Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

This worksheet uses 25 of the idioms people really use in everyday English. If an idiom is new to you, guess from the sentence first - guessing from context is a real reading skill. The answer key is on the last page, so try everything before you look.

Section A - Match the idiom to its meaning

1. break the ice	a. to finally do something difficult you have been avoiding
2. a piece of cake	b. to tell a secret by accident
3. under the weather	c. feeling a little ill
4. hit the sack	d. to make people feel relaxed and friendly at the start
5. spill the beans	e. very easy
6. once in a blue moon	f. very rarely
7. cost an arm and a leg	g. to go to bed
8. let the cat out of the bag	h. to be very expensive
9. bite the bullet	i. to reveal a secret, usually by mistake
10. down to earth	j. practical and realistic, not proud

Section B - Fill the blank

Choose the best idiom for each sentence. One idiom is used in each sentence.

1. I stayed up studying all night, so now I am going to _____ and sleep until noon. (hit the sack)
2. Do not tell Sara about the surprise party, or you will _____. (spill the beans)
3. The maths test was _____ - every question came from our practice book. (a piece of cake)
4. He is rich and famous, but he is so _____ that he still helps in his father's shop. (down to earth)
5. I only see my cousins _____, because they live in another country. (once in a blue moon)
6. That sports car will _____; you could buy a house for the same money. (cost an arm and a leg)
7. The new teacher told a funny story on the first day to _____. (break the ice)
8. I felt _____ this morning, so I stayed home and rested. (under the weather)

Section C - Write your own sentences

Choose any three idioms from this page and write one true sentence about your own life with each one. Here are the 25 idioms from this worksheet to choose from:

break the ice - a piece of cake - under the weather - hit the sack - spill the beans - once in a blue moon - cost an arm and a leg - let the cat out of the bag - bite the bullet - down to earth - break a leg - hit the books - a blessing in disguise - the ball is in your court - out of the blue - in a nutshell - on cloud nine - go the extra mile - raining cats and dogs - miss the boat - time flies - pull someone's leg - sit on the fence - back to the drawing board - best of both worlds

1. Idiom: _____

Sentence: _____

_____

2. Idiom: _____

Sentence: _____

_____

3. Idiom: _____

Sentence: _____

_____

Answer key

Section A

- 1 - d (break the ice: make people relax and start talking)
- 2 - e

Section B

1. hit the sack
2. spill the beans
3. a piece of cake
4. down to earth
5. once in a blue moon
6. cost an arm and a leg
7. break the ice
8. under the weather

Section C

Your own sentences: there is no single right answer. A good sentence shows the meaning clearly. For example: 'I have a driving test tomorrow, so I need to hit the books tonight.' If your sentence could only work with that idiom in it, you have used it well.

Finished? Test yourself with the free Idiom Quiz and Idiom Finder tools at idiomsresolve.com/tools - and read the full lesson for any idiom you missed.