

Proverbs and sayings

1) These are common English proverbs. Match the beginnings in **A** with the endings in **B** (drag and drop):

A

- 1) A bird in the hand
- 2) People in glass houses
- 3) Among the blind
- 4) As you sow,
- 5) Make hay
- 6) Better late
- 7) Blood is thicker
- 8) Don't bite the hand
- 9) Don't kill the goose
- 10) Go in one ear

B

- a) that feeds you.
- b) and out the other.
- c) is worth two in the bush.
- d) while the sun shines.
- e) the one-eyed man is king.
- f) than water.
- g) that lays the golden eggs.
- h) so you shall reap.
- i) than never.
- j) should not throw stones.

2) Match the number of the proverb from exercise 1) above with the appropriate meaning:

- a) An incapable person can get a powerful position if the others are even more incapable.
- b) Things that we already have are more valuable than what we hope to get.
- c) You say this when someone quickly forgets what you have told them.
- d) Don't act badly toward the person who gives you benefits or profit.
- e) Your actions determine what you get.
- f) You should make the most of favourable conditions while they last.
- g) Relationships with family are stronger than other relationships.

3) Match the proverbs and sayings in **A** with their meanings in **B**:

A

- 1) Easy come, easy go.
- 2) Like father, like son.
- 3) No pain, no gain.
- 4) All that glitters is not gold.
- 5) First come, first served.
- 6) Let bygones be bygones.
- 7) Kill two birds with one stone.
- 8) If it ain't broke, don't fix it.
- 9) All's well that ends well.
- 10) It's better to be safe than sorry.

B

- a) You have to work hard if you want to succeed.
- b) It's better to be cautious than regret later.
- c) Those who arrive first will receive first.
- d) Solve two problems with the same action.
- e) You say this when you get something easily and then lose it easily.
- f) If something works fine, don't change it.
- g) Things that look good may not be as good.
- h) As long as the outcome is good, problems on the way don't matter.
- i) Children are similar to their parents.
- j) Forgive someone for something they did in the past.