

New 100+ Idioms & Phrases MCQ Questions and Answers PDF For SSC CGL Tier-1 2022

Directions for all the following questions:

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

1. face the music

- a) be ridiculed
- b) be punished
- c) be dismissed
- d) be applauded

Answer: (b)

face the music: to accept and deal with criticism or punishment for something you have done.

Here, be punished is the right option.

Look at the sentence: The others all ran off, leaving me to face the music.

2. Strain every nerve

- a) Work very hard
- b) Beg before others
- c) Spend a large amount
- d) Try all tricks

Answer: (a)

Work very hard

Strain every nerve = make every possible effort.

Look at the sentence: He strained every nerve to get a job for his wife.

3. cat nap

- a) sleep like a cat
- b) make a snoring sound while sleeping
- c) to sleep briefly
- d) take a long sleep

Answer: (c)

cat nap: brief sleep

Look at the sentence: I am going to try to squeeze in a cat nap before my next shift starts

Here, to sleep briefly is the right option

4. Pale into insignificance

- a) was less exciting
- b) was less hectic
- c) was dull and pale
- d) seemed less important

Answer: (d)

5. a chip off the old block

- a) to remind of one's son
- b) reminds them of one's son
- c) reminds of previous memories
- d) reminds them of one's father

Answer: (d)

a chip off the old block: a person who is very similar to their mother or father in the way that they look or behave.

Look at the sentence: She enjoys bossing people around just like her mother used to do – she’s a real chip off the old block

Here, reminds them of one’s father is the right option

6. catch a tartar

- a) to deal with a person who is more than one’s match
- b) to trap a wanted criminal with great difficulty
- c) to live carefully and cautiously
- d) to catch a dangerous person

Answer: (a)

catch a tartar: to deal with someone or something that proves unexpectedly troublesome or powerful.

Here, to deal with a person who is more than one’s match is the right option.

Look at the sentence: It looks like we caught a Tartar when we tried to muscle their store out of the area.

7. Capital Punishment

- a) Life imprisonment
- b) To be jailed
- c) Imprisoned for a long period
- d) Death sentence

Answer: (d)

Death sentence

Capital Punishment = death penalty is a government sanctioned practice where by a person is put to death by the state as a punishment for a crime.

8. to break the ice

- a) made people laugh
- b) made people excited
- c) made people relaxed and comfortable
- d) made people angry

Answer: (c)

to break the ice: to say or do something that makes people feel more relaxed.

Here, made people relaxed and comfortable is the right option.

9. cap in hand

- a) screaming
- b) well behaved
- c) in a respectful manner
- d) defiant

Answer: (c)

go/come cap in hand: to ask someone for money or help in a polite way which makes you feel ashamed.

Here, in a respectful manner is the right option.

Look at the sentence: I had to go cap in hand to my parents again to ask for some money.

10. ill at ease

- a) irritated

- b) uneasy
- c) confused
- d) unwell

Answer: (b)

ill at ease: uncomfortable or embarrassed

Here, uneasy is the right option.

Look at the sentence: I just shifted in my seat, feeling very nervous and ill at ease

11. To play fast and loose

- a) To play a good game
- b) To act in an unreliable way
- c) To defeat a person
- d) To be narrow minded

Answer: (b)

To act in an unreliable way

To play fast and loose = behave irresponsibly or immorally.

Look at the sentence: I am not someone who plays fast and loose with other people's lives.

12. A man of straw

- a) An unintelligent man
- b) A corrupt man
- c) A tall, lanky person
- d) A weak man, without substance

Answer: (d)

A weak man, without substance

A man of straw = someone who has a weak character; a man of no substance.

Look at the sentence: He was accused by his opponents of being a man of straw and lacking in decisiveness.

13. wet behind the ears

- a) young and rich with experience
- b) young and without much experience
- c) hearing impaired
- d) skillful

Answer: (b)

wet behind the ears: young and without much experience ; naive.

Here, young and without much experience is the right option.

Look at the sentence: He was still wet behind the ears, politically.

14. Under a cloud

- a) Sad
- b) Sick
- c) Confused
- d) Shocked

Answer: (a)

Sad

Under a cloud = under suspicion or discredited; in trouble.

Look at the sentence: He left under something of a cloud accused of misappropriating funds.

15. Pass the buck

- a) Refuse to accept responsibility
- b) Make some quick money.
- c) Overtake
- d) Exchange

Answer: (a)

Refuse to accept responsibility

Pass the buck = to blame someone or make them responsible for a problem that you should deal with.

Look at the sentence: She is always trying to pass the buck and I am sick of it.

16. to end in smoke

- a) to create smoke
- b) to end
- c) to emit smoke
- d) to fail

Answer: (d)

to end in smoke: to come to nothing; fail.

Here, to fail is the right option.

Look at the sentence: All the efforts of the principal to bring him round ended in smoke.

17. Leaps and bounds

- a) Rapidly
- b) Jumping
- c) Stationary
- d) Slowly

Answer: (a)

Rapidly

By leaps and bounds = to become larger quickly; by large movements forward.

Look at the sentence: The profits of my company are increasing by leaps and bounds.

18. in the blues

- a) violent and angry
- b) wearing blue badges
- c) singing sad songs
- d) cheerless and depressed

Answer: (d)

in the blues: feelings of sadness and depression.

Here, cheerless and depressed is the right option.

Look at the sentence: She went in the blues after the failure in the exam.

19. Beyond the pale

- a) Beyond redemption
- b) Full of rhetoric
- c) Distasteful
- d) Unreasonable or unacceptable

Answer: (d)

Unreasonable or unacceptable

Beyond the pale = outside the bounds of acceptable behaviour; improper; unreasonable; objectionable.

Look at the sentence: The language my father used was beyond the pale.

20. to eat humble pie

- a) to be served food that is rotten
- b) to yield under humiliating circumstances
- c) to give in to political pressure
- d) to eat an unsavoury pie

Answer: (b)

to eat humble pie: to apologise and face humiliation for a serious error; to admit that you are wrong

Here, to yield under humiliating circumstances is the right option.

Look at the sentence: I think I am right, but if I am wrong, I will eat humble pie.

21. If you are fair and square In your work you will definitely prosper.

- a) business like
- b) honest
- c) authoritative
- d) active

Answer: (b)

22. Ravi fought to the bitter end.

- a) carried on a contest regardless of the consequences
- b) died fighting
- c) fought a losing battle
- d) fought to the last point of enemy's position

Answer: (a)

23. He is always praised for his gift of the gab.

- a) talent for speaking
- b) getting something free
- c) great skill
- d) being lucky

Answer: (a)

24. He is not in the good books of his boss.

- a) not of the same opinion as
- b) in favour with
- c) as good as
- d) a lover of good books

Answer: (b)

25. By putting two and two together

- a) to keep people in pairs
- b) to make an arithmetical calculation
- c) to deduce from given facts
- d) to mix several things

Answer: (c)

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