



## Idioms in Daily Life

Reading Worksheet — Level C | [tahricteaches.com](http://tahricteaches.com)

English has many funny phrases called idioms. An **idiom** is a group of words with a special meaning. The words do not mean what they seem to mean. People use idioms every day when they talk with friends and family.

For example, when something is very easy, we say it is a **piece of cake**. This does not mean you can really eat it! If you study hard for a test, you "hit the books." These short phrases make English fun and quick to say.

Idioms can also talk about feelings. When you are sick, you might feel **under the weather**. When you are sad, people say you **feel blue**. But when you are very happy, you are "on cloud nine." Your friends will know just how you feel.

Some idioms help us with people. To **break the ice** means to start a friendly talk so no one feels shy. If you tell a secret, you "spill the beans." Be careful, because secrets are hard to keep!

Learning idioms takes time, but it is worth it. Try to use one new idiom each day. Soon you will speak like a native, and talking to other people will be easy and fun.

### A. Vocabulary

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|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. idiom ____                 | a. feel sad or unhappy   |
| 2. piece of cake ____         | b. very happy and excited  |
| 3. under the weather ____     | c. feeling sick or unwell  |
| 4. break the ice ____         | d. very rarely; almost never   |
| 5. hit the books ____         | e. tell a secret to other people   |
| 6. feel blue ____             | f. group of words with a special meaning that is different from the single words |
| 7. cost an arm and a leg ____ | g. something that is very easy to do   |
| 8. once in a blue moon ____   | h. start a friendly conversation so people feel less shy                         |
| 9. spill the beans ____       | i. study hard  |
| 10. on cloud nine ____        | j. very expensive  |

### B. True or False

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- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. An idiom is a group of words with a special meaning.       | <input type="checkbox"/> 2. The words in an idiom always mean exactly what they say.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. "A piece of cake" means something is very easy to do.      | <input type="checkbox"/> 4. "Hit the books" means to throw your books on the floor.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. When you feel "under the weather," you feel sick.          | <input type="checkbox"/> 6. "On cloud nine" means you are very sad.                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7. To "break the ice" means to start a friendly conversation. | <input type="checkbox"/> 8. "Spill the beans" means to tell a secret.                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9. People almost never use idioms when they talk.             | <input type="checkbox"/> 10. Learning a new idiom each day can help you speak better. |

### C. Fill in the Blanks

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**Word Bank:** idiom, piece of cake, under the weather, break the ice, spill the beans, feel blue, on cloud nine, hit the books

1. An \_\_\_\_\_ is a group of words with a special meaning.
2. The test was so easy it was a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. I stayed in bed because I felt \_\_\_\_\_ and sick.
4. She told a funny joke to \_\_\_\_\_ at the new party.
5. Please do not \_\_\_\_\_ and tell my secret.



#### **D. Comprehension Questions**

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1. What is an idiom?
2. How would you feel if you are "under the weather"?
3. What does it mean to "break the ice"?

#### **E. Discussion Questions**

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1. Which idiom from the reading is your favorite, and why do you like it?
2. Are there idioms in your own language? Can you share one and explain what it means?



# Answer Key

## Idioms in Daily Life

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**A. Vocabulary:** 1-f, 2-g, 3-c, 4-h, 5-i, 6-a, 7-j, 8-d, 9-e, 10-b

**B. True/False:** 1-T, 2-F, 3-T, 4-F, 5-T, 6-F, 7-T, 8-T, 9-F, 10-T

**C. Fill Blanks:** 1-idiom, 2-piece of cake, 3-under the weather, 4-break the ice, 5-spill the beans

**D. Comprehension:**

1. An idiom is a group of words with a special meaning that is different from the single words.
2. You would feel sick or unwell.
3. It means to start a friendly conversation so people do not feel shy.

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