

1.

Idioms

Which idiom matches the literal meaning?

to take a risk, especially when speaking

to zip your lips

to go out on a limb

to blow off steam

2.

Idioms

What is the literal meaning of the idiom?

cost an arm and a leg

to be very expensive

to be a necessary purchase

to need multiple payments



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the literal meaning?

to tell a secret, often on accident

let the cat out of the bag

be on the same page

drive someone up a wall

of the idiom?

throw in the towel

to annoy someone

to clean up after getting dirty

to give up after trying for a long time

5.

Idioms

Which idiom matches
the literal meaning?

**to start a relationship
badly, often from
mistakes or
misunderstandings**

use your noodle

get off on the wrong foot

show someone the ropes

6.

Idioms

What is the literal meaning
of the idiom?

**put your foot in
your mouth**

to speak well in front
of a crowd

to say something
you shouldn't, often
embarrassing

to be very active, often
when you shouldn't



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**to not go through
with something,
especially
due to nerves**

go the whole nine yards

turn a blind eye

get cold feet

**bite off more than
you can chew**

to eat quickly due
to hunger

to try something too
difficult to do

to make a list of goals
for the future

9.

Idioms

Which idiom matches the literal meaning?

to get very angry or upset

miss the boat

give it a shot

have a cow

10.

Idioms

What is the literal meaning of the idiom?

have ants in your pants

to be excited and unable to sit still

to be very itchy

to have no clean clothes left



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Which idiom matches the literal meaning?

to be sick

feel under the weather

be all ears

feel blue

of the idiom?

a piece of cake

something people love doing

a reward after a long day

something very easy to do

13. Idioms

Which idiom matches the literal meaning?

to let out energy or anger through activity

draw a blank

blow off steam

make a mountain out of a molehill

14. Idioms

What is the literal meaning of the idiom?

open a can of worms

to skip steps to save time

to be unable to sit still

to make a situation with lots of problems



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the literal meaning:

to make a bad or intense situation worse

add fuel to the fire

get off your high horse

burn the midnight oil

of the idiom?

two peas in a pod

people or objects placed near each other

people who are very similar

people who live together

17.

Idioms

Which idiom matches
the literal meaning?

**to accept
the consequences
of your actions**

face the music

steal the show

drop the ball

18.

Idioms

What is the literal meaning
of the idiom?

**beat around
the bush**

to avoid talking about
something directly

to punish someone for
saying something bad

to get lost outside



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the literal meaning?

**to tell someone
something untrue
as a joke**

butter someone up

pull someone's leg

take a rain check

**not someone's
cup of tea**

an embarrassing mistake

two of the same thing
owned by different people

something someone
doesn't like or
isn't interested in

21.

Idioms

Which idiom matches
the literal meaning?

**unable to choose
or having
no strong opinion**

hitting the nail
on the head

on the fence

on thin ice

22.

Idioms

What is the literal meaning
of the idiom?

**hit the sack /
hit the hay**

to let out anger

to go to sleep

to get fired from a job



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the literal meaning?

**to be very happy
about something**

chomping at the bit

ringing a bell

over the moon

or the idiom?

see eye to eye

to be the same height
or age

to agree with; to have
similar opinions

to have the same job
as someone

25.

Idioms

Which idiom matches the literal meaning?

an obvious problem people are ignoring

a dime a dozen

the elephant in the room

butterflies in one's stomach

26.

Idioms

What is the literal meaning of the idiom?

break a leg

good luck

be careful

take your time



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someone in an unfamiliar, often uncomfortable situation

an elephant in the room

a bad egg

a fish out of water

of the idiom?

spice things up

to change things to make them more interesting

to go shopping for food ingredients

to try to calm down a heated argument

29.

Idioms

Which idiom matches
the literal meaning?

**to remove
the awkwardness
of a situation
or first meeting**

bring home the bacon

break the ice

run out of steam

30.

Idioms

What is the literal meaning
of the idiom?

hold your tongue

to heal from an injury

to joke with your friends

to not speak



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Name: _____

Task Cards: Idioms

Write each idiom and its literal meaning.

	idiom	meaning
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		



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10.		
11.		
12.		
13.		
14.		
15.		

Name: _____

Task Cards: Idioms

Write each idiom and its literal meaning.

	idiom	meaning
16.		
17.		
18.		
19.		
20.		
21.		



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25.		
26.		
27.		
28.		
29.		
30.		

ANSWER KEY

Task Cards: Idioms

Write each idiom and its literal meaning.

	idiom	meaning
1.	go out on a limb	to take a risk, especially when speaking
2.	cost an arm and a leg	to be very expensive

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14.	open a can of worms	to make a situation with lots of problems
15.	add fuel to the fire	to make a bad or intense situation worse

ANSWER KEY

Task Cards: Idioms

Write each idiom and its literal meaning.

	idiom	meaning
16.	two peas in a pod	people who are very similar
17.	face the music	to accept the consequences

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the printable version of this worksheet.



29.	break the ice	to remove the awkwardness of a situation or first meeting
30.	hold your tongue	to not speak