

ELTE Curious Idioms and Phrasals quiz 38

1. ELTE Curious Idioms and Phrasals quiz 38

What does the verb in bold mean in 'I'm sorry to **bug** you with this again, I know you don't like it but I need an answer.'

- ☐ (A) To hit
- ☐ (B) To dislike
- ☐ (C) To interest
- ☐ (D) To worry or annoy

2. What does 'to chicken out' mean in the below sentence?

'I was going to go bungee jumping, but I **chickened out**. The mountain was too high!'

- ☐ (A) To withdraw from fear
- ☐ (B) To change direction
- ☐ (C) To celebrate eagerly
- ☐ (D) To speak loudly

3. What does 'horse around' mean?

'Stop **horsing around** and do your homework.'

- ☐ (A) To dislike
- ☐ (B) To be focused
- ☐ (C) To run fast
- ☐ (D) To behave in a silly and noisy way

4. What does 'to milk' mean in the sentence?

They **milked** the situation to attract all possible attention.'

- ☐ (A) To make it visible
- ☐ (B) To take advantage of something for as long as possible
- ☐ (C) To focus
- ☐ (D) To create a problem

5. To **'wolf down'** food means what?

- ☐ (A) To savor slowly
- ☐ (B) To ignore food
- ☐ (C) To eat quickly
- ☐ (D) To share with others

6. If someone **'smells a rat'**, what do they suspect?

- ☐ (A) A rodent nearby
- ☐ (B) Something delicious
- ☐ (C) A pleasant surprise
- ☐ (D) Deception or foul play

7. What does **'having bigger fish to fry'** mean?

- ☐ (A) Focusing on more important matters
- ☐ (B) Completing a task
- ☐ (C) Liking seafood
- ☐ (D) Being indecisive

8. What does it mean to **'bark up the wrong tree'**?

- ☐ (A) To pursue a mistaken course or action
- ☐ (B) To plant trees
- ☐ (C) To hug a tree
- ☐ (D) To shout loudly

9. What does **'eat like a bird'** imply about someone's eating habits?

- ☐ (A) They peck at food
- ☐ (B) They eat only grains
- ☐ (C) They create mess
- ☐ (D) They eat very little

10. If a situation **'smells fishy'**, what is implied?

- ☐ (A) Something suspicious is occurring
- ☐ (B) It is noticeably pungent
- ☐ (C) It is delicious
- ☐ (D) It involves seafood

11. Which idiomatic expression means to avoid someone suspicious or deceitful?

- ☐ (A) Birds of a feather
- ☐ (B) Lion's share
- ☐ (C) Herd mentality
- ☐ (D) Snake in the grass

12. Which expression refers to blindly following others?

- ☐ (A) Herd mentality
- ☐ (B) Bird's eye view
- ☐ (C) Snake oil
- ☐ (D) Lion-hearted

13. What does 'duck' mean?

'Again and again they **ducked** and dodged and refused a straight answer.'

- ☐ (A) To avoid dealing with situations
- ☐ (B) To repeat
- ☐ (C) To go fast
- ☐ (D) To sink

14. What is meant by the expression '**watching someone like a hawk**'?

- ☐ (A) Challenging them
- ☐ (B) Complementing them
- ☐ (C) Ignoring them
- ☐ (D) Observing closely

15. What does '**earworm**' mean?

- ☐ (A) A catchy tune stuck in my head.
- ☐ (B) An annoying sound in my ears
- ☐ (C) A bug in the ear
- ☐ (D) A tickle in the ear

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What does the verb in bold mean in 'I'm sorry to **bug** you with this again, I know you don't like it but I need an answer.'

- ☐ A To hit
- ☐ B To dislike
- ☐ C To interest
- ☒ D To worry or annoy

i 'To bug' means to worry or annoy, as a bug might annoy you. For example, 'He's been bugging me all morning.'

2. What does 'to chicken out' mean in the below sentence?

'I was going to go bungee jumping, but I **chickened out**. The mountain was too high!'

- ☒ A To withdraw from fear
- ☐ B To change direction
- ☐ C To celebrate eagerly
- ☐ D To speak loudly

i 'To chicken out' means to withdraw from a commitment due to fear, to decide not to do something because you are too frightened.

3. What does 'horse around' mean?

'Stop **horsing around** and do your homework.'

- ☐ A To dislike
- ☐ B To be focused
- ☐ C To run fast
- ☒ D To behave in a silly and noisy way

i 'To horse around' means to act silly.

4. What does 'to milk' mean in the sentence?

They **milked** the situation to attract all possible attention.'

- ☐ A To make it visible
- ☒ B To take advantage of something for as long as possible
- ☐ C To focus
- ☐ D To create a problem

i 'To milk' to take advantage of something for as long as possible, to get as much benefit as you can.'The newspapers milked the story dry.'

5. To '**wolf down**' food means what?

- ☐ A To savor slowly
- ☐ B To ignore food
- ☒ C To eat quickly
- ☐ D To share with others

i 'To wolf down' implies eating quickly and voraciously, similar to how a wolf might consume its meal. Typically used when someone is very hungry or in a rush.

6. If someone '**smells a rat**', what do they suspect?

- ☐ A A rodent nearby
- ☐ B Something delicious
- ☐ C A pleasant surprise
- ☒ D Deception or foul play

i 'Smell a rat' means suspecting something is wrong or someone is being dishonest. Derived from a rat hidden in an area causing suspicion or unease.

7. What does '**having bigger fish to fry**' mean?

- ☒ A Focusing on more important matters
- ☐ B Completing a task
- ☐ C Liking seafood
- ☐ D Being indecisive

i It means prioritizing more significant issues over smaller ones. Like choosing a larger fish to cook, it denotes focusing on bigger priorities.

8. What does it mean to '**bark up the wrong tree**'?

- ✓ A To pursue a mistaken course or action
- B To plant trees
- C To hug a tree
- D To shout loudly

i This idiom means making a mistake or misunderstanding something, like a dog barking at the wrong tree regarding a scent or trail.

9. What does '**eat like a bird**' imply about someone's eating habits?

- A They peck at food
- B They eat only grains
- C They create mess
- ✓ D They eat very little

i To 'eat like a bird' means eating very small amounts, often incorrectly assuming birds eat less, though they eat frequently.

10. If a situation '**smells fishy**,' what is implied?

- ✓ A Something suspicious is occurring
- B It is noticeably pungent
- C It is delicious
- D It involves seafood

i The idiom suggests something is suspicious or not quite right.

11. Which idiomatic expression means to avoid someone suspicious or deceitful?

- A Birds of a feather
- B Lion's share
- C Herd mentality
- ✓ D Snake in the grass

i 'Snake in the grass' is used to describe someone who is deceitful or dangerous. It implies the presence of hidden threats.

12. Which expression refers to blindly following others?

- ✓ A Herd mentality
- B Bird's eye view
- C Snake oil
- D Lion-hearted

i 'Herd mentality' describes individuals in a group unconsciously following others without thinking.

13. What does 'duck' mean?

'Again and again they **ducked** and dodged and refused a straight answer.'

- ✓ A To avoid dealing with situations
- B To repeat
- C To go fast
- D To sink

i 'To duck' means to repeatedly avoid answering questions or dealing with a situation.

14. What is meant by the expression '**watching someone like a hawk**'?

- A Challenging them
- B Complementing them
- C Ignoring them
- ✓ D Observing closely

i To 'watch someone like a hawk' means to observe someone very closely, just as a hawk meticulously watches its prey.

15. What does '**earworm**' mean?

- ✓ A A catchy tune stuck in my head.
- B An annoying sound in my ears
- C A bug in the ear
- D A tickle in the ear

i 'Earworm' is a catchy tune stuck in your head, that song you cannot get rid of singing even when you hate it.