

Réponses

TEST
your

ENGLISH
IDIOMS

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- 11 The day after the office party, Jack had a terrible and couldn't bear the slightest noise.
a hangover b conscience c feeling d anxiety
- 12 I agree that this is a bit of a shot, but we're desperate – we have to do something to try to save the company.
a hot b long c wild d high
- 13 We looked in every and cranny for the missing ring, but we couldn't find it anywhere.
a nook b gap c hole d niche
- 14 I like my new job; the only fly in the is the fact that I have to work every other weekend.
a fat b porridge c soup d ointment
- 15 It's a shame that so little is done nowadays to help the homeless in our large cities.
a sweeping b crying c dying d pitying
- 16 My aunt is a bit of a wet – she's always spoiling everyone's fun.
a rag b sheep c rat d blanket
- 17 There were loud from the audience when the compere announced that the main group were unable to perform because of illness.
a outcry b wolf whistles c catcalls d hoots
- 18 He just wanted one before settling down and getting married.
a final fling b last leap c happy hop d joyful jump
- 19 He had a soft for his niece and thoroughly spoilt her.
a heart b way c smile d spot
- 20 Everyone bosses me about at work; I'm nothing but a
a lame duck b general dogsbody c blue-eyed boy d marked man

Answers

TEST 1

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 e brainy | 9 f cheeky |
| 2 k nosy | 10 m pigheaded |
| 3 o well off | 11 b bedridden |
| 4 h heartless | 12 g hair-raising |
| 5 n thick | 13 c bigheaded |
| 6 p wet behind the ears | 14 i keyed up |
| 7 j long in the tooth | 15 l off colour |
| 8 a all thumbs | 16 d black and blue all over |

TEST 2

- 1 b splitting (The person has a very painful or severe headache)
- 2 c beating (If you "beat about the bush" you tend to avoid saying directly what you mean)
- 3 a off the peg (This is the opposite of being measured up for a dress, jacket, etc. Off the peg clothes usually come in standard sizes only)
- 4 b chip in (This means to contribute money – usually to get a present for someone)
- 5 c bucket (To "bucket down" is to rain very heavily)
- 6 a hit the roof (He got very angry)
- 7 c nose (To "pay through the nose" for something is to pay far more for something than it is really worth)
- 8 d teeth ("By the skin of one's teeth" means the person only just caught the last bus; he or she almost missed it)
- 9 b a song (If something "goes for a song" it is sold very cheaply)
- 10 d leg (To "pull someone's leg" is to tease someone)
- 11 c jumping (The taxi driver pulled away before the traffic lights had changed completely to green; he didn't wait for the traffic lights to change to green)
- 12 a broke (The person doesn't have any money)
- 13 d apple (Her son was very precious to her)
- 14 b butterflies (This means you get nervous)
- 15 c hot cakes (They sell very well or very quickly)

TEST 3

- 1 at all costs (Without fail)
- 2 at fault (It is difficult to know who is to blame)
- 3 at the crack of dawn (Very early)
- 4 at most (The worst or most severe punishment will be a small fine)
- 5 at a loose end (If you have nothing to do this weekend)
- 6 at death's door (Seriously ill; about to die)
- 7 at her wits' end (She was in such a state of anxiety that she didn't know what to do)
- 8 at a loss (Unable to explain the sudden fall in share prices)
- 9 at first sight (It was love from the first moment they saw each other)
- 10 at a standstill (The traffic was not moving)
- 11 at sixes and sevens (Everything is very confused and muddled)
- 12 at least (If nothing else)
- 13 at a pinch (Four if necessary, but with some difficulty)
- 14 at all hours (She is out all the time)
- 15 at best (£250 would be the best price the person could get)
- 16 at once (Immediately)
- 17 at loggerheads (They are always quarrelling)
- 18 at will (It can change the colour of its skin whenever it wants to)
- 19 at (such) short notice (With such little advance warning)
- 20 at random (Without choosing carefully or deliberately)

TEST 4

- 1 e (He easily forgets things)
- 2 j (The person is depressed)
- 3 f (She listens eagerly to everything – even to things that are none of her business)
- 4 k (He is very lively)
- 5 b (It doesn't look as though it will stop raining)
- 6 h (A day when things go wrong)
- 7 a (She has a very severe or painful headache)

- 8 d (You always "catch" a cold)
 9 l (To "lose your tongue" means to say nothing – often because of shyness or nervousness)
 10 i (Help me)
 11 g (Jack has always been good at gardening)
 12 c ("Isn't there another job you could do?")

TEST 5

Across

- 1 bone (He is going to complain to you about something)
 2 going (I'm just going to the toilet)
 6 pressed (I don't have very much time)
 9 bachelor (A man who has decided never to get married)
 10 tail (I can't understand it at all)
 13 tongue (I know the word but I can't quite remember it)
 14 nerves (It began to irritate her)
 15 catch (I tried to attract the waiter's attention)
 18 skin (It's very thin)
 19 tree (Map or plan of a family showing the relationships between the various members – parents, children, cousins, etc.)

Down

- 1 blood (He killed her deliberately and callously; it was planned)
 3 night (A "night owl" is someone who likes to stay up late at night)
 4 hearing (I'm slightly deaf)
 5 status (A possession that shows others that you have money or position)
 7 bear (She's very irritable)
 8 flying (She passed very easily with good grades)
 11 straight (They found it hard not to laugh)
 12 second (No, I'll change my mind and have a shandy instead of a beer)
 16 hair (Keep calm! Don't get angry!)
 17 make (You shouldn't laugh or make jokes about the way he speaks English)

TEST 6

- 1 f (She was feeling depressed, unhappy)
 2 j (He didn't have much money this month)
 3 g (We decided to hurry)
 4 n (We were exhausted)
 5 l (She got caught in a long line of cars)
 6 o (She asked me to wait)
 7 a (I promised not to tell anyone else about it)
 8 k (He finds it hard to live on the money he gets)
 9 e (He plays everything instinctively from memory of the tune)
 10 d (I was feeling slightly ill)
 11 m (We decided to make the time pass more quickly by going into a pub)
 12 b (Her name sounds very familiar; I've heard her name before)
 13 i (There wasn't a sound anywhere)
 14 c (He is very forgetful)
 15 h (If you make use of all your opportunities; if you act cleverly or shrewdly)

TEST 7

- 1 b the grave (It's very quiet)
 2 c rain (He'll be completely well again)
 3 a dog (I was very sick)
 4 d a horse (He's very strong)
 5 b rake (You're very thin)
 6 b old boots (It's very tough)
 7 a a sheet (She became very pale)
 8 c a cucumber (He always remains very calm)
 9 b a post (He is deaf; he can't hear a thing)
 10 c chalk from cheese (They are very different)
 11 a ditchwater (It was extremely boring)
 12 b a fiddle (I feel very fit and healthy)
 13 c a lamb (He's very gentle)
 14 b gold (They've been very well behaved)
 15 c a feather (It's very light)
 16 d sin (She's been very miserable)
 17 b the hills (It's a very old joke)

- 18 c the nose on your face (It's very obvious to everyone)
 19 a punch (She was very pleased)
 20 b mustard (We're all very keen)

TEST 8

- | | | |
|---------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 drive | 11 tell | 21 do |
| 2 hold | 12 lead | 22 keep |
| 3 run | 13 fall | 23 catch |
| 4 put | 14 change | 24 draw |
| 5 use | 15 work | 25 set |
| 6 bear | 16 call | 26 lay |
| 7 break | 17 chair | 27 resist |
| 8 earn | 18 beg | 28 waste |
| 9 lose | 19 throw | 29 play |
| 10 drop | 20 foot | 30 pay |

TEST 9

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 HIGH AND LOW | 7 WORK TO RULE | 12 GETS OUT OF HAND |
| 2 FOR THE HIGH JUMP | 8 BLACKOUT | 13 ALL THE RAGE |
| 3 ON THE DOLE | 9 A FLASH IN THE PAN | 14 CAUGHT IN THE ACT |
| 4 GETS COLD FEET | 10 MAKE A FLYING VISIT | 15 MAKE A COMEBACK |
| 5 GET THE CHOP | 11 FROSTY | 16 COME INTO FORCE |
| 6 NECK AND NECK | | |

TEST 10

- 1 True
 2 False (If someone is "browned off", he or she is feeling fed up or bored)
 3 True (A dog that is "house-trained" goes out to empty its bowels)
 4 True
 5 False (A "light-fingered" person is someone who often steals things)
 6 False (Most people wouldn't like to be called "proud" or "conceited")
 7 True
 8 True
 9 False (It means to produce favourable results e.g. a project, idea)
 10 True (It means my cousin died)
 11 False (To "drop off" is to fall asleep)
 12 False (To "live in an ivory tower" is to isolate yourself from the rest of the world; to cut yourself off from everyday problems)
 13 True
 14 True (They don't usually take any risks)
 15 True (You can hitch-hike)
 16 False (Very few people would like to be tricked or deceived by someone)

TEST 11

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 e capital punishment | 7 k a gatecrasher | 12 d a brainwave |
| 2 l a nightcap | 8 o a snag | 13 g a godsend |
| 3 f a catnap | 9 h a downpour | 14 p a wild goose chase |
| 4 j a flash in the pan | 10 c a blackleg | 15 i an eyesore |
| 5 n a scapegoat | 11 m red tape | 16 b a black spot |
| 6 a a bighead | | |

TEST 12

- 1 c close (A number of narrow escapes – the person has almost had an accident on several occasions)
 2 b a bee (He was obsessed with the idea that eating fried meat caused cancer)
 3 a a brick (To "drop a brick" is to do or say something which is tactless or which causes embarrassment)
 4 d trumpet (He is always boasting)
 5 b tooth and nail (He fought fiercely)
 6 a a rat (To "smell a rat" is to become suspicious; to suspect that something is wrong)
 7 d daggers (She gave the shop assistant an angry look; she looked angrily at the shop assistant)
 8 c back of his hand (He knows Hastings really well)
 9 c drain (It was £800 wasted)
 10 a tight-fisted (Mean with money)

- 11 d **hold water** (The rationale of the argument isn't adequate)
- 12 b **last straw** (The final problem or difficulty in a series of problems which, in this case, led to the person quitting his/her job)
- 13 d **flies** (He easily loses his temper)
- 14 b **on my plate** (I have far too much work to do at the moment)
- 15 d **in a nutshell** (Briefly)

TEST 13

- 1 (nothing) **in common** (They do not share e.g. hobbies, interests, taste in music, etc.)
- 2 **in vain** (Without success)
- 3 **in stock** (Available for sale)
- 4 **in succession** (Three consecutive years without a break e.g. 1988, 1989, 1990)
- 5 **in turns** (They shared the coffee making equally, each person doing it on a particular day)
- 6 **in the dark** (We are not being told; it is being kept secret)
- 7 **in the nick of time** (At the last possible moment)
- 8 **in the limelight** (The focus of attention)
- 9 **in charge of** (Responsible for)
- 10 **in the red** (I still owe the bank money)
- 11 **in season** (The time when plants and fruit are normally ripe)
- 12 **in due course** (At some future date)
- 13 **in a rut** (In a job or way of life which is boring and which has no prospects of change)
- 14 **in tune** (Sounds at the correct pitch; sounding well together)
- 15 **In short** (Briefly; in a few words)
- 16 **in favour of** (Who support capital punishment)
- 17 **in cash** (Ready money as opposed to a cheque or a credit card)
- 18 **in the long run** (In the end; over a long period of time)
- 19 **in one ear and out the other** (She never listens to anything you say to her)
- 20 **in theory** (The opposite of "in practice"; an idea which seems fine on paper may not necessarily work out in practice)

TEST 14

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 fell head over heels in love | 10 tell me off |
| 2 the short list | 11 sleep like a log |
| 3 in my shoes | 12 get a word in edgeways |
| 4 have a leg to stand on | 13 put it to sleep |
| 5 laughing his/her head off | 14 strike while the iron is hot |
| 6 pulling a few strings | 15 give me a ring |
| 7 bring the house down | 16 down in the mouth |
| 8 pull yourself together | 17 stand in your way |
| 9 give it a good hiding | 18 A vicious circle |

TEST 15

- 1 She was so beautiful that I couldn't take my eyes off her.
- 2 Winning that prize has gone to his head.
- 3 When he was a child he loved taking things to pieces – to see how they worked.
- 4 I do wish you'd stop biting your nails, Brian! It really gets on my nerves.
- 5 English people in general don't like making a fuss in public.
- 6 Could you keep an eye on my handbag for me while I go to the toilet?
- 7 She's not really upset; she's only putting on an act.
- 8 We're moving to Bristol next week but we promise to keep in touch.
- 9 You put your foot in it when you asked him where his wife was. Didn't you realise she was dead?
- 10 I hate the winter – it really gets me down.
- 11 It was hard to keep a straight face when she started to sing.
- 12 Many husbands often take their wives for granted; and vice-versa.
- 13 I happen to know the manager of the firm you've applied to for a job. I can put in a good word for you, if you like.
- 14 "All this took place a long, long time ago," said the history teacher to the class.
- 15 Many people nowadays find it increasingly difficult to make (both) ends meet.

TEST 16

Across

- 3 **mountain** (You're exaggerating the importance of something; you're making a small difficulty or problem seem like a big one)
- 6 **package** (A group holiday arranged by a travel agency where the travel and accommodation are paid for beforehand)

- 7 **keep** (So as not to forget how to teach)
- 8 **crow** (If you travel in a straight line)
- 9 **hand** (A big round of applause)
- 10 **business** (Don't interfere in things that don't concern you)
- 14 **tongue** (A "slip of the tongue" is a careless mistake you make when speaking)
- 15 **collar** (He got angry, upset or embarrassed)
- 16 **flies** (Time passes very quickly)
- 18 **bite** (There's no need to lose your temper with me; to shout at me)

Down

- 1 **soaked** (We were very wet)
- 2 **figures** (He is very good at mathematics, especially arithmetic)
- 4 **handy** (It might be useful in the future)
- 5 **heels** (To fall madly in love)
- 10 **blue** (The letter arrived unexpectedly)
- 11 **silver** (He was born into a rich family)
- 12 **stick** (You've misunderstood me completely)
- 13 **inside** (Someone who worked at the bank had helped to plan and carry out the robbery)
- 16 **fire** (They get on really well together)
- 17 **swing** (It's very small)

TEST 17

- 1 e (He was caught as he was committing the crime)
- 2 i (She was dismissed from her job)
- 3 m ("Many Happy Returns" is the most common way of congratulating someone on his/her birthday)
- 4 k (She is very clumsy and will probably break the cups, plates, etc.)
- 5 n (My visits are very infrequent)
- 6 a (He was going bald)
- 7 l (No one else was able to say a word because he talked so much)
- 8 f (Used to describe someone who is in a bad mood)
- 9 d (You'd better make a greater effort)
- 10 h (Let's stop quarrelling with one another)
- 11 o (He spoke in a husky voice because of a small amount of mucus lodged in his throat)
- 12 j (We don't agree with one another)
- 13 c (He spoke without notes or without preparing the speech beforehand)
- 14 g (He was extremely timid)
- 15 b (I got into trouble)

TEST 18

- 1 I wouldn't believe everything completely; I'd assume only part of what he says is true.
- 2 It has been a tremendous success in New York.
- 3 I found it difficult not to say something; to remain silent.
- 4 I told him I didn't want any money back, that he could have the 50p change as a tip.
- 5 It will stop her from worrying or being anxious.
- 6 You can see who makes the decisions; you can see which person in the relationship is the dominant one.
- 7 His car is so damaged that it cannot be repaired and used again.
- 8 An alcoholic drink taken before going to bed.
- 9 The book is not available as all copies of it have been sold and it is not being reprinted by the original publisher.
- 10 I only started liking them after trying them for some time. (It is something one must learn to like.)
- 11 I think we ought to stop working.
- 12 Listen very carefully to what I am saying.
- 13 I got it very cheaply.
- 14 How could you break your promise?
- 15 We're relying on you to be in charge of things/to look after things until we get back.

TEST 19

- 1 e (A "short cut" is a shorter way than usual)
- 2 k (It's my job to make you go away)
- 3 h (Why don't you behave in an adult and mature manner?)
- 4 a (He told me to relax; not to worry about problems)
- 5 g (I'm just going to bed)
- 6 l (I'd love to come to your flat/house for a chat)
- 7 c (You were dismissed from the garage; you lost your job)

- 8 j (Is it noticeable?)
 9 f (A "white lie" is an unimportant lie – often told so as not to hurt another person's feelings)
 10 b (I picked up her wig accidentally)
 11 d (He's very tame; not at all aggressive)
 12 i (He's been very good; he's behaved extremely well)

TEST 20

- 1 goose (It really put an end to his plans, hopes)
 2 cat (My mother told everyone the secret)
 3 horse (You're wasting your time)
 4 donkey (It's a very long time since I last saw her)
 5 dogs (Harold no longer takes care of himself; his appearance etc. has deteriorated)
 6 goat (What makes me angry; what annoys me)
 7 birds (I decided to make use of one occasion to do two things)
 8 bull (He decided to take the bold step immediately of asking her to marry him)
 9 cows (She could watch it for long periods of time without getting bored)
 10 fish (There are plenty of other people for you to meet and have a relationship with. Used to try to comfort someone who has just lost a boyfriend or girlfriend)
 11 pig (He ate far too much)
 12 crocodile (Her tears are not real)
 13 lion (He and his sister got the largest share)
 14 rat (The "rat race" is the constant struggle for success in business or in one's job, etc.)
 15 kittens (They're going to be in a state of panic)
 16 stag (A "stag party" is given when a man about to get married has a party for his male friends)

TEST 21

- 1 False (A "tight-fisted" person doesn't like spending money)
 2 True
 3 False (It is a compliment. It means someone thinks you are a kind-hearted, generous person)
 4 False (It has something to do with a wedding. It is when you announce a forthcoming marriage publicly in church)
 5 True (A "hen party" is given when a woman about to get married has a party for her female friends)
 6 False (It is to listen deliberately to a private conversation. To "overhear" is to listen accidentally to a private conversation)
 7 False (It means to bribe someone; to pay someone for favours)
 8 True
 9 True
 10 False (It means to trick or deceive someone)
 11 True
 12 False (It means it was very successful)
 13 False (It means to have very little chance of getting the job)
 14 True (A "windfall" is an unexpected gift or sum of money)
 15 False (A thick-skinned person is someone who is very insensitive to criticism; who is not easily offended)
 16 True (He ignored it)

TEST 22

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 f grey matter | 9 n a storm in a teacup |
| 2 i a piece of cake | 10 g a nest-egg |
| 3 l shoplifting | 11 c a dead-end job |
| 4 o a tall story | 12 k a red-letter day |
| 5 a a blessing in disguise | 13 h a pain in the neck |
| 6 p a white-collar worker | 14 d elbow grease |
| 7 j a practical joke | 15 m a shot in the dark |
| 8 b a blue-collar worker | 16 e a false alarm |

TEST 23

- 1 b off his head (The person must be crazy)
 2 c clocked in (To "clock in" is to place a card in a machine to register the time when you start and finish work)
 3 a fine (You left yourself very little time)
 4 d a line (She would write to them)
 5 b got cold feet (I lost courage; I became afraid)

- 6 c sleep on it (I'd like to think about it for a while before I give you my decision)
 7 d off the record (It is unofficial; it is not for publication)
 8 a ratty (Irritable)
 9 c hand in glove (The police are working very closely with the Football Association)
 10 d cup of tea (They are not things that I like)
 11 b golden handshake (A large payment given to someone leaving a company or organisation)
 12 b death warmed up (He looked terrible)
 13 d hang (She soon got used to using it)
 14 b mind (He is worried about something)

TEST 24

- 1 on the shelf (Unmarried, and with no prospects of getting married)
 2 on the house (Free)
 3 on principle (As a matter of principle because of her fixed beliefs in socialism)
 4 on the dot (At 9 o'clock exactly)
 5 on account of (Because of; due to)
 6 on the spur of the moment (Without planning beforehand; impulsively)
 7 on average (Most teachers earn about £1,000 a month)
 8 on the rocks (The company will soon be bankrupt)
 9 on the whole (Overall, generally)
 10 on and off (Irregularly; from time to time)
 11 on your toes (Alert; ready to act)
 12 on the carpet (Told off; reprimanded by one's boss)
 13 on the other hand ("On the one hand ... on the other". Used to emphasise the contrast between two opposite statements)
 14 on board (As soon as I step onto the boat)
 15 on the run (Fleeing from the police)
 16 on call (Available for duty)
 17 on tenterhooks (Very nervous; be in a state of nervous suspense)
 18 on the contrary (Used to contradict what has been said. The truth is the opposite of what has been said)
 19 on the cards (Possible; likely)
 20 on purpose (You did it deliberately)

TEST 25

- 1 c a bell (He had a very clear voice)
 2 b a daisy (He woke up feeling very refreshed)
 3 a nails (He's very hard and ruthless; he doesn't have much feeling for other people)
 4 b lead (It's very heavy)
 5 d large (Used to show that you saw someone you didn't expect to see)
 6 a a mule (He's very stubborn)
 7 c a judge (I'm completely sober)
 8 b a rock (It's very steady)
 9 a thieves (They were very friendly with each other and spent a great deal of their time together)
 10 d a beetroot (I always blush)
 11 b houses (It's completely safe)
 12 c a log (She slept soundly)
 13 d a horse (He eats a lot)
 14 a a chimney (She smoked a lot)
 15 b a glove (It fits perfectly)
 16 c a sieve (He's got a very bad memory)
 17 b ton (He'll be very angry)
 18 c a house on fire (They got on really well together; they became great friends)
 19 a wildfire (The news spread very quickly)
 20 b a leaf (She was trembling)

TEST 26

- Vanity/Conceit
 bigheaded (Vain, conceited)
 stuck-up (Proud, conceited)
 too big for one's boots (Having too high an opinion of oneself)
 Unhappiness
 browned off (Fed up; depressed)
 down-hearted (Depressed; very sad)
 down in the dumps (Unhappy; depressed)

Money

feather one's nest (Make oneself rich in a job – usually in a dishonest or illegal way)
keep one's head above water (Keep out of debt; avoid money problems)
on a shoestring (On a very small budget)

Fear

hair-raising (Frightening; causing a state of fear or panic)
have one's heart in one's mouth (Be very afraid)
put the wind up someone (Frighten someone)

Anxiety/Worry

have something on one's mind (Be worried about something)
keyed up (Be tense or nervous)
on tenterhooks (Be nervous; be in a state of nervous suspense)

Ill-health

feel under the weather (Feel slightly ill)
off colour (Look slightly unwell)
out of sorts (Be slightly ill)

Alcohol

Dutch courage (Courage obtained by drinking alcohol)
see pink elephants (To be drunk; to have far too much to drink)
tipsy (Slightly drunk)

Anger

fly off the handle (Lose one's temper; become angry)
go off the deep end (Lose one's temper; become angry)
see red (Lose one's temper; become angry)

Disagreement/Argument

at loggerheads (Always quarrelling)
have a bone to pick with someone (To complain to someone about something; have a reason to quarrel with someone)
have words (Have an argument)

Age

getting on in years (Growing old)
long in the tooth (Be old)
past one's prime (Past one's best years; starting to grow old)

TEST 27

Across

- 3 name (He is becoming famous)
- 4 water (They are not logical or reliable when tested)
- 5 stone (It's very difficult; it's almost impossible)
- 7 foggiest (I have no idea)
- 11 break (To show neither profit nor loss)
- 12 dogs (To "let sleeping dogs lie" is to avoid mentioning a subject which could cause trouble)
- 15 donkey (All the hard, real work)
- 16 head (Go to a higher authority than the person you are talking to)
- 17 short (I don't have much money this month)
- 19 minds (I'm undecided)

Down

- 1 stiff (For not showing their feelings – especially when in trouble)
- 2 point (Reach the most important thing you want to say; reach the main point in a discussion)
- 3 never (It is better to arrive late than not to arrive at all)
- 6 chip (Have a grudge about something; feel bitter about something)
- 8 once (For the last time)
- 9 shoulder (She ignored me completely)
- 10 looks (He got some angry and disapproving looks from the other passengers)
- 13 sheep (The disreputable member of the family; a family member who has done something to make the other members of the family feel ashamed of him/her)
- 14 passed (Died)
- 18 thick (Insensitive to criticism; who is not easily offended)

TEST 28

- 1 hands (He found himself with lots of free time)
- 2 stomach (You need to be able to see blood, dead bodies, etc. without feeling sick)
- 3 cheek (nerve) (He then dared to complain about his breakfast being cold)
- 4 tooth (If you have a sweet tooth, you like eating sweet things)
- 5 back (They were glad to see him leave)
- 6 legs (I'll go for a walk)

- 7 brains (Do you mind if I talk to you in order to get information to use for my essay?)
- 8 nerve (He became frightened and could no longer climb mountains)
- 9 arms (The viewers were very angry)
- 10 finger (I can't say exactly what is wrong)
- 11 blood (It makes me very angry)
- 12 hair (Keep calm! Don't panic!)
- 13 chest (When you get a problem off your chest, you tell someone else about it)
- 14 breast (She decided to confess)
- 15 heart (She takes every criticism personally)
- 16 bones (I can feel it strongly; I am quite sure there is going to be trouble although I cannot explain why)
- 17 foot (Our relationship has started badly)
- 18 mouth (To "put words into someone's mouth" is to pretend that someone has said something that he or she has not actually said)

TEST 29

- 1 f (It is better to be honest than to try to deceive people. By being honest you gain the lasting trust of others)
- 2 h (It is better to do something after a delay rather than not do it at all; it is better to arrive late rather than not arrive at all)
- 3 k (Someone who is quiet and says very little often hides deep feelings or a lot of knowledge on a subject)
- 4 p (We judge a person by what he or she does rather than by what that person says he or she will do)
- 5 a (When you try to do something in a hurry, there is a tendency to make careless mistakes and, consequently, to take even longer to do the particular task than if you had not tried to hurry in the first place)
- 6 j (A foolish person spends his or her money without thought and is soon penniless. It is also very easy to persuade a foolish person to spend his or her money on worthless and unnecessary things)
- 7 l (When something difficult ends happily or satisfactorily, there is no need to complain or be disappointed about the trouble it may have caused)
- 8 b (Someone who is constantly changing his or her job or moving from place to place will never become rich or successful)
- 9 o (By acting quickly at an early stage, you may be able to prevent serious trouble in the future)
- 10 n (Never be too optimistic about something; don't believe or expect that victory or success is certain until it actually happens)
- 11 m (Choose the right moment to act – the time when you are most likely to succeed; take advantage of a sudden opportunity)
- 12 d (Don't do anything or say anything that will stir up unnecessary trouble; don't look for trouble on purpose)
- 13 i (Never act hastily. Consider carefully what you are going to do before you do it)
- 14 c (If you have been cheated or deceived on one occasion by someone or something, you will be very careful when you meet that person or thing again)
- 15 e (Always try to take advantage of favourable circumstances. Also, have a good time while one can)
- 16 g (A job cannot be done properly if it is done too quickly. This phrase is also often used as an excuse for delay)

TEST 30

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 g do time | 9 e come to a head |
| 2 k have a good time | 10 m hold one's horses |
| 3 a be an old hand at something | 11 c break one's word |
| 4 h get one's own back | 12 f come to light |
| 5 o make a scene | 13 p put one's feet up |
| 6 i give someone a black look | 14 d bring something to mind |
| 7 b be out of pocket | 15 l have one's hands full |
| 8 n keep on one's toes | 16 j give someone the slip |

TEST 31

- 1 c do ("Do nicely" means that it would be very suitable)
- 2 d down at heel (He looked very dirty and poor)
- 3 a fist (He's been making a lot of money very quickly and easily)
- 4 b practice (We haven't played enough tennis)
- 5 d tea in China (Nothing would induce me to move there)
- 6 b burning the candle at both ends (He's been going to bed late and getting up early)

- 7 b tip (I could almost remember her name, but not quite)
- 8 c inside out (The inside of the jumper was on the outside)
- 9 d hit the nail on the head (You've said exactly the right thing)
- 10 b fingers (I hope you will be lucky)
- 11 a spilt (It's no use being sorry about something that has happened and that cannot be changed)
- 12 b in print (He always wanted to write and get his work published)
- 13 d a hair's breadth (He or she only narrowly missed hitting the pedestrian)
- 14 c sore (A "sight for sore eyes" is something or someone that you are pleased to see)
- 15 a chin (Don't be discouraged; be brave)

TEST 32

- 1 k (How much do we owe the bank?)
- 2 h (I'm going to have a really good time, e.g. by going to bars, nightclubs, etc.)
- 3 j (It isn't working properly)
- 4 l (The minimum number of staff that can run an office or a factory)
- 5 a (I've been falsifying the firm's accounts; I've been embezzling the firm's money)
- 6 i (Who's in a bad mood this morning?)
- 7 c (You're dismissed; you've lost your job)
- 8 f (I'm terrified, very frightened of the thought of retirement)
- 9 d (I think someone wants us to hurry up)
- 10 g (Lots of men are going bald)
- 11 e (Don't tell anyone else about this)
- 12 b (Of course she's nervous)

TEST 33

- 1 for a change (As a change from what we usually do)
- 2 off the beaten track (Out-of-the-way; away from towns, villages; in a lonely place)
- 3 out of breath (Unable to breathe easily because of running, working hard, etc.)
- 4 by no means (It is not at all unusual)
- 5 out of hand (The demonstration got out of control)
- 6 for the time being (For the moment; temporarily)
- 7 by hand (People make them individually, rather than being mass-produced by machines)
- 8 off duty (When she stopped work)
- 9 By the way (Incidentally. Used to introduce a subject)
- 10 out of tune (The notes don't sound right; the pitch is incorrect)
- 11 off the top of his head (Without preparing beforehand; spontaneously)
- 12 by far (Compared to all the others; by a large margin)
- 13 out of bounds (They were forbidden to go inside the fish and chip shop)
- 14 off and on (From time to time; periodically)
- 15 for good (I shall leave this country and never come back again)
- 16 out of the question (It's quite impossible)
- 17 by chance (Unintentionally; unexpectedly)
- 18 for short (Ben is a short form of Benjamin)
- 19 for the high jump (Mr Wilson's going to be punished)
- 20 by heart (To memorise them)

TEST 34

- 1 f (You tend to feel more affection for someone when you have been away from him or her for a while)
- 2 j (You cannot really judge a person by looks alone. Physical beauty may hide a very ugly nature, for instance)
- 3 m (Those who arrive first will be served or dealt with first; those who arrive early get a better choice)
- 4 k (When the person in authority is away, e.g. the boss, those under him can do as they like - especially misbehave in some way)
- 5 o (If we receive no news about someone or something we are interested in, then we can assume that nothing bad has happened)
- 6 c (Whether you miss your objective by a narrow margin or a wide margin, you have still failed)
- 7 l (If someone has done something kind or helpful to you, you should express your gratitude by doing something kind or helpful to him or her in return)
- 8 a (It is better to be content with something you are already sure of getting than to lose it by trying to get something better later on)
- 9 g (A bad workman will often blame his tools for a bad job rather than his own lack of skill in using them)

- 10 b (You should help your own family or people in your own country before you help others)
- 11 n (The more often you do something the better you become at it; only by doing something again and again can you become really proficient)
- 12 e (When you are faced with a very difficult problem you will use all your skill and energy in trying to solve or overcome it; when we need something so much that we cannot do without it, we are forced into finding a way of getting it)
- 13 h (A new boss is likely to make changes to try to improve the efficiency of the company he or she is now in charge of)
- 14 p (The things that one person likes are not necessarily those liked by someone else; different people like different things)
- 15 d (If too many people try to do a job or activity at the same time, it will probably go wrong or be spoilt or damaged)
- 16 i (When a person is really determined to do something, then no matter how difficult it may be, he or she will try to find a way of doing it)

TEST 35

- 1 False ("Once in a blue moon" means very rarely)
- 2 True
- 3 True
- 4 False (It should be "second-hand")
- 5 True
- 6 True
- 7 False (An "old maid" is a woman who has never got married)
- 8 False (If he is "pushing up daisies", he's dead)
- 9 True
- 10 False (You would not usually feel proud if you were dismissed from your job)
- 11 False (He might eat like a horse, perhaps. To "eat your heart out" means to be very sad or distressed about something; to worry excessively)
- 12 True (They are two of the extra advantages you get on top of your regular salary)
- 13 True (We ate baked potatoes)
- 14 False (If you are "in the doghouse" you are being treated in an unfriendly way, usually because you have offended that person in some way. It is often used with couples, the husband or wife being in the doghouse for one reason or another)
- 15 True (The book is damaged; the corners of the pages are bent down with use)
- 16 False (A "weedy" person is someone who is very thin and weak-looking)

TEST 36

- 1 Give me a ring if you feel like going out for a meal one day next week.
- 2 That wasn't what I meant at all! You've got hold of the wrong end of the stick as usual.
- 3 We can take our time; the play doesn't start until 7.30.
- 4 The fact that the President had been a drug addict didn't come to light until several years after his death.
- 5 I may not come first in the race, but I'll do my best not to come last.
- 6 My husband has football on the brain; it's the only thing he thinks about.
- 7 We're organising a going-away party for Sue on Saturday. But keep it quiet as it's supposed to be a surprise.
8. If things go wrong, James, whatever you do, don't lose your head.
- 9 More than 1,000 runners took part in this year's Manchester marathon.
- 10 The way he took everything she did for granted really put her back up.
- 11 The personnel officer gave (him) her word that she wouldn't tell anyone that he had been in prison.
- 12 We'd get the job finished much quicker if everyone pulled his/her weight.
- 13 If you don't like the idea then just say so. I believe you should call a spade a spade.
- 14 My father's going to go up the wall when he finds out that I've lost the car keys.
- 15 Don't take any notice of what he says; he's only trying to annoy you.

TEST 37

Across			Down		
1	fuss	16	disappointed	2	unemployed
6	criticising	18	relax	3	freed
7	decide	22	deliberately	4	inexperienced
8	mean	23	infrequent	5	honest
9	exhausted	25	irrelevant	10	intelligent
12	moment	26	frightened	11	hurry
13	commotion			14	complete
				15	wasted
				17	useless
				19	pay
				20	progress
				21	disagree
				24	crazy

TEST 38

- 1 sharp (Using words that are intended to hurt the person you are speaking to)
- 2 foregone (The result could be predicted in advance)
- 3 unwritten (A code of behaviour which everyone knows about and obeys)
- 4 weak (She wasn't very good at spelling)
- 5 naked (Without binoculars or a telescope)
- 6 dark (A person whose true abilities are unknown but may be better than is generally thought)
- 7 practical (A trick played upon someone, often to make the person look silly)
- 8 sore (A subject which upsets or annoys him)
- 9 fair (She will deal with you fairly and honestly)
- 10 confirmed (He has decided never to get married)
- 11 tall (A story that is so incredible that it is difficult to believe it is true)
- 12 hot (A direct telephone link)
- 13 wishful (Wanting something to be true that can never be)
- 14 bated (They held their breath as they waited, nervously, for the results)
- 15 broad (When it was light)
- 16 rough (Approximately 300)
- 17 pet (One of the things he hated most)
- 18 flat (My car had a puncture)
- 19 golden (An excellent opportunity)
- 20 square (The first proper meal)

TEST 39

- a 6 (who has been caught doing something wrong – often illegal)
- b 11 (who has been narrowly beaten in a race)
- c 16 (who has just gone to bed)
- d 13 (who has said when he/she is getting married)
- e 7 (who is working when others are on strike)
- f 1 (who is old-fashioned)
- g 10 (who is really enjoying himself/herself)
- h 9 (who is in the public eye)
- i 4 (who is doing exercises)
- j 5 (who is a thief)
- k 14 (who is working)
- l 2 (who is not very fit)
- m 15 (who is putting up with hardships; who is doing without modern conveniences)
- n 3 (who is extremely busy)
- o 12 (who is doing something to impress others and to show how good he/she is)
- p 8 (who is running away)

TEST 40

- 1 shoulders (Much better than the others)
- 2 sweet (Very short and to the point)
- 3 large (On the whole; generally speaking)
- 4 thumbs (He's very clumsy)
- 5 soul (She was the person who made the party lively)
- 6 square (Fairly)
- 7 about (Recovered and out of bed)
- 8 void (Invalid; not legally binding)
- 9 bull (A story that isn't true)
- 10 sound (Safe and unharmed)
- 11 thin (They promised to stand by each other whatever happened)
- 12 tear (It gets a lot of use; people walk on it a lot)
- 13 blood (Family member; relative)
- 14 take (Compromise)
- 15 span (Clean and tidy)
- 16 fast (Very strict)
- 17 nail (Fight or argue fiercely)
- 18 front (The front of the jumper was at the back and the back of the jumper was at the front)
- 19 cons (Advantages and disadvantages)
- 20 tired (Really fed up with hearing about his children; I don't want to hear about his children any more)

TEST 41

- | | | | |
|-----|--|------|------------------------------|
| 1 f | egg someone on | 9 d | call someone's bluff |
| 2 o | pull one's socks up | 10 l | lose face |
| 3 k | live from hand to mouth | 11 a | bark up the wrong tree |
| 4 g | hear something on the grapevine | 12 p | rub someone up the wrong way |
| 5 n | pick holes in something | 13 h | jump down someone's throat |
| 6 i | jump out of the frying pan and into the fire | 14 b | bide one's time |
| 7 c | butter someone up | 15 j | lend someone a hand |
| 8 m | lose one's temper | 16 e | cut someone dead |

TEST 42

- 1 on (My house is burning)
- 2 under (She makes all the decisions; she is the dominant partner in the marriage)
- 3 at (Ten hours without stopping)
- 4 to; behind (Tell me directly. I hate people who do things secretly)
- 5 on (She never does it, because she doesn't believe in tipping)
- 6 Between (What I am saying is in strict confidence)
- 7 At (If we continue at the same speed it'll be Christmas before it's finished)
- 8 for (Nothing would make me part with it)
- 9 in (The party was already very lively when they got there)
- 10 off (He had to give a speech completely unprepared; he had to give an impromptu speech)
- 11 on (He was tense, nervous)
- 12 in (I wouldn't like to be her)
- 13 up to (I have far too much work to do)
- 14 away (Yvonne revealed the secret)
- 15 off (Getting rid of his aggressions)
- 16 in (He felt like crying)
- 17 out of (It's really tasty)
- 18 off (Don't talk nonsense! That's rubbish!)

TEST 43

- 1 black (The illegal market)
- 2 blue (It doesn't matter what you say to her, she won't listen to you)
- 3 green (They were given permission to go ahead with the new project)
- 4 black (Not very popular with her at the moment)
- 5 blue (The news came very suddenly and unexpectedly)
- 6 white (Useless, expensive presents)
- 7 grey (Lacking in intelligence)
- 8 red (A very important day for my sister and her husband)
- 9 brown (She was very sun-tanned)
- 10 red (An attempt to draw attention away from this month's poor sales figures)
- 11 white (She went very pale)
- 12 yellow (I'm too much of a coward)
- 13 black; white (In writing)
- 14 blue (He's been the boss's favourite)
- 15 red (It makes him very angry)
- 16 green (I was very envious)
- 17 pink (He was really pleased)
- 18 blue (Pornographic films)
- 19 white (An unimportant lie, usually so as not to hurt someone's feelings)
- 20 red (She always blushes when she gets embarrassed)

TEST 44

- | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 ON THE CARDS | 8 WHOLE-HEARTED | 15 IN THE BALANCE |
| 2 TURN OVER A NEW LEAF | 9 IN HIS/HER BIRTHDAY SUIT | 16 SHELVES |
| 3 UP TO SCRATCH | 10 SPILL THE BEANS | 17 TOE THE LINE |
| 4 IN DEEP WATER | 11 EAT HIS/HER WORDS | 18 FROM SCRATCH |
| 5 POPS THE QUESTION | 12 IN THE BAG | 19 UNDER WAY |
| 6 LAY OFF | 13 WHITE PAPER | 20 HUSH MONEY |
| 7 BROKEN-HEARTED | 14 AT LARGE | |