Idioms for everyday situations and feelings

VOCABULARY PRACTICE
PRE-INTERMEDIATE | A2-B1

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Match each idiom with its meaning.

1 under the weather ____	**a** extremely happy
2 piece of cake ____	**b** very expensive
3 break the ice ____	**c** to study hard
4 on cloud nine ____	**d** feeling unwell
5 cost an arm and a leg ____	**e** very easy
6 hit the books ____	**f** to feel sad
7 feel blue ____	**g** to make people feel comfortable
8 over the moon ____	**h** extremely pleased

2 Choose the correct idiom.

1 She felt under the weather / over the moon today.

2 The test was a piece of cake / a piece of pie.

3 He tried to break the ice / break the glass at the party.

4 She was on cloud nine / on the roof after the good news.

5 The trip cost an arm and a leg / a hand and foot.

6 He needs to hit the books / hit the road before the exam.

7 She felt blue / felt green after the sad film.

8 They were over the moon / under the sun about the results.

3 Complete the descriptions with idioms from the box.

break the ice | cost an arm and a leg | feel blue | hit the books | on cloud nine | over the moon | piece of cake | under the weather

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Ana: She felt 1 _____ and stayed home from work today.
Leo: He needs to 2 _____ before his big exam next week.
Marta: The exam was a 3 _____ for her, since she studied hard.
Tom: The new phone will 4 _____, so he's saving money.
Party: He tried to 5 _____ by telling a joke to the new guests.
News: She was 6 _____ and 7 _____ after hearing she got the job, though her friend seemed to 8 _____ about missing out.

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4 Match each idiom with its opposite feeling.

1 on cloud nine ____	**a** a real challenge
2 piece of cake ____	**b** feel blue
3 over the moon ____	**c** under the weather
4 break the ice ____	**d** create tension

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

A memorable day

Leo felt under the weather in the morning but decided to hit the books anyway before his exam. To his surprise, the test was a piece of cake. That evening, he learned he'd been accepted into his dream university and was on cloud nine. His whole family was over the moon for him, though the celebration dinner cost an arm and a leg.

1 Leo felt great in the morning. T / F

2 He studied before his exam. T / F

3 The test was very difficult for him. T / F

4 He was accepted into his dream university. T / F

5 His family felt unhappy for him. T / F

6 The dinner was cheap. T / F

6 Complete the sentences with the correct preposition (under, on, over, for).

1 She felt _____ the weather.

2 He was _____ cloud nine.

3 They were _____ the moon.

4 It cost an arm and a leg _____ the ticket.

OVER TO YOU

Write a 70-90 word short story using at least four idioms from this lesson (under the weather, piece of cake, on cloud nine, etc.).

[ ] Use at least four target idioms. [ ] Use past tenses accurately. [ ] Keep the story natural and fun.

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ANSWER KEY

1 Idiom meanings

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

2 Choose the correct idiom

1 under the weather 2 a piece of cake 3 break the ice 4 on cloud nine 5 cost an arm and a leg 6 hit the books 7 felt blue 8 over the moon

3 Descriptions

1 under the weather 2 hit the books 3 piece of cake 4 cost an arm and a leg 5 break the ice 6 on cloud nine 7 over the moon 8 feel blue

4 Opposites

1 c 2 a 3 b 4 d

5 Reading

1 F - he felt unwell.
2 T
3 F - it was easy.
4 T
5 F - they were happy.
6 F - it was expensive.

6 Prepositions

1 under 2 on 3 over 4 for

Over to you

Answers will vary. Check clear organisation, accurate forms and natural idioms.