All Idioms & Phrases

Asked in SSC CGL

2021-22 Exams



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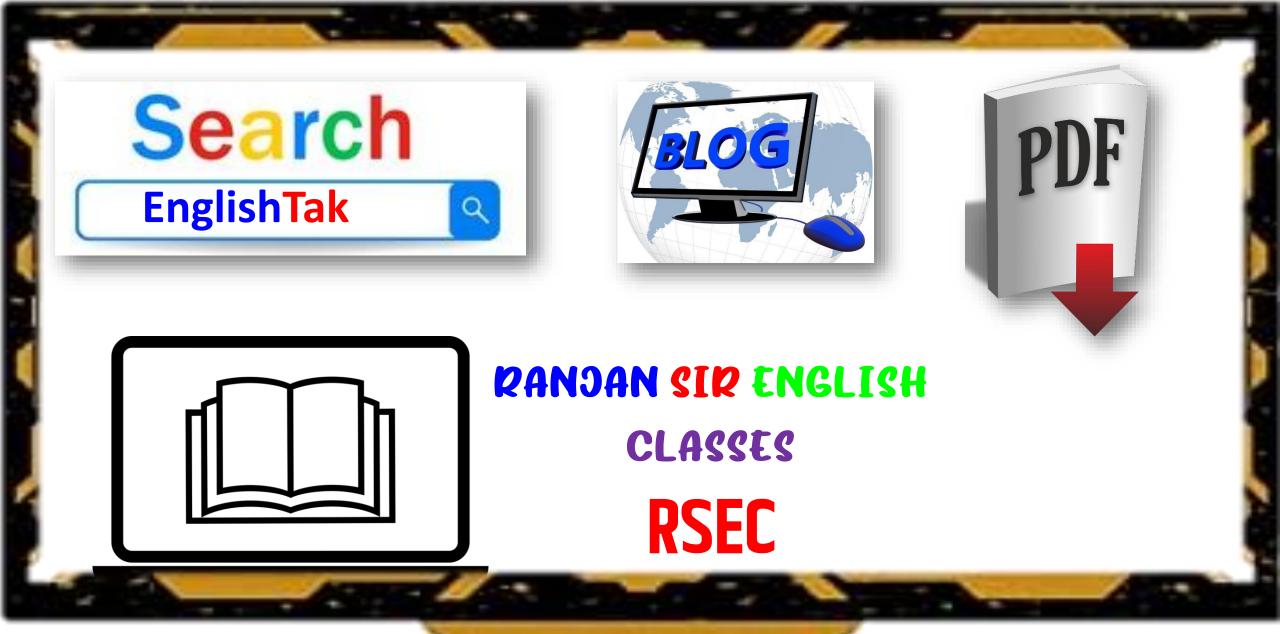
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Q.1 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Be hard up

Exam Date 11/04/2022

- [A] Unable to calculate
- [B] Have very little money
- [C] Have difficulty in climbing stairs
- [D] Find it very difficult to wake up early

```
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```

Q.1 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Be hard up

Exam Date 11/04/2022

[A] Unable to calculate

[B] Have very little money

- [C] Have difficulty in climbing stairs
- [D] Find it very difficult to wake up early

Meaning:-

- having very little money, especially for a short period of time
- not having something that you want or need

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Q.2 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

In the same breath

Exam Date 11/04/2022

- [A] Try and hold your breath
- [B] Say two contradictory things at the same time
- [C] Able to get a foul smell
- [D] Practice breathing exercises

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In the same breath

Exam Date 11/04/2022

[A] Try and hold your breath

[B] Say two contradictory things at the same time

[C] Able to get a foul smell

[D] Practice breathing exercises

- ➤ Meaning:- (also in the next breath) used to say that someone has said two things at once that are so different from each other they cannot both be true
- If you say two things in the same breath, you say two things that are so different that if one is true, the other must be false:

Q.3 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Cake walk

Exam Date 11/04/2022

[A] Something tasty

[B] Something easy

[C] Something sweet

[D] Something enjoyable

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Q.3 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Cake walk

Exam Date 11/04/2022

[A] Something tasty

[B] Something easy

- [C] Something sweet
- [D] Something enjoyable
- Meaning:- a one-sided contest: an easy victory
- > something that is very easy to achieve
- > To be especially easy, effortless, or trifling to accomplish or complete.

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Q.4 Select the option that gives the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.

The Chairman of our company takes care of the rank and file in the company.

Exam Date 11/04/2022

[A] Ordinary people

[B] Documents and files

[C] Only the top rank people

[D] Officers

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Q.4 Select the option that gives the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.

The Chairman of our company takes care of the **rank and file** in the company.

Exam Date 11/04/2022

[A] Ordinary people

[B] Documents and files

[C] Only the top rank people

[D] Officers

- > Meaning:- the people in the army, navy, air force, etc., who are not officers.
- > the members of a group or organization who are not leaders
- the members of a group or organization apart from its leaders or officers.

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Q.5 Select the option that gives the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.

I am working on too many projects. I think I have bitten off more than I can chew.

Exam Date 11/04/2022

- [A] Not able to finish work
- [B] To take on more than one can handle
- [C] To be happy to multitask
- [D] To find work dull

Q.5 Select the option that gives the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.

I am working on too many projects. I think I have bitten off more than I can chew.

Exam Date 11/04/2022

[A] Not able to finish work

[B] To take on more than one can handle

[C] To be happy to multitask

[D] To find work dull

Meaning

- > Try to do more than one is able to do
- > To undertake a promise one cannot accomplish
- > To attempt to do something which is hardly achievable
- > To start or promise something to do more than one can accomplish

Q.6 Select the option that gives the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.

It is good to take into account all the important factors before making a decision.

Exam Date 11/04/2022

[A] leave

[B] select

[C] control

[D] consider

Q.6 Select the option that gives the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.

It is good to take into account all the important factors before making a decision.

Exam Date 11/04/2022

[A] leave

[B] select

[C] control

[D] consider

Meaning

- > remember to include something in one's calculations
- bear in mind, consider, allow for
- > to consider something while a situation
- in the light of

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Q.7 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

To take after

Exam Date 12/04/2022

- [A] To chase someone
- [B] To be similar in appearance
- [C] To mock someone
- [D] To change sides often

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To take after

Exam Date 12/04/2022

[A] To chase someone

[B] To be similar in appearance

- [C] To mock someone
- [D] To change sides often
- > Meaning:- to resemble (someone) in features, build, character, or disposition
- > To look or behave like an older member of your family, especially your mother or father

Q.8 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Foul play

Exam Date 12/04/2022

- [A] Unfair or dishonest behaviour
- [B] A bad smelling theatre or playground
- [C] Unpleasant weather for playing
- [D] A drama which is badly produced

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Foul play

Exam Date 12/04/2022

[A] Unfair or dishonest behaviour

- [B] A bad smelling theatre or playground
- [C] Unpleasant weather for playing
- [D] A drama which is badly produced
- > Meaning:- criminal or violent activity that causes somebody's death
- > Any treacherous or unfair dealing

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Q.9 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

On the wane

Exam Date 12/04/2022

[A] On the way

[B] On the top

[C] On the decline

[D] On the rise

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Q.9 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

On the wane

Exam Date 12/04/2022

[A] On the way

[B] On the top

[C] On the decline

[D] On the rise

- Meaning:- becoming smaller, less important or less common
- > Beginning to decrease or lessen; in a period of decline.
- Becoming weaker or less extensive.

Q.10 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

A long shot

Exam Date 12/04/2022

[A] A correct prediction

[B] A perfect aim

[C] Very profitable

[D] Little chance of success

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Q.10 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

A long shot

Exam Date 12/04/2022

[A] A correct prediction

[B] A perfect aim

[C] Very profitable

[D] Little chance of success

- Meaning:- An attempt or guess that has only the slightest chance
- > of succeeding or being accurate.
- > An attempt or a guess that is not likely to be successful but is worth trying
- > A bet that has a low probability of winning.

Q.11 Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom in the given sentence.

When I asked for an expensive dress for my friend's wedding, my mother reminded me that money does not grow on trees.

Exam Date 12/04/2022

[A] Money is freely available to spend

[B] Money is like leaves of a tree and freely available

[C] Money grows on shrubs and there's plentv

[D] Money is hard earned and limited

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Exam Date 12/04/2022

[A] Money is freely available to spend

[B] Money is like leaves of a tree and freely available

[C] Money grows on shrubs and there's plenty

[D] Money is hard earned and limited

Meaning

- > it requires effort to earn money and it is limited so you must be careful how you spend it.
- > to have to put an effort in earning money
- money to be earned requires a lot of effort
- > to work hard to earn money

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Q.12 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Lie low

Exam Date 12/04/2022

[A] Sit on a low chair

[B] Lie down and relax after a tiring day

[C] Fly a plane at a low altitude

[D] Try not to be noticed

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Lie low

Exam Date 12/04/2022

[A] Sit on a low chair

[B] Lie down and relax after a tiring day

[C] Fly a plane at a low altitude

[D] Try not to be noticed

- Meaning:- hiding or not drawing attention to yourself.
- To go out of sight, usually after having done something bad.
- > To bide time.
- > To be out of reach.
- To be in hiding.

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Q.13 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Dark horses

Exam Date 13/04/2022

[A] An honest fellow

[B] An unexpected winner

[C] A mean person

[D] A slow runner

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Q.13 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Dark horses

Exam Date 13/04/2022

[A] An honest fellow

[B] An unexpected winner

[C] A mean person

[D] A slow runner

- Meaning Someone who unexpectedly wins a competition.
- > someone who was previously unknown, but suddenly emerges into prominence
- > someone who keeps their skills and ideas secret and surprises others by doing something unexpected
- > a person who wins a race or competition though no one expected them to win

Q.14 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Stone's throw

Exam Date 13/04/2022

[A] Short distance

[B] Large hurdle

[C] Difficult problem

[D] Hurt slightly

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Q.14 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Stone's throw

Exam Date 13/04/2022

[A] Short distance

[B] Large hurdle

[C] Difficult problem

[D] Hurt slightly

Meaning

- > a short distance
- very near
- very close to something

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Q.15 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Hold the key

Exam Date 13/04/2022

[A] To own a property

[B] To keep a secret

[C] To have control of something

[D] To have the right of succession

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Hold the key

Exam Date 13/04/2022

[A] To own a property

[B] To keep a secret

[C] To have control of something

[D] To have the right of succession

- Meaning:- to have control of something
- to make it possible to explain or solve something
- > To contain or provide the missing element or necessary explanation for something.
- be the most crucial element of something
- the part of a plan, action etc that will make it possible for it to succeed

Q.16 Select the option that gives the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.

My friends succeeded because they <u>left no stone unturned</u> in their search for an answer to the problem.

Exam Date 13/04/2022

[A] depended on many people

[B] made every possible effort

[C] looked in different places

[D] proposed good plans

Q.16 Select the option that gives the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.

My friends succeeded because they <u>left no stone unturned</u> in their search for an answer to the problem.

Exam Date 13/04/2022

[A] depended on many people

[B] made every possible effort

[C] looked in different places

[D] proposed good plans

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- Meaning:- try every possible course of action in order to achieve something.
- do everything that is possible in order to achieve something
- make every possible effort / search in all possible places
- do everything you can to achieve a result
- do something carefully and thoroughly, not missing any step

Q.17 Select the option that gives the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.

You have put me in a tight corner by telling me to keep quiet.

Exam Date 13/04/2022

[A] An embarrassing situation

[B] A comfortable situation

[C] A difficult situation

[D] A secret place

Q.17 Select the option that gives the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.

You have put me in a tight corner by telling me to keep quiet.

Exam Date 13/04/2022

[A] An embarrassing situation

[B] A comfortable situation

[C] A difficult situation

[D] A secret place

- > Meaning:- A particularly difficult or awkward situation, especially one
- that is not easy to get out of.
- > in a bad position
- in a difficult situation

Q.18 Select the most appropriate meaning of the following idiom.

Nip in the bud

Exam Date 13/04/2022

[A] To destroy early

[B] To cut the buds

[C] To destroy late

[D] Not to destroy

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Q.18 Select the most appropriate meaning of the following idiom.

Nip in the bud

Exam Date 13/04/2022

[A] To destroy early

[B] To cut the buds

[C] To destroy late

[D] Not to destroy

- Meaning:- to stop (something) immediately so that it does not become a worse problem
- > To stop, cease, or prevent something at the beginning or early phase, before it becomes too difficult or unmanageable.
- > to stop something when it is small before it becomes a big problem

Q.19 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Cool as a cucumber

Exam Date 18/04/2022

- [A] Nervous and fidgety
- [B] Irritated and annoyed
- [C] Calm and composed
- [D] Happy and excited

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Q.19 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Cool as a cucumber

Exam Date 18/04/2022

[A] Nervous and fidgety

[B] Irritated and annoyed

[C] Calm and composed

[D] Happy and excited

Meaning:- Calm and composed, self-possessed

be very calm and relaxed, particularly when it's astonishing

undisturbed by temperature or any action tremendously tranquil

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Q.20 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

A hair in the butter

Exam Date 18/04/2022

[A] Easy to handle

[B] A slippery road

[C] Sinking in debt

[D] A challenging situation

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Q.20 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

A hair in the butter

Exam Date 18/04/2022

[A] Easy to handle

[B] A slippery road

[C] Sinking in debt

[D] A challenging situation

Meaning:- A challenging or difficult problem or situation

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Q.21 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Easy money

Exam Date 18/04/2022

- [A] Collect someone's cash for them easily
- [B] Work hard to earn a large salary without telling anyone
- [C] Have no difficulty in collecting money that is due
- [D] Make money without much effort, maybe illegally

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Q.21 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Easy money

Exam Date 18/04/2022

- [A] Collect someone's cash for them easily
- [B] Work hard to earn a large salary without telling anyone
- [C] Have no difficulty in collecting money that is due
- [D] Make money without much effort, maybe illegally
- Meaning:- money that someone gets without having to make much effort.
- Rewards, progress or other good results with little or no effort.
- It refers to income that is either gained or offered in an unscrupulous

or suspect manner.

Q.22 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

To bury the hatchet

Exam Date 18/04/2022

[A] To stop talking to someone

[B] To end a quarrel

[C] To bury old things

[D] To fight with someone

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Q.22 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

To bury the hatchet

Exam Date 18/04/2022

[A] To stop talking to someone

[B] To end a quarrel

[C] To bury old things

[D] To fight with someone

Meaning:- to stop fighting or arguing or to end old resentments

To make peace and end a quarrel, settle one's differences to become friends again

To agree to end a quarrel

to become friendly with someone again after a disagreement

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Q.23 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

To fight shy of

Exam Date 18/04/2022

[A] To overcome one's weakness

[B] To try to avoid something

[C] To attack without warning

[D] To struggle hard

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Q.23 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

To fight shy of

Exam Date 18/04/2022

[A] To overcome one's weakness

[B] To try to avoid something

[C] To attack without warning

[D] To struggle hard

Meaning:- Do not feel willing to do it because it might cause problems for you

try very hard to avoid it.

to try to avoid something.

Q.24 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Keep someone at arm's length

Exam Date 18/04/2022

- [A] Restrict someone to a small space to stand
- [B] Allow someone to talk only from a distance
- [C] Make someone stay outside
- [D] Avoid being friendly with someone

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Q.24 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Keep someone at arm's length

Exam Date 18/04/2022

[A] Restrict someone to a small space to stand

[B] Allow someone to talk only from a distance

[C] Make someone stay outside

[D] Avoid being friendly with someone

Meaning:- to avoid being very close to or friendly with someone or something

keep a degree of remoteness, either physical or social

keep distance from something or somebody avoid intimacy or familiarity

not let someone be too friendly

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Q.25 Select the option that gives the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.

The new electrician is <u>a green horn</u>, but will learn fast.

Exam Date 19/04/2022

[A] Efficient

[B] Proficient

[C] Professional

[D] Inexperienced

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Q.25 Select the option that gives the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom.

The new electrician is a green horn, but will learn fast.

Exam Date 19/04/2022

[A] Efficient

[B] Proficient

[C] Professional

[D] Inexperienced

Meaning:- an inexperienced or naive person.

A newcomer (as to a country) unacquainted with local manners and customs

A person who is not experienced

Q.26 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Sticky fingers

Exam Date 19/04/2022

[A] An inclination to steal

[B] A habit of licking fingers

[C] A tendency to interfere

[D] A tendency to forget

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Q.26 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Sticky fingers

Exam Date 19/04/2022

[A] An inclination to steal

[B] A habit of licking fingers

[C] A tendency to interfere

[D] A tendency to forget

Meaning:- the inclination or tendency to steal

keep something that don't belong to you

to be likely to steal something

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Q.27 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

To hold water

Exam Date 19/04/2022

[A] To be valid and reasonable

[B] To be unsteady and unsure

[C] To be large and deep

[D] To be sad and depressed

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Q.27 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

To hold water

Exam Date 19/04/2022

[A] To be valid and reasonable

[B] To be unsteady and unsure

[C] To be large and deep

[D] To be sad and depressed

Meaning:- To hold water means to be correct, valid, sound, or reasonable and to stand up to scrutiny.

To seem logical and consistent:

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Q.28 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Play with fire

Exam Date 19/04/2022

[A] To be courageous

[B] To spread knowledge

[C] To do something dangerous

[D] To fight an opponent

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Q.28 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Play with fire

Exam Date 19/04/2022

[A] To be courageous

[B] To spread knowledge

[C] To do something dangerous

[D] To fight an opponent

Meaning:- take foolish risks.

to act in a way that is very dangerous and to take risks

to do something that could have a very dangerous or harmful result

Q.29 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Blow your own trumpet

Exam Date 19/04/2022

- [A] Boast about one's own qualities
- [B] Keep away the dust from your instruments
- [C] Practise playing music
- [D] Play on your instrument

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Blow your own trumpet

Exam Date 19/04/2022

[A] Boast about one's own qualities

- [B] Keep away the dust from your instruments
- [C] Practise playing music
- [D] Play on your instrument

Meaning:- to exaggerate the good qualities of your own self

to tell everyone proudly about your achievements

to say things that makes your own self or kin look good

to show off

to speak highly about own work

Q.30 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

A snake in the grass

Exam Date 19/04/2022

[A] A sudden death

[B] A good fortune

[C] A hidden enemy

[D] An unfortunate accident

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Q.30 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

A snake in the grass

Exam Date 19/04/2022

[A] A sudden death

[B] A good fortune

[C] A hidden enemy

[D] An unfortunate accident

Meaning:- One who pretends to be your friend while actually being your enemy in secret.

A secretly faithless friend.

a deceitful or treacherous person

Q.31 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Smooth sailing

Exam Date 20/04/2022

[A] Easy progress

[B] Calm weather

[C] Comfortable place

[D] Plain dress

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Q.31 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Smooth sailing

Exam Date 20/04/2022

[A] Easy progress

[B] Calm weather

[C] Comfortable place

[D] Plain dress

Meaning:- easy progress without impediment or difficulty

to be easy and without problems

Progress or advancement that is free from difficulties

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Q.32 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

On purpose

Exam Date 20/04/2022

[A] Intentionally

[B] Accidently

[C] Luckily

[D] Mischievously

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Q.32 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

On purpose

Exam Date 20/04/2022

[A] Intentionally

[B] Accidently

[C] Luckily

[D] Mischievously

Meaning:- Deliberately, intentionally

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Q.33 Select the most appropriate meaning of the underlined idiom in the given sentence.

It was a lavish birthday party and I could see my friend eat like a horse.

Exam Date 20/04/2022

[A] eating excessively

[B] eating what horses eat

[C] eating differently

[D] hardly eating

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It was a lavish birthday party and I could see my friend eat like a horse.

Exam Date 20/04/2022

[A] eating excessively

[B] eating what horses eat

[C] eating differently

[D] hardly eating

Meaning:- to eat a lot

to have a very healthy appetite

to eat voraciously, greedily, quickly, hungrily, maybe even savagely

to devour food like an animal

Q.34 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Pay heed to

Exam Date 20/04/2022

- [A] Repay old debts honestly
- [B] Listen carefully with attention
- [C] Give back money with interest
- [D] Disburse without partiality

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Q.34 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Pay heed to

Exam Date 20/04/2022

[A] Repay old debts honestly

[B] Listen carefully with attention

[C] Give back money with interest

[D] Disburse without partiality

Meaning:- to pay attention to

To listen carefully or pay close attention

to give (something) ample or due consideration.

Q.35 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Back out

Exam Date 20/04/2022

[A] To enquire

[B] To withdraw

[C] To throw

[D] To explode

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Q.35 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Back out

Exam Date 20/04/2022

[A] To enquire

[B] To withdraw

[C] To throw

[D] To explode

Meaning:- To withdraw from or renege on something, such as

a given commitment, promise, plan, or situation

To withdraw from something one has agreed to do

To decide not to do something that

you had promised to do

Q.36 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Have a change of heart

- [A] Undergo a surgery
- [B] Change one's opinion
- [C] Fall in love with someone
- [D] Express happiness about something

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Q.36 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Have a change of heart

Exam Date 21/04/2022

[A] Undergo a surgery

[B] Change one's opinion

[C] Fall in love with someone

[D] Express happiness about something

Meaning:- Change one's opinion or the way one feels about something

A shift to a different opinion or thought

second thoughts

U-turn

Q.37 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Hit a brick wall

- [A] Demolish a brick wall
- [B] Not able to make any progress
- [C] Use physical force
- [D] Fight a powerful foe

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Q.37 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Hit a brick wall

Exam Date 21/04/2022

[A] Demolish a brick wall

[B] Not able to make any progress

[C] Use physical force

[D] Fight a powerful foe

Meaning:- face an insuperable problem or obstacle while trying to do something.

to suddenly not be able to make any progress

something that prevents you from doing something

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Q.38 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

To sit on the fence

- [A] Occupy a bench next to a boundary
- [B] Avoid taking sides
- [C] Take a high seat
- [D] Place something on a barrier

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To sit on the fence

Exam Date 21/04/2022

[A] Occupy a bench next to a boundary

[B] Avoid taking sides

[C] Take a high seat

[D] Place something on a barrier

Meaning:- Avoid siding with one of two possibilities

delay or avoid making a decision or choice

not take sides in a dispute / not to commit oneself

undecided about something

remain neutral when a decision or choice is required

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Q.39 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Feast one's eyes on

- [A] Arrange a delicious meal
- [B] Gaze at something with pleasure
- [C] Prepare a rare delicacy
- [D] Notice something alarming

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Q.39 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Feast one's eyes on

Exam Date 21/04/2022

[A] Arrange a delicious meal

[B] Gaze at something with pleasure

[C] Prepare a rare delicacy

[D] Notice something alarming

Meaning:- to look at (something or someone) with great pleasure / enjoyment

Q.40 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Cold comforter

Exam Date 21/04/2022

[A] Unbearable weather

[B] Enjoyment in the hills

[C] Very soothing

[D] Very little satisfaction

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Q.40 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Cold comforter

Exam Date 21/04/2022

[A] Unbearable weather

[B] Enjoyment in the hills

[C] Very soothing

[D] Very little satisfaction

Meaning:- Quite limited sympathy, consolation, or encouragement.

insufficient ease, sympathy, or encouragement

no comfort or consolation at all

no comfort because the situation is very

problematic or unfriendly

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Q.41 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Cat's paw

- [A] A person used as a tool by another
- [B] The most important attribute
- [C] To attack someone
- [D] Move at a fast pace

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Q.41 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

Cat's paw

Exam Date 21/04/2022

[A] A person used as a tool by another

[B] The most important attribute

[C] To attack someone

[D] Move at a fast pace

Meaning:- a person used by another as a tool; dupe [भोला-भाला]

A person who is used by another to carry out an unpleasant or dangerous task.

A person used to serve the purposes of another

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Q.42 Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

In the limelight

Exam Date 21/04/2022

[A] About to be successful

[B] The centre of attraction

[C] In a well lit up room

[D] A well kept secret

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In the limelight

Exam Date 21/04/2022

[A] About to be successful

[B] The centre of attraction

- [C] In a well lit up room
- [D] A well kept secret
- Meaning:- public attention or notice thought of as a bright light that shines on someone
- public attention and interest
- > a situation in which you are getting a lot of interest
- > from the newspapers, television, etc.





