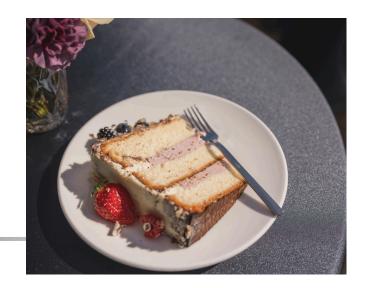


# **Idioms: Food**

Intermediate (B1-B2)



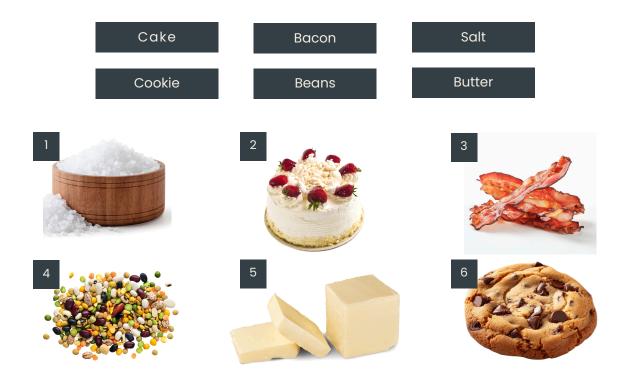
### **WARM-UP DISCUSSION**

#### Discuss the following questions.

- 1. Can you think of any English idioms that include food? What do they mean?
- 2. Does your own language have any food-related idioms? Share one and explain its meaning.

#### **PICTURE MATCHING**

### Match the food from the box to the correct images.



## **IDIOM COMPLETION & SENTENCE MATCHING**

# Part 1. Complete the idioms using the words from the box.

	Cake	Bacon	Salt
	Cookie	Beans	Butter
·			

1.Spill the				
2.A piece of				
3.Take something with a pinch of				
4 someone up.				
5.Be a tough				
6.Bring home the				



#### Part 2. Match the sentence (1-6) with the correct response (A-F).

- 1. How was your driving test?
- 2. Did you read that report about miracle weight-loss pills?
- 3. Don't tell anyone, but Sarah's getting promoted.
- 4. Who pays the bills in your family?
- 5. The boss seemed very happy with you today.
- 6. After everything she's been through, she's still smiling.
- A. Honestly, it was a piece of cake.
- B. Oops... I think I just **spilt the beans** to Mark.
- C. My mum brings home the bacon.
- D. I'd take it with a pinch of salt.
- E. Well, I **buttered him up** before the meeting.
- F. She's a real tough cookie.

#### **DEFINITION MATCHING**

### Match each idiom to its correct definition. Can you guess any before looking at the options?

Bring home the bacon

Be a tough cookie

A piece of cake

Spill the beans

Take something with a pinch of salt

Butter someone up

1	_ To reveal a secret unintentionally
2	_ To earn the money needed to support oneself
3	_ To flatter someone to gain their favour
4	_ To treat information sceptically
5	_ To be very resilient and strong
6	_ To be very easy to do



#### SENTENCE GAP-FILL

Use the correct form of the idiom in brackets to complete each sentence.

1.Yesterday's test _	(be a piece of cake).
2.1	(spill the beans) by mistake last week.
3.She	(bring home the bacon) since she started her new role.
4.We	(take something with a pinch of salt) ever since we heard the
rumours.	
5.He	(butter up) his boss yesterday to secure a raise.
6. Through all the se	backs, she (be a tough cookie).
SENTENCE TRAN	FORMATION

#### Rewrite the following sentences using the target idioms so that the meaning stays the same.

- 1. He accidentally revealed the secret plan.
- 2. The exam was very easy for her.
- 3. You should view that claim sceptically.
- 4. He complimented the director to get a promotion.
- 5. Despite the criticism, he remained unbothered.
- 6. She has to earn money to support her family.

#### **SPEAKING**

#### Answer each question using the target idiom.

- 1. Describe a task that was a piece of cake for you.
- 2. When have you accidentally spilt the beans?
- 3. Who brings home the bacon in your family, and how?
- 4. Which news sources do you take with a pinch of salt, and why?
- 5. Have you ever had to **butter someone up?** What did you say?
- 6. Talk about someone you consider a tough cookie.

## **SCENARIOS**

Bring home the bacon

# Read each scenario below, then apply an idiom to the scenario.

Spill the beans	Take something with a pinch of salt	Butter someone up			
1	: Ben works l	ong hours in a busy office,			
constantly competing with	h his colleagues for promotions. D	espite the stress, he feels like			
he's just another face in th	ne crowd, struggling to climb the co	rporate ladder. He rarely finds			
time for himself and wond	ers if it's worth it.				
2	: John helps	his family run a farm. Every			
morning, he lifts heavy e	quipment and carries loads of ha	y, always staying strong and			
steady. His strength is well-known in the village, and he can be counted on to get the					
toughest tasks done witho	ut breaking a sweat.				
3	: Jenny wante	ed a pay rise, so she kept			
complimenting her boss's	ideas during meetings and offering	to make coffee for him every			
morning.					
4	: Jane read a	n article online claiming that			
eating only cabbage soup	o for a week would make her lose 1	0 kilos. She told her colleague			
about it, but added that sh	ne doesn't really believe such extren	ne promises.			
5	: Tom studied h	nard for his driving test. On the			
day, the questions felt eas	y, and he finished early with almost	no mistakes.			
6	: Sarah told	her best friend she had a			
surprise birthday party pla	anned for Emma. The next day, she	e accidentally mentioned it to			
Emma in conversation. Emma immediately knew the secret.					

Be a tough cookie

A piece of cake

