

Useful Idioms

Match the idioms in A with the definitions in B.

A	B
(1) a no brainer	(a) It is what you do that matters, not what you say
(2) a hot potato	(b) a situation where the choice between different things is obvious
(3) to see eye to eye	(c) to agree with somebody about something
(4) actions speak louder than words	(d) a controversial topic

A	B
(1) when pigs fly	(a) this is used to say that something is very unlikely to happen
(2) to be over the moon	(b) to attempt to do more than you are capable of doing
(3) the best thing since sliced bread	(c) to be very happy
(4) to bite off more than you can chew	(d) to be very good

A	B
(1) to miss the boat	(a) you shouldn't judge somebody or something solely by outward appearances
(2) shouldn't judge a book by its cover	(b) to disclose a secret
(3) to cry over spilt milk	(c) to be upset about something that you can't change
(4) to let the cat out of the bag	(d) to miss the opportunity to do something because you are too late

A	B
(1) wouldn't be caught dead	(a) to eventually tell somebody something that they really want to know
(2) to spill the beans	(b) this is used to say that you won't do something under any circumstances at all
(3) to give someone the cold shoulder	(c) to not feel very well
(4) to feel a bit under the weather	(d) to ignore somebody

A	B
(1) to give somebody the benefit of the doubt	(a) to come up with the exactly correct answer or solution to a problem
(2) to hit the nail on the head	(b) to say something using just a few words
(3) to be on the ball	(c) to believe somebody even though there is no evidence that they are being truthful
(4) to cut a long story short	(d) to know exactly what is happening

A	B
(1) to cost an arm and a leg	(a) not very often
(2) to be a pain in the neck	(b) to be irritating or annoying
(3) be a piece of cake	(c) to be very expensive
(4) once in a blue moon	(d) to be very easy

Complete the sentences below with the idioms above. You may have to change the form of the words so that they fit into the sentence grammatically.

1. I _____ wearing a shirt like that. It looks ridiculous!
2. The exam was a _____. I couldn't believe how easy it was.

3. She normally cooks for herself and only eats out at restaurants _____.
4. My grandfather is nearly ninety, but he is really _____. He understands everything that is going on in the world.
5. My sister's smart phone _____. I think it's a complete waste of money.
6. It's no use _____ can do about it now, so stop worrying about it. _____ . There is nothing you
7. I didn't go to school yesterday as I was _____ . I feel much better today, though.
8. It's too late to register for the course. You've _____ , I'm afraid.
9. That's the perfect solution! You've _____ .
10. I think you've _____. There is no way you will be able to do that before the end of the month.
11. My brother's a _____. He's always disturbing me when I'm trying to do my homework.
12. We don't always _____ , but on this occasion we were in complete agreement.