

ANIMAL IDIOMS

Read the sentences and try to guess the meaning of the **bold** idioms. Then match them to definitions A–O.

1 I **worked like a dog** on this project, so I hope I'm going to get the credit for it.
2 I told him what I thought of him but it's **like water off a duck's back** for him.
3 He was **like a fish out of water** when he left his small town and went to live in Los Angeles.
4 You *think* you've passed the test, but **don't count your chickens (before they hatch)**.
5 I decided to **take the bull by the horns** and went to see my boss.
6 When they divorced, Nick's wife got **the lion's share** of everything they owned.
7 Jim Phelps was a **dark horse** in the mayoral election, but he ended up winning.
8 I'm **in the doghouse** because I forgot our wedding anniversary.
9 He **made a** real **pig of himself** at the dinner. He had second helpings of everything.
10 When my car broke down at the end of such an awful day, it was really **the last straw** (that breaks the camel's back).
11 The company says they're not going to lay anyone off with the restructuring, but **I smell a rat**.
12 If we have the meeting in Salt Lake City, we can go and visit my mother at the same time and **kill two birds with one stone**.
13 My boss can seem kind of aggressive, but in fact **her bark is worse than her bite**.
14 After playing so badly he walked off **with his tail between his legs**.
15 I wouldn't bring up the subject again if I were you. I'd **let sleeping dogs lie**.





- [ ] A face a difficult situation directly and with courage
- [ ] B work very hard
- [ ] C not mention something that happened in the past to avoid arguments or problems
- [ ] D criticism doesn't affect him
- [ ] E manage to achieve two things by doing one action
- [ ] F a little-known participant in a competition who surprises everyone by winning
- [ ] G the largest or best part
- [ ] H not be <u>too</u> confident that something will be successful
- [ ] I eat and drink too much, be very greedy
- [ ] J the last in a series of bad events that makes you unable to accept the situation any longer
- [ ] K feeling ashamed, embarrassed, or unhappy because you have been defeated or punished
- [ ] L somebody (usually your partner) is annoyed with you about something
- [ ] M sb whose words are worse than their actions
- [ ] N think that sth is wrong or that sb is trying to deceive you
- [ ] O feel uncomfortable or awkward in unfamiliar surroundings

