

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 off**
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