ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Speak English Like an American Lesson 10 Idioms and Expressions MCQ Test

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

Explanations

1. ***Imagine that you are Bob and that you're meeting with Carol from the Village Market to sell her your cookies. Choose the most appropriate replies to Carol's questions and statements:***

Carol: "I'm glad I was able to make time to see you today."
Bob's reply:
✔ C) "Yes, thanks for fitting me into your busy schedule."
To **make time** for someone means to find time in a busy day to see them. A polite reply thanks Carol for fitting Bob into her busy day: **Yes, thanks for fitting me into your busy schedule.** Not **It must be nice to have so much free time**, because Carol is busy, not free, and that reply sounds rude.

2. *Carol:* "What's up?"
Bob's reply:
✔ B) "I'd like to discuss a business deal with you."
What's up? is an informal way to ask "What's happening?" or "What do you want to talk about?" Bob answers by saying why he came: to discuss a business deal. Not **Fine, thank you**, because that answers "How are you?", not "What's up?"

3. *Carol:* "These cookies are out of this world. What do you think?"
Bob's reply:
✔ A) "I agree. They're delicious!"
Out of this world means wonderful or excellent, so Carol thinks the cookies are delicious. Bob agrees: **They're delicious!** It has nothing to do with where the cookies are.

4. *Carol:* "Did your wife make these from scratch?"
Bob's reply:
✔ B) "Yes, she did. She loves to bake."
To make something **from scratch** means to make it from the basic ingredients, not from a ready-made mix or frozen dough. Bob says yes, his wife baked them herself. Not the option with flour, eggs and sugar, because those ingredients actually mean she **did** make them from scratch, so **No** is wrong.

5. *Carol:* "I ate seven cookies. Do you think I've made a pig of myself?"
Bob's reply:
✔ A) "Not at all. These cookies are hard to resist!"
To **make a pig of yourself** means to eat too much. A polite reply tells Carol not to worry, because the cookies are **hard to resist**. The other replies take the word "pig" literally and would be rude.

6. *Carol:* "I think my customers will go nuts over these cookies."
Bob's reply:
✔ A) "I agree. After all, they're very good!"
To **go nuts over** something means to like it very much and get excited about it. Bob agrees that customers will love the cookies. Not the reply about putting nuts in the cookies, because **nuts** here does not mean the food.

7. *Carol:* "I don't want to jump the gun by discussing details now."
Bob's reply:
✔ A) "I understand. Take some time to think about it."
To **jump the gun** means to do something too early, before the right time. Carol wants to wait before talking about details, so Bob tells her to **take some time to think about it**. Not **I'd love an answer right now**, because that ignores her wish to wait.

8. *Carol:* "Bob, I'm not ready to give you a ballpark figure yet."
Bob's reply:
✔ C) "Okay, I can wait until tomorrow."
A **ballpark figure** is a rough estimate of a number, such as a price. Carol is not ready to give one yet, so Bob patiently says he can wait. The reply about selling cookies in a ballpark takes the word literally, and offering a price ignores that Carol needs more time.

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