

KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE MONEY IDIOMS

(1) Match the idioms with the definitions.

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| 1) cost an arm and a leg | A using very little money |
| 2) tighten your belt | B make a big profit |
| 3) save for a rainy day? | C having a lot of money |
| 4) rip somebody off | D cheat somebody by charging too much money for something. |
| 5) make ends meet | E have only enough money to survive |
| 6) make a killing | F save money for a time when you really need it |
| 7) rolling in money/it | G extremely cheap |
| 8) dirt cheap | H be very expensive |
| 9) on a shoestring | I have just enough money to buy what you need |
| 10) live from hand to mouth | J spend less money than usual |

(2) Choose the right answer: a, b or c.

- If you buy something that's **dirt cheap**, the quality will probably
 - be excellent
 - be very low
 - be quite important
- Sarah will have to **tighten her belt** because she's
 - lost her job
 - short of time
 - been losing her weight
- My new car cost me **an arm and a leg**, it is
 - very cheap
 - very expensive
 - very ugly
- My friend **made a killing** when he sold his business, so he
 - had no money
 - lost a lot of money
 - made a fortune
- How much did you say you paid for your computer? You've been **ripped off** and you've
 - lost a lot of money
 - found a lot of money
 - inherited a lot of money

(3) Fill in the gaps with money idioms from (1)

- Sam doesn't earn a great deal, but they manage to _____
- Money started _____ in and the business grew and grew.
- Our schools are still running on _____
- Some people _____ with barely enough money for basics like food and heating.
- Ted got this bike _____ at a car boot sale.
- Mr. Smith _____ selling property in that country.

(3) Match the two halves of other money idioms and then explain their meaning.

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| 1. come into | A. one's pocket |
| 2. dip into your | B. feed |
| 3. be in | C. butter |
| 4. look like | D. savings |
| 5. chicken | E. to riches |
| 6. from rags | F. some money |
| 7. to bring home | G. a song |
| 8. bread and | H. debt |
| 9. burn a hole in | I. a million dollars |
| 10. buy something for | J. the bacon |