



### Worksheet 1. Reading 1: *Expressions Using the Word Cold*

**Read about some interesting idiomatic expressions. Then complete the exercises that follow.**

1 Cold weather has a significant effect on how our minds and our bodies work, which is why  
2 there are so many expressions that contain the word *cold*. Here are a few you may have  
3 heard.

4 The first is *cold-blooded*. People who show no human emotions or feelings are said to be  
5 cold-blooded. In people's minds, blood has been linked closely with the emotions for  
6 centuries, and cold blood means a cold heart. Cold-blooded people can act in cruel ways.

7 The second is *cold feet*. Cold can affect many parts of the body, including the feet. *To get*  
8 *cold feet* means being afraid to do something you had already decided to do. For example,  
9 you agree to be president of an organization, but then learn that all the other officers have  
10 resigned. You alone will have to run the organization for which you now have total  
11 responsibility. You are likely to get cold feet about being president when you understand  
12 how difficult the situation really is.

13 Another expression is *cold shoulder*. Cold can also affect your shoulder. You *give someone*  
14 *the cold shoulder* when you refuse to speak to that person, and treat him or her in a way  
15 that is distant and cold. The expression probably comes from the physical act of turning  
16 your back toward someone whom you don't like, instead of speaking to him face-to-face.  
17 You may give the cold shoulder to a friend who has not kept a promise or to someone who  
18 has spread ugly rumors about you.

19 Another is *cold fish*. A *cold fish* is not really a fish. It's a person who is unfriendly,  
20 unemotional and shows no love or warmth, like a cold, dead fish. A cold fish does not offer  
21 much of himself to anyone. Someone who is a cold fish could also be called "cold-hearted."

22 Finally, *out in the cold* is another familiar expression. It means "not getting something that  
23 everybody else got." For example, a person might feel that he has been left out in the cold  
24 because everybody else at work got a raise, but he didn't. Or, a person might feel left out in  
25 the cold if he can't pass the entrance requirements for college. Being out in the cold is an  
26 unpleasant place to be.



## Worksheet 1 (page 2)

### Reading 1: Comprehension practice

Complete the sentences. Write the letter of the explanation in Column B that describes each bold phrase in Column A.

Column A	Column B
1. A <b>cold-blooded</b> person is one who ____.	a. becomes fearful about something he has promised to do, and may not now do it
2. A <b>cold fish</b> is a person who ____.	b. treats you rudely, as if you are not there; turns his back on you, even though you may have been friendly at one time
3. A person who <b>gets cold feet</b> is one who ____.	c. acts in an unfriendly manner, is unsmiling and stiff, and doesn't show any warmth or love
4. A person who <b>gives you the cold shoulder</b> ____.	d. has been overlooked; has been left out of receiving something good that everyone else has received
5. A person who has <b>been left out in the cold</b> ____.	e. acts totally without emotion, and who can be very cruel