

# Idioms & Phrases

(1)The failure of crops in successive years put the farmers **in a tight corner**.

- (1)In a closed room
- (2)In a small field
- (3)In a difficult situation
- (4)In a meadow

(2)The effort to trace the culprit was a **wild goose chase**.

- (1)Fruitful hunting
- (2)Futile search
- (3)Ideal seeking
- (4)Genuine effort

(3)The story **does not hold water**.

- (1)Does not deserve appreciation
- (2)Does not fulfil the requirements
- (3)Cannot be believed
- (4)Cannot be valued

(4)Raj couldn't pay the bill, so he asked the owner to put it **on the cuff**.

- (1)On credit
- (2)Against his credit card
- (3)In his bank account
- (4)In his friend's account

(5) His statement is **out and out** a lie.

- (1) Totally
- (2) Simply
- (3) Merely
- (4) Slightly

(6) The luxury car that they bought turned out to be a **white elephant**.

- (1) A rare article
- (2) Useful mode of transport
- (3) Costly or troublesome possession
- (4) A proud possession

(7) If you are **fair and square** in your work, you will definitely prosper.

- (1) Active
- (2) Honest
- (3) Business like
- (4) Authoritative

(8) There is **no love lost between** any two neighbouring countries in the world.

- (1) Stop loving
- (2) Not on good terms
- (3) Forming a group
- (4) Have good understanding

(9)The heavy downpour **played havoc** in the coastal area.

- (1)Caused destruction
- (2)Caused diseases
- (3)Caused floods
- (4)Caused hardship

(10)To have a **green thumb** means

- (1)One's nails are painted green
- (2)One is artistic
- (3)To have a natural interest in gardening
- (4)One has a green tattoo on the thumb

(11)He went on **sowing wild oats**, he reaped suffering in his later life.

- (1)Inviting troubles as a boy
- (2)Warning others as a young man
- (3)Irresponsible pleasure seeking in young age
- (4)Sowing grains called oats when young

(12)I don't know why she has become **stand-offish** recently.

- (1)Angry
- (2)Hilarious
- (3)Indifferent
- (4)Unmanageable

(13) Why don't you put an end to **blowing your own trumpet**?

- (1) Playing your own trumpet to produce music
- (2) Making too much noise
- (3) Praising your own abilities and achievements
- (4) None of the above

(14) I knew he had **an axe to grind** and turned down his offer of help.

- (1) A blunt axe
- (2) A sharp tongue
- (3) A private interest to serve
- (4) A tendency to fight

(15) The saint's life was **an open book**.

- (1) An uncomplicated one
- (2) One that held no secrets
- (3) An example to all
- (4) An interesting biography

(16) **Reading between the lines** I realized that my friend wanted to keep something from me.

- (1) Looking for meanings that are not actually expressed.
- (2) Reading carelessly
- (3) Reading with anxiety
- (4) Glancing over the lines

(17) Sometimes, it happens that we have **to give the devil his due.**

- (1) To give credit to even a notorious person
- (2) To give encouragement even to the friend
- (3) To invite the devil
- (4) To stand in the way of the devil

(18) The king had been made **to eat humble pie.**

- (1) To eat slowly
- (2) To have an excellent dish
- (3) To eat a good pie
- (4) To have to apologise

(19) He has a very nice manner, but you would better take what he says **with a grain of salt.**

- (1) To listen to something with considerable doubt
- (2) To talk sensibly
- (3) To criticise
- (4) To complement

(20) Gopi works **by fits and starts.**

- (1) Consistently
- (2) Irregularly
- (3) In high spirits
- (4) Enthusiastically

(21)I can not **put up with** your misconduct any longer.

- (1)Excuse
- (2)Refuse
- (3)Accept
- (4)Tolerate

(22)I did not mind what he was saying, he was only **talking through his hat**.

- (1)Talking nonsense
- (2)Talking ignorantly
- (3)Talking irresponsibly
- (4)Talking insultingly

(23)He is so furious that he would **go through fire and water** to revenge himself on his foe.

- (1)Approach everybody for help
- (2)Avail himself of any opportunity
- (3)Use any conceivable method
- (4)Undergo any risk

(24)The watchdogs were asleep when the bulls **ran riot**.

- (1)Behaved cleverly
- (2)Acted without restraint
- (3)Wandered aimlessly
- (4)Had the best of time

(25) In spite of the immense pressure exerted by the militants, the government has decided not to **give in**.

- (1) Accede
- (2) Yield
- (3) Oblige
- (4) Confirm

(26) The young boy and the old one sat **cheek by jowl** in the large audience.

- (1) Very near
- (2) Very far
- (3) Tongue tied
- (4) Irritated

(27) We wanted to keep the gift as a surprise for mother but my sister **gave the game away**.

- (1) Lost the game
- (2) Gave out the secret
- (3) Played badly
- (4) Withdrew from the game

(28) I don't think the law will interfere with us as we are just trying to **turn an honest penny**.

- (1) Make a legitimate living
- (2) Make a good living

(3)Have dealings in white money

(4)Become more honest

**(29)At one's wit's end**

(1)To work hard

(2)To be intelligent

(3)To get puzzled

(4)To be stupid

**(30)To take someone to task**

(1)To scold someone

(2)To assign work to someone

(3)To take someone to his place of work

(4)To praise someone for the work done

**(31)To face the music**

(1)To be greeted rudely

(2)To be offered warm hospitality

(3)To enjoy a music programme

(4)To bear the consequences

**(32)To run one down**

(1)To be in a hurry

(2)To be weak and tired

(3)To disparage someone

(4)To run down a lane

**(33)At snail's pace**

(1)To do things very slowly

(2)To walk like a snail

(3)To lack interest in work

(4)To do things in methodical manner

**(34)To turn a deaf ear**

(1)To be hard of hearing

(2)To be indifferent

(3)To be attentive

(4)To be obstinate

**(35)To have something up one's sleeves**

(1)Having a practical plan

(2)Having an important project

(3)Having an ambitious plan

(4)Having a secret plan

**(36)To end in smoke**

(1)To have a smoking session

(2)To be on fire

(3) To come to nothing

(4) To burn slowly

(37) As the bomb exploded people ran **helter-skelter**.

(1) In great fear

(2) In disorderly haste

(3) In haste

(4) In great sorrow

(38) He was progressing by **leaps and bounds** because of his hard work.

(1) Rapidly

(2) Slowly

(3) Peacefully

(4) Strongly

(39) Our founder had done a **Herculean task** by constructing this great educational institution.

(1) A work of no worth

(2) An effortless job

(3) A work requiring very great effort

(4) A work requiring very great intelligence

(40) My close friend **got the sack** from his first job recently.

(1) Resigned

(2) Got rid of

- (3) Was demoted from
- (4) Was dismissed from

(41) She is a **fair weather friend**.

- (1) A good friend
- (2) A friend who meets difficulties calmly
- (3) One who deserts you in difficulties
- (4) A favourable friend

(42) After independence Indian agriculture rose **like a phoenix** due to the Green Revolution.

- (1) With a new life
- (2) With a start
- (3) With royal gait
- (4) With vengeance

(43) His failure at the election has been a **sore point with** him for a long time.

- (1) Something which hurts
- (2) Something that brings fear to
- (3) Something memorable for
- (4) Something pleasurable to

(44) To emerge **out of thin air** means to

- (1) Appear suddenly
- (2) Descend gradually

(3) Fall down quickly

(4) Enter from space

**(45) The green eyed monster** strikes a woman the moment she sees her husband talking to another pretty woman.

(1) Anger

(2) Hatred

(3) Envy

(4) Jealousy

**(46) He expects his subordinates to be always at his beck and call.**

(1) Ready to take a rest

(2) Ready to enjoy

(3) Ready to do something

(4) Ready to sit

**(47) To weigh up the pros and cons** is to

(1) Measure the ingredient

(2) Observe etiquette

(3) Consider all facts

(4) Postpone action

**(48) The passing of anti-defection law struck a chill to the heart** of every opportunistic legislator.

(1) Caused anger

- (2) Caused relief
- (3) Aroused fear
- (4) Awakened bitterness

**(49)** He has a **bone to pick** with his cousin.

- (1) Reasonable agreement
- (2) Cause of quarrel
- (3) Cause of doubt
- (4) Difference of opinion

**(50)** Many young artists were **dropping names** at the party to impress the gathering.

- (1) Talking proudly about their family members
- (2) Using pet names
- (3) Hinting at high connections
- (4) Talking informally

**Answers:-**

Ans 1– (3)

Ans 2– (2)

Ans 3– (3)

Ans 4- (1)

Ans 5- (1)

Ans 6- (3)

Ans 7- (2)

Ans 8- (2)

Ans 9- (1)

Ans 10- (3)

Ans 11- (3)

Ans 12- (3)

Ans 13- (3)

Ans 14- (3)

Ans 15- (2)

Ans 16- (1)

Ans 17- (1)

Ans 18- (4)

Ans 19- (1)

Ans 20- (2)

Ans 21- (4)

Ans 22- (1)

Ans 23- (4)

Ans 24- (2)

Ans 25- (2)

Ans 26- (1)

Ans 27- (2)

Ans 28- (1)

Ans 29- (3)

Ans 30- (1)

Ans 31- (4)

Ans 32- (3)

Ans 33- (1)

Ans 34- (2)

Ans 35- (3)

Ans 36- (3)

Ans 37- (2)

- Ans 38- (1)
- Ans 39- (3)
- Ans 40- (4)
- Ans 41- (3)
- Ans 42- (1)
- Ans 43- (1)
- Ans 44- (1)
- Ans 45- (4)
- Ans 46- (3)
- Ans 47- (3)
- Ans 48- (3)
- Ans 49- (4)
- Ans 50- (3)