

Data Entry Operator • Police Department / Special Branch

Idioms & Phrases

Solved Practice Questions

40 Fully Solved MCQs with Correct Answers & Explanations

40

Questions

100%

Verified Answers

A+

Exam Ready

Idioms & Phrases — Solved Practice Questions (Q1–Q40)

Q1

IDIOMS & PHRASES

Sohail could be easily arrested because the police were tipped off in advance.

A Toppled over

B Bribed

C Given advance information ✓

D Threatened

CORRECT ANSWER C. Given advance information

EXPLANATION

'To tip someone off' means to give them secret or advance information/warning about something.

Q2

IDIOMS & PHRASES

I met him after a long time, but he gave me the cold shoulder.

A Scolded me

B Insulted me

C Abused me

D Ignored me ✓

CORRECT ANSWER D. Ignored me

EXPLANATION

'To give someone the cold shoulder' means to deliberately treat them with indifference or ignore them.

Q3

IDIOMS & PHRASES

He passed himself off as a noble man.

A Was regarded as

B Pretended to be ✓

C Was thought to be

D Was looked upon

CORRECT ANSWER B. Pretended to be

EXPLANATION

'To pass oneself off as' means to pretend to be someone or something one is not, in order to deceive others.

Q4

IDIOMS & PHRASES

This matter has been hanging fire for the last many months and must therefore be decided one way or the other.

☐ A Going on slowly☐ B Hotly debated☒ C Stuck up☐ D Ignored**CORRECT ANSWER C. Stuck up****EXPLANATION**

'To hang fire' means to remain unsettled, stalled or pending — the matter has not been resolved.

Q5

IDIOMS & PHRASES

In the armed forces, it is considered a great privilege to die in harness.

☐ A Die on a horse back☐ B Die in the battlefield☒ C Die while still working☐ D Die with honour**CORRECT ANSWER C. Die while still working****EXPLANATION**

'To die in harness' means to die while still actively in service/working, not after retiring.

Q6

IDIOMS & PHRASES

The cricket match proved to be a big draw.

☐ A A keen contest☒ B A huge attraction☐ C A lovely spectacle☐ D A game without any result**CORRECT ANSWER B. A huge attraction****EXPLANATION**

A 'big draw' is something that attracts a large audience or crowd — a huge attraction.

Q7

IDIOMS & PHRASES

When he heard that he had once again not been selected he lost heart.

☐ A Became desperate☐ B Felt sad☐ C Became angry☒ D Became discouraged ✓

CORRECT ANSWER D. Became discouraged

EXPLANATION

'To lose heart' means to become discouraged or to lose confidence/enthusiasm.

Q8

IDIOMS & PHRASES

He was undecided. He let the grass grow under his feet.

☐ A Loitered around☐ B Stayed out☒ C Sat unmoving ✓☐ D Moved away

CORRECT ANSWER C. Sat unmoving

EXPLANATION

'To let the grass grow under one's feet' means to be idle and take no action — to remain unmoving/inactive.

Q9

IDIOMS & PHRASES

Although he has failed in the written examination, he is using backstairs influence to get the job.

☐ A Political influence☐ B Backing influence☐ C Deserving and proper influence☒ D Secret and unfair influence ✓

CORRECT ANSWER D. Secret and unfair influence

EXPLANATION

'Backstairs influence' refers to secret, underhand and unfair methods used to gain an advantage.

Q10

IDIOMS & PHRASES

Companies producing goods play to the gallery to boost their sales.

☐ A Advertise☐ B Cater to the public taste☒ C Attempt to appeal to popular taste ✓☐ D Depend upon the public for approval

CORRECT ANSWER C. Attempt to appeal to popular taste

EXPLANATION

'To play to the gallery' means to act in a manner calculated to win the approval of the general public/mass audience.

Q11

IDIOMS & PHRASES

Since he knew what would happen, he should be left to stew in his own juice.

☐ A Make a stew☐ B Boil☐ C Suffer in his own juice☒ D Suffer for his own act ✓

CORRECT ANSWER D. Suffer for his own act

EXPLANATION

'To stew in one's own juice' means to be left to suffer the unpleasant consequences of one's own actions.

Q12

IDIOMS & PHRASES

The project did not appear to hold out bright prospects.

☐ A Highlight☐ B Show☒ C Offer ✓☐ D Promise

CORRECT ANSWER C. Offer

EXPLANATION

'To hold out' (a prospect/hope) means to offer or extend it as a possibility.

Q13

IDIOMS & PHRASES

I am afraid he is burning the candle at both ends and ruining his life.

☐ A Wasting his money☐ B Becoming overgenerous☒ C Overtaxing his energies ✓☐ D Losing his objectives

CORRECT ANSWER C. Overtaxing his energies

EXPLANATION

'To burn the candle at both ends' means to exhaust oneself by overworking or overtaxing one's energy and health.

Q14

IDIOMS & PHRASES

The university will have to shelve its plans for expansion in view of present situation.

☐ A Cancel☐ B Discuss☐ C Reconsider☒ D Postpone ✓

CORRECT ANSWER D. Postpone

EXPLANATION

'To shelve' a plan means to set it aside or postpone it, usually to be taken up again later.

Q15

IDIOMS & PHRASES

Do not trust a man who blows his own trumpet.

☐ A Flatters☐ B Praises others☐ C Admonishes others☒ D Praises himself ✓

CORRECT ANSWER D. Praises himself

EXPLANATION

'To blow one's own trumpet' means to boast about or praise oneself and one's own achievements.

Q16

IDIOMS & PHRASES

He is out and out a reactionary.

A No more

B Thoroughly ✓

C In favour of

D Deadly against

CORRECT ANSWER B. Thoroughly

EXPLANATION

'Out and out' means thoroughly, completely, in every respect.

Q17

IDIOMS & PHRASES

I felt that it was a tall order to expect Maham to go home alone at twelve in the night.

A Difficult ✓

B Too much

C Customary

D Simple

CORRECT ANSWER A. Difficult

EXPLANATION

A 'tall order' is a task that is difficult or demanding to accomplish.

Q18

IDIOMS & PHRASES

I cannot get along with a man who plays fast and loose.

A Behaves in an unreliable and insincere way ✓

B Has a loose tongue

C Lives a life of ease and luxury

D Does not know how to behave himself

CORRECT ANSWER A. Behaves in an unreliable and insincere way

EXPLANATION

'To play fast and loose' means to behave in an unreliable, careless or insincere manner, especially in relationships.

Q19

IDIOMS & PHRASES

There is no love lost between two neighbors.

☐ A Close friendship

☐ B Cool indifference

☒ C Intense dislike

☐ D A love hate relationship

CORRECT ANSWER C. Intense dislike

EXPLANATION

'No love lost between' two people means they intensely dislike each other.

Q20

IDIOMS & PHRASES

The question of abolition of private property is still a moot point.

☒ A Undecided

☐ B Uncertain

☐ C Unclear

☐ D Not clear

CORRECT ANSWER A. Undecided

EXPLANATION

A 'moot point' is a debatable issue that remains open to argument and has not been settled/decided.

Q21

IDIOMS & PHRASES

This regular absenteeism is a bad business since work is being completed.

☐ A Bad for business

☐ B Non-business like

☒ C An unfortunate event

☐ D Creating ill-will

CORRECT ANSWER C. An unfortunate event

EXPLANATION

'Bad business' here is an idiom meaning an unfortunate or regrettable state of affairs.

Q22

IDIOMS & PHRASES

When he tells stories about himself, he is inclined to draw the long bow.

☐ A Understate☐ B Get emotional☒ C Exaggerate ✓☐ D Get excited**CORRECT ANSWER C. Exaggerate****EXPLANATION**

'To draw the long bow' means to exaggerate, to stretch the truth.

Q23

IDIOMS & PHRASES

Ikram said that he has got a problem to square up with the manager.

☐ A Consider☐ B Discuss☒ C Settle ✓☐ D Workout**CORRECT ANSWER C. Settle****EXPLANATION**

'To square up with someone' means to settle a matter, debt, or dispute with them.

Q24

IDIOMS & PHRASES

Although both the parents are running the show for the last ten years but their business is now on its last legs.

☐ A About to fructify☒ B About to perish ✓☐ C About to produce results☐ D About to take off**CORRECT ANSWER B. About to perish****EXPLANATION**

'On its last legs' means close to collapse, failure, or the end of its useful existence — about to perish.

Q25

IDIOMS & PHRASES

The time is running out, you must look sharp.

A Be careful

B Make haste ✓

C Be punctual

D Be sensible

CORRECT ANSWER B. Make haste

EXPLANATION

'Look sharp' is used as an instruction to hurry up, to be quick — to make haste.

Q26

IDIOMS & PHRASES

He is in the habit of throwing dust in his superiors' eyes.

A To put sand into eyes

B To make blind

C To deceive ✓

D To show false things

CORRECT ANSWER C. To deceive

EXPLANATION

'To throw dust in someone's eyes' means to deceive or mislead them.

Q27

IDIOMS & PHRASES

In modern democratic societies lynch law seems to have become the sphere of life.

A Law of the mob ✓

B Law of the underworld

C Law of the constitution

D Law of the parliament

CORRECT ANSWER A. Law of the mob

EXPLANATION

'Lynch law' refers to mob justice — punishment carried out by a mob without legal process, i.e. the law of the mob.

Q28

IDIOMS & PHRASES

He was in high spirits when I met him in the restaurant.

A He was in a drunken state

B He was very cheerful ✓

C He talked incoherently

D He was deeply engrossed in thoughts

CORRECT ANSWER B. He was very cheerful

EXPLANATION

'In high spirits' means feeling very cheerful, lively and happy.

Q29

IDIOMS & PHRASES

In his youth, he was practically rolling in money.

A Spending more than his income

B Borrowing money liberally

C Very rich ✓

D Wasting a lot of money

CORRECT ANSWER C. Very rich

EXPLANATION

'Rolling in money' means having a great deal of money — being very rich.

Q30

IDIOMS & PHRASES

Jaya had a chequered career since I first knew him as an office assistant in the insurance company.

A Had a variety of jobs and experiences ✓

B A career which helped him make lot of money

C A career where he signed a lot of cheques

D Did odd jobs

CORRECT ANSWER A. Had a variety of jobs and experiences

EXPLANATION

A 'chequered career' is one marked by many changes and varied fortunes — a mixture of successes and setbacks.

Q31

IDIOMS & PHRASES

The sight of the accident made my flesh creep.

A Draw my attention

B Confused me

C Frightened me ✓

D Worried me

CORRECT ANSWER C. Frightened me

EXPLANATION

'To make one's flesh creep' means to cause a feeling of horror or fear.

Q32

IDIOMS & PHRASES

There is no hard and fast rule regarding this subject.

A Rule that is difficult

B Rule that is far reaching

C Rule that cannot be broken or modified ✓

D Rule that can be broken or modified

CORRECT ANSWER C. Rule that cannot be broken or modified

EXPLANATION

A 'hard and fast rule' is one that is fixed and strict — it cannot be broken, bent or modified.

Q33

IDIOMS & PHRASES

He went to his friend's house in the evening as was his wont.

A As usual ✓

B As he wanted

C As his want was

D As he wanted that day

CORRECT ANSWER A. As usual

EXPLANATION

'As was his wont' means as was his habit or custom — as usual.

Q34

IDIOMS & PHRASES

Why do you wish to tread on the toes?

A To give offence to them ✓

B To follow them grudgingly

C To treat them indifferently

D To be kicked by them

CORRECT ANSWER A. To give offence to them

EXPLANATION

'To tread on someone's toes' means to offend or upset them, often by interfering in their affairs.

Q35

IDIOMS & PHRASES

He intends setting up as a lawyer in the adjoining district.

A To establish himself ✓

B To migrate

C To join

D To settle

CORRECT ANSWER A. To establish himself

EXPLANATION

'To set up as' (a professional) means to establish oneself in that profession/practice.

Q36

IDIOMS & PHRASES

The autographed bat from the famous cricketer Sunil Gavaskar is worth a jew's eye.

A Not a worthy possession

B Unnecessary

C A costly items

D A possession of high value ✓

CORRECT ANSWER D. A possession of high value

EXPLANATION

'Worth a jew's eye' is an old idiom meaning extremely valuable — a possession of high value.

Q37

IDIOMS & PHRASES

The speaker gave a bird's eye view of the political conditions in the country.

A A personal view

B A general view ✓

C A biased view

D A detailed presentation

CORRECT ANSWER B. A general view

EXPLANATION

A 'bird's eye view' is a general overview of a subject, seen as if from above, without going into details.

Q38

IDIOMS & PHRASES

He resigned the post of his own accord.

A Which he liked

B According to his convenience

C Voluntarily and willingly ✓

D According to his judgement

CORRECT ANSWER C. Voluntarily and willingly

EXPLANATION

'Of one's own accord' means voluntarily and willingly, without being asked or forced.

Q39

IDIOMS & PHRASES

As a politician he is used to being in the limelight all the time.

A Giving speeches

B The object of admiration

C The centre of attraction ✓

D An object of public notice

CORRECT ANSWER C. The centre of attraction

EXPLANATION

'In the limelight' means being at the centre of public attention — the centre of attraction.

Q40

IDIOMS & PHRASES

I ran out of money on my European tour.

A Exhausted my stock of



B Did not have enough

C Lost

D Carried a lot

CORRECT ANSWER A. Exhausted my stock of

EXPLANATION

'To run out of' something means to use it all up — to exhaust one's stock/supply of it.