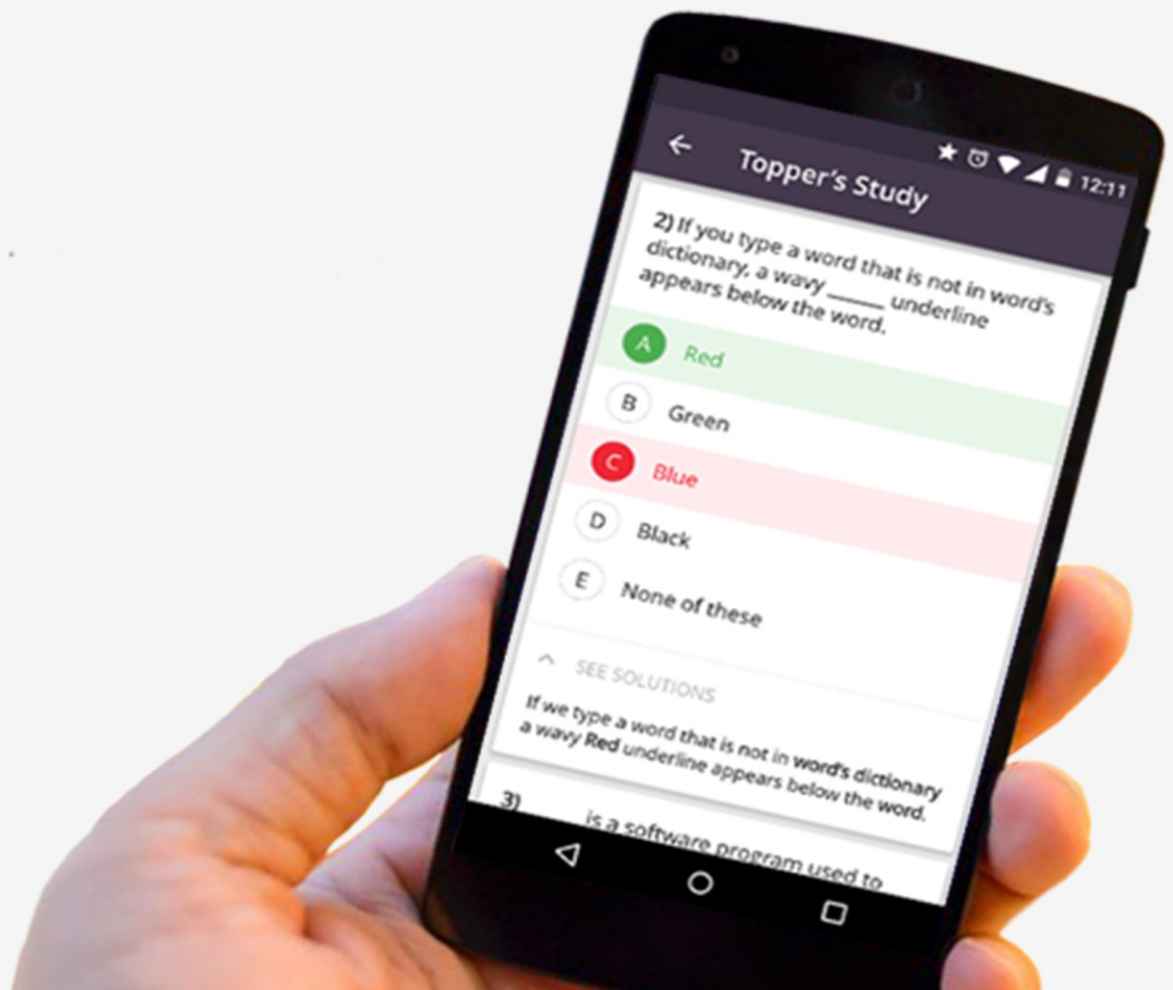




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Idiom & Phrases Questions

asked in SSC CGL 2016



1. To give oneself airs
A. Space to breathe
B. Time
C. Acting strange
D. Behaving arrogantly
Ans. D.
2. At a stone's throw
A. At a short distance
B. At a place where quarrels take place
C. At a great distance
D. A quarry
Ans. A.
3. Bone of contention
A. A delicious nonvegetarian item
B. An item which made them content
C. Cause for quarrel
D. A link between them
Ans. C.
4. To end in smoke
A. To fail
B. To create smoke
C. To end
D. To emit smoke
Ans. A.
5. To spill the beans
A. To reveal partial truth
B. To be untidy
C. To reveal a secret
D. To conceal a fact
Ans. C.
6. To eat humble pie
A. To eat an unsavoury pie
B. To be served food that is rotten
C. To yield under humiliating circumstances
D. To give in to political pressure
Ans. C.
7. Drive home
A. Find one's roots
B. Emphasise
C. Refer
D. Draw
Ans. B.
8. A left handed compliment
A. A subtle rebuke
B. Wholesome praise
C. An ambiguous compliment
D. A mild compliment
Ans. C.
9. Cut a sorry figure
A. Did not stand straight
B. Apologised for his remarks
C. Created a wrong impression
D. Made a poor impression
Ans. D.
10. To take to task
A. Forgave him
B. Slapped him
C. Gave him extra work
D. Reprimanded him
Ans. D.

11. Bring to light
A. Introduced
B. Revealed
C. Seen
D. Brought to life
Ans. B.
12. Bark is worse than his bite
A. Threat is worse than the action taken
B. Temper cannot be controlled
C. Ferocious scolding hurt more than his action
D. Anger is always justified
Ans. A.
13. Throw caution to the winds
A. To be fearful
B. To warn others not to travel
C. To behave recklessly
D. To behave with care and caution
Ans. C.
14. Ill at ease
A. Unwell
B. Irritated
C. Uneasy
D. Confused
Ans. C.
15. To beat about the bush
A. To try to win favours
B. To talk well
C. To talk about relevant things
D. To talk about irrelevant things
Ans. D.
16. Maiden speech
A. Bachelor's speech
B. First speech
C. Last speech
D. Extempore speech
Ans. B.
17. To get cold feet
A. Drenched
B. Fear
C. Felicitate
D. Fever
Ans. B.
18. Beside the mark
A. Perfect
B. Not to the point
C. Relevant
D. Charming
Ans. B.
19. On tenterhooks
A. Happy and excited
B. In suspense and anxiety
C. Angry and irritated
D. Surprised and shocked
Ans. B.
20. A cuckoo in the nest
A. One who likes to stay at home
B. A view from a high place
C. An unwelcome intruder
D. One who is chosen as the leader of the group
Ans. C.

21. A house of cards
A. An insecure scheme
B. A gambling house
C. A plan with high stakes
D. A place where cards are printed
Ans. A.
22. To smell a rat
A. To see signs of plague epidemic
B. To get the bad smell of a dead rat
C. To suspect foul dealings
D. To be in a bad mood
Ans. C.
23. Old head on young shoulders
A. To be intelligent when old
B. To be old and yet look young
C. To be wise beyond his years
D. To be smarter with age
Ans. C.
24. A wild-goose chase
A. A fruitful search
B. A pointless search
C. To search for a wild-goose
D. A hunting expedition
Ans. B.
25. Hard of hearing
A. To be disturbed B. To be confused
C. To be deaf D. To be dumb
Ans. C.
26. Burn your boats
A. Have a burning desire to win
B. Become extremely tired after working very hard
C. Do something that makes it impossible to return to the previous situation
D. Want to spend money as soon as you get it
Ans. C.
27. Dressing-down
A. Apply bandage
B. Wear an expensive gown
C. Give a scolding
D. Pretend
Ans. C.
28. Null and void
A. Invalid B. Observant
C. Uncontrolled D. Homeless
Ans. A.
29. A dark horse
A. A wild animal
B. A black horse
C. An unknown entry
D. A front runner
Ans. C.

30. Throw cold water
A. Encourage B. Discourage
C. Attack D. Drench
Ans. B.
31. Butt in
A. Record B. Impose
C. Improvise D. Interrupt
Ans. D.
32. Couch potato
A. An old person who has old-fashioned ideas.
B. A person who prefers to watch television.
C. A person who does not seem very friendly.
D. Someone who stays calm and does not show their emotions.
Ans. B.
33. Carry the ball
A. Decorate the ball B. Be in charge
C. Take the decision D. Be the hostess
Ans. B.
34. Turned down
A. Subject B. Object
C. Reject D. Deject
Ans. C.
35. To catch a tartar
A. To catch a dangerous person
B. To deal with a person who is more than one's match
C. To trap a wanted criminal with great difficulty
D. To live carefully and cautiously
Ans. A.
36. Cap in hand
A. Defiant
B. Screaming
C. Well behaved
D. In a respectful manner
Ans. D.
37. In the blues
A. Cheerless and depressed
B. Violent and angry
C. Wearing blue badges
D. Singing sad songs
Ans. A.
38. Cheek by jowl
A. Very close together
B. Arguing
C. Teasing one another
D. Avoiding one another
Ans. A.

39. Beyond the pale
A. Unreasonable or unacceptable
B. Beyond redemption
C. Full of rhetoric
D. Distasteful
Ans. A.
40. Blow one's own trumpet
A. Play some music B. Surprise oneself
C. Praise oneself D. Condone oneself
Ans. C.
41. Stick to his guns
A. Stand by his truth
B. Maintain his own opinion
C. Maintain his weapons
D. Maintain his anger
Ans. B.
42. At sea
A. Journey B. At a loss
C. Surprise D. Sad
Ans. B.
43. Straw in the wind
A. A light-weight object
B. A lucky charm
C. A game that kids play
D. An indication of what might happen
Ans. D.
44. Face the music
A. Be applauded B. Be ridiculed
C. Be punished D. Be dismissed
Ans. C.
45. Curry favour
A. Seek impartial judgement
B. Seek favourable attention
C. Prepare a dish
D. Attract attention
Ans. B.
46. Weal and woe
A. Friends and enemies
B. Be in danger
C. Adversity
D. Good times and bad times
Ans. D.
47. Call in question
A. Summon as a witness
B. Doubtful
C. Prove a theory
D. Challenge
Ans. D.
48. Make both ends meet
A. Live within means
B. Achieve a solution
C. Live among people
D. End of the road
Ans. A.

49. Put up the shutters
A. Went out of business
B. Experienced a downside
C. Sold off assets
D. Changed ownership
Ans. A.
50. A drop in a bucket
A. As much as possible
B. Nothing at all
C. A handsome amount
D. A very insignificant amount
Ans. D.
51. Draw a blank
A. Paint something B. Find no favour
C. Oblige someone D. Teach someone
Ans. B.
52. Put two and two together
A. Bad at mathematics
B. Poor financial condition
C. Reason logically
D. Forget something
Ans. C.
53. An axe to grind
A. Attack aggressively
B. Suffer a lot
C. Betray somebody
D. Have a selfish interest
Ans. D.
54. Pick to pieces
A. Study something superficially
B. Complete a work entirely
C. Analyse critically
D. Select only what you need.
Ans. C.
55. Wild goose chase
A. An admirable enterprise
B. An honest effort
C. A foolish, unprofitable adventure
D. A powerful effort
Ans. C.
56. Smell a rat
A. Detect bad smell
B. Suspect a trick or deceit
C. Misunderstand
D. See hidden meaning
Ans. B.
57. A live wire
A. Industrious and brilliant
B. Lively and active
C. Sincere and intelligent
D. Sincere and efficient
Ans. B.

58. Capital Punishment
A. Death sentence
B. Life imprisonment
C. To be jailed
D. Imprisoned for a long period
Ans. A.
59. Leaps and bounds
A. Slowly
C. Jumping
B. Rapidly
D. Stationary
Ans. B.
60. Wet behind the ears
A. Skilful
B. Young and rich with experience
C. Young and without much experience
D. Hearing impaired
Ans. C.
61. Under a cloud
A. Sheltered from the sun
B. Under suspicion
C. Out in the open
D. Get wet
Ans. B.
62. Get the sack
A. Look for a sack
C. Get a call back
B. Find a sack
D. Be dismissed
Ans. D.
63. Feather in one's cap
A. Discrimination
B. A new and additional distinction
C. Hunting
D. Bird watching
Ans. B.
64. Donkey's years
A. A decade
C. A century
B. A long time
D. Since school days
Ans. B.
65. Leave no stone unturned
A. Try every possible way
B. Behave smartly
C. Constructing
D. Wasting no time
Ans. A.
66. A Man of letters
A. Letter – writer
C. Postman
B. Proof - reader
D. Scholar
Ans. D.
67. Bear in mind
A. Respect
C. Remember
B. Observe
D. Pretend to listen
Ans. C.
68. To nip in the bud
A. To stop something at the start
B. To trim the flowers
C. to pluck the flowers
D. to steal from
Ans. A.

69. To put a spoke in one's wheel
A. To repair one's cycle
B. To hinder
C. To trip a rider
D. To add an extra wheel
Ans. B.
70. To clip one's wings
A. To stop one from flying
B. To trim the leaves
C. To deprive one of power
D. To hurt a bird
Ans. C.
71. To play fast and loose
A. To be narrow minded
B. To play a good game
C. To act in an unreliable way
D. To defeat a person
Ans. C.
72. Feather one's own nest
A. Decorate
B. Work hard at home
C. build a home
D. make money in an improper way
Ans. D.
73. Pull a fast one
A. as fast as lightning
B. play a trick
C. carry a heavy burden
D. take a deep breath
Ans. B.
74. grease the palm
A. dirty one's hands
B. work in a garage
C. slip and fall
D. bribe
Ans. D.
75. turn turtle
A. slow like a turtle
B. turn like a turtle
C. over-turn
D. a game turtles play
Ans. C.
76. Cat-nap
A. Rest
C. Long sleep
B. Fitful sleep
D. Short sleep
Ans. D.
77. To pull a long face
A. Looked happily
B. Looked surprised
C. Looked sad
D. Looked calm
Ans. C.
78. Fit her like a glove.
A. Too large
C. Too tight
B. Too shabby
D. Perfectly
Ans. D.

79. Caught red-handed
A. Caught by mistake
B. Caught with a red-handkerchief
C. Found wounded
D. Discovered in the act of doing
Ans. D.
80. Gate crasher
A. Invader B. Thief
C. Uninvited guest D. Children
Ans. C.
81. For all intents and purposes
A. For all businesses
B. Obliquely
C. Practically
D. Almost perfect
Ans. C.
82. Go out of one's way
A. Did not want to
B. Ran away
C. Did everything possible
D. Tried to avoid us
Ans. C.
83. In the running
A. Loves to run
B. Running from the law
C. Physically fit
D. Has good prospects in the competition
Ans. D.
84. Beat around the bush
A. Walk around the forest
B. Clean the bushy areas
C. Avoiding the main topic
D. Play around the forest
Ans. C.
85. Make room
A. Clean the room
B. Make space
C. Attain the room
D. Make a clean sweep
Ans. B.
86. Mend your ways
A. Happy with one's behaviour
B. Sad with one's behaviour
C. Destroy one's behaviour
D. Improve one's behaviour
Ans. D.
87. Beggar description
A. Cannot be described
B. Something described by a beggar
C. A poor account of something
D. A description of a beggar
Ans. A.

88. Drag one's feet
A. Make something more complicated
B. Expedite
C. Be reluctant to act
D. Stop working
Ans. C.
89. Hope against hope
A. Think wishfully from time to time
B. Hoped with good reason
C. Nurture an impossible hope
D. Pretend to hope
Ans. C.
90. For keeps
A. Himself B. Away
C. Forever D. Hid
Ans. C.
91. Pale into insignificance
A. Seemed less important
B. Was less exciting
C. Was less hectic
D. Was dull and pale
Ans. A.
92. With one voice
A. By one man
B. By one community
C. Unanimously
D. In disharmony
Ans. C.
93. Made light of
A. Did not hear
B. Treated it lightly
C. Blew away
D. Carried with him
Ans. B.
94. Every inch a gentleman
A. Somewhat B. Partly
C. Entirely D. Calculative
Ans. C.
95. Gall and wormwood
A. A problem B. Hateful
C. Useless D. Hard to digest
Ans. B.
96. To add fuel to the fire
A. Prevent fire from dying out
B. Make the fire burn brightly
C. Make things worse
D. Waste fuel for no reason.
Ans. C.
97. To take to heart
A. To be greatly affected
B. To take something heartily
C. To strike at the heart, out of enjoyment
D. To suffer from heart disease
Ans. A.

98. To bring to light
A. To put on light
B. To reveal
C. To bring a light
D. To arrange light sufficiently

Ans. B.

99. All moonshine
A. Glowing
B. Far from reality
C. Celestial
D. About the moon

Ans. B.

100. At a snail's pace
A. Quietly
B. Quickly
C. Continuously
D. Slowly

Ans. D.

101. Call on
A. Telephone
B. Seek help
C. Pay a visit
D. Order

Ans. C.

102. Pros and Cons
A. Professionals
B. Con artists
C. Professionals and con artists
D. Advantages and disadvantages

Ans. D.

103. Once in a blue moon
A. Very rarely
B. Common
C. Predictable
D. Ordinary

Ans. A.

104. Fish out of water
A. Dehydrated
B. Comfortable position
C. An uncomfortable position
D. Fish in an aquarium

Ans. C.

105. Be down with
A. Suffering from
B. In grief with
C. In pain with
D. Aching with

Ans. A.

106. Fair – weather friend
A. Honest only when easy and convenient
B. Truthful only when easy and convenient
C. Supports only when easy and convenient
D. Temporary only when easy and convenient

Ans. C.

107. Pull together
A. Become friends
B. Work harmoniously
C. Be successful
D. Live happily

Ans. B.

108. To bury the hatchet
A. To make peace
B. To dig the ground
C. To negotiate
D. To make war

Ans. A.

109. Selling like hot cakes
A. To have a good season
B. To become as planned
C. To have a very slow sale
D. To have a very good sale

Ans. D.

110. Scot free
A. Unlimited
B. Unpunished
C. To freedom
D. Unrepentant

Ans. B.



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