

Name _____

Jumbled Sayings Answer Key

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|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. spill the beans | 6. under the weather |
| 2. beat around the bush | 7. once in a blue moon |
| 3. a piece of cake | 8. let the cat out of the bag |
| 4. break the ice | 9. bite the bullet |
| 5. hit the hay | 10. the ball is in your court |

Teacher's Guide

Skill Focus: Students strengthen understanding of **word order** and **figurative meaning** by reconstructing common expressions from jumbled phrases.

Teaching Tips:

- **Warm-Up Game:** Say a literal version of an idiom ("tell the secret") and have students guess the matching expression ("spill the beans").
- **Context Clues Practice:** After solving, have students choose two expressions and use them correctly in their own sentences.
- **Pair Work:** Students can work in pairs to act out each expression's meaning for classmates to guess.
- **Differentiation:**
 - Provide picture clues for younger learners or English language learners.
 - Challenge advanced learners to write short stories or dialogues that naturally include three of the expressions.
- **Extension Idea:** Create "Expression Cards" — each card has one expression. Use them for matching games, charades, or classroom displays of new idioms.