

IDIOMS

Exercise 1

Choose the appropriate answer to fill in each blank. Write its letter in the brackets provided.

1. I am _____. I should have brought a sweater.

A high spirited	C chilled to the bones
B falling on deaf ears	D in the same boat

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2. The management managed to find a substitute for the lead actor _____.

A at the spur of the moment	C around the corner
B at the eleventh hour	D by hook or by crook

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3. Nobody expected Sherene to win the singing competition. She was a _____ who beat all the other more experienced contestants.

A bolt from the blue	C white elephant
B bull in a china shop	D dark horse

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4. The basketball team was _____ when they won the inter-school match.

A feeling blue	C in a quandary
B in high spirits	D born with a silver spoon

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5. Mr Jones seldom accompanies his wife on shopping trips. If he does, he sits in a cafe and reads the newspaper while Mrs Jones shops. Shopping is not Mr Jones' _____.

A nip in the bud	C without question
B second to none	D cup of tea

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6. William's garden is filled with exotic flowers and plants. Neighbours often stop by to admire his roses, daisies and orchids. William has _____.

A pulled up his socks	C burst into tears
B green fingers	D faced the music

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7. Yolanda _____ when she won tickets to her favourite pop singer's concert.

A went bananas	C kept the pot boiling
B poured oil on troubled waters	D fought to the finish

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8. It's time for a change. I want to _____ mountain climbing.
- A go down memory lane C have a go at
 B fight tooth and nail for D bill and coo at ()
9. I wanted to give my comments on the ridiculous outfit that Liza was wearing but decided to _____.
- A bite my tongue C drive her mad
 B make a living D ebb her heart out ()
10. Although there were some difficulties to face, the crew _____ during the fashion show. In the end, the show was a success.
- A jumped the gun C made a broad hint
 B kept the ball rolling D made up their mind ()

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

Exercise 2

Choose appropriate idioms to complete the conversation below.

Tim : Would you like to join me for dinner tonight, Marissa?

Marissa : I would love to, Tim. What's the occasion?

Tim : Oh, I wouldn't want to bore you with the details.

Marissa : I'm (1) _____. Tell me, what's the news?

Tim : Well, I have just been promoted as co-writer in the publication firm that I am working for. It's a great (2) _____ that will propel me to greater heights in this field.

Marissa : Congratulations, Tim! I always knew you (3) _____ for writing. This promotion is a (4) _____. I am proud of you.

Tim : Thanks, Marissa. Shall I meet you at the restaurant?

Marissa : Sure. I'll be there at 7:30 (5) _____.

1. A on top of the world
B all ears
C out of hand ()

2. A jack-in-the-box
B nit-pick
C stepping stone ()

3. A had a flair
B made your point
C bid fair to ()

4. A face value
B feather in your cap
C place in the sun ()

5. A in the wind
B in the wild
C on the dot ()

5 C

4 B

3 A

2 C

1 B
Answers: