Idioms describing people

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

PRE-INTERMEDIATE | A2-B1

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

1 Match each idiom with its meaning.

1 a heart of gold	____	a a person who thinks they know everything
2 as good as gold	____	b a very kind and generous person
3 a pain in the neck	____	c the student with the best marks
4 teacher's pet	____	d someone who is very annoying
5 a know-all	____	e a very well-behaved child
6 a big-head	____	f the teacher's favourite student
7 a lazy-bones	____	g someone who thinks they are very important
8 top of the class	____	h a very lazy person

2 Complete the idioms with words from the box.

class | gold | head | know | lazy | neck | nerves | pet

1 a heart of _____

2 a pain in the _____

3 teacher's _____

4 a _____-all

5 a big-_____

6 a _____-bones

7 top of the _____

8 get on someone's _____

3 Choose the best idiom for each person.

1 Mila always helps neighbours and shares what she has. She *has a heart of gold / is a big-head*.

2 Tim tells everyone he knows every answer. He is *a know-all / top of the class*.

3 Lara never wants to get off the sofa. She is *a lazy-bones / teacher's pet*.

4 The baby was quiet and friendly all afternoon. He was *as good as gold / a pain in the neck*.

5 Rok talks about how brilliant he is. He is *a big-head / a heart of gold*.

6 This buzzing sound is really annoying me. It *gets on my nerves / is top of the class*.

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4 Match each situation with the best response.

1 Ella is the teacher's favourite.	____	a He is a lazy-bones.
2 Kim got the highest marks.	____	b She has a heart of gold.
3 Max irritates everybody.	____	c He is a know-all.
4 Pia is kind and generous.	____	d She is the teacher's pet.
5 Dan refuses to do any work.	____	e He gets on everyone's nerves.
6 Ali thinks he knows everything.	____	f She is top of the class.

5 Read the text. Write T (true) or F (false).

A lively class

Our class has many different characters. Nika is top of the class, but she is not a know-all; she quietly helps anyone who asks. Luka is the teacher's pet because he always volunteers to clean the board. Emi has a heart of gold and collects food for a local charity. Jure can be a pain in the neck when he taps his pen all lesson, while Nejc is a lazy-bones who tries to avoid group work. We tease one another, but we try not to use idioms in a cruel way.

1 Nika gets the best marks. T / F

2 Nika tells everyone that she knows everything. T / F

3 Luka often helps the teacher. T / F

4 Emi does something generous. T / F

5 Jure's pen tapping is annoying. T / F

6 The class wants idioms to hurt people. T / F

6 Replace the description with an idiom.

1 a very kind person: _____

2 a very lazy person: _____

3 an annoying person: _____

4 the student with the best marks: _____

OVER TO YOU

Write a **70-90 word** class or family profile using at least four idioms. Explain the behaviour behind each idiom and keep the tone friendly.

[ ] Use idioms in complete sentences. [ ] Give clear examples. [ ] Avoid using labels to insult anyone.

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ANSWER KEY

1 Idioms and meanings

1 **b** 2 **e** 3 **d** 4 **f** 5 **a** 6 **g** 7 **h** 8 **c**

2 Complete the idioms

1 **gold** 2 **neck** 3 **pet** 4 **know** 5 **head** 6 **lazy** 7 **class** 8 **nerves**

3 Choose the best idiom

1 **has a heart of gold** 2 **a know-all** 3 **a lazy-bones** 4 **as good as gold** 5 **a big-head** 6 **gets on my nerves**

4 Situations

1 **d** 2 **f** 3 **e** 4 **b** 5 **a** 6 **c**

5 Reading

1 **T**
2 **F** - Nika quietly helps others.
3 **T**
4 **T**
5 **T**
6 **F** - They try not to use idioms cruelly.

6 Replace the description

1 **a person with a heart of gold** 2 **a lazy-bones** 3 **a pain in the neck** 4 **top of the class**

Over to you: Answers will vary. Check complete idioms, clear examples and a considerate tone.