

CSS & PPSC EXAM PREP

Idioms & Phrases Solved MCQs

50 Frequently Tested Idiom & Phrase Questions with Verified Answers & Explanations

50

QUESTIONS

100%

ANSWER KEY

A-D

MCQ FORMAT

Idioms & Phrases — Solved MCQs (Q. 01-50)

01 If it's to the "right and left", it's:

(a) rare

(b) very quick

(c) all around



(d) none of these

EXPLANATION "Right and left" means happening in all directions or everywhere at once.

02 If something "rings a bell", it:

(a) makes a lot of noise

(b) is frightening

(c) sounds familiar



(d) none of these

EXPLANATION When something "rings a bell", it sounds familiar — you vaguely remember it.

03 To "rip into" means to:

(a) enjoy

(b) attack



(c) savour

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "rip into" someone or something means to attack or criticize it fiercely.

04 "Run away with" means to:

(a) lend

(b) steal



(c) borrow

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "run away with" something means to take and keep it — essentially to steal it.

05 If it's "safe and sound", it's:

(a) not allowed

(b) beautiful

(c) not harmed



(d) none of these

EXPLANATION "Safe and sound" describes someone or something that is unharmed and secure.

06 If someone says "same here", they are:

(a) agreeing



(b) arguing

(c) disagreeing

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION "Same here" is used to express agreement — that you feel or think the same way.

07 To "say the word" means to:

(a) give a sign ✓

(b) apologize

(c) give up

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "say the word" means to give a signal or command for something to happen.

08 To "screw up" is to:

(a) do it perfectly

(b) make a mess ✓

(c) go higher and higher

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "screw up" means to make a mistake or handle something badly, creating a mess.

09 If you "see eye to eye" with someone, you ___ them.

(a) oppose

(b) encourage

(c) agree with ✓

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "see eye to eye" with someone means to fully agree with their views.

10 To "set your sight" on something means to ____ something.

(a) aim for ✓

(b) look for

(c) ask for

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "set your sights" on something means to aim for or target it as a goal.

11 To "shell out" for something is to:

(a) hide it

(b) spend money on it ✓

(c) try to find it

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION "Shell out" is an informal way of saying to pay or spend money for something.

12 If you are "sick and tired", you are:

(a) exasperated ✓

(b) jealous

(c) angry

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION "Sick and tired" means being fed up and exasperated with something that has gone on too long.

13 "Shut your trap" is an impolite way of saying "please":

(a) leave

(b) go away

(c) be quiet



(d) none of these

EXPLANATION "Shut your trap" rudely tells someone to be quiet.

14 If you are "stuck up", you are:

(a) snobbish



(b) in trouble

(c) problematical

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION "Stuck up" describes someone who is snobbish or arrogantly proud.

15 To "take charge" is to:

(a) follow

(b) lead



(c) misunderstand

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "take charge" means to take control or lead a situation.

16 To "talk back" is to:

(a) ask a question

(b) shout

(c) answer rudely



(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "talk back" means to reply to someone, especially an authority figure, in a rude or defiant way.

17 To "tell something apart" is to:

(a) put it aside for later use

(b) correct someone

(c) find the differences



(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "tell apart" two things means to distinguish or find the differences between them.

18 "The works" is:

(a) the boss

(b) everything



(c) movement

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION "The works" informally means everything included, the whole lot.

19 To "think up" is to ___ something.

(a) aim for

(b) improve

(c) invent



(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "think up" something means to invent or create an idea.

20 To "think twice" is to:

(a) create something

(b) tell a lie

(c) hesitate



(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "think twice" means to hesitate and reconsider before acting.

21 To go "through thick or thin" is to:

(a) lose a lot of weight

(b) get married

(c) have many kinds of experiences

(d) none of these



EXPLANATION "Through thick and thin" means staying loyal through good times and bad — none of the given choices capture this.

22 To "throw up" is to:

(a) get rid of something

(b) vomit



(c) give up

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION "Throw up" is a common informal way of saying to vomit.

23 To "tip off" someone is to ___ them.

(a) warn



(b) attack

(c) like

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "tip off" someone means to secretly warn or inform them of something.

24 To do something "to a T" is to do it:

(a) badly

(b) perfectly



(c) shortly

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION "To a T" means to do something exactly right or perfectly.

25 "Uh-huh" means the same as:

(a) no

(b) yes



(c) maybe

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION "Uh-huh" is an informal sound used to mean "yes" or to show agreement.

26 If it's "under your nose", it's:

(a) well hidden

(b) your fault

(c) within sight



(d) none of these

EXPLANATION Something "under your nose" is right in front of you, clearly within sight.

27 To have the "upper hand" is to have:

(a) the advantage



(b) permission

(c) the next go

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION Having the "upper hand" means having an advantage or being in control of a situation.

28 If you get "used to" something, you ____ it.

(a) get rid of

(b) take care of

(c) **become accustomed to** ✓

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To get "used to" something means to become accustomed or familiar with it over time.

29 If it's "up in the air", it's:

(a) important

(b) **undecided** ✓

(c) unwanted

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION Something "up in the air" is undecided or uncertain.

30 "Under your breath" means to:

(a) **whisper** ✓

(b) tell a secret

(c) hesitate

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To speak "under your breath" means to whisper or speak very quietly.

31 "Under the sun" means:

- (a) it's impossible (b) it's unusual
(c) on earth ✓ (d) none of these

EXPLANATION "Under the sun" is an expression meaning "on earth" or "in the whole world."

32 If you are "up front", you are:

- (a) bold **(b) sincere** ✓
 (c) brave (d) none of these

EXPLANATION Being "up front" means being honest, direct, and sincere with people.

33 "Under wraps" means:

- (a) in secret** ✓ (b) with difficulty
 (c) in a small space (d) none of these

EXPLANATION Something kept "under wraps" is being kept secret or hidden from others.

34 If you are "up tight", you are:

(a) rich

(b) worried



(c) an executive

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION Being "uptight" means being tense, nervous, or worried.

35 "Very well" can mean the same as:

(a) no

(b) later

(c) giving consent



(d) none of these

EXPLANATION "Very well" is often used to show agreement or consent to a request.

36 To "vote down" is to ___ something.

(a) accept

(b) defeat



(c) propose

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "vote down" a proposal means to reject or defeat it through voting.

37 To "veg out" means to:

(a) get angry

(b) get excited

(c) relax



(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "veg out" means to relax completely and do nothing, like a vegetable.

38 If someone talks about "vibes", they are talking about:

(a) feelings



(b) experiences

(c) desires

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION "Vibes" refer to the feelings or atmosphere that a person or place gives off.

39 If you "walk off with" something you ___ it.

(a) steal



(b) forget

(c) borrow

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "walk off with" something means to take it, usually without permission — to steal it.

40 "Walking on air" means you are:

(a) happy ✓

(b) depressed

(c) upset

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION "Walking on air" describes feeling extremely happy or elated.

41 To "walk all over" someone is to ___ them.

(a) mislead

(b) aggravate

(c) impose on ✓

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "walk all over" someone means to take advantage of them or impose on them without regard for their feelings.

42 "Watch out" means to:

(a) be careful ✓

(b) relax

(c) hurry up

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION "Watch out" is a warning to be careful of danger.

43 "Water down" means to:

- (a) make stronger (b) have a beer
(c) **weaken** (d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "water down" something means to weaken or dilute it, literally or figuratively.

44 "The way the wind blows" is:

- (a) how things were (b) **the way things are**
(c) how things are going to be (d) none of these

EXPLANATION "The way the wind blows" refers to the general trend or current state of affairs.

45 To "wear on" someone is to ___ them.

- (a) agree with (b) **annoy**
(c) ignore (d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "wear on" someone means to gradually annoy or tire them out.

46 To say "word for word" means to:

- (a) condense it (b) change what was said
- (c) **say it exactly the same** ✓ (d) none of these

EXPLANATION "Word for word" means repeating something exactly as it was said, without changing anything.

47 To "wet one's whistle" is to:

- (a) be happy (b) **have a drink** ✓
- (c) have a problem (d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "wet one's whistle" is an informal expression meaning to have a drink.

48 To "zank-out" is to:

- (a) daydream (b) get excited
- (c) **fall asleep quickly** ✓ (d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "zank out" means to fall asleep suddenly, usually from exhaustion.

49 "Zip your lip" is to:

(a) shut up ✓

(b) be loud

(c) talk about things you don't know

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION "Zip your lip" is a casual way of telling someone to be quiet.

50 To "zero in on" something is to __ something.

(a) aim for ✓

(b) adjust

(c) alter

(d) none of these

EXPLANATION To "zero in on" something means to focus on or aim precisely at it.