

Q9. Answer: (b)

get the sack from : being told by your employer that you can no longer continue working for a company etc. usually because of something that you have done wrong.

Here, was dismissed from is the right usage.

Q10. Answer: (c)

reverie

a brown study : a mood of deep absorption or thoughtfulness.

Q11. Answer: (b)

a storm in a tea cup/a tempest in a teapot : a lot of unnecessary anger and worry about a matter that is not important.

Here, big fuss over a small matter is the right option.

Look at the sentence : To quarrel for a joke is like a storm in a tea cup.

Q12. Answer: (b)

keep body and soul together: stay alive especially in difficult circumstances; to have just enough to sustain.

Here, to have just enough to sustain is the right option.

Look at the sentence : Do you think a man can keep body and soul together by selling coconuts?

Q13. Answer: (a)

blue-blooded : relating to royalty and the nobility; aristocratic; of noble birth.

Here, of noble birth is the right option.

Look at the sentence : Pt. Nehru was a blue-blooded politician.

Q14. Answer: (a)

mare's nest : a discovery that seems interesting but is found to have no value; a very complicated situation; worthless thing.

Here, worthless thing is the right option.

Look at the sentence : The announced cure for the disease was merely another mare's nest.

Q15. Answer: (a)

throw in the towel : to admit that you have been defeated and stop trying; acknowledge defeat.

Here, acknowledge defeat is the right option.

Look at the sentence : Do not give up now! It is too soon to throw in the towel (sponge).

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