

Idioms and proverbs

Key

1.

1. Snowed under	e. Overworked; exceptionally busy
2. Like turkeys voting for (an early) Christmas	d. Accept a situation which will have very bad results
3. Cancel someone's Christmas	f. Kill someone (slang)
4. Pure as driven snow	c. To be morally completely good
5. Tough cookie	i. A person difficult to deal with
6. Like taking candy from a baby	a. Very easy
7. Be like a kid in a candy store	h. Be very excited about something
8. Be in the pudding club	b. Be pregnant (UK, old fashioned)
9. To be a walking Christmas tree	g. To be wearing an excessive amount of decoration.
10. The proof of the pudding is in the eating.	j. You don't know the quality of something until you have tried it or experienced it.

2.

What do the following proverbs mean?

<http://idioms.thefreedictionary.com> / <http://www.wordsense.eu>

1. Christmas comes but once a year

Prov. Since Christmas only happens once a year, we should treat it as a special time by being good to others or by indulging children. *Christmas comes but once a year, so we urge you to give to those less fortunate through this Christmas charity campaign.*

2. Count your blessings

to think about the good things in your life, often to stop yourself becoming too unhappy about the bad things *School children today should count their blessings. At least they're not beaten for talking in class as we were.*

3. Eat drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die

Prov. Enjoy yourself whenever you can, because you may die soon. ("Eat, drink, and be merry" by itself is simply a way of encouraging people to enjoy themselves.) *Fred: No cake for me, thank you.*

I'm on a diet. Jane: But, Fred, this is a birthday party. Eat, drink, and be merry. Natasha encouraged all her guests to eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die.

4. You cannot have your cake and eat it (too)

Prov. You cannot enjoy two desirable things at the same time. Jill: There's an apartment across the street from me, much bigger and prettier than mine, and it even costs less. I'd really like to rent it—but I don't want to go to the trouble of moving. Jane: You can't have your cake and eat it too. Fred: I want to lose weight, but I'm not willing to change the way I eat. Alan: You can't have your cake and eat it.

5. Better to light a candle than to curse the darkness

In the face of bad times or hopelessness, it is more worthwhile to do some good, however small, in response than to complain about the situation.

6. Enough is enough

Prov. One should be satisfied, there should be no more

Prov. That is enough, and there should be no more.; Stop! Stop asking for money! Enough is enough! I've heard all the complaining from you that I can take. Enough is enough!

7. It is better to give than to receive

Prov. It is more virtuous to give things than to get them. (Biblical.) Susan told her children, "Instead of thinking so much about what you want for your birthday, think about what to give your brothers and sisters for their birthdays. Remember, it is better to give than to receive." Our charity encourages you to share the good things you have. It is more blessed to give than to receive.