



Grade 5 English Vocabulary

Idioms

Idioms are expressions which have a meaning that is not obvious from the individual words. For example, the idiom *drive somebody round the bend* means make somebody angry or frustrated, but we cannot know this just by looking at the words.

Idioms describing health

Worksheet 1

In the following short passage, idioms describing health have been underlined. Write down these idioms and their meanings, choosing from the box given.

Mark had been feeling under the weather for weeks. One day he came to work looking like death warmed up and so we told him to go away for a few days to recharge his batteries. After one day beside the sea, he no longer felt off-colour and by the second day he knew he was on the road to recovery. He sent us a postcard and we were all glad to learn that he was on the mend. By the end of the week, he returned to work as fit as a fiddle. And he has been as right as rain ever since.

Felt unwell

Looking extremely ill

Getting better

Perfectly well

Getting better

Perfectly well

Do something to gain fresh energy and enthusiasm

Not very well



Answers

- Feeling under the weather – not very well
- Looking like death warmed up – looking extremely ill
- Recharge his batteries – do something to gain fresh energy and enthusiasm
- Felt off-colour – felt unwell
- On the road to recovery – getting better
- On the mend – getting better
- As fit as a fiddle – perfectly well
- As right as rain – perfectly well

Idioms based on medical images

Worksheet 2

Fill in the blanks in the sentences below with idioms based on medical images. You may choose idioms given in the box.

1. Try not to mention baldness while he is here: it is for him.
2. Refusing to lend him money now would give him : he never lent you any.
3. Losing my job was initially
4. The boss has by offering large extra payment.
5. I can't stay in one place for more than a year without

Have itchy feet

Sugar the pill

A bitter pill to swallow

Give someone a taste of their own medicine

A sore spot



1. Try not to mention baldness while he is here: it is a sore spot for him.
2. Refusing to lend him money now would give him a taste of his own medicine: he never lent you any.
3. Losing my job was initially a bitter pill to swallow.
4. The boss has sugared the overtime pill by offering large extra payment.
5. I can't stay in one place for more than a year without getting itchy feet.

Informal idioms for **mad**

- He is not all there
- She's got a screw loose.
- He's off his rocker.
- She is as nutty as a fruitcake.
- He's a basket case.

Informal idioms for **die**

- He's bitten the dust.
- She's given up the ghost.
- She's kicked the bucket.
- He's fallen off his perch.
- She's popped her clogs.