

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

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Created By [Careericons](#) Team

## Directions:

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

[SSC Graduate Level Tier-I 2013]

**Q1.** Students must learn to keep their belongings **in apple-pie order**.

- a) in perfect order
- b) ordering for apple pie
- c) arranging apples neatly
- d) orderly preparation of apple pie

**Q2.** For this act of indifference he will be **taken to task** by the authority.

- a) rewarded
- b) tender his resignation
- c) entrusted with an official job.
- d) get an official reprimand

**Q3.** To get admission in present-day educational institutions, all children should be **born with a silver spoon in the mouth**.

- a) be born with silver spoon
- b) be born in a rich family
- c) be born to silver spoon manufacturer
- d) always hold a silver spoon

**Q4.** It takes a **month of Sundays** to chop all that wood.

- a) no time
- b) a long time
- c) a special Sunday
- d) a short period

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**Q5.** Politicians enjoy **blowing their own trumpets**.

- a) to use one's own trumpet
- b) to blow their trumpet loudly
- c) to praise others trumpeting
- d) to boast about their achievements

**Q6.** I tried to **feel his pulse** on the issue, but in vain.

- a) enlighten him
- b) argue with him
- c) guide him
- d) find his views

**Q7.** The new manager **ruled the roost** to every one.

- a) rushed through work
- b) got paid very handsomely
- c) created good impression
- d) exercised authority

**Q8.** You need to **have something up your sleeve** if the present plan does not work.

- a) have some hidden sources of money
  - b) have a secret pocket in the sleeve
  - c) have an alternative plan
  - d) have some honest means
- 

**Q9. let sleeping dogs lie**

- a) do not allow dogs to stand
  - b) prevent dog mobility
  - c) do not bring up an old controversial issue
  - d) dogs can raise tempers
- 

**Q10.** Children complain about their parents' gifts. They should learn **not to look a gift horse in the mouth**

- a) not to ask for more gifts
  - b) not to find goodness in the gifts
  - c) not to look at a horse's mouth
  - d) not to find fault with the gifts received
- 

**Q11. a man of straw**

- a) a man of no substance
  - b) a very active person
  - c) a worthy fellow
  - d) an unreasonable person
- 

**Q12.** Acquiring a job is **a cakewalk** for a student who has good academic performance coupled with a good attitude.

- a) a walkway made with cakes
- b) an easy achievement
- c) walk away with a cake
- d) a difficult achievement

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**Q13.** The issues were settled in court, but after a few days, it was **back to square one**.

- a) to run to the first square
- b) to start and return
- c) to come to a stop
- d) to return to the starting point

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**Q14.** Scientific knowledge is no longer **a closed book** in this 21st century.

- a) a covered book
- b) a mystery
- c) a mysterious book
- d) an unopened book

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**Q15.** Despite his initial arrogance he had to **eat humble pie**.

- a) he maintained composure
- b) he failed to protest eventually
- c) he accepted the food offered
- d) he had to yield under pressure

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## Answers to the above questions :

### Q1. Answer: (a)

in apple-pie order : incomplete order; in perfect order

I always put my table in apple-pie order before leaving.

The best option is in perfect order

### Q2. Answer: (d)

taken to task : punished

The teacher took Shalu to task for her misbehaviour.

The best option is get, an official reprimand

### Q3. Answer: (b)

be born with a silver spoon in the mouth : having rich parents

Most of the students in the exclusive Public schools are born with silver spoons in their mouths.

The best option is be born in a rich family.

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**Q4. Answer: (b)**

a month of Sundays : used to emphasize that something will never happen; a long time

It will take you a month of Sundays to complete the book.

The best option is a long time.

**Q5. Answer: (d)**

blowing their own trumpets : boasting

Anyone will tell you she's one of the best journalists we have got, although she never blows her own trumpet.

The best option is to boast about their achievements.

**Q6. Answer: (d)**

feel his pulse : to find what one is thinking on some point

The exit polls feel the pulse of the voters.

The best option is find his views.

**Q7. Answer: (d)**

ruled the roost : to be the most powerful member of a group; to be the manager

Our new office manager really rules the roost.

The best option is exercised authority.

**Q8. Answer: (c)**

have something up your sleeve : to keep a plan or an idea secret until you need to use it

I have something up my sleeve that will solve all your problems.

The best option has an alternative plan.

**Q9. Answer: (c)**

let sleeping dogs lie : to avoid mentioning a subject or something that happened in the past, in order to avoid any problems/arguments

I know I should report the accident but I rather let the sleeping dogs lie.

The best option does not bring up an old controversial issue

**Q10. Answer: (a)**

not to look a gift horse in the mouth : not to refuse or criticize something that is given to you for nothing

Never look a gift horse in the mouth.

The best option is not to find fault with the gifts received.

**Q11. Answer: (a)**

a man of straw : without substantial means; a person who is weak and easy to defeat ; a person of little substance

Compared to their predecessors, the country's leaders seem to be men of straw.

The best option is a man of no substance

**Q12. Answer: (b)**

a cakewalk : something that is extremely easy to do

She has been running marathons for years now. So this 5 km-run will be a cakewalk for her.

The best option is an easy achievement.

**Q13. Answer: (d)**

back to square one : a return to the situation you were in at the beginning of a project, task, etc. because you have made no real progress

We've got to get this done without going back to square one.

The best option is to return to the starting point.

**Q14. Answer: (b)**

a closed book : a person that you know nothing about

I can't figure her out; she's a closed book to me.

The best option is a mystery.

**Q15. Answer: (d)**

eat humble pie : to say and show that you are sorry for a mistake committed by you

The producers of the advertisement had to eat humble pie for misrepresenting the facts.

The best option is he had to yield under pressure

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