



Introduction to Idioms

Welcome to this interactive worksheet on identifying and interpreting idioms in different cultural contexts! This activity is designed for 14-year-old students to develop their language skills, cultural awareness, and critical thinking.

Idioms are phrases or expressions that have a figurative meaning that is different from the literal meaning of the individual words. They are often used in informal language and can be culturally specific.

What is an idiom? _____

Provide an example of an idiom and its meaning: _____

Can you think of an idiom from your own culture? Share it with a partner or the class!

Idiom Matching

Match the idioms with their meanings:

Idiom	Meaning
"Break a leg"	_____
"Bend over backwards"	_____
"Cost an arm and a leg"	_____
"Beat around the bush"	_____
"Take it with a grain of salt"	_____

Idiom Sorting

Sort the following idioms into categories (e.g., food, emotions, actions):

1. "Butter someone up" _____

2. "Feel under the weather" _____

3. "Break a sweat" _____

4. "Bite off more than you can chew" _____

5. "Cut to the chase" _____

Idiom Charades

Act out the following idioms without speaking:

1. "Pull out all the stops" _____

2. "Give someone the cold shoulder" _____

3. "Take a rain check" _____

4. "In a nutshell" _____

5. "On the same page" _____

Idiom Discussions

Discuss the following questions with a partner or in a small group:

1. What is the cultural significance of the idiom "break a leg"?

2. How does the idiom "bend over backwards" relate to customer service?

3. Can you think of a situation where the idiom "cost an arm and a leg" would be appropriate?

Idiom Creation

Create your own idiom and provide a definition and example sentence:

Idiom: _____

Definition: _____

Example sentence: _____

Idiom Analysis

Analyze the following idioms and answer the questions:

1. "Tomber dans les pommes" (French)

What does it mean? _____

In what cultural context is it commonly used? _____

2. "Dar un giro al mundo" (Spanish)

What does it mean? _____

How does it relate to travel or exploration? _____

Idiom Storytelling

Write a short story (less than 100 words) that incorporates at least three idioms:

Idiom Reflection

Reflect on what you have learned about idioms in different cultural contexts:

1. What did you find most interesting or surprising?

2. How can you apply your knowledge of idioms in your daily life?

3. What challenges do you think you might face when using idioms in different cultural contexts?

Idiom Quiz

Test your knowledge of idioms with the following questions:

1. What does the idiom "kick the bucket" mean? _____

2. Which culture is the idiom "give someone the cold shoulder" from?

3. Can you think of an idiom that means "to be very happy" and provide an example sentence?

Assessment Rubric

Participation and engagement (20 points)
Idiom matching and sorting (20 points)
Idiom creation and analysis (20 points)
Idiom storytelling and reflection (20 points)
Idiom quiz (20 points)

Extension Activity

Create a visual project (e.g., poster, infographic, or comic strip) that illustrates the meaning and cultural significance of a selected idiom. Share your project with the class and discuss the following questions:

1. What idiom did you choose and why? _____

2. How does your project represent the idiom's meaning and cultural significance?

3. What did you learn about idioms in different cultural contexts through this activity?
