

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q1. carry out

a) continue

b) complete something

c) to take in

d) bring

Answer: (b)

carry out : to do and complete a task.

Extensive tests have been carried out on the patient.

The best option is complete something

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q2. I have taken fancy to this car.

- a) revised**
- b) developed liking for**
- c) improved**
- d) given imaginative touches**

Answer: (b)

take fancy : to attract or please somebody; to start liking somebody/something often without an obvious reason.

She's got enough money to buy whatever takes her fancy.
The best option is developed liking for

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q3. He beats about the bush.

- a) talks continuously**
- b) speak well**
- c) does not talk specifically**
- d) talks sensibly**

Answer: (c)

beat about the bush : to talk about something for a long time without coming to the main point.

Stop beating about the bush and tell me what you want.
The best option is does not talk specifically.

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q4. My kith and kin congratulated me on my brilliant success.

a) father and mother

b) relatives

c) colleagues

d) niece and nephew

Answer: (b)

kith and Kin : friends and relatives.

I sent cards to my kith and kin, inviting them on my 25th Anniversary.
The best option is relatives.

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q5. Receiving his first award was a shot in the arm for him.

- a) something that is painful**
- b) something that needs attention**
- c) something done with a purpose**
- d) something that gives encouragement**

Answer: (d)

a shot in the arm : something that gives encouragement

The opening of a new research center will give a much-needed shot in the arm.
The best option is something that gives encouragement

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q6. Television has become part and parcel of our lives.

a) unavoidable luxury

b) important part

c) showy part

d) status symbol

Answer: (b)

part and parcel : an essential part; an important part.

Keeping the accounts is part and parcel of something.
The best option is important part

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q7. Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India, was a man of letters.

- a) a great politician**
- b) a literary person**
- c) a great patriot**
- d) a great letter–writer**

Answer: (b)

a man of letters : a man who is devoted to literary/scholarly pursuits.

A.P.J. Abdul Kalam was a man of letters.

The best option is a literary person

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q8. It is sometimes wiser to rely on horse sense than on the advice of colleagues.

- a) advice of teachers**
- b) advice of colleagues**
- c) basic common sense**
- d) advice of parents**

Answer: (c)

horse sense : basic common sense; ordinary practical knowledge of the best way to deal with people and situations.

He is not a scholar but has a lot of horse sense.

The best option is basic common sense

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q9. As a student, you should catch time by the forelock.

a) set up clock back

b) slow down

c) seize opportunity

d) speed up

Answer: (c)

catch time by the forelock (Id.) : not slip an opportunity ; act quickly and decisively

Wise men catch time by the forelock.

The best option is seize opportunity.

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q10. Anand is a nice guy, but sometimes he really gets on my nerves.

- a) shakes my self–confidence**
- b) annoys me**
- c) makes me uncomfortable**
- d) makes me nervous**

Answer: (b)

get on somebody's nerves : to annoy somebody

It really gets on my nerves when people hang up without leaving a message.
The best option is annoys me.

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q11. His frequent journeys are telling upon his health.

- a) improving
- b) informing
- c) affecting
- d) threatening

Answer: (c)

telling : showing effectively; having strong effect.

His sleepless nights are telling upon his performance.
The best option is affecting

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q12. From stem to stern

- a) all the way from the front of a ship to the back**
- b) from the beginning to the end**
- c) top of a plant to its roots.**
- d) loose pleasantness to become strict**

Answer: (a)

From stem to stern = from the front to the back especially of a ship

Look at the sentence : Surges of water rocked their boats from stem to stern

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q13. Over egg the pudding

- a) add unnecessary details to make something seem better or worse.
- b) fill the pudding excessively with egg.
- b) fill the pudding excessively with egg.
- d) add important details to the content of a story.

Answer: (a)

add unnecessary details to make better or worse.

Over egg the pudding = to spoil something by trying too hard to improve it.

Look at the sentence : As a director, I think he has a tendency to over-egg the pudding, with a few too many gorgeous shots of the country side.

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q14. Turn over a new leaf

- a) change one's behaviour for the better
- b) read between the pages of a book.
- c) do a somersault
- d) do a new job.

Answer: (a)

change one's behaviour for the better

Turn over a new leaf = start to act or behave in a better or more responsible way; improve; to start behaving in a better way.

Look at the sentence : Apparently he has turned over a new leaf and he is not smoking any more.

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q15. Take up the hatchet

- a) behave formally
- b) pursue a chance
- c) be caught in a trap
- d) prepare for or go to war

Answer: (d)

prepare for or go to war

Take up the hatchet = to make or declare war

Look at the sentence : He induced the tribes to take up the hatchet against the English.

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q16. At loose ends

- a) tie two loose ends of a thread
- b) keep options open
- c) in an uncertain situation
- d) repay debts

Answer: (c)

in an uncertain situation

At a loose end = to have nothing to do At loose ends = not knowing what to do, especially because of an upsetting change.

Look at the sentences : If you find yourself at loose ends, you could always clean the bathroom.
I was at loose ends after finishing school and not being able to find a job.

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q17. With might and main

- a) with full risks
- b) with full force
- c) having full confidence
- d) with full blessings

Answer: (b)

with full force

With might and main = with all one's power or strength; to the best of one's ability; with as much effort as possible.

Look at the sentence : They shouted with might and main but nobody came to rescue them.

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q18. Ruffle somebody's feather

- a) gamble
- b) escape responsibility
- c) annoy somebody
- d) show contempt for

Answer: (c)

annoy somebody

Ruffle somebody's feather = to cause someone to be upset.

Look at the sentence : Mohan ruffled a few feathers when he suggested cutting the teacher's salaries.

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q19. Cut short

- a) delete
- b) praise
- c) interrupt
- d) slice into small pieces

Answer: (c)

interrupt

Cut short = to have to stop doing something before it is finished.

Look at the sentence : Their conversation was cut short by the arrival of more guests.

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q20. Bad blood

- a) war
- b) ill feeling
- c) threatening attitude
- d) in an infected state of being

Answer: (b)

ill feeling

Bad blood = feelings of hate between people because of arguments in the past.
Look at the sentence : There has been bad blood between the two families for years.

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q21. A laughing stock

- a) an object of laughter
- b) a storehouse of joke
- c) an object of desire
- d) a stock of high value

Answer: (a)

an object of laughter

A laughing stock = someone or something that seems stupid or silly, especially by trying to be serious or important and not succeeding.

Look at the sentence : Another performance like that and this team will be the laughing stock of the league.

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q22. I am going to stay at home because I am feeling under the weather today.

- a) unhappy**
- b) depressed**
- c) irritated**
- d) sick**

Answer: (d)

under the weather : slightly ill/sick and not as well as usual.

I She said she was under the weather and couldn't make it to the meeting.

The best option is sick

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q23. Even in the middle of the fire he kept a level head.

- a) was impulsive
- b) was sensible
- c) was crazy
- d) was self centered

Answer: (b)

keep a level head : to remain calm and sensible in a difficult situation.
I You have to keep a level head during business negotiations.

The best option is was sensible

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q24. The winning team decided to go for the jugular in the last quarter of the match.

- a) forfeit the match
- b) give easy opportunities to the opposite team
- c) give reserve players a chance
- d) attack all out

Answer: (d)

go for the jugular : to attack somebody's weaker point during a discussion , in an aggressive way.
I She went straight for the jugular at the end of the game.

The best option is attack all out

General English MCQ: Idioms and Phrases

Q25. Everybody thought Asha and Ashok were a happy couple, but it was all just make believe.

- a) hatred**
- b) treachery**
- c) reality**
- d) pretence**

Answer: (d)

make believe that... : to pretend that something is true.

| Let's make believe we're elves. (dwarfs)

The best option is pretence.

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