ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

More Speak English Like an American Lesson 8 Idioms and Expressions MCQ Test

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1	C	2	A	3	B	4	A	5	B	6	B	7	B	8	C	9	B	10	A

Explanations

1. **Choose the most appropriate response to each sentence:**

Is it time to hit the hay?
✓ **C) Yes, let's go to sleep.**
Hit the hay means to go to bed or go to sleep. So **Yes, let's go to sleep** is the natural reply. The other two answers say it is too early or that the speaker isn't tired, so they don't fit **Yes**.

2. You want Don's phone number? Sorry, I can't remember it off the top of my head.
✓ **A) Can you look it up and give it to me later?**
Off the top of my head means from memory, without checking anything. The speaker can't remember the number now, so the right reply asks them to **look it up** and give it later. Not **Can you give it to me right now?**, because the speaker has just said they can't.

3. Every time we go out, Ray drinks like a fish!
✓ **B) Maybe he's an alcoholic.**
To **drink like a fish** means to drink a lot of alcohol, often too much. So the reply that fits is **Maybe he's an alcoholic**. The idiom is not about water or thirst, and it has nothing to do with swimming.

4. Your name rings a bell.
✓ **A) Yes, I think we've met before.**
If something **rings a bell**, it sounds familiar, as if you have heard it before. So the natural reply is **Yes, I think we've met before**. The other replies don't match: one repeats the idiom about the wrong person, and the other contradicts **Yes**.

5. Am I going to get to see the doctor today or are you going to keep giving me the runaround?
✓ **B) Please be patient. The doctor will see you soon.**
To **give someone the runaround** means to keep delaying them or giving them excuses instead of a clear answer. The patient is annoyed about waiting, so the right reply is **Please be patient. The doctor will see you soon.** The idiom has nothing to do with really running around.

6. You look like you've had one too many.
✓ **B) Yes, I've had several drinks.**
To have had one too many means to have drunk too much alcohol, so you look a little drunk. The matching reply is **Yes, I've had several drinks**. Not **I've had one drink**, because the idiom means more than one drink, not just one.

7. You and I have a lot to catch up on.
✓ **B) Yes, I have a lot of news for you.**
To **catch up on** things means to share news after not talking for some time. So **Yes, I have a lot of news for you** fits. The other replies say there is little to talk about, so they don't fit **a lot to catch up on**.

8. Thanks for the job offer. I need to mull it over.
✓ **C) Okay, let me know tomorrow.**
To **mull something over** means to think about it carefully before deciding. The person hasn't decided yet, so the right reply is **Okay, let me know tomorrow**. Not **what's your answer?**, because they need time to think first.

9. Are you coming out with us tonight, or are you going to be a party pooper?
✓ **B) I'm going to be a party pooper and stay home tonight.**
A **party pooper** is someone who doesn't join in the fun or refuses to go out. So being a party pooper means you **stay home tonight**. Not **See you tonight**, because a party pooper won't come out with the others.

10. You're eating like a bird tonight.
✓ **A) I had a very big lunch.**
To **eat like a bird** means to eat very little. A good reason for eating very little is **I had a very big lunch**. The other replies say the speaker is very hungry, which is the opposite of the idiom.