

Idioms and Proverbs · Level 2

Level 2 · On-grade: use context to find what each idiom means

5th Grade ELA



Name: _____

Date: _____

Example

Use the **context** — the words around the idiom — to figure out what it means.

“Jay was **hitting the books** all weekend before his science test.” → He was **studying hard**.

Circle the letter of the best meaning for the idiom in bold.

1. The spelling test was **a piece of cake**, so Leo finished early.
a) It was very easy. b) It was a dessert. c) It was very hard.
2. Grandpa only bakes his famous pie **once in a blue moon**.
a) every Monday b) very rarely c) when the moon is blue
3. Ava stayed home from the hayride because she felt **under the weather**.
a) She was outside in the rain. b) She was sick. c) She was cold.
4. Please don't **spill the beans** about the surprise party!
a) Don't drop the food. b) Don't tell the secret. c) Don't be late.
5. After a messy start to the week, Sam decided to **turn over a new leaf**.
a) rake the yard b) read a new page c) make a fresh start
6. Mia is a real **night owl**; she loves reading after dark.
a) a bird b) someone who stays up late c) someone who is afraid of the dark
7. When the new kids arrived, a quick game helped **break the ice**.
a) get everyone talking b) crack frozen water c) end the game
8. “**Hold your horses!**” said Dad. “We'll carve pumpkins after lunch.”
a) Grab the reins. b) Wait and be patient. c) Hurry up.

Safari Challenge

Proverbs are wise sayings. What does “**Look before you leap**” mean? When might you use it?



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Level 2

Answer Key · Level 2

For the grown-up

5th Grade ELA



1. **a)** It was very easy.
2. **b)** very rarely
3. **b)** She was sick.
4. **b)** Don't tell the secret.
5. **c)** make a fresh start
6. **b)** someone who stays up late
7. **a)** get everyone talking
8. **b)** Wait and be patient.

Safari Challenge: Think carefully before you act. Example: checking the trail map before hiking off the path.



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5th Grade ELA



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Level 2

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