

# **IDIOMS AND PHRASES - 1**

Some proverbs/idioms are given below together with their meanings. Choose the correct meaning of proverb/idiom, If there is no correct meaning given, E (i.e.) 'None of these' will be the answer.

1. To make clean breast of
- A. To gain prominence
  - B. To praise oneself
  - C. To confess without of reserve
  - D. To destroy before it blooms
  - E. None of these

**Answer:** Option C

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2. To keeps one's temper
- A. To become hungry
  - B. To be in good mood
  - C. To preserve ones energy
  - D. To be aloof from
  - E. None of these

**Answer:** Option B

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3. To catch a tartar
- A. To trap wanted criminal with great difficulty
  - B. To catch a dangerous person
  - C. To meet with disaster
  - D. To deal with a person who is more than one's match
  - E. None of these

**Answer:** Option B

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4. To drive home
- A. To find one's roots
  - B. To return to place of rest

**C.** Back to original position

**D.** To emphasise

**E.** None of these

**Answer:** Option **D**

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5. To have an axe to grind

**A.** A private end to serve

**B.** To fail to arouse interest

**C.** To have no result

**D.** To work for both sides

**E.** None of these

**Answer:** Option **A**

6. To cry wolf

**A.** To listen eagerly

**B.** To give false alarm

**C.** To turn pale

**D.** To keep off starvation

**E.** None of these

**Answer:** Option **B**

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7. To end in smoke

**A.** To make completely understand

**B.** To ruin oneself

**C.** To excite great applause

**D.** To overcome someone

**E.** None of these

**Answer:** Option **B**

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8. To be above board

**A.** To have a good height

- B. To be honest in any business deal
- C. They have no debts
- D. To try to be beautiful
- E. None of these

**Answer:** Option B

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9. To put one's hand to plough
- A. To take up agricultural farming
  - B. To take a difficult task
  - C. To get entangled into unnecessary things
  - D. Take interest in technical work
  - E. None of these

**Answer:** Option B

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10. To pick holes
- A. To find some reason to quarrel
  - B. To destroy something
  - C. To criticise someone
  - D. To cut some part of an item
  - E. None of these

**Answer:** Option C

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11. To leave someone in the lurch
- A. To come to compromise with someone
  - B. Constant source of annoyance to someone
  - C. To put someone at ease
  - D. To desert someone in his difficulties
  - E. None of these

**Answer:** Option D

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12. To play second fiddle

- A. To be happy, cheerful and healthy
- B. To reduce importance of one's senior
- C. To support the role and view of another person
- D. To do back seat driving
- E. None of these

**Answer:** Option C

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13. To beg the question

- A. To refer to
- B. To take for granted
- C. To raise objections
- D. To be discussed
- E. None of these

**Answer:** Option B

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14. A black sheep

- A. An unlucky person
- B. A lucky person
- C. An ugly person
- D. A partner who takes no share of the profits
- E. None of these

**Answer:** Option E

**Explanation:**

In the English language, 'Black sheep' is an idiom used to describe an odd or disreputable member of a group, especially within a family.

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15. A man of straw

- A. A man of no substance
- B. A very active person
- C. A worthy fellow
- D. An unreasonable person
- E. None of these

**Answer:** Option A

16. To smell a rat

- A. To see signs of plague epidemic
- B. To get bad smell of a bad dead rat
- C. To suspect foul dealings
- D. To be in a bad mood
- E. None of these

**Answer:** Option C

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17. To hit the nail right on the head

- A. To do the right thing
- B. To destroy one's reputation
- C. To announce one's fixed views
- D. To teach someone a lesson
- E. None of these

**Answer:** Option A

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18. To set one's face against

- A. To oppose with determination
- B. To judge by appearance
- C. To get out of difficulty
- D. To look at one steadily
- E. None of these

**Answer:** Option A