BBC Learning English Quiznet English idioms

BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

- **1.** He can't hear anything. He's as deaf as a _____.
- a) stone
- b) tree
- c) snake
- d) post
- 2. Usually my daughter is very naughty at school but this week the teachers say she's been as good as ______.
- a) an angel
- b) gold
- c) a saint
- d) a diamond
- **3.** My grandfather had a heart attack five years ago but he gave up smoking and started exercising and now he's as fit as _____.
- a) a fiddle
- b) an athlete
- c) an ox
- d) a fire-fighter
- **4.** Investing in the stock market is risky but if you put your money in a high interest account it's as safe as _____.
- a) your hands
- b) a church
- c) hospitals
- d) houses

5. I'm driving so I won't have any alcohol. I'll be as sober as a ______ all night.

- a) lord
- b) judge
- c) police officer
- d) politician
- 6. He's very kind and good-looking but he's as thick as _____. I can't marry someone so stupid!
- a) a brick
- b) a piece of wood
- c) two short planks
- d) pea soup

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ANSWERS:

- 1. He can't hear anything. He's as deaf as a _____
- a) stone 'Stone' doesn't complete the idiom.
- b) tree 'Tree' doesn't complete the idiom.
- c) snake 'Snake' doesn't complete the idiom.

d) post - This is the correct answer. 'A post' is an upright piece of wood in a fence.

- 2. Usually my daughter's very naughty at school but this week the teachers say she's been as good as _____.
- a) an angel Although you can describe a well-behaved child as 'an angel', you can't use 'an angel' to complete this.
- b) gold This is the correct answer.
- c) a saint Although you can describe a good person as 'a saint', you can't use 'a saint' to complete this idiom.
- d) a diamond You can't use 'a diamond' to complete the idiom.
- **3.** My grandfather had a heart attack five years ago but he gave up smoking and started exercising and now he's as fit as _____.
- a) a fiddle This is the correct answer. The idiom means very healthy. 'Fiddle' is another word for violin but the origin of the idiom is probably just because 'fit' and 'fiddle' both start with the letter 'f'.
- b) an athlete 'An athlete' doesn't complete the idiom.
- c) an ox 'An ox' doesn't complete the idiom but you can say someone is 'as strong as an ox'.
- d) a fire-fighter 'A fire-fighter' doesn't complete the idiom.

4. Investing in the stock market is risky but if you put your money in a high interest account it's as safe as _____.

- a) your hands 'Your hands' doesn't complete the idiom.
- b) a church 'A church' doesn't complete the idiom.
- c) hospitals 'Hospitals' doesn't complete the idiom.
- d) houses This is the correct answer. This idiom can be used to talk about your physical safety or a safe financial investment.
- 5. I'm driving so I won't have any alcohol. I'll be as sober as a ______ all night.
- a) lord Although there is an idiom 'as drunk as a lord' to describe someone who has drunk too much alcohol, we don't use 'lord' in an idiom about being sober.

b) judge - This is the correct answer.

- c) police officer 'Police officer' doesn't complete the idiom.
- d) politician 'Politician' doesn't complete the idiom.
- 6. He's very kind and good-looking but he's as thick as _____. I can't marry someone so stupid!
- a) a brick 'Brick' doesn't complete the idiom.
- b) a piece of wood 'Piece of wood' does not complete the idiom.
- c) two short planks This is the correct answer. A 'plank' is usually a long, thin piece of wood. The idiom 'as thick as two short planks' means someone who is very unintelligent.
- d) pea soup 'Pea soup' does not complete the idiom about being stupid but you can describe a very thick fog with 'as thick as pea soup'.

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