

PRACTICAL ENGLISH FOR PROFESSIONALS

LESSON 1 ANSWERS. IDIOMS

1. You shouldn't try to **burn the candle** at both ends; you'll exhaust yourself.
2. Once he started looking into the details, he realized what **a can of worms** he was opening.
3. It was a difficult decision, but he decided **to take the bull by the horns** and tell his boss that he wanted to leave the company.
4. Some insurance companies make their customers **pay through the nose** for their services.
5. He knew that what they were doing was wrong, but he **turned a blind eye** to it.
6. Many people like to get **off the beaten track** when they take a vacation.
7. If you're **pressed for time**, we can talk later.
8. I've been **feeling a bit under the weather** recently, but I'm feeling better now.
9. He's a rather boring person, but **once in a blue moon**, he'll come out with something really amazing.
10. I'm afraid your request is **out of the question**.
11. He gave us some information that was strictly **off the record**.
12. We don't want to **lose ground** in the baseball competition.
13. Let's have a party at the beginning of the year. It will help to **break the ice**.
14. Everybody should say exactly what they feel. That should **clear the air**.
15. It's very rude to **talk shop** when you're out with other people.
16. Don't let him stop you; **stand your ground** and tell him you won't change your mind.
17. I only just passed my exam. It was a very **close thing**.
18. What's happened? **Put me in the picture**.

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		Idiom no.
A.	To become less successful than the others.	12
B.	Busy, in a hurry.	7
C.	Somewhere quiet, where not a lot of people go.	6
D.	Something almost did or didn't happen.	17
E.	A difficult and complicated situation.	2
F.	To make people feel more friendly and willing to talk to each other.	13
G.	To let somebody know what has happened, usually when other people already know.	18
H.	Very rarely.	9
I.	To discuss your job with a co-worker, usually in a social situation where there are others present.	15
J.	To refuse to change your mind about something, even when people oppose you.	16
K.	To deal bravely or confidently with a difficult situation.	3
L.	To get up early in the morning and go to bed late at night on a regular basis.	1
M.	Unofficial, to be kept secret.	11
N.	Not possible, unacceptable.	10
O.	Slightly sick.	8
P.	To pay a lot of money.	4
Q.	To pretend not to notice, to ignore.	5
R.	To help end an argument or disagreement.	14