

Idiom of the Month: TO GET COLD FEET

By Sarah Gudgeon

1. Tick the five things that make people nervous.

- a. going on a date
- b. getting on a plane
- c. giving a presentation
- d. doing a bungee jump
- e. reading a book
- f. getting married



2a. Read

John wanted to go to America but he got cold feet at the airport.

Really? At the airport?

Yes! He decided he couldn't live so far away from his family so he went home.

2b. Complete:

I always get _____ before I perform in school concerts. I panic and I can't remember the songs. All I want to do is go home!

3. Underline the idiomatic phrase in each sentence

- a. Jane blows hot and cold. One day she says yes and the next day, no.
- b. Suzie got cold feet and decided not to marry Michael.
- c. James gave Peter the cold shoulder. He was still very because Pete didn't invite him to his party.
- d. Emma dreamed of travelling the world but in the cold light of day, she knew she couldn't leave her job.
- e. e. There was a sudden cold snap and everyone got out their winter coats again.
- f.f. Mr Denton was a real cold fish. He never smiled and he never laughed at any jokes.

4. Match these idioms to the correct picture.

- a. to get cold feet
- b. to blow hot and cold
- c. to give someone the cold shoulder
- d. a cold snap
- e. in the cold light of day
- f. to be a cold fish



1

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2



3

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4



5



6

5. Choose your favourite idiom from this worksheet. Write a new sentence.

My favourite idiom is:

My sentence is :

Teachers notes

1.

Lead into the worksheet by asking students what makes them nervous.

Ask them if there's anything they have ever wanted to do but then at the last minute they were too scared and backed out.

a b c d f

2 b

I always get **cold feet** before I perform in school concerts. I panic and I can't remember the songs. All I want to do is go home!

3.

- a. Jane **blows hot and cold**. One day she says yes and the next day, no.
- b. Suzie got **cold feet** and decided not to marry Michael.
- c. James gave Peter the **cold shoulder**. He was still very angry about the football match.
- d. Emma dreamed of travelling the world but **in the cold light of day**, she knew she couldn't leave her job.
- e. There was a sudden **cold snap** and everyone got out their winter coats again.
- f. Mr Denton was a real **cold fish**. He never smiled and he never laughed at any jokes.

4.

a → 2

b → 1

c → 3

d → 5

e → 6

f → 4