

Practice English Idioms with this Idioms Worksheet

Instructions: Print this idioms worksheet. Fill in the blanks using the prepositions below to make some of the idioms on the Common Idioms, Idioms Lists, and Idiom Meanings pages.

Then check the Answers at the end of the idioms worksheet to see how many you used correctly.

about apart behind down for in of off on out over through to up with

1. Quiet! Dad is trying to figure _____ how to pay all the bills! They keep _____ coming even though his pay is reduced. He needs to keep track _____ the ones he can't pay yet so he can pay them first when we get some money. It's so hard to make ends meet in this economy!
2. I really look _____ Ana. She's quiet, and she doesn't stand _____ in a crowd, but she's dependable. You know if she promises something she'll follow _____ with it.
3. Bill finally got _____ touch _____ his mother. He realized he can't take his parents _____ granted; they won't be around forever. He said he needed to take advantage _____ his opportunity to call her while she can still hear the telephone!
4. Can you cover _____ me while I'm in the meeting? I'll take some of your patients the next time you need a break.
5. Jim often misses work, but he always shows _____ when there's an office party.
6. Those bills aren't our responsibility. It's _____ the Accounting Department to pay them.
7. You made so many mistakes on this essay you should just do it _____.
8. That cat is always _____ the way. I tripped over her again, and almost fell down.
9. If you put _____ resolving the problem with Joe, it will go _____ getting worse.
10. Since Barbara brought _____ the layoffs, I think we should discuss them first.
11. You need to make _____ the time you missed when you were sick.
12. That storyteller makes _____ interesting stories. I never know how they will turn _____. Will the lovers make _____ after their fight? Will the good guys win? Read on!
13. A man's drowning! Can you swim? It's _____ you to rescue him!
14. You can't back _____ now! You promised to finish the costume before the play!
15. Some boys love to take _____ clocks or motors so they can figure _____ how to put them together again.

16. Our supervisor looked _____ buying new equipment so she could get rid _____ the old.
17. Maria was so scared of the test she passed _____ before the teacher even finished passing _____ all the exams.
18. Once when my friend was shopping until very late, her husband got worried. When she got home he told her, "I was _____ call the police!"
19. All the people in my department are friendly. We get _____ well _____ each other.
20. Watch _____! (or: Look out!) The boss is in such a bad mood he blew _____ at Larry over a very small mistake.
21. When you read, it isn't necessary to look _____ every word you don't know.
22. Karen is so patient she put _____ her husband's messiness for a long time before she complained.
23. Tim's joke went right _____ my head. Tim really gets _____ my nerves sometimes; what he says is silly and doesn't make sense. You showed _____ just _____ time; I was _____ blow _____ at him.
24. He had to give _____ eating doughnuts for breakfast when he got diabetes.
25. If you miss class, you need to do extra homework to catch _____ your classmates.
26. The doctor says I should cut _____ all fatty foods, but he says I need to cut out potato chips entirely.
27. People shouldn't put _____ seeing the doctor when they're afraid they have cancer. If it really is cancer, it's better to catch it early.
28. Don't come _____ to work until you get _____ the flu.
29. Be sure to buy enough bread and eggs, so you won't run _____ food when your grandchildren are visiting you.
30. I asked Sue, "Who looks _____ (or takes care of) your baby while you work?"

Answers to the Idioms Worksheet

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1. Quiet! Dad is trying to figure **out** how to pay all the bills! They keep **on** coming even though his pay is reduced. He needs to keep track **of** the ones he can't pay yet so he can pay them first when we get some money. It's so hard to make ends meet in this economy!
2. I really look **up to** Ana. She's quiet, and she doesn't stand **out** in a crowd, but she's dependable. You know if she promises something she'll follow **through** with it.
3. Bill finally got **in** touch **with** his mother. He realized he can't take his parents **for** granted; they won't be around forever. He said he needed to take advantage **of** his opportunity to call her while she can still hear the telephone!
4. Can you cover **for** me while I'm in the meeting? I'll take some of your patients the next time you need a break.
5. Jim often misses work, but he always shows **up** when there's an office party.
6. Those bills aren't our responsibility. It's **up to** the Accounting Department to pay them.
7. You made so many mistakes on this essay you should just do it **over**.
8. That cat is always **in** the way. I tripped over her again, and almost fell down.
9. If you put **off** resolving the problem with Joe, it will go **on** getting worse.
10. Since Barbara brought **up** the layoffs, I think we should discuss them first.
11. You need to make **up** the time you missed when you were sick.
12. That storyteller makes **up** interesting stories. I never know how they will turn **out**. Will the lovers make **up** after their fight? Will the good guys win? Read on!
13. A man's drowning! Can you swim? It's **up to** you to rescue him!
14. You can't back **out** now! You promised to finish the costume before the play!
15. Some boys love to take **apart** clocks or motors so they can figure **out** how to put them together again.
16. Our supervisor looked **into** buying new equipment so she could get rid **of** the old.
17. Maria was so scared of the test she passed **out** before the teacher even finished passing **out** all the exams.

18. Once when my friend was shopping until very late, her husband got worried. When she got home he told her, "I was **about to** call the police!"
19. All the people in my department are friendly. We get **along** well **with** each other.
20. Watch **out** ! (or: Look out!) The boss is in such a bad mood he blew **up** at Larry over a very small mistake.
21. When you read, it isn't necessary to look **up** every word you don't know.
22. Karen is so patient she put **up with** her husband's messiness for a long time before she complained.
23. Tim's joke went right **over** my head. Tim really gets **on** my nerves sometimes; what he says is silly and doesn't make sense. You showed **up** just **in** time; I was **about to** blow **up** at him.
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25. If you miss class, you need to do extra homework to catch **up with** your classmates.
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29. Be sure to buy enough bread and eggs, so you won't run **out of** food when your grandchildren are visiting you.
30. I asked Sue, "Who looks **after** (or takes care of) your baby while you work?"

To study these idioms and more, see the Idioms section of www.EnglishHints.com