

EXERCISE 9A

For SSC GD & MTS Exams

Direction (Q1-20): Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

1. As a matter of fact
SSC MTS 06/08/2019 (Shift-1)
 (a) Actually as it happened
 (b) To seize a good opportunity
 (c) To forgive and forget
 (d) Just at the last moment
2. Cat's Whiskers
SSC MTS 05/08/2019 (Shift-1)
 (a) A very easy matter
 (b) To be highly impressive
 (c) To be very determined
 (d) Difficult to understand
3. Come to light
SSC MTS 05/08/2019 (Shift-2)
 (a) To be obscure
 (b) To be well lit-up
 (c) To pry a secret
 (d) To be known publicly
4. Above one's head
SSC MTS 05/08/2019 (Shift-2)
 (a) To be very tall
 (b) Intimate and personal
 (c) Overhead expenses
 (d) Beyond one's understanding
5. Go getter
SSC MTS 05/08/2019 (Shift-3)
 (a) A real achiever
 (b) One who does the right thing
 (c) One who runs away
 (d) A greedy person
6. Out of date
SSC MTS 06/08/2019 (Shift-1)
 (a) Being Careless
 (b) Something old fashioned
 (c) A worthless fellow
 (d) A date seed
7. Cup of tea
SSC MTS 08/08/2019 (Shift-1)
 (a) Something that pleases one
 (b) A useless search
 (c) A feeling of elation
 (d) Something refreshing
8. Pull up your socks
SSC MTS 06/08/2019 (Shift-2)
 (a) To lose one's temper
 (b) To put in extra effort
 (c) To play a joke on someone
 (d) To suspect some foul play
9. Eyewash
SSC MTS 06/08/2019 (Shift-2)
 (a) A problem
 (b) A fact
 (c) A solution
 (d) A deception
10. To pick up the threads
SSC MTS 06/08/2019 (Shift-3)
 (a) To examine the issue seriously
 (b) Being received very warmly
 (c) To restart from the previous closing point
 (d) At a short distance
11. Sail in the same boat
SSC MTS 06/08/2019 (Shift-3)
 (a) Pay a very low price for something
 (b) Be in the same situation as others
 (c) Be in heavy debt
 (d) Go for a boat ride
12. Cut one short
SSC MTS 06/08/2019 (Shift-1)
 (a) To chop something
 (b) To act quickly
 (c) To be rude
 (d) To interrupt someone
13. To feel at home
SSC MTS 05/08/2019 (Shift-3)
 (a) To feel comfortable
 (b) To miss one's home
 (c) To feel out of place
 (d) To be rarely at home

14. To take one's hat off
SSC MTS 07/08/2019 (Shift-1)
 (a) To fool someone
 (b) To feel hot
 (c) To please someone
 (d) To admire someone
15. To pull someone's legs
SSC MTS 07/08/2019 (Shift-3)
 (a) Of a kind and sympathetic nature
 (b) To use all possible methods
 (c) To play a joke on someone
 (d) Not a serious information
16. As clear as a bell **SSC MTS 07/08/2019 (Shift-3)**
 (a) To have a tinkling sound
 (b) At a very low price
 (c) To got fooled
 (d) Readily understood
17. Put the cart before the horses
SSC MTS 16/08/2019 (Shift-1)
 (a) To do impractical things

- (b) To lie about a situation
 (c) To follow the logical order
 (d) To do last thing first
18. On the tip of my tongue
SSC MTS 08/08/2019 (Shift-1)
 (a) Feeling extremely joyful
 (b) At high speed
 (c) Excessively costly
 (d) Readily available in my memory
19. To turn amok **SSC MTS 08/08/2019 (Shift-2)**
 (a) To compete in a race
 (b) To participate in a marathon
 (c) To run about in a frenzy
 (d) To outrun someone
20. To have a jaundiced eye
SSC MTS 08/08/2019 (Shift-2)
 (a) To be very pleased
 (b) To have yellowish eyes
 (c) To be prejudiced
 (d) To have sore eyes

EXPLANATIONS

1. (a) Actually as it happened: "As a matter of fact" means in reality or in truth, so option (a) is the correct meaning.
2. (b) To be highly impressive: "Cat's whiskers" is an idiom used to describe something or someone as being excellent or impressive.
3. (d) To be known publicly: "Come to light" means to become known or revealed, usually in a public manner.
4. (d) Beyond one's understanding: "Above one's head" refers to something that is too difficult or complex for someone to understand.
5. (a) A real achiever: "Go getter" is used to describe someone who is ambitious, motivated, and determined to achieve success.
6. (b) Something old-fashioned: "Out of date" refers to something that is no longer in fashion or up to date.
7. (a) Something that pleases one: "Cup of tea" is used to describe something that one enjoys or finds pleasurable.
8. (b) To put in extra effort: "Pull up your socks" means to make an extra effort or work harder to achieve a goal or improve a situation.
9. (d) A deception: "Eyewash" refers to something that is intended to deceive or mislead, often used to describe actions or statements that are meant to appear helpful or significant but are actually meaningless.
10. (c) To restart from the previous closing point: "To pick up the threads" means to resume or continue something that was previously interrupted or left unfinished.
11. (b) Be in the same situation as others: "Sail in the same boat" means to be in the same difficult or challenging situation as others.
12. (d) To interrupt someone: "Cut one short" means to interrupt or stop someone while they are speaking or doing something.
13. (a) To feel comfortable: "To feel at home" means to feel comfortable and

- relaxed in a particular environment or situation.
14. (d) To admire someone: "To take one's hat off" means to show admiration, respect, or appreciation for someone.
15. (c) To play a joke on someone: "To pull someone's legs" means to tease or play a harmless prank on someone.
16. (d) Readily understood: "As clear as a bell" means something that is very clear, easily understood, or easily heard.
17. (a) To do impractical things: "Put the cart before the horses" means to do things in the wrong or illogical order, often resulting in impractical or ineffective outcomes. Option (a) is the correct meaning.
18. (d) Readily available in my memory: "On the tip of my tongue" means that you know or remember something but can't recall it at the moment.
19. (c) To run about in a frenzy: "To turn amok" means to behave uncontrollably or in a frenzied manner.
20. (c) To be prejudiced: "To have a jaundiced eye" means to have a biased or prejudiced view or opinion.

EXERCISE 9B

For SSC CHSL Exam

Direction (Q1-10): Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

1. Hand in glove **SSC CHSL 09/07/2019 (Shift-2)**
 (a) Working together in the same office
 (b) Wearing gloves while working
 (c) In partnership for something dishonest
 (d) Doing work in the garden
2. Dark horse **SSC CHSL 09/07/2019 (Shift-2)**
 (a) Someone fond of horse racing
 (b) Someone who has a wheatish complexion
 (c) Someone who breeds racehorses
 (d) Someone who unexpectedly succeeds
3. Draw a blank **SSC CHSL 09/07/2019 (Shift-3)**
 (a) Be unsuccessful
 (b) Be happy about something
 (c) Be unable to sketch
 (d) Be lucky in a game
4. Red-letter day **SSC CHSL 08/07/2019 (Shift-2)**
 (a) A very special day
 (b) A very hot day
 (c) A frightful day
 (d) A very cold day
5. Through thick and thin **SSC CHSL 08/07/2019 (Shift-3)**
 (a) To be scared of small dangers
 (b) Passing through a thick forest
 (c) Support under all circumstances
 (d) To be hard-hearted in times of loss
6. Rule the roost **SSC CHSL 08/07/2019 (Shift-3)**
 (a) To make all the decisions
 (b) To be prosperous but generous
 (c) To frequently pick a quarrel
 (d) To blindly follow others
7. Acid test **SSC CHSL 09/07/2019 (Shift-1)**
 (a) A malicious way of taking revenge
 (b) A test that shows how to harm someone
 (c) Proof that an attack has been made
 (d) Definitive proof of truth or falsehood
8. Late in the day **SSC CHSL 09/07/2019 (Shift-3)**
 (a) Too old to work
 (b) Too ripe to eat
 (c) Too dark to see anything
 (d) Too delayed to be of any use
9. Left-handed compliment **SSC CHSL 10/07/2019 (Shift-1)**
 (a) Praise that is given directly
 (b) Insulting someone in front of others
 (c) Insulting remark appearing as praise
 (d) Making fun of someone to tease them
10. Bolt from the blue **SSC CHSL 10/07/2019 (Shift-1)**
 (a) Winning after losing a game many times
 (b) Something sudden that happens unexpectedly
 (c) Someone who runs fast and wins a race
 (d) Locking the doors to keep the rain out

EXPLANATIONS

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. (c) In partnership for something dishonest: “hand in glove” refers to being closely associated or working together, often in a secretive or dishonest manner.</p> <p>2. (d) Someone who unexpectedly succeeds: “dark horse” refers to a person or thing that is relatively unknown or underestimated but unexpectedly achieves success or victory.</p> <p>3. (a) Be unsuccessful: “draw a blank” means to fail to find or obtain what was expected or desired, resulting in a lack of success or an absence of information or ideas.</p> <p>4. (a) A very special day: “red-letter day” signifies a day of great significance or importance, often marked on a calendar with red ink to emphasize its special nature.</p> <p>5. (c) Support under all circumstances: “through thick and thin” means to support or remain loyal to someone or something in all situations, regardless of difficulties or challenges.</p> | <p>6. (a) To make all the decisions: “rule the roost” means to exercise authority or control over a group or situation, often implying that one person dominates and makes all the decisions.</p> <p>7. (d) Definitive proof of truth or falsehood: “acid test” refers to a rigorous or conclusive test that determines the true nature or quality of something, often used metaphorically to indicate a decisive criterion or proof.</p> <p>8. (d) Too delayed to be of any use: “late in the day” suggests that something has happened or been done too late, rendering it ineffective or irrelevant.</p> <p>9. (c) Insulting remark appearing as praise: a “left-handed compliment” is a remark or comment that seems like a compliment on the surface but contains a subtle insult or criticism.</p> <p>10. (b) Something sudden that happens unexpectedly: “bolt from the blue” refers to an unexpected or surprising event or news that comes out of nowhere, catching someone off guard.</p> |
|---|---|

EXERCISE 9C

For SSC CGL & CPO Exams

Direction (Q1-20): Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. To take French leave
SSC CGL 03/03/2020 (Shift-1)</p> <p>(a) Welcome the host
(b) Leave with written permission
(c) Leave without any intimation
(d) Acknowledge the host</p> <p>2. A hard nut to crack
SSC CGL 03/03/2020 (Shift-1)</p> <p>(a) Easily disappointed
(b) A difficult problem
(c) Easily encourage
(d) Not restrained</p> <p>3. On shank's mare SSC CGL 03/03/2020 (Shift-2)</p> <p>(a) On an elephant (b) On a lion
(c) On a bicycle (d) On foot</p> <p>4. A snake in the grass
SSC CGL 03/03/2020 (Shift-2)</p> | <p>(a) A well-wisher (b) difficult to find
(c) A good friend (d) A secret enemy</p> <p>5. Blow one's own trumpet
SSC CGL 03/03/2020 (Shift-3)</p> <p>(a) Praise oneself (b) Condemn others
(c) Be self-reliant (d) Follow others</p> <p>6. Spill the beans SSC CGL 03/03/2020 (Shift-3)</p> <p>(a) Waste money
(b) Give away a secret
(c) Perform magic
(d) Work hard</p> <p>7. Dead heat SSC CGL 04/03/2020 (Shift-1)</p> <p>(a) Close contest that ends in a tie
(b) Strong opposition to one's ideas
(c) A deadly blast of hot air
(d) A strong heat wave</p> <p>8. Back to square one
SSC CGL 04/03/2020 (Shift-1)</p> <p>(a) Neglect something</p> |
|---|---|

- (b) Come to the original point
(c) Draw a square
(d) Move ahead
9. To throw a fit **SSC CGL 04/03/2020 (Shift-2)**
(a) Become unconscious
(b) Caution someone about fitness
(c) Express extreme anger
(d) Faint and fall down
10. The bee's knees **SSC CGL 04/03/2020 (Shift-2)**
(a) Observant
(b) Foolish
11. To drive someone up the wall
SSC CPO 13/03/2019 (Shift-1)
(a) To help someone in difficulty
(b) To keep at a distance
(c) To irritate someone very much
(d) To frighten someone
12. To beat a dead horse
SSC CPO 16/03/2019 (Shift-3)
(a) A deliberate effort
(b) A futile effort
(c) A joint effort
(d) A significant effort
13. Bite the bullet
SSC CPO 16/03/2019 (Shift-3)
(a) To amuse yourself by doing something unpleasant
(b) To dislike yourself for having done something unpleasant
(c) To force yourself to do something unpleasant
(d) To restrain yourself from doing something unpleasant
14. The whole nine yards
SSC CPO 13/03/2019 (Shift-1)
(a) An act of kindness
(b) The entirety of something
- (c) An essential part
(d) An enjoyable situation
15. Hit the nail on the head
SSC CPO 13/03/2019 (Shift-1)
(a) To make the precisely correct point
(b) To hit someone on the head
(c) To assess the situation immediately
(d) To handle a difficult situation
16. A lot on your plate **SSC CPO 14/03/2019 (Shift-1)**
(a) Having many responsibilities
(b) Having a large meal
(c) Having wealth in abundance
(d) Having something which causes envy
17. A safe pair of hands
SSC CPO 14/03/2019 (Shift-1)
(a) A reliable person
(b) A happy person
(c) A person who guards someone
(d) A person who does many jobs
18. A hot potato **SSC CPO 14/03/2019 (Shift-1)**
(a) A tasty snack
(b) An offensive remark
(c) A memorable thing
(d) A controversial issue
19. A stone's throw **SSC CPO 14/03/2019 (Shift-1)**
(a) A memorable place
(b) An easy task
(c) A short distance
(d) A faraway place
20. Go against the grain
SSC CPO 16/03/2019 (Shift-3)
(a) Something that we can accept with difficulty
(b) Something done deliberately
(c) Something that is ugly and unpopular
(d) Something in conflict with one's value system

EXPLANATIONS

1. (c) Leave without any intimation: "To take French leave" means to leave without informing or seeking permission, often in a sudden or unauthorized manner.
2. (b) A difficult problem: "A hard nut to crack" refers to a challenging or complex problem that is difficult to solve or overcome.
3. (d) On foot: "On shank's mare" means to travel or go somewhere by walking on foot.
4. (d) A secret enemy: "A snake in the grass" refers to a person who appears friendly or harmless but is actually treacherous or deceitful.
5. (a) Praise oneself: "Blow one's own trumpet" means to boast or speak highly about

- one's own achievements, abilities, or qualities.
6. (b) Give away a secret: "Spill the beans" means to reveal or disclose a secret or confidential information.
 7. (a) Close contest that ends in a tie: "Dead heat" refers to a competition or race in which two or more participants finish at the same time or with the same score, resulting in a tie.
 8. (b) Come to the original point: "Back to square one" means to return to the starting point or the initial stage of a process or situation, often implying a lack of progress or advancement.
 9. (c) Express extreme anger: "To throw a fit" means to display or express a sudden outburst of intense anger, frustration, or temper tantrum.
 10. (a) Observant: "The bee's knees" refers to someone or something that is considered to be excellent, outstanding, or of the highest quality.
 11. (c) To irritate someone very much: "To drive someone up the wall" means to greatly annoy or irritate someone.
 12. (b) A futile effort: "To beat a dead horse" means to continue to pursue or discuss something that is no longer productive or effective, often referring to a pointless or futile effort.
 13. (c) To force yourself to do something unpleasant: "Bite the bullet" means to face a difficult or unpleasant situation or task with courage and determination, even though it may be uncomfortable or painful.
 14. (b) The entirety of something: "The whole nine yards" means the complete or full extent of something, often referring to giving one's maximum effort or providing everything that is required.
 15. (a) To make the precisely correct point: "Hit the nail on the head" means to accurately or precisely identify or state something, especially a key point or the crux of a matter.
 16. (a) Having many responsibilities: "A lot on your plate" means to have a significant amount of work, tasks, or responsibilities to deal with.
 17. (a) A reliable person: "A safe pair of hands" refers to a person who is dependable, trustworthy, and capable of handling responsibilities or tasks competently.
 18. (d) A controversial issue: "A hot potato" refers to a sensitive or contentious topic or problem that is difficult to handle or deal with.
 19. (c) A short distance: "A stone's throw" means a very short distance, often emphasizing proximity or closeness.
 20. (a) Something that we can accept with difficulty: "Go against the grain" means to act or behave in a way that is contrary to one's natural inclination or usual behavior, often implying resistance or difficulty in accepting or adapting to something.

