

Idioms and Proverbs · Level 3

Level 3 · Challenge: proverbs, idiom vs. proverb, and writing with idioms

5th Grade ELA



Name: _____

Date: _____

Example

An **idiom** is a phrase with a hidden meaning (*on cloud nine* = very happy).

A **proverb** is a short, complete saying that gives advice or shares a truth (*Practice makes perfect.*).

Part A · Explain each proverb in your own words.

1. "The early bird catches the worm."

2. "Don't judge a book by its cover."

3. "Many hands make light work."

4. "Actions speak louder than words."

Part B · Idiom or proverb? Write I or P.

_____ Don't count your chickens before they hatch.

_____ on cloud nine

_____ hit the books

_____ Practice makes perfect.

_____ a piece of cake

_____ Better safe than sorry.

Part C · Write a sentence about fall or Halloween night that uses each idiom.

once in a blue moon

a night owl

Safari Challenge

Invent your own proverb about bats, pumpkins or the moon. What advice does it give?



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Level 3

Answer Key · Level 3

For the grown-up

5th Grade ELA



Part A (accept similar wording):

1. People who start early often get the best chance.
2. Don't decide what something or someone is like just from how it looks.
3. A job is easier when lots of people help.
4. What you do shows more than what you say.

Part B: Don't count your chickens before they hatch. = **P** · on cloud nine = **I** · hit the books = **I** · Practice makes perfect. = **P** · a piece of cake = **I** · Better safe than sorry. = **P**

Part C: answers will vary. The idiom should match its meaning: *once in a blue moon* = very rarely; *a night owl* = someone who stays up late.

Safari Challenge: answers will vary; look for a complete sentence that gives advice.



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5th Grade ELA



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Level 3

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