

alps academy



IDIOMS FOR LANGUAGE LEARNERS

SET 5



IDIOM EXERCISES
FOR LANGUAGE LEARNERS





IDIOMS

Actions speak louder than
words

Back to the drawing board

Beat around the bush

Cat got your tongue

Out of the woods

Play it by ear

The ball is in your court

A decorative header featuring the word "IDioms" in large, colorful, blocky letters. The letters are arranged in a slightly curved, overlapping manner. The colors are: I (pink), D (blue), I (red), O (purple), M (yellow), and S (light blue).

contents

Actions speak louder than words

Back to the drawing board

Beat around the bush

Cat got your tongue

Out of the woods

Play it by ear

The ball is in your court

Example Conversations

Idiom Exercises

Exercise 1

Exercise 2

Advanced Exercise

Exercise Answers





Actions speak louder than words

Meaning:

what you do is more important than what you say

Example:

*Sarah said she would help, but her **actions speak louder than words** because she never actually helps anyone.*



Back to the drawing board

Meaning:

when a plan or idea doesn't work, sometimes it is better to go back to a fresh start with a new plan or idea

Example:

*Our science experiment didn't work as we expected, so we'll have to go **back to the drawing board** and try again.*



Beat around the bush

Meaning:

when someone avoids talking about something directly and talks about other things instead

Example:

*Instead of telling me directly, my friend likes to **beat around the bush** and talk about everything else except the topic we need to discuss.*



Cat got your tongue

Meaning:

when someone is silent and unsure what to say

Example:

*When the teacher asked him to read aloud, he suddenly became quiet. It's like the **cat got his tongue!***



Out of the woods

Meaning:

when you are no longer in a difficult or dangerous situation

Example:

*Jack was very sick, but now he's feeling better and **out of the woods**.*



Play it by ear

Meaning:

*making decisions as you go along,
without having a plan beforehand*

Example:

*We didn't make a schedule for the picnic. Instead, we decided to **play it by ear** and do whatever we feel like doing.*



The ball is in your court

Meaning:

it's your turn to make a decision or take action

Example:

*I've given you all the information you need. Now, **the ball is in your court** to decide what we should do next.*





Example Conversations

Sarah: "I promise I'll help you with your homework."

Emily: "Well, let's see if you actually help me. Remember, actions speak louder than words."

Mark: "Our plan to build a play house didn't work."

Lily: "That's okay! We can go back to the drawing board and come up with a new plan."

Amy: "Why are you' upset?"

David: "Well, you keep beating around the bush and talking about other things."



Example Conversations

Lisa: "What should we do this weekend?"

Mike: "I'm not sure yet. Let's play it by ear and decide as we go."

Tina: "I've finished my part of the project. Now, it's your turn to complete your tasks."

Sam: "Okay, I understand. The ball is in my court, and I'll make sure to finish my tasks on time."



Example Conversations

Mike: "I've been trying to fix this computer issue all day, but I can't figure it out."

Lisa: "Maybe it's time to throw in the towel and call the IT department for help."

Emily: "Do you think Jack will ever go skydiving?"

Mark: "No way, when pigs fly, he's terrified of heights."



IDIOM EXERCISES
FOR LANGUAGE LEARNERS

IDIOM EXERCISES FOR LANGUAGE LEARNERS



IDIOMS

idiom exercise 1

Identify the Correct Idiom

Alps Academy



Delete the incorrect idiom

1. Instead of directly answering the question, Mary tends to (beat around the bush / have the ball in her court) and talk about unrelated topics.
2. When the teacher called on him to answer, he suddenly went silent. It seemed like (he was out of the woods/ the cat got his tongue).
3. John always promises to help with the project, but (his actions speak louder than words / the cat got his tongue) when he never shows up to do any work.



Delete the incorrect idiom

4. I have presented all the facts and options. Now, (you have egg on your face/ the ball is in your court) to make the final decision.

5. Our first attempt at solving the puzzle failed, so we need to (go back to the drawing board / play it by ear) and come up with a new strategy.



Delete the incorrect idiom

6. We don't have a fixed plan for the weekend. Let's just (go back to the drawing board/ play it by ear) and decide what to do as we go along.

7. After months of hard work and preparation, we finally finished the project and we're (out of the woods / playing it by ear).



idiom exercise 2

Complete the
Sentence with the
Correct Idiom

Alps Academy



Fill in the Blanks

1. I have presented all the facts and options. Now, _____ to make the final decision.
2. After facing real danger of failing, we finally completed the project successfully and are _____.
3. Instead of giving a direct answer, he tends to _____ and avoid making a decision.
4. We don't have a fixed plan for the weekend. Let's just _____ and decide what to do as we go along.



Fill in the Blanks

5. He always talks about how talented he is, but his lack of action shows that _____.
6. When the teacher asked him to give a presentation, he froze and couldn't speak. It seemed like _____.
7. Our marketing campaign didn't have the desired impact, so we need to _____ and come up with a new strategy.





IDIOMS

advanced idiom exercise

Use the Idiom

Alps Academy



IDIOMS

Give an example of how you use the following idioms in a sentence

Ball is in your court

Back to the drawing board

Beat around the bush

Out of the woods

Play it by ear

Example:

I kept my side of our agreement, now the
ball is in your court



IDIOM EXERCISES
FOR LANGUAGE LEARNERS

IDIOM EXERCISES - ANSWERS



Delete the incorrect idiom

1. Instead of directly answering the question, Mary tends to beat around the bush and talk about unrelated topics.
2. When the teacher called on him to answer, he suddenly went silent. It seemed like the cat got his tongue.
3. John always promises to help with the project, but (his actions speak louder than words when he never shows up to do any work.



Delete the incorrect idiom

4. I have presented all the facts and options. Now, the ball is in your court to make the final decision.

5. Our first attempt at solving the puzzle failed, so we need to (go back to the drawing board and come up with a new strategy).

Alps Academy



Delete the incorrect idiom

6. We don't have a fixed plan for the weekend. Let's just play it by ear and decide what to do as we go along.

7. After months of hard work and preparation, we finally finished the project and we're out of the woods.



Fill in the Blanks

1. I have presented all the facts and options. Now, the ball is in your court to make the final decision.
2. After facing real danger of failing, we finally completed the project successfully and are out of the woods.
3. Instead of giving a direct answer, he tends to beat around the bush and avoid making a decision.
4. We don't have a fixed plan for the weekend. Let's just play it by ear and decide what to do as we go along.



Fill in the Blanks

5. He always talks about how talented he is, but his lack of action shows that actions speak louder than words.
6. When the teacher asked him to give a presentation, he froze and couldn't speak. It seemed like the cat got his tongue.
7. Our marketing campaign didn't have the desired impact, so we need to go back to the drawing board and come up with a new strategy.



IDIOMS

Give an example of how you use the following idioms in a sentence

Ball is in your court

Back to the drawing board

Beat around the bush

Out of the woods

Play it by ear

Example:

I kept my side of our agreement, now the
ball is in your court



IDIOMS

examples of idioms in a sentence

I kept my side of our agreement, now the
ball is in your court

It is all wrong lets start again and go **back to
the drawing board**

Don't **beat around the bush**, just say what
you mean

It was a very serious accident, but thankfully
she is **out of the woods** and will recover
in time

Play it by ear, you know the words and sing
great.



if you would like to
improve your English
learn more idioms
and take more
practice exercises
visit alps.academy

visit
alps.academy
for more help
with idioms,
and other
English Learning

