# PROVERBS AS VOCABULARY RESOURCES

## I. MATCH THE HALVES

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|---|---|
| 1. An apple a day … | a. … on the other side of the fence. |
| 2. Too many cooks … | b. … to tango. |
| 3. The grass is always greener … | c. … is good news. |
| 4. Birds of a feather … | d. … travels fast. |
| 5. It takes two … | e. … keeps the doctor away. |
| 6. Old habits … | f. … new tricks. |
| 7. Bad news … | g. … flock together. |
| 8. No news … | h. … die hard. |
| 9. You can't teach an old dog … | i. … spoil the broth. |

## II. FIND THE PROVERB CLOSEST IN MEANING TO THE SENTENCES BELOW.

1. Become wise after having an unpleasant experience.
   a. Look before you leap.
   b. A burnt child dreads fire.
   c. A stich in time saves nine.
   d. A bird in hand is worth two in the bush.
2. Everyone gets a chance eventually.
   a. The early bird catches the worm.
   b. Slow and steady wins the race.
   c. After the storm comes the calm.
   d. Every dog has its day.
3. Benefitting from the earliest opportunity.
   a. The early bird catches the worm.
   b. Slow and steady wins the race.
   c. After the storm comes the calm.
   d. Every dog has its day.

## III. FIND PROVERBS THAT HAVE SIMILAR MEANINGS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Like father, like son. | A. | A real friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out. |

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| 2. | There is no place like home. | B. | The apple does not fall far from the tree. |
| 3. | A friend in need is a friend indeed. | C. | My home is my castle. |

## IV. FIND PROVERBS THAT HAVE OPPOSING MEANINGS.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | The pen is mightier than the sword. | A. | Nothing ventured, nothing gained. |
| 2. | It's better to be safe than sorry. | B. | Too many cooks spoil the broth. |
| 3. | Many hands make light work. | C. | Actions speak louder than words. |

## V. FIND THE ORIGIN OF THE PROVERB

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| 1. | All that glitters is not gold. | A. | (Alexander Pope – *An Essay on Criticism*, 1709). |
| 2. | A little knowledge is a dangerous thing. | B. | is an anagram for "this is meant as incentive" |
| 3. | A stitch in time saves nine. | C. | shiny things aren't necessarily precious things. (William Shakespeare - *The Merchant of Venice*, 1596). |

## VI. FIND SUITABLE EQUIVALENTS IN YOUR OWN LANGUAGE

1. Make hay while the sun shines!
2. A friend in need is a friend indeed.
3. Speech is silver(n), silence is gold(en).
4. Still waters are deep.
5. Knowledge is power.

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