

Idioms and phrases exercise

Each sentence given below contains an idiom/phrase. From the given alternatives, choose the one that best expresses the meaning of this idiom/phrase.

1. He has the gift of the gab.

He is gifted

He is a chatterbox

He is a good conversationalist

2. Parental property has become a bone of contention between the siblings.

unifying factor

cause of quarrel

cause of rivalry

3. Once in a blue moon, we meet each other.

Frequently

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Sometimes

Very seldom indeed

4. He has been jobless for several months, and it is his wife who keeps the pot boiling.

Keeps the fire burning

Avoids starvation

Keeps firing

Gets angry

5. In the end he had to eat the humble pie.

apologize humbly

defend himself vigorously

adopt an aggressive attitude

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6. To be a good orator, you don't have to play to the galleries.

make a fool of yourself

offend the audience

appeal to the lower taste

appease select audience

7. The officer took him to task.

Praised him

Reprimanded him severely

Dismissed him

Promoted him

Answers

1. c) He is a good conversationalist.

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2. b) something that causes a quarrel
3. c) very seldom indeed
4. a) avoids starvation
5. a) apologize humbly
6. d) to appeal to the lower taste
7. a) rebuked him