

What are Idioms?

Worksheet

An idiom is a phrase whose meaning is completely different from the sum of its individual word meanings. 'Piece of cake' means 'very easy,' not a literal slice of dessert.

Questions

1. What does 'piece of cake' mean?
 - A) An actual slice of dessert
 - B) Something very difficult
 - C) Something very easy
 - D) A bakery item
2. Which of these is NOT an idiom?
 - A) Raining cats and dogs
 - B) I ate a sandwich
 - C) Break a leg
 - D) Spill the tea
3. Idioms are expressions whose meaning...
 - A) Is obvious from word order
 - B) Is always literal
 - C) Cannot be guessed from individual words
 - D) Changes every time
4. Why can't you translate idioms word-by-word?
 - A) Grammar is different
 - B) They have hidden meanings
 - C) Each language has its own unique idioms
 - D) All of the above
5. Explain 'Piece of cake' as an idiom.
6. What does 'spill the tea' mean, and when would you use it?
7. Explain 'raining cats and dogs.'
8. Define: What is an idiom?
9. Define: Example of a common idiom?
10. Define: Are idioms the same in all languages?

Answer Key

1. C) Something very easy — 'Piece of cake' is an idiom meaning something that is very easy to do, not a literal dessert.
2. B) I ate a sandwich — 'I ate a sandwich' is a literal statement. The others are idioms with non-literal meanings.
3. C) Cannot be guessed from individual words — Idioms have non-literal meanings that cannot be understood by translating words individually.
4. D) All of the above — Idioms are culturally unique and cannot be translated literally — each language has its own idioms with completely different words.
5. Literal meaning: a slice of dessert made with flour, eggs, sugar Idiom meaning: something that is very easy to do Example usage: 'This test was a piece of cake — I finished in 10 minutes!'
6. Literal meaning: pour out a hot beverage accidentally Idiom meaning: share gossip, secrets, or confidential information Example: 'She finally spilled the tea about what happened at the party.'
7. Literal meaning: cats and dogs physically falling from the sky Idiom meaning: heavy, intense rainfall Example: 'We can't go outside — it's raining cats and dogs!'
8. A phrase or expression whose meaning differs from the literal meanings of its words. 'Raining cats and dogs' = heavy rain, not animals falling.
9. 'Piece of cake' = something very easy. 'Break a leg' = good luck. 'Spill the tea' = tell secrets.
10. No — each language and culture has unique idioms. Turkish has 'Taş başa değerse' (if a stone hits the head), English has 'Break a leg.'

Bounlu

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