

A PRACTICE OF PHRASES AND IDIOMS 1

I. Fill the gaps with the appropriate adjectives.

cutting flying going	damning forwarding growing	extenuating roaring laughing	teething running melting	saving spitting tearing
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1. The introduction of snake charmers in the circus repertoire was a/an **success** for the owners. The performances were all sold out.
2. How do you expect me to deliver the post to Mrs. Dale if she didn't leave any **address** after moving out of town?
3. Alice learned a lot and passed her exams **with** **colours**.
4. The doctor made me realise that a jaundice infection was **no** **matter** and an inoculation was highly advisable.
5. Look at Donna's face. Isn't she the **image** of her mother?
6. The district is inhabited by people of various races and origins. It is a real **pot** unlike other areas of the city.
7. In spite of having been found guilty of the theft, the boy didn't receive a heavy punishment as there were plenty of **circumstances**.
8. Your store brings tremendous profits each month, so what's the point of selling a/an **concern** like this?
9. Every new government must go through the **pains** before they win social acceptance and prove their effectiveness.
10. I'm in a/an **hurry**. My plane is taking off in only half an hour.
11. The amazing modern robots that were presented at the show by the Japanese designers are at the **edge** of nanotechnology.
12. We had a few **troubles** with operating the new machinery at the very start, but soon we managed to get over them.
13. The secret documents that were found by the police were the **evidence** of Joseph Stanton's criminal past.
14. The scheme that they have devised is rather impractical. Its **grace** though is the low cost of implementation.
15. He said the price of his new Jaguar was exorbitant. I assume the **costs** must be unimaginable, too

II. Fill the gaps with the appropriate prepositional phrases.

at first glance at odds beyond the pale in aid of in deep water	in tatters in the offing in the saddle off the cuff off the peg	on cloud nine on the blink on the hop over the hill under the weather
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1. The prime minister wasn't too well prepared for the press conference. His answers were and didn't satisfy the reporters.
2. It's the third time that the surgeon made a critical mistake and his patient died. His reputation and career are now
3. The peace negotiations have been broken off. Another outbreak of fighting is Within a few hours new attacks will be launched.
4. Edith was when she had learnt about winning the main prize at the annual lottery.
5. We did argue before, but never have we been with each other over such minor matters.

6. I need to have my video camera repaired. It's again.
7. I could tolerate your noisy parties time and again, but throwing bottles out of the window was this time. I want you to move out of my flat.
8. Nicole asked what the compass in my bag was I explained to her that we needed it in case we got lost in the forest.
9. The Board have resolved that the director of our branch in Leeds will remain until he decides to leave on his own.
10. the new apprentice seemed quite witty, but it soon turned out he was all thumbs.
11. You can't expect your father to run as quickly as you do. He is now and his physical strength isn't that good any more.
12. The coach's decision to put me in the first team caught me I didn't even expect to be appointed for the World Cup squad.
13. We do not have any tailored clothes on offer. We sell them only.
14. One of the salesmen found himself after it turned out he had stolen some documents from the director's cabinet.
15. Sue is not coming. She's going to stay in bed as she's a bit

III. Fill the gaps with the appropriate verbs in the correct form.

burn	hit	pluck	reap	split
cry	lead	poke	shed	stew
fan	nail	read	spare	work

1. It's useless to try to deceive Michael. He is so smart that he can **a lie** with ease.
2. Despite the curator's scary stories about ghosts and creaking floorboards at night, we managed to **up the courage** to spend the night in the castle.
3. So you have lost all your money on the bets. But it's no good **over spilt milk**. Next time you come to Las Vegas, you should stay clear of casinos.
4. He didn't put it straight, but I could **between the lines** that he was not satisfied with the fee that he was offered.
5. Any form of irresponsible behavior is punished at this school. Those who call other pupils names or **fun at them** are put in detention.
6. The preparations for the secret mission must be completed within just two weeks. No wonder the agents have been **the candle at both ends**.
7. I've been worried about Carl since he started keeping company of those bad boys. He's a weak character and they may easily **him astray**.
8. It is hoped that Mr. Hurston's testimony will **new light on** the case of women kidnappings in Livingston.
9. It's not the matter of being a disciplined employee. Pete keeps **to rule** to show his dissatisfaction with the fact he wasn't given a rise.
10. We love visiting the Browns because they are so hospitable and friendly. They'll **no pains** to make you feel comfortable in their house.
11. Poor Mr Daniels. When his wife left him with her lover he **the bottle**. And he has been drinking heavily since then.
12. I'm going to invest my savings in the business and hope to **a considerable harvest** in the future.
13. I offered to pay \$100, and Sean insisted on \$120. But finally, we agreed that we would **the difference**, so I paid him \$110 for the moped.
14. It was Adam's decision to accept the bribes. Let him **in his own juice** now.
15. You shouldn't have mentioned anything about Steve's failed exam. It only **the flames of** your brother's irritation.

IV. Insert the nouns in the appropriate phrases.

back	eye	heart	neck	shoulder
bone	face	leg	nose	teeth
chin	hair	lip	palm	thumb

1. I know it's quite a depressing situation, but **keep your** **up!** Things will get better soon.
2. At the beginning, my boss would not take my ideas and suggestions seriously. But when my projects proved to be successful, he **had a change of**
3. The official can't be very honest if he expects us to **grease his** before arranging every matter.
4. We will never reach an agreement if you go on **setting your** **against** all our recommendations.
5. It was Stephanie who **put** Amy's **out of joint**. The moment she arrived at the party, all the boys wanted to keep her company.
6. Did he tell you he worked in the theatre? Don't believe a word he says. He always **lies through his**
7. The agent told the man he had to pay ten thousand pounds extra for the mortgage and he **didn't even turn a/an** He must have been a millionaire.
8. It looks like the politicians only **pay** **-service to** our charity organization. They never really offer any financial support.
9. The farmers in the country must **have their** **to the wall** considering that the cereal and meat prices have slumped by 50%.
10. The suspect says that at the time of the robbery he was in a cinema. But nobody in fact saw him there. It seems he **does not have a/an** **to stand on**.
11. Everybody was **giving** Anthony **the cold** when we found out it was him who told the teacher that we were going to play truant from the lesson.
12. He treats me as if he **had a/an** **to pick with me**. Have I done anything wrong to him?
13. You'll certainly **get it in the** if your mother discovers you smoke cigarettes in the backyard.
14. They say that Mr. Palmer's resignation was his own decision. But I can assure you **there is more to it than meets the**
15. Jenny refused to wear her grandmother's hat during the ceremony saying that she wasn't going to **stick out like a sore**

V. Fill the gaps with the appropriate nouns to complete the phrases.

apple	freak	load	sleight	spot
bed	hive	neck	slip	walk
can	horse	quirk	spice	ward

1. This fish is a **of nature**. It has got no fins, but it still can swim.
2. We are intending to gather people from every.....**of life** to find out their opinions about living in the city.
3. It's a hard life we are living now, but, honestly I cannot remember the times when it was **a/an** **of roses**.
4. In the researchers' account the market place was **a/an** **of activity** in every ancient city.
5. Did she say one hundred? She certainly meant to say one thousand. It must have been **a/an** **of the tongue**.
6. Nobody would have considered the problem to be such **a/an** **of worms**. How are we going to deal with it?

7. Why did the professor mention the implant surgery at all? It is *a/an* *of a different colour*, isn't it? He was supposed to speak about hair analysis.
8. Several coins of gold became *the* *of discord* between the explorers who had unearthed the treasure trove.
9. Both Hugh and Gill brought flowers for Caroline. Was it *a/an* *of fate* or some intricate plan?
10. I suppose the man is trying to fool us. What he says is just *a/an* *of cobblers*.
11. Everything's going fine so far, but there may be *a/an* *of bother* when it comes to appointing the chairman. Not everyone likes Harold.
12. How about going to a disco? Why spend every evening in front of the TV set? Don't you know *variety is the* *of life*?
13. The judge has resolved that the baby will become *a/an* *of court* until she turns eighteen.
14. Wolves haven't been spotted in this *of the woods* for about four years, so the area may be considered safe for tourists.
15. The little children were amazed at the conjurer's unimaginable *of hand*. The trick with the rabbit popping out of the hat brought the house down.

Exercise 12. Choose the correct answer.

- It's true Jack can be very critical. He is always aspersions on everyone else's ability to run the business.
A putting B casting C drawing D applying
- She's very unhappy all alone with her problems. She's got nobody to..... their ear.
A pick B let C bend D speak
- Don't throw that basket away! It may still in handy when we go picking mushrooms.
A find B run C come D give
- Celia would always look up to her older brother. Whatever Adrian did she invariably suit.
A followed B carried C pursued D kept
- No matter how I tried to convince him that I was right, he his ground dismissing all my arguments.
A thought B fixed C claimed D stood
- The performance in the National Theatre really..... the house down last night. The actors were given a standing ovation.
A took B brought C left D set
- The final decision has already been taken, so there's no use in your the toss.
A arguing B disapproving C dismissing D quarrelling
- I won't listen to anyone. I am grown-up now and I can decide what I do in my life. I don't want anyone to my style.
A prevent B spoil C disturb D cramp
- Sadly, my tutor gave me a poor mark for my piece of writing. She told me I had too many liberties with the real facts.
A placed B made C taken D found
- What the secretary says doesn't necessarily much weight, but you should never disobey your director's instructions.
A play B carry C hold D mean
- It.....to reason that the princess won't arrive unless you send her a formal invitation.
A gets B comes C stands D lays

12. We've had to quit our cooperation with this wholesaler as we could never a bargain. He asked for more than we could offer.
A strike **B** hit **C** beat **D** knock
13. A lot of scorn has been.....on the Canadian seal hunters for their merciless practices.
A blamed **B** launched **C** poured **D** fixed
14. It may take a long time before Mary herself together after her mother's death.
A brings **B** finds **C** draws **D** pulls
15. According to the verdict, the boy will be removed from school on the grounds of dirty tricks on the teachers and other pupils.
A working **B** driving **C** playing **D** committing
16. Your leftist views.....in the face of our party programme, so you'd better drop them or find another party for yourself.
A fly **B** run **C** turn **D** look
17. This savage war had this beautiful country waste and left many of its inhabitants homeless.
A cast **B** grown **C** laid **D** set
18. She would have been fined for leaving her car in the wrong place, hadn't the policeman decided to the rules on that single occasion.
A leave **B** bend **C** quit **D** skip
19. The new round of negotiations is hoped to.....the deadlock in the Middle East.
A break **B** remove **C** dispense **D** untie
20. Let me take care of your scratched knee. I've been a nurse for eighteen years, so I the ropes like nobody else.
A have **B** grasp **C** know **D** operate