REVISION OF IDIOMS (I)

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Fill in the blanks with the appropriate idiom:

full of beans cut corners an old flame of mine as brown as a berry
a change of heart pay dividends at death's door a pinch of salt
head above water see eye to eye off the beaten track wears his heart on his sleeve
at a loss for words up and about sour grapes rolling in it over the moon
come down with a bump tighten the belt in the soup grinned from ear to ear
burn the midnight oil bury the hatchet steer clear of tied the knot
no use crying over spilt milk there's life in the old dog yet whet my appetite
a lame duck run-of-the-mill

1. This beach is …… so very few people know about it.
2. This resort is a bit ……; it has some good points, but it's nothing special.
3. Robert and I are always arguing – we never ……. on anything.
4. He ……; anyone can see how much he loves her.
5. You are ……. If you quit your job before finding another one.
6. With what little money I have from my savings, I can barely keep my …….
7. Mary was …… when her boss asked her if she'd like to be promoted.
8. I've only read the back of the book, but it was enough to ……
9. John has a reputation for being a liar, so whenever he tells me anything, I take it with …….. …….
10. As soon as your leg is out of the cast, you'll be …….. in no time.
11. Mr. Marshall has recovered unexpectedly, so it seems ……
12. When the old man realized he was ……., he asked to see a priest.
13. Daisy says she didn't want to be chosen, but it's just ……; she did really.
14. When his bike was stolen, Mike said it was…….
15. The long hours and hard work we put into the new company are finally beginning to …….. ……
16. You could ask your boss to buy a new company car; after all he's…….
17. After ten years of living together, they finally ……..
18. The headmaster has had …… and he isn't going to expel you after all.
19. It's the first time we've won the cup and we're ……..
20. Since shellfish upsets my stomach, I try to …….. it.
21. After a week on the beach in Tunisia, I am ……..
22. After her holiday, trouble at work made Martha ……..
23. After years of arguing, the sisters agreed to ……
24. No, Mary is not my girlfriend. She is ……..
25. The rent on Vicky's new flat is very high, so she'll have to …….. from now on.
26. You'll have to …….. in order to finish the project.
27. Paul …… when building his new house and now he is having trouble with it.
28. Roxanne was …….. when she crashed her father's car.

29. When Cathy heard that she had been promoted, she ……
30. I went for a swim early this morning and I've been …….. all day.

Fill in the blanks with the appropriate idiom:

several irons in the fire takes a back seat stood the test of time turn the clock back
by the skin of her teeth with his bare hands an inside job teach him a lesson
head for figures a smart alec as poor as a church mouse do his own things put her foot in it
streets ahead up-to-date in a tight corner deliver the goods hot water learn the ropes
rotten apples all at sea get to grips right hand man the big guns broke the mould
past it vanished into thin air back to square one covered his tracks off guard

1. Bruce is a ……. – he's always telling others how to do things better.
2. It took me a while to …… when I started my new job.
3. In order to …… with his divorce, Terence went for counseling.
4. I don't need a calculator, thank you. I've a good …….. and I'll work it out mentally.
5. Sarah ……. when she told Michael that he was a terrible singer.
6. I didn't understand that lesson and now I'm …….
7. You should send him to bed without any supper. That will ……..!
8. The question caught the politician …….. and he fell silent, unable to find an answer.
9. Before they could incite the other workers, the two …… were fired.
10. The detective suspected that the crime was ……
11. The criminal made sure that he had …….. before he left the scene of the murder.
12. My sister got into …… with my parents after she stayed out late on a school night.
13. When the girl was trapped under the car, a man lifted it ……. and saved her.
14. His original manuscript was not accepted so he had to go ……. and rewrite it.
15. If Jenkins fails to …….. one more time, I'll fire him!
16. During the earthquake, Susan escaped from the building ……. before it collapsed.
17. He couldn't find her anywhere! It was as if she had ……
18. The burglar realized he was …….. when he noticed the guard dog.
19. If I could ……., I would do things differently.

20. Although they are still young, most models are considered…… by the age of 30.
21. Your television is ancient. Why not sell it and get something ……?
22. Shakespeare's plays have …….. because they are so well-written.
23. Margaret Thatcher ……. of British politics by becoming the country's first female prime minister.
24. This computer is ……. of all the others on the market.
25. John …….. in his marriage. His wife makes all the decisions in the family.
26. Catherine Rhodes is considered to be one of ……in the fashion industry.
27. When Tim moved out of his parents' house he was able to ……
28. Martha didn't get the job at the florist's, but she's got ……..
29. I couldn't manage at work without Baxter – he's my …….
30. Steve can't even afford to buy a bus ticket – he's ……..

Fill in the blanks with the appropriate idiom:

law of the jungle rock the boat stab you in the back past its sell-by-date
has a short fuse as clean as a whistle call it a day voting with their feet
a step in the right direction rough diamond behind closed doors
pulling my leg at loggerheads mind-boggling wet blanket
passing the buck deaf ears bone of contention went up in a smoke the back burner
put our heads together burying their heads in the sand kill two birds with one stone
flash in the pan a breath of fresh air thrown off balance hot air
racked his brains put on a brave face weighed a ton

1.It took four people to carry the desk because it ……
2.We'll have to put this issue on …….. for the moment as we've got more pressing matters to deal with.
3.Mr Homer is a bit of a ……; he's got rather a harsh manner but deep down he's a very sweet man.
4.Despite losing the match we …….. and congratulated the winning team.
5.My plans to have a quiet evening at home ……. when Geoffrey arrived with six of his friends.
6.You really upset Janet; it would certainly be ……. if you wrote and apologized to her.
7.The student …… to find the right answer to the complicated question.
8.Politics is a …….. at home – it's a very sensitive subject as my husband's a Labour and I'm Conservative.
9.By …… and opening on Sundays shopkeepers were able to change the law on opening hours.
10. Ralph is so full of ……. that I never take what he says seriously.
11. Our complaints to the Collins about their barking dog have fallen on ……
12. After working for fifteen hours, Peter decided to ……. and go home.

13. Jim went in thinking he was well-prepared but was …….. by an unexpected line of questioning.

14. Linda told her manager that she's sick and tired of Harrison ……. whenever he doesn't want to take responsibility for a project.

15. Before the General inspected their barracks, the soldiers made sure that they were ……

16. Scarlet Snake's new record was ……. so everyone wanted to buy it.

17. Fiona never wants to do anything exciting; she's such a ……..

18. Watch what you say to the director, he ……

19. Ricky Rocker's stage success was just a …… - he was forgotten after six months.

20. We tried to calculate the number of known stars in the universe. The number was just ……....

21. I always check the carton when I buy milk to make sure it isn't …….

22. I managed to …… when I went to the post office – I bought some Christmas cards and I paid my electricity bill.

23. I thought Karen was being serious when she told me she was going to quit her job, but she was just……..

24. Whatever you do, don't trust Ken – he'll ……given half chance.

25. Environmental groups concerned about the issue have accused the government of ……

26. The two political candidates were ……over the new education act.

27. Graham is so annoying; he always tries to ……. and cause trouble when we have meetings.

28. I think we should ……. and think of a special present for Mum's sixtieth birthday.

29. The meeting was for the partners only and was held ……

30. Following the fall of dictatorships, often it is the ……..which rules.