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Directions:

In the following questions, out of the four alternatives, select the alternative which best expresses the meaning of the idiom/phrase.

1) Beat a dead horse

- a) Exploit someone to the point of killing him/her.
- b) To continue playing a game knowing very well that you are going to lose.
- c) Show extreme level of cruelty especially to animals.
- d) To uselessly dwell on a subject far beyond its point of resolution.

2) To chew someone out

- a) Reprimand someone severely
- b) To discourage someone who is going to start a new venture
- c) To save someone
- d) To bore someone by talking ceaselessly

3) Ball is in your court

- a) Request someone to return your belonging.
- b) To tell someone politely about his/her mistake.
- c) Put the blame on the other person.
- d) It is up to you to make the next decision or step.

4) Out of print

- a) A book no longer available from the publisher
- b) All publishers refuse to publish your book
- c) Not able to print due to being short on paper
- d) Intentionally not mention some items in the article or book

5) Keep under one's hat

- a) To keep something a secret
- b) Take care of somebody else's valuables given to you for safe keeping
- c) Keep all your wealth in your home
- d) Steal and hide something

6) Achilles' heel

- a) A secret weapon to be used as a last resort.

- b) The person who is blamed if anything goes wrong.
- c) A fatal weakness in spite of overall strength.
- d) A past deed which one is trying to hide.

7) Make one's flesh creep

- a) To flatter someone
- b) To frighten someone
- c) To confuse someone
- d) To abuse someone

8) Beat around the bush

- a) Talk bad about a person, often in the absence of that person.
- b) It is wise to ignore hardships and continue with your task.
- c) To treat a topic, but omit its main points, often intentionally.
- d) Spend a fun jovial time.

9) By a long chalk

- a) Suddenly
- b) Occasionally
- c) A case of emergency Solutions
- d) Majority

10) Go for a song

- a) Happy go lucky attitude
- b) Something which is prohibitively expensive
- c) One's favourite music
- d) Sold cheaply

11) To go off the air

- a) To not eat food for a long period of time
- b) To waste time on silly or trivial things.
- c) To remove ventilator of a patient on his death bed
- d) To stop broadcasting a radio or TV program

12) To go down like a lead balloon

- a) Failure in business or venture
- b) An idea on which one has a lot of hope, but it falls
- c) A speech, proposal, or joke that is poorly received
- d) Losing all the money while gambling





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13) Get your walking papers

- a) To be received gracefully
- b) Get fired from the job
- c) To sign on papers
- d) Compromise

14) To be on cloud nine

- a) To feel lucky
- b) To make one last attempt
- c) To extremely happy
- d) To experience the feeling of being intoxicated

15) A moot point

- a) Disputed
- b) Unknown
- c) Agreeable
- d) Unclear

16) To face the music

- a) To disparage someone
- b) To enjoy a musical concert
- c) To bear the consequences
- d) To be hard of hearing

17) Get the message

- a) Communicate using a secret language
- b) Fire someone from a job
- c) Understand what is implied by a remark or action
- d) Find it difficult to understand a different language

18) To accept the gauntlet

- a) To accept defeat
- b) To be able to grasp the hidden meaning
- c) To accept challenge
- d) To accept what is written in fate

19) Get on the nerves

- a) To lose confidence
- b) To become very strong emotionally
- c) To be an irritant
- d) To become very sensitive; cry easily

20) Turn up

- a) To take a right side

b) Appear

- c) To get lost
- d) Disappear

21) On thin ice

- a) To endure a harsh winter
- b) In a precarious or risky situation
- c) To keep failing after repeated efforts
- d) To keep one's cool even in a tough situation

22) To go to somebody's head

- a) To complain to the highest authority
- b) To make the person think that they are very important that makes them less pleasant person
- c) To have a huge ego
- d) To make someone dizzy or slightly drunk

23) Pillar to post

- a) One place to another
- b) To incite others
- c) Main support of an object
- d) To be reluctant

24) Spin one's wheels

- a) Try your luck
- b) Start a long journey
- c) Keep b ragging about oneself
- d) Expel much effort for little or no gain

25) Keep at bay

- a) to control something and prevent it from causing you problems
- b) Maintain a long distance relationship
- c) Keep your problems to yourselves
- d) Not share a secret

26) Ended in a fiasco

- a) A successful event
- b) Twisted around
- c) A complete failure
- d) Changed one completely





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27) On tenterhooks

- a) in a disorganized manner
- b) Speak quickly
- c) Flattery
- d) In anxious suspense

28) To heave a sigh of relief

- a) To suddenly feel very happy because something unpleasant has not happened or has ended
- b) To Feel silent anger over real or perceived injustice
- c) To become very tired with routine or boring work
- d) To Feel extremely sad over someone else's misfortune

29) To heave a sigh of relief

- a) To suddenly feel very happy because something unpleasant has not happened or has ended
- b) To Feel silent anger over real or perceived injustice
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30) Up a blind alley

- a) One can enjoy thrills only if one takes risk
- b) Not warning a person who is in danger
- c) Following a course of action that is certain to lead to an undesirable outcome
- d) Hiding something intentionally from another person

31) Beating around the bush

- a) To run around in circles and never accomplishing results
- b) To avoid getting to the point of an issue
- c) Avoiding coming face to face with a problem, escaping
- d) Not accepting the real issue and solving minor problems

32) Let something slip through one's fingers

- a) Not be able to understand a difficult concept
- b) to waste an opportunity to achieve something
- c) Lose a wedding ring

d) Let go of certain unpleasant things

33) Damp squib

- a) Complete knowledge
- b) To squander money
- c) Complete failure
- d) To motivate

34) Turn a blind eye

- a) Pretend not to notice
- b) Hide the ugly truth from someone
- c) Stay away from bad habits
- d) Not able to see the obvious truth

35) Will-o-the-wisp

- a) To keep off an unwanted and undesirable person.
- b) Accept or leave the offer.
- c) Something that is impossible to get or achieve.
- d) To spend recklessly.

36) To draw the longbow

- a) To exaggerate
- b) To demarcate
- c) To nullify
- d) To underrate

37) Not to mince matters

- a) To not confuse others
- b) To speak out politely
- c) To be at ease
- d) To not interfere in others affairs

38) Adam's ale

- a) Food
- b) Belongings
- c) Gift
- d) Water

39) On tiptoe

- a) To be in a confusing state
- b) To be disappointed
- c) To be doubtful
- d) Greatly excited

40) A wild goose chase

- a) Timely search





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- b) Wrong decision
- c) Fruitful search
- d) Useless search

41) To get one's walking papers

- a) One can leave
- b) One is discharged from a hospital or mental asylum
- c) One is free of imprisonment
- d) One has the right to entry within a country or community

42) By fits and starts

- a) Totally
- b) Irregularly
- c) Occasionally
- d) Finally

43) Spick and Span

- a) Neat and Clean
- b) Dark and Light
- c) Happy and Sad
- d) High and Low

44) Pale into insignificance

- a) was less exciting
- b) was less hectic
- c) was dull and pale
- d) seemed less important

45) Once and for all

- a) To be successful in the first attempt
- b) To speak for the majority
- c) Now and for the last time; finally
- d) To do a charitable act for the benefit of everybody

46) Sow wild oats

- a) To make space to red
- b) To waste time by doing foolish things
- c) To make someone fool
- d) To take revenge

47) To give the devil his due

- a) To give credit to even a notorious person
- b) To stand in the way of the devil
- c) To punish the wrong person
- d) To let the enemy learn the lesson on his own

48) Out of date

- a) Not stick to the schedule
- b) Old-fashioned
- c) Not have time; very busy
- d) Fail to find a partner

49) Leave no stone unturned

- a) Do a futile task
- b) Try every possible course of action in order to achieve something
- c) Search for the hidden treasure
- d) Be known for achieving a tremendous feat

50) Learn by heart

- a) Love something terribly
- b) Learn to control or hide your true feelings
- c) To memorize something
- d) Learn a lesson by making a mistake

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