

## IDIOMS AND PHRASES

**Directions (1-100):** In the following question, out of the four alternatives, select the alternative which best expresses the meaning of the idiom/phrase.

### Q1. Zero tolerance

- (a) Accuracy is paramount
- (b) Non-acceptance of antisocial behaviour
- (c) No return without risk
- (d) No problem at all

### Q2. Variety is the spice of life

- (a) New experiences make life more interesting
- (b) Experimentation may be risky
- (c) Life is very beautiful
- (d) There is no life without excitement

### Q3. Scot-free

- (a) To escape from captivity
- (b) Be free of all responsibilities
- (c) To Get something unexpected
- (d) Without suffering any punishment or injury

### Q4. Tongue-in-cheek

- (a) In an **insincere** way
- (b) To **praise** wholeheartedly
- (c) A **sensational** news
- (d) To say something hurtful

### Q5. Wear your heart on your sleeve

- (a) a very bold person
- (b) a noble pure person
- (c) make one's feelings apparent
- (d) being overtly polite at all times

### Q6. When it rains, it pours

- (a) one getting much less than what one expected
- (b) calamity always occurs in bad times
- (c) you always fall into trouble when you are least prepared
- (d) When something bad occurs, it usually occurs more than once



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**Q7. Add fuel to the fire**

- (a) Go from one bad situation to another
- (b) A cause becomes stronger when more people join
- (c) The flame will extinguish if it runs out of oil
- (d) Cause a situation to become worse

**Q8. A slap on the wrist**

- (a) A mild punishment
- (b) Punishing the wrong person
- (c) To hit someone where it hurts the most
- (d) To threaten someone

**Q9. Actions speak louder than words**

- (a) Achievers are better than those who talk big
- (b) No action can compensate for saying bad words
- (c) A pen is mightier than a sword
- (d) What someone does mean more than what they say they will do

**Q10. A blessing in disguise**

- (a) A misfortune that eventually has good results
- (b) A person who has changed so much that he is now unrecognisable
- (c) A prayer asking for God's favour
- (d) A bad person hiding his face behind a mask

**Q11. Against the clock**

- (a) To do a job fast to finish it before a deadline
- (b) Time is money
- (c) Man is a victim of time
- (d) It is useless to fight destiny

**Q12. Scapegoat**

- (a) Animal sacrifice as an offering to God
- (b) The most useful animal or person
- (c) A lucky person who is forgiven for his crimes
- (d) A person who is blamed for the mistakes of others

**Q13. A dime a dozen**

- (a) Strength is in numbers
- (b) People who say bad things have no value
- (c) Very common and of no particular value
- (d) You save more if you buy in large numbers

**Q14. A drop in the bucket**

- (a) So much silence that even a drop can be heard
- (b) A very small amount compared with what is needed
- (c) The final act before the task is done
- (d) A small favour is worth a lot to a person in trouble

**Q15. Practice makes a man perfect**

- (a) Perfection demands patience
- (b) Any problem can be solved if you are willing to try many times
- (c) Regular activity is the way to become proficient in it
- (d) It takes a long time to form a good habit

**Q16. Pull the plug**

- (a) Make a firm refusal
- (b) Save a situation by acting in the nick of time
- (c) To waste away somebody's effort
- (d) Prevent something from continuing

**Q17. A hot potato**

- (a) A war like situation which could have been easily avoided.
- (b) A common eatery but favoured by celebrities
- (c) A controversial situation which is awkward to deal with.
- (d) A celebrity who keeps getting into some or the other controversy

**Q18. New kid on the block**

- (a) New rules which are bound to fail.
- (b) A junior
- (c) A new social trend.
- (d) A newcomer

**Q19. Water under the bridge**

- (a) To create solutions to overcome any problem
- (b) Past events are no longer important
- (c) Young days can never be brought back again
- (d) Time keeps flowing endlessly

**Q20. Wag the dog**

- (a) To divert attention from something of greater importance to something of lesser importance
- (b) To be nice to someone if you want that person's loyalty
- (c) To praise someone to get that person's love
- (d) A small favour to a person who loves you matters a lot to that person

**Q21. Tie the knot**

- (a) To put yourself into a problem
- (b) To make a fateful decision
- (c) To sign the deal
- (d) To get married

**Q22. The ball is in your court**

- (a) It is up to you to make the next move
- (b) You have got a fantastic opportunity
- (c) You will be blamed for crimes that you have not committed
- (d) You have been put into a dilemma.

**Q23. A piece of cake**

- (a) Everything tastes nice to a hungry person
- (b) Getting a smaller share than expected
- (c) It is difficult to forget tasty food
- (d) Something easily achieved

**Q24. A picture paints a thousand words**

- (a) An image of a subject conveys its meaning or essence more effectively than a description does
- (b) It is impossible to describe a beautiful sight
- (c) A painter can express his feelings better than a writer
- (d) A beautiful poem creates a mental picture

**Q25. To bite off more than one can chew**

- (a) To take on a commitment that one cannot fulfill
- (b) A task which has unexpectedly become very difficult
- (c) A greedy person will always suffer
- (d) To grab a share more than what is rightfully theirs

**Q26. To bite the bullet**

- (a) Hatred should be nipped in the bud
- (b) To do something difficult that one has been hesitating over
- (c) To punish someone who was later found to be not guilty
- (d) To prevent someone from getting killed

**Q27. Bed of roses**

- (a) What may look comfortable may have hidden thorns.
- (b) A situation or activity that is comfortable or easy
- (c) A warm welcome to loved one.
- (d) One needs to be extremely rich to live a luxurious life

**Q28. Back to the drawing board**

- (a) An idea has been unsuccessful and that a new one must be devised.
- (b) A person decides his own fate
- (c) All efforts can be wasted because of one mistake
- (d) One always returns to his roots in times of crisis

**Q29. To make a long story short**

- (a) A very long boring narrative
- (b) One should always communicate with fewer words wherever possible
- (c) Used to end an account of events quickly
- (d) When you want the complete details and not just the summary

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**Q30. To steal someone's thunder**

- (a) To share the secret of a person just before that person was supposed to receive praise
- (b) To defuse the ego of an egoistic person
- (c) To plagiarize work done by others
- (d) To do a job before another person can do it and take away the credit

**Q31. Rise and shine**

- (a) Work hard and succeed in life
- (b) An expression used when waking someone up
- (c) Try harder to overcome life's problems
- (d) Be of spotless character

**Q32. Raining cats and dogs**

- (a) It is raining unusually hard
- (b) To win a big lottery
- (c) To get wealth beyond what one deserves
- (d) To become filthy rich by honest means

**Q33. Run out of steam**

- (a) To lose impetus or enthusiasm
- (b) To work quickly like a machine
- (c) To give up easily
- (d) no more money to spend

**Q34. saved by the bell**

- (a) when time is in your favour
- (b) saved at the last moment
- (c) the bell rings at the most opportune time
- (d) prayers are answered when the church bell rings

**Q35. Smell a rat**

- (a) To sense that events will not be in one's favour
- (b) To begin to suspect trickery or deception
- (c) To be forewarned of danger to oneself
- (d) To prevent calamity by chance

**Q36. Sixth sense**

- (a) An intuitive power of perception
- (b) A strong power of sense
- (c) An ability to perceive when something will go wrong
- (d) The false feeling that you know the truth

**Q37. Rome was not built in a day**

- (a) It takes time to create great things
- (b) You have to win many wars to build an empire
- (b) A task done hurriedly fails completely
- (d) Building anything worth while requires skill

**Q38. Rule of thumb**

- (a) A rough unit of measure for small lengths
- (b) A broadly accurate guide based on practice
- (c) To force someone to work against his wish
- (d) To use your power to ensure discipline

**Q39. Turn a blind eye**

- (a) Not able to see the obvious truth
- (b) Hide the ugly truth from someone
- (c) Pretend not to notice
- (d) Stay away from bad habits

**Q40. Up a blind alley**

- (a) hiding something intentionally from another person
- (b) not warning a person who is in danger
- (c) one can enjoy thrills only if one takes risk
- (d) following a course of action that is certain to lead to an undesirable outcome

**Q41. Familiarity breeds contempt**

- (a) close association with someone leads to a loss of respect for them
- (b) if you do an undesirable thing daily then it becomes acceptable
- (c) too many people living closely will eventually cause bitterness
- (d) routine has to be broken to bring excitement to life

**Q42. Don't put all your eggs in one basket**

- (a) avoid risky ventures if you want to be successful in life
- (b) don't risk everything on the success of one venture
- (c) one should try multiple things, at least one will succeed
- (d) those who are blessed with more children are happier

**Q43. Through thick and thin**

- (a) To be together under all circumstances, no matter how difficult
- (b) None of the days are alike. Some are good and some are bad
- (c) To pass through various types of obstacles
- (d) An obese person suddenly losing weight

**Q44. Thumb one's nose**

- (a) an ill-mannered person
- (b) to show affection
- (c) to scold a naughty person
- (d) to express scorn

**Q45. Wild goose chase**

- (a) A hopeless search for something unattainable
- (b) An adventurous trip full of surprises
- (c) To waste a lot of time and effort for small returns
- (d) To have fun doing a certain task

**Q46. You bet**

- (a) Contradicting someone
- (b) Certainly
- (c) Gamble
- (d) Letting others lead

**Q47. To put the cat among the pigeons**

- (a) To hunt easy prey
- (b) To be different in a group where everybody is alike
- (c) To do something that is likely to cause controversy
- (d) When the entire group feels trapped in a bad situation

**Q48. to shoot the breeze**

- (a) To do random acts hoping one will be successful
- (b) To have a casual conversation
- (c) To release stomach gases
- (d) To brag about some mild achievement

**Q49. The best of both worlds**

- (a) To live like a saint so that you are the best in the living world as well as the heavens
- (b) To be lucky in life as well as in death
- (c) The benefits of widely differing situations, enjoyed at the same time
- (d) To be popular amongst both the opposing groups

**Q50. To take the cake**

- (a) To have something unexpectedly good to eat
- (b) To get a lovely gift
- (c) To throw the prize before others
- (d) To be especially good; outstanding

**Q51. Shooting fish in a barrel**

- (a) To do random acts of stupidity
- (b) To behave in a cruel manner
- (c) Ridiculously easy
- (d) To escape through a narrow opening

**Q52. To sleep with the fishes**

- (a) Always be in a dream world
- (b) To make absurd excuses
- (c) To sleep peacefully
- (d) To be dead

**Q53. Ignorance is bliss**

- (a) Lack of knowledge is a curse
- (b) Sometimes it is better for you if you do not know all the facts
- (c) Fools believe they know more than the wise
- (d) To be truly happy one should ignore everything else

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**Q54. Have a blast**

- (a) A party with very loud music
- (b) To have peace amidst noise
- (c) To have a lot of fun
- (d) An explosion of happiness

**Q55. There is no such thing as a free lunch.**

- (a) It isn't possible to get something for nothing
- (b) There is no genuine kindness in this world
- (c) Even a mother will expect something for her love
- (d) Those who are tempted by free things, end up spending more

**Q56. By the skin of one's teeth**

- (a) to hurt someone
- (b) Teeth show health of an animal or a person
- (c) Dental hygiene is critical for good health
- (d) A very narrow margin

**Q57. Crocodile tears**

- (a) To feel sad for another person's misfortunes
- (b) To laugh so much that your eyes start to water
- (c) A person whose sadness is never noticed
- (d) Expressions of sorrow that are insincere

**Q58. Chink in one's armour**

- (a) A spotless shield tells that the person has not yet fought any war
- (b) A small crack if not repaired will break the shield
- (c) An area of vulnerability
- (d) One's primary defence system against loss or injury

**Q59. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder**

- (a) The world is beautiful if one can see it that way
- (b) To see only beautiful things if one wants to make his life beautiful
- (c) That which one person finds beautiful or admirable may not appeal to another
- (d) For an infatuated person even bad qualities of the beloved appear good

**Q60. Necessity is the mother of invention**

- (a) solution to a problem is easy if one is sufficiently desperate
- (b) great inventions happen only if you are desperate
- (c) there is always a mother behind every great scientist who has invented something
- (d) when the need for something becomes essential, you are forced to find ways of getting it

**Q61. By the seat of one's pants**

- (a) When one is saved in the nick of time
- (b) Your future depends on what choices you make now
- (c) To do it using only one's own experience and judgment
- (d) Nothing worthwhile can be achieved if you sit in one place

**Q62. Discretion is the greater part of valour**

- (a) To be brave in any situation
- (b) Caution is preferable to rash bravery
- (c) A genuinely brave person is always humble
- (d) If you are over-cautious then you cannot achieve great things

**Q63. Too many cooks spoil the broth**

- (a) it is always better to do a job independently
- (b) asking many people for advice will cause confusion, and the decision will never be made
- (c) if too many people are involved in a task or activity, it will not be done well
- (d) food is always cooked better if one person cooks it

**Q64. Easy come, easy go**

- (a) if you forcibly tie up a person in a relationship that person will run away
- (b) no matter what, one should never lose temper
- (c) every task is easy for a talented person
- (d) something acquired without effort may be lost without regret

**Q65. To spill the beans**

- (a) To reveal secret information unintentionally
- (b) To lose inherited wealth
- (c) To spread rumours to intentionally harm someone
- (d) To spend away hard-earned savings

**Q66. To spin one's wheels**

- (a) to take a chance
- (b) to do a job quickly
- (c) to narrate someone a confusing story
- (d) to waste one's time

**Q67. No horse in this race**

- (a) A rigged contest
- (b) A very easily won contest where there are no strong contestants
- (c) To have no vested interest in the outcome of a contest
- (d) To have no chance of winning

**Q68. To be pushing up daisies**

- (a) To get up feeling fresh
- (b) To be dead and buried
- (c) To smell like flowers
- (d) Once beautiful but now ugly

**Q69. To jump ship**

- (a) Climbing the career ladder
- (b) To jump to grab an opportunity
- (c) To leave an organization
- (d) To renounce great wealth

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**Q70. To kick the bucket**

- (a) to get angry
- (b) to die
- (c) to fall ill
- (d) to get hurt

**Q71. X marks the spot**

- (a) A very popular place
- (b) Not to tell others of a fantastic discovery
- (c) The exact location
- (d) A secret hideout

**Q72. You can say that again**

- (a) To challenge someone
- (b) To express agreement
- (c) To politely ask someone to repeat
- (d) A favourite story

**Q73. The elephant in the room**

- (a) A very fat man
- (b) When a big person is finally trapped
- (c) An obvious problem that no one wants to discuss
- (d) One person who is strong enough to defeat everybody else

**Q74. to make from scratch**

- (a) The universe was created out of nothing
- (b) To do something from the beginning
- (c) To build something out of nothing
- (d) One scratch if neglected will destroy the structure eventually

**Q75. If you can't beat 'them, join 'them**

- (a) Many times those who fight eventually become best of friends
- (b) If one has to give up fighting with some group because one can't win, band together with them
- (c) Not to hurt others. Instead, be friends with them.
- (d) To fight till you get acceptance to a group which does not initially accept you as a member

**Q76. All good things must come to an end**

- (a) Even enjoyable experiences cannot last for ever
- (b) A good story should always have a happy ending
- (c) The world will be destroyed one day
- (d) Only bad things can continue forever. Life of good things feel short.

**Q77. barking up the wrong tree**

- (a) One should ignore those who keep harassing them
- (b) To say something wrong to a person who has always been kind to you
- (c) Scolding a thick-skinned person will cause no improvement
- (d) To be pursuing a misguided line of course of action

**Q78. Back to the drawing board**

- (a) To solve a problem one has to go back to the root cause
- (b) An inventive person will find fresh ways to solve a problem
- (c) An idea has been unsuccessful and that a new one must be devised
- (d) An artist is always happy if he gets a chance to go back to painting

**Q79. blood is thicker than water**

- (a) relations are more important than merit
- (b) all crimes are not equal so punishment for murder is not same as that of theft
- (c) family relationships and loyalties are the strongest and most important ones
- (d) deceit from a family member hurts more than being cheated by strangers

**Q80. once in a blue moon**

- (a) an imaginary situation
- (b) feeling sad
- (c) a beautiful sight
- (d) to happen very rarely

**Q81. A fool and his money are easily parted**

- (a) a foolish person spends money carelessly and will soon be penniless
- (b) a miser will eventually lose all his money due to one foolish mistake
- (c) a foolish person will never be able to get rich
- (d) a rich person should be smart enough to avoid people who will fool him for his wealth

**Q82. All bark and no bite**

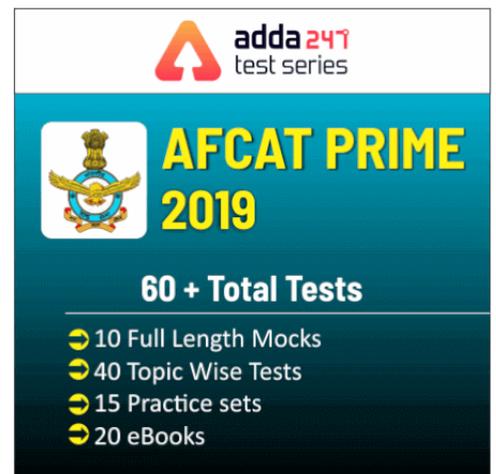
- (a) Children should only be scolded but never beaten
- (b) To be full of big talk but lacking action
- (c) The person who appears most scary will help you the most
- (d) A person who talks a lot will never harm you

**Q83. backseat driver**

- (a) A person who keeps giving advice to others for things that they are not responsible
- (b) The one who is sitting in the back seat behaves like a boss
- (c) The real power lies in the hands of those who control the strings
- (d) The puppet dances to the actions of the puppeteer

**Q84. Back to square one**

- (a) Remembering one's past makes one humble
- (b) To be back to where one started, with no progress having been made
- (c) To become friends once again with a person with whom you had a fight
- (d) To apologize for one's past actions



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**Q85. an arm and a leg**

- (a) a large, possibly exorbitant, amount of money
- (b) a highly motivated person can succeed even with few resources
- (c) one loves a person so much that one is willing to sacrifice his most precious things for them
- (d) all children are equal for a mother. She can't sacrifice anyone.

**Q86. an axe to grind**

- (a) preparing for a fight
- (b) to have a problem with something or someone
- (c) some important task to do
- (d) one's skill should always be practiced or their edge becomes blunt

**Q87. All in the same boat.**

- (a) staying together is the secret to successfully navigating the ups and downs of life
- (b) In a group, one's situation is tied up with the situation of the rest.
- (c) There is false sense of safety in a large group
- (d) To be in the same unpleasant situation as other people

**Q88. All Greek to me**

- (a) The new person in a group gets the most attention
- (b) Learning a new language is very difficult
- (c) Saying that one does not understand something that is said or written
- (d) Everything is new when one is in a new country

**Q89. to bend over backwards**

- (a) to accommodate every unreasonable request usually without getting anything back
- (b) stepping away from an unpleasant situation
- (c) to make every effort to achieve something, especially to be fair or helpful
- (d) submitting oneself completely to a higher authority

**Q90. The dilemma**

- (a) life is always choosing between two options
- (b) challenges are hidden opportunities
- (c) escaping one difficulty but falling into another
- (d) faced with two equally undesirable alternatives

**Q91. at the drop of a hat**

- (a) to challenge someone
- (b) to give up very easily
- (c) to pick a fight for small reasons
- (d) without hesitation or good reason

**Q92. apple of my eye**

- (a) every thing looks enticing to a hungry person
- (b) a very pleasant thing to watch
- (c) someone that one cherishes above all others
- (d) the ugliest child is still pretty for a mother

**Q93. No man is an island**

- (a) a man is self-sufficient only when he gets married
- (b) no one is self-sufficient; everyone relies on others
- (c) nobody prefers to live alone
- (d) to not marry is like living on an island

**Q94. The squeaky wheel gets the grease**

- (a) the most noticeable problems are the ones most likely to get attention
- (b) one unfortunate child always keep getting punished
- (c) the person who complains the most is hated the most
- (d) the favourite child or student gets the most attention

**Q95. To beat a dead horse**

- (a) To revive interest in a hopeless issue
- (b) A cruel master will expect a slave to work even after his death
- (c) To extract everything from a resource till it fails
- (d) Doing a cruel act

**Q96. beating around the bush**

- (a) Not accepting the real issue and solving minor problems
- (b) To avoid getting to the point of an issue
- (c) To run around in circles and never accomplishing results
- (d) Avoiding coming face to face with a problem, escaping

**Q97. to bite off more than you can chew**

- (a) to take on a commitment one cannot fulfil
- (b) to grab a share more than what one rightfully deserves
- (c) to hog more than what one needs
- (d) a greedy person can easily be identified from the way one eats

**Q98. to bite your tongue**

- (a) to cause self-inflicting harm
- (b) to make a desperate effort to avoid saying something
- (c) harsh words once spoken can never come back
- (d) to be astonished

**Q99. Two heads are better than one**

- (a) having a partner reduces risk in a business
- (b) to be lonely is a curse
- (c) it's helpful to have the advice of a second person
- (d) a married life is better than living as a bachelor

**Q100. Don't count your chickens before they hatch**

- (a) Not to live in a fancy imaginary world, where everything happens as per your wish
- (b) Counting your wealth repeatedly will not make it grow
- (c) One should be optimistic but be ready for failures
- (d) Not to be too sure that something good you hope for will really happen It might not happen after all.



  
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## Solutions

**S1. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. Zero tolerance** means absolutely no toleration of even the smallest infraction of a rule. Tolerance cannot be related with accuracy.

**S2. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. Variety is the spice of life** means new and exciting experiences make life more interesting.

**S3. Ans.(d)**

**Sol. Scot-free** means to escape punishment for a crime or wrongdoing; to be acquitted of charges for a crime.

**S4. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. Tongue-in-cheek** means Jocular or humorous, though seeming or appearing to be serious.

**S5. Ans.(c)**

**Sol. Wear your heart on your sleeve** means to display one's feelings openly and habitually, rather than keep them private.

**S6. Ans.(d)**

**Sol. When it rains, it pours** means something good or bad occurring multiple times within a short span of time.

**S7. Ans.(d)**

**Sol. Add fuel to the fire** means to do or say something to make an argument, problem, or bad situation worse; to further incense an already angry person or group of people.

**S8. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. A slap on the wrist** means a mild reprimand or punishment.

**S9. Ans.(d)**

**Sol. Actions speak louder than words** mean actions are more revealing of one's true character since it is easy to say things or make promises, but it takes effort to do things and follow through.

**S10. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. A blessing in disguise** means an unfortunate event or situation that results in an unforeseen positive outcome.

**S11. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. Against the clock** means in a very limited amount of time; with a shortage of time being the main problem.

**S12. Ans.(d)**

**Sol. Scapegoat** means to make someone take the blame for something.

**S13. Ans.(c)**

**S14. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** A drop in the bucket means a tiny amount, especially when compared to a much larger one.

**S15. Ans.(c)**

**Sol. Practice makes a man perfect** means Only by practicing or repeatedly doing something can one become proficient or skillful at it.

**S16. Ans.(d)**

**Sol. Pull the plug** means to remove, turn off, or discontinue someone's life-support system, resulting in their death.

**S17. Ans.(c)**

**Sol. A hot potato** means a sensitive situation or controversial issue that is difficult to handle and thus gets passed from one person to the next.

**S18. Ans.(d)**

**Sol. New kid on the block** means a newcomer to a particular place or sphere of activity.

**S19. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. Water under the bridge** means a prior issue that is now resolved or considered resolved.

**S20. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. Wag the dog** means to change the topic from something that is more important to something that is not.

**S21. Ans.(d)**

**Sol. Tie the knot** means to marry a mate.

**S22. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. The ball is in your court** means one needs to take some action to keep something going.

**S23. Ans.(d)**

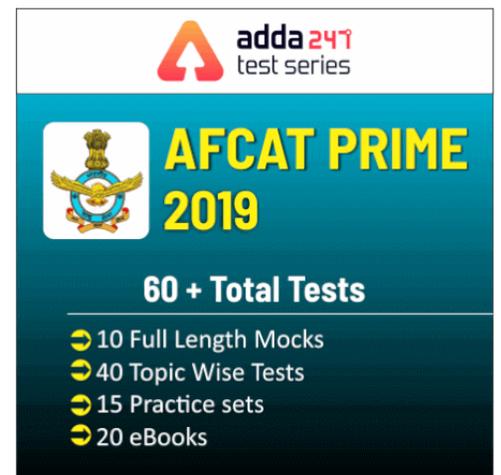
**Sol.** A piece of cake: something easily achieved.

**S24. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** A picture paints a thousand words: It refers to the notion that a complex idea can be conveyed with just a single still image or that an image of a subject conveys its meaning or essence more effectively than a description does.

**S25. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. To bite off more than one can chew** means to take (on) more than one can deal with; to be overconfident.



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**S26. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. To bite the bullet** means decide to do something difficult or unpleasant that one has been putting off or hesitating over.

**S27. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. Bed of roses** means an easy, comfortable situation.

**S28. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. Back to the drawing board** means used to indicate that an idea, scheme, or proposal has been unsuccessful and that a new one must be devised.

**S29. Ans.(c)**

**Sol. To make a long story short** : used to end an account of events quickly.

**S30. Ans.(d)**

**Sol. To steal someone's thunder** : win praise for oneself by pre-empting someone else's attempt to impress

**S31. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. Rise and shine:** Wake up and get out of bed promptly.

**S32. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. Raining cats and dogs:** something that we say when it is raining heavily

**S33. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. Run out of steam** means to lose one's energy or vitality for something.

**S34. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. Saved by the bell** means saved or spared from difficulty or misfortune by some intervention at the very last moment.

**S35. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. Smell a rat** suspect that means to is something wrong; to sense that someone has caused something wrong.

**S36. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. Sixth sense** means a supposed power to know or feel things that are not perceptible by the five senses of sight, hearing, smell, taste, and touch.

**S37. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. Rome was not built in a day:** Important work takes time

**S38. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. Rule of thumb:** a broadly accurate guide or principle, based on practice rather than theory.

**S39. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** turn a blind eye: pretend not to notice.

**S40. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Up a blind alley: you mean that someone is following a course of action that is certain to lead to an undesirable outcome.

**S41. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Familiarity breeds contempt: extensive knowledge of or close association with someone or something leads to a loss of respect for them or it.

**S42. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Don't put all your eggs in one basket: a piece of advice which means that one should not concentrate all efforts and resources in one area.

**S43. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Through thick and thin: under all circumstances, no matter how difficult.

**S44. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Thumb one's nose: a gesture of disrespect

**S45. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Wild goose chase: a foolish and hopeless search for or pursuit of something unattainable.

**S46. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** You bet: sure or certainty.

**S47. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** To put the cat among the pigeons: it is used to describe a disturbance caused by an undesirable person.

**S48. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** to shoot the breeze: to spend time talking about things that are not important.

**S49. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The best of both worlds: the benefits of widely differing situations, enjoyed at the same time.

**S50. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** to take the cake: Be the most outstanding in some respect

**S51. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Shoot ing fish in a barrel: Ridiculously easy

**S52. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** To sleep with the fishes: Killed and thrown in a river.

**S53. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Ignorance is bliss: if one is unaware of an unpleasant fact or situation one cannot be troubled by it.

**S54. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** have a blast: to have a lot of fun"

**S55. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** There is no such thing as a free lunch.: the idea that it is impossible to get something for nothing.

**S56. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** By the skin of one's teeth: narrowly' or 'barely.

**S57. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Crocodile tears: tears or expressions of sorrow that are insincere.

**S58. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Chink in one's armour: an area of vulnerability

**S59. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Beauty is in the eye of the beholder: that which one person finds beautiful or admirable may not appeal to another.

**S60. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Necessity is the mother of invention: when the need for something becomes essential, you are forced to find ways of getting it

**S61. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** By the seat of one's pants: Decide a course of action as you go along by your skill or judgement.

**S62. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** discretion is the greater part of valour: Caution is preferable to rash bravery.

**S63. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Too many cooks spoil the broth: if too many people are involved in a task or activity, it will not be done well.

**S64. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** easy come, easy go: said when something, especially money, is easily got and then soon spent or lost.

**S65. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** To spill the beans: to reveal secret information unintentionally or indiscreetly.

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**S66. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** To spin one's wheels: waste one's time or efforts.

**S67. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** No horse in this race: no vested interest in the outcome of a contest or debate.

**S68. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** To be pushing up daisies: dead and buried.

**S69. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** To jump ship: a sailor leave the ship on which one is serving without having obtained permission to do so.

**S70. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** To kick the bucket: to die

**S71. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** X marks the spot means the exact spot. (Sometimes the speaker will draw an X in the spot while saying this.)

**S72. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** You can say that again means to express strong agreement with what someone has just said.

**S73. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The elephant in the room means a major problem or controversial issue which is obviously present but is avoided as a subject for discussion.

**S74. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** to make from scratch means from the very beginning, from the outset; from nothing.

**S75. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** If you can't beat 'them, join 'them means if you have to give up fighting some group because you can't win, band together with them.

**S76. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** All good things must come to an end means everything that one is fond of comes to an end, eventually

**S77. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** barking up the wrong tree means to attempt or pursue a futile course of action, often by making some kind of suggestion or request.

**S78. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Back to the drawing board means used to indicate that an idea, scheme, or proposal has been unsuccessful and that a new one must be devised.

**S79. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** **Blood is thicker than water** means family relationships and loyalties are the strongest and most important ones

**S80. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** **once in a blue moon** means very rarely.

**S81. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** A fool and his money are easily parted: a foolish person spends money carelessly and will soon be penniless.

**S82. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** All bark and no bite: threatening, aggressive, but not willing to engage in a fight;

**S83. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** backseat driver: a person who interferes in affairs without having knowledge, responsibility, or authority for doing so.

**S84. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Back to square one: back to where one started, with no progress having been made.

**S85. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** an arm and a leg: If you say that something costs an arm and a leg, you mean that it is very expensive.

**S86. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** an axe to grind: To have a complaint or dispute that one feels compelled to discuss.

**S87. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** All in the same boat: in the same situation; having the same problem

**S88. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** All Greek to me: expressing that something is not understandable.

**S89. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** to bend over backwards: to work very hard to accomplish something for someone.

**S90. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** the dilemma: faced with two equally undesirable alternatives

**S91. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** at the drop of a hat: without hesitation or good reason.

**S92. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** apple of my eye: to something or someone that one cherishes above all others.

**S93. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** "No man is an island" means to require help from other every now and then because of one's limitations

**S94. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** The squeaky wheel gets the grease: the most noticeable (or loudest) problems are the ones most likely to get attention.

**S95. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** To beat a dead horse: to continue a particular endeavour is a waste of time as the outcome is already decided.

**S96. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** beating around the bush: to avoid talking about what is important.

**S97. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** to bite off more than you can chew: to try to do something that is too difficult for you.

**S98. Ans.(b)**

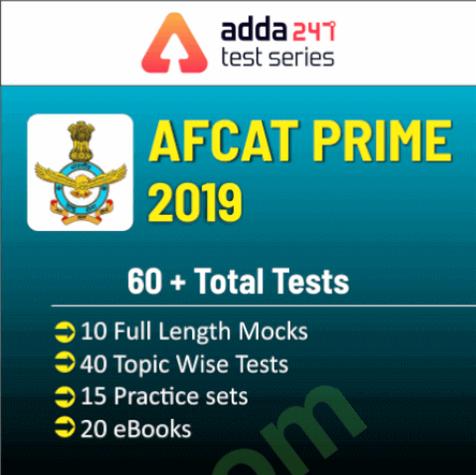
**Sol.** to bite your tongue: to stop yourself from saying something that you would really like to say

**S99. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Two heads are better than one: it's helpful to have the advice or opinion of a second person.

**S100. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Don't count your chickens before they hatch: you should not make plans that depend on something good happening before you know that it has actually happened.



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