Learners: Fourth Year  
Linguistic Focus: Vocabulary (Idiomatic Expressions)  
Objectives: Identify the meaning of idiomatic expressions using context clues. Complete the sentences using idiomatic expressions.  
Format/Manner: Multiple Choices/ Fill in the blanks

**Idiomatic Expressions**

**A. Directions:** Identify the meaning of the underlined idiomatic expressions using context clues. Circle the letter of the correct answer.

1. You’ve got to have some work experience **under your belt** before you can hope to get a stable job.
   - A. have gained a lot of friends from high places who can help you get the job  
   - B. have acquired experience or have satisfactorily achieved something  
   - C. have attained more talent to manipulate interview results  
   - D. have obtained enough financial resources to unwind

2. Now here’s this week’s quiz. It’s time to **put your thinking caps on**.
   - A. to feel bombarded and heavy with a difficult task  
   - B. to solve a problem or create an idea by thinking  
   - C. to consider with much deliberation  
   - D. to think with deep meditation

3. **Black gold** is primarily found in the Middle East.
   - A. illegal money  
   - B. camel  
   - C. sand  
   - D. oil

4. When he tried to put the blame on Pedro, he was sent away with **a flea in his ear**.
   - A. being reprimanded  
   - B.  
   - C. being banished  
   - D. being exiled

5. To live in **grey existence** would mean to live a colorless life.
   - A. confused, at a loss  
   - B. dull, monotonous  
   - C. exciting, full  
   - D. hectic, busy
**B. Directions:** Study carefully each set of idiomatic expressions and fill in the blank with the correct idiom. Make changes in the expressions to be used if necessary. You may also change the form of the verb to show a different tense (e.g., present, past, or past participle)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Idiom</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>make a beast of oneself</td>
<td>eat large quantities of food, leaving little for others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a cat’s nap</td>
<td>a short sleep taken during the day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>donkey’s years</td>
<td>a very long time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a fish out of water</td>
<td>someone who feels uncomfortable in unfamiliar surroundings or company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>smell a rat</td>
<td>detect something suspicious; sense that something is wrong</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. My students had planned to play trick on me, but because they were so quiet and attentive I ______________________.

7. Why don’t you take ______________________ if you’re tired?

8. I always expect that a voracious eater like him will

   ______________________ on such a big occasion like this.

9. I didn’t know anyone at the party and I felt like ______________________ among all my sister’s high school friends.

10. At first, I didn’t recognize Ana when she stopped me in the park because I hadn’t seen her for ______________________.
Answer Key

A.

1. B.
2. D.
3. D.
4. A.
5. B

B.

6. smelled a rat
7. a cat’s nap
8. make a beast of himself
9. a fish out of water
10. a donkey’s years