

Idioms & Phrases

Multiple Choice Questions

Directions: *Some idioms/phrases are given below with their probable meanings. Select the options with their correct meanings.*

1. Carry out

- A. To take from one place to another
- B. To continue
- C. To obey
- D. To make efforts
- E. None of these

2. In the same boat

- A. A worn out choice
- B. Indifferent
- C. In identical circumstances
- D. Carry off
- E. None of these

3. In one's good book

- A. A costly book
- B. A priceless treasure
- C. In one's favour
- D. An enchanting beauty
- E. None of these

4. Keep a straight face

- A. To do make up
- B. To change clothes
- C. Assume responsibility
- D. To remain serious
- E. None of these

5. To be above board

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

6. On the face of it

- A. To agree
- B. From an action
- C. More than enough
- D. Apparently
- E. None of these

7. Let the bygones be bygones

- A. In one's favour
- B. To pretend
- C. To forget the past
- D. Other choice
- E. None of these

8. To split hairs

- A. Major distinctions
- B. Hair with two ends
- C. To make minute distinction
- D. Without distinction
- E. None of these

9. Bread and butter

- A. Both bread and butter
- B. Something essential
- C. Livelihood
- D. Relevant things
- E. None of these

10. To bell the cat

- A. To catch a cat and tie a bell round its neck
- B. To make an effort
- C. To be quick
- D. To face a risk
- E. None of these

11. Hard and fast

- A. Strict
- B. Solid
- C. Fast moving
- D. Some hard surface
- E. None of these

12. Part and parcel

- A. The part of a parcel
- B. An essential part
- C. A missing parcel
- D. Some part of a machine sent by parcel
- E. None of these

13. Null and void

- A. Something invalid
- B. Something that can be avoided
- C. Something that can be nullified
- D. Something evil
- E. None of these

14. To make clean breast of

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

15. Trump card

- A. A powerful means of achieving an object
- B. Resourcefulness
- C. The best gamble to attain success
- D. A travel card
- E. None of these

16. Tall talk

- A. A discussion continued for a long time
- B. A high sounding talk
- C. A meaningful talk
- D. A useless talk
- E. None of these

17. Small talk

- A. Gossip
- B. A discussion carried on for a long time
- C. A brief discussion
- D. A talk of small children
- E. None of these

18. Throw out of gear

- A. To replace
- B. Hinder, disturb
- C. To decide
- D. Take up tune
- E. None of these

19. To and fro

- A. Back and forth
- B. Puzzled
- C. Amazed
- D. Reprove
- E. None of these

20. To bell the cat

- A. To do an easy job
- B. To be indifferent to
- C. To undertake a difficult job
- D. To clarify
- E. None of these

21. To be under cloud

- A. Puzzle
- B. Enjoy the favour
- C. Talk thoughtlessly
- D. To be under suspicion
- E. None of these

22. A labour of love

- A. A tragic end
- B. A funny thing
- C. Not fruitful
- D. Work done without payment
- E. None of these

23. Follow suit

- A. Follow an example
- B. Wear a new dress
- C. Irrelevant
- D. A gay person
- E. None of these

24. Foul play

- A. Bad intentions
- B. A play not well acted
- C. A play not liked by the audience
- D. A foul scored at play
- E. None of these

25. 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

26. To smell a rat

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

27. To put a spoke in one's wheel

- A. To encourage
- B. Act without restraint
- C. Risk something
- D. To obstruct one's progress
- E. None of these

28. To pull one's leg

- A. To give up
- B. Take care of
- C. To befool
- D. To know
- E. None of these

29. To play with fire

- A. Grasp the truth
- B. To handle something dangerous
- C. To ridicule
- D. To flee away
- E. None of these

30. To reckon with

- A. Take up time
- B. Make an inventory

- C. To deal with
- D. Submit to punishment
- E. None of these

31. To run short

- A. Talk until one is tired at
- B. Apply to oneself
- C. To get rid of
- D. To have or be too little
- E. None of these

32. A man of letters

- A. A postman
- B. A learned man
- C. A hypocrite
- D. An ignorant man
- E. None of these

33. A maiden speech

- A. A speech made in the parliament
- B. A speech made before unmarried girls
- C. A speech made by a political leader
- D. A speech made for the first time
- E. None of these

34. Order of the day

- A. An order passed on a particular day
- B. A current law
- C. Something common or general
- D. A major order of court
- E. None of these

35. To end in smoke

- A. To make completely understand
- B. To ruin oneself
- C. To excite great applause
- D. To die smoking
- E. None of these

36. To give vent to

- A. To allow to flow forth
- B. To prove a failure
- C. To amass wealth
- D. To evade
- E. None of these

37. To eat humble pie

- A. To apologise or confess
- B. To order
- C. To flatter
- D. To get a small share
- E. None of these

38. A black sheep

- A. An unlucky person
- B. A negro
- C. An ugly person

- D. A man in animal skin
E. None of these
- 39. 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 watch
E. None of these
- 40. Sit on fence**
A. To remain neutral
B. To show contempt
C. To enjoy the surroundings
D. To become fond of
E. None of these
- 41. Pay off old scores**
A. To repay the debt B. To have revenge
C. To invite D. Secretly
E. None of these
- 42. Turn turtle**
A. To cheat
B. To be lopsided
C. To frustrate
D. To dance to the tune
E. None of these
- 43. Wash one's hands of**
A. To refuse B. To assist
C. To abuse D. To refuse to be
E. None of these
- 44. Under duress**
A. Under compulsion
B. Willing
C. To elicit information

- D. To demand
E. None of these
- 45. To turn the tables**
A. To ruin someone
B. To turn the situation to one's own side
C. To reverse the situation
D. To move from one point to another
E. None of these
- 46. On the cards**
A. Possibly B. Probably
C. Openly D. Likely
- 47. 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
- 48. 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 backseat driving
E. None of these
- 49. To yearn for**
A. To weep for B. To remember
C. To admire D. To long for intensely
E. None of these
- 50. Call off**
A. To finish B. To withdraw
C. To postpone D. To cry
E. None of these

ANSWERS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
C	C	C	D	B	D	C	C	C	D
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
A	B	A	C	C	B	A	B	A	C
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
D	D	A	A	C	C	D	C	B	C
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
D	B	D	C	D	A	A	D	B	A
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
B	B	D	A	C	D	D	C	D	B