

## Say It Smarter Answer Key

### Sample Answers

1. I'm **on cloud nine** today.
2. That test was a **piece of cake**.
3. Please **keep your cool**.
4. I'm **under the weather** this morning.
5. She decided to **bite the bullet** about her speech.
6. You should **hit the hay** soon.
7. He **speaks his mind**.
8. Don't **spill the beans** about our secret.
9. It happens **once in a blue moon**.
10. The **ball is in your court**.

### Teacher's Guide

- **Mini-Lesson:** Review what idioms or expressions are, emphasizing how they make writing sound natural and expressive.
- **Model One Together:** Demonstrate rewriting a sentence on the board (e.g., "She's very tired" → "She's ready to hit the hay").
- **Student Challenge:** Have pairs or small groups rewrite a paragraph of literal sentences using as many expressions as possible.
- **Differentiation:**
  - Provide a short list of expressions for support or allow students to use a dictionary of idioms.
  - Ask advanced learners to explain each expression's literal vs. figurative meaning.
- **Extension Idea:** Invite students to write a short story or comic strip that includes at least three of the expressions they used in the worksheet.