

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Irish Proverbs

A proverb is a short saying that offers advice or gives wisdom. It is often in the form of a metaphor, where human behavior is compared to the behavior of an animal or a natural item, like a tree or the wind.

Below are Irish proverbs. Briefly explain what you think each one means.

1. Two shorten the road. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. The older the fiddle the sweeter the tune. \_\_\_\_\_

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3. A cabin with plenty of food is better than a hungry castle. \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Every dog is bold on its on doorstep. \_\_\_\_\_

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5. A friend's eye is a good mirror. \_\_\_\_\_

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6. Everyone is sociable until a cow invades his garden. \_\_\_\_\_

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7. The well-fed does not understand the lean. \_\_\_\_\_

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8. He who gets a name for early rising can stay in bed until midday. \_\_\_\_\_

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**Student's answer's will vary, but will reference the following:**

1. Two shorten the road. **A long trip is easier with a companion.**
2. The older the fiddle the sweeter the tune. **Age makes many things better.**
3. A cabin with plenty of food is better than a hungry castle. **It's better to have plenty of food in a humble house than starve in a expensive one, or a good but homely person is better than a beautiful but shallow one.**
4. Every dog is bold on its on doorstep. **It's easy to be brave when you are in a safe place.**
5. A friend's eye is a good mirror. **A friend will tell you the truth about yourself.**
6. Everyone is sociable until a cow invades his garden. **It's easy to get along if there is no conflict.**
7. The well-fed does not understand the lean. **It's hard for people who have things to understand those who do not, or it's difficult to understand the problems of others if you do not have that problem.**
8. He who gets a name for early rising can stay in bed until midday. **A person with a good reputation can do bad things or a good reputation discounts bad behavior, and a bad reputation discounts good behavior.**