

9/4/22

Don't Be An Idiom

Estimated play time: Approximately 15 minutes

Number of players: Unlimited

Supplies needed: Scoring board/pad; noisemakers

Overview:

Overview: There are about 25,000 idioms in the English language. An idiom is a word or phrase that has a figurative meaning. For example, when we say "It's raining cats and dogs," we don't mean it literally; it's a phrase that by common usage we know means that it's raining very hard.

In this game, all the idioms end with the word DOWN.

Instructions:

1. This game can be played by individuals or in teams.
2. Read the first clue. Discussion is permitted among teammates. Prior to the start of the game, a method to signal when a player/team is ready to answer must be determined. Ringing bells and New Year's blowers are just two inexpensive noisemakers. Raised hands work, but the host must be vigilant to watch for whose hand went up first. The host always has the final say in any disputes.
3. After a player/team is recognized as the first to signal, they may give an answer. If the first answer is incorrect, the others may 'buzz' in and answer.
4. Keep score (10 points for each answer) after each question is answered correctly. Play until all questions have been asked and answered.

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QUESTIONS

1. To withdraw a claim or assertion in the face of opposition.
2. A mechanical failure; or, a sudden collapse in mental health.
3. A six-pointer in American football.
4. An especially warm filling for a comforter or duvet.
5. The NASA event just before "Blast off!"
6. A gesture that expresses dislike or disapproval.
7. A social gathering, often held in the US south or west, with country music and lively dancing.
8. To stay in place without going outside for a certain period of time, such as the duration of a hurricane or blizzard.
9. A reduction in the price of an item as part of a sale, or sometimes as an indication of damage.
10. A very dangerous event at a nuclear power plant.
11. An economic theory (now largely disproved) in which tax cuts and benefits to the wealthy supposedly filter through to the lower economic classes.
12. Slang expression meaning "Shut up!" or "Be quiet."
13. A brisk massage especially used to relax muscles that are tired from sports exertion.
14. A disappointment or discouragement.
15. Clothing passed from older sibling to younger.

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ANSWERS

1. Back down
2. Breakdown
3. Touchdown
4. Goose down or Eiderdown
5. Countdown
6. Thumbs down
7. Hoedown
8. Hunker down
9. Markdown
10. Meltdown
11. Trickle Down
12. Pipe down
13. Rub down
14. Let down
15. Hand-me-down