

## SOLUTIONS TO ENGLISH, 2007

1. **D**

An **idiomatic expression** is formed based on certain principles. Idioms have two parts 'A' and 'B', 'A' being compared to 'B' to bring out the meaning, using metaphors, imagery and symbols.

Get down to brass tacks – to consider the basic facts or issues of something.

2. **A**

Talk one's head off – to talk a great deal.

3. **A**

**Decry** – belittle, blame, condemn, denounce, deprecate, detract, discredit, disparage, run down, abuse, traduce, disapprove, underrate, undervalue, speak against.

4. **B**

**Inimical** – adverse, harmful, hurtful, noxious, contrary, opposed, pernicious, repugnant, infavourable, dangerous.

5. **B**

**Proscribe** – to say officially, that something is forbidden.

Synonyms are: banish, doom, exile, expel, ostracize, outlaw, exclude, forbid, interdict, prohibit, censure, condemn, denounce, reject.

6. **B**

Infinitive	Past tense	Past participle
Ring	Rang	Rung

NB: Any verb that comes after 'has' or 'have' or 'had' should be in **past participle** form e.g. "Your mobile phone has **rung**" (not ring or rang).

7. **B**

8. **A**

9. **A**

10. **D**

11. **A**

12. **A**

'**For all he cared**' is used to say that a person is not worried about or interested in what happens to someone else or something.

13. **C**

14. **B**

**Colossal** - extremely large.

**Meagre** - small in quantity.

Other words for **colossal** are: cyclopean, enormous, gigantic, Herculean, huge, immense, monstrous, prodigious, Olympian, stupendous, vast.

Other words for **meagre** are: lank, gaunt, lean, poor, skinny, emaciated, starved, spare, thin, barren, poor, sterile, unproductive, bald, dry, dull, mean, poor, prosy, feeble, insignificant, jejune, scanty, small, tame, uninteresting, vapid.

15. **C**

**Soothe** – to make somebody who is anxious, upset, angry etc, feel calmer.

'**Stimulate**' in this context means to provoke, encourage etc.