

## Do Re Mi Fa Sol... 🎵

### 1. Match the expressions in **BOLD** to the definitions in the second column. When you have finished, compare with your partner.

1. He was against the idea to start with, but he soon **changed his tune** when he realised how much money he'd get. a) To change the way one talks about something
2. I bought this designer jacket **for a song** in a second hand shop. b) Cheaply
3. I don't want to **blow my own trumpet** but... well done me. c) To tell everyone proudly about your achievement
4. I feel like **a broken record** having to tell you this again, but please do your homework ;) d) Endless repeating of something
5. If she lies to me, then she will just have to **face the music**. e) To accept responsibility for something you have done
6. My staff has to do what I say because I'm the boss, and I **call the tune** here. f) To be in a position of power or control
7. The basic process is good but we will need to **fine tune** it as we go along. g) To make small adjustments to something
8. The issue of animal cruelty **strikes a chord** with almost everyone. h) To cause someone to feel an emotion
9. The English teacher **drummed** music idioms **into** her students' heads. i) To make someone learn something by repeating it many times
10. Tired of **playing second fiddle** she quit her job and started her own company. j) To play a minor role
11. We can't make a decision yet. Let's just **play it by ear**. k) To decide how to deal with a situation as it develops
12. When she heard her daughter was going to have a baby, it was **music to her ears**. l) Something that's is very pleasant to hear

**2. Correct the mistakes in BOLD in the questions below and then discuss/ answer them, at length ;) with your classmate(s).**

1. Do you know anyone who often repeats themselves like a broken **record** ?
2. When was the last time you saw something going for a **song** and you bought it?
3. Are there any TV presenters whose voice is **music** to your ears?
4. When is it advisable or recommended to blow your own **trumpet**?
5. Who called the **tune** in your house when you were growing up?
6. When was the last time you were initially against something but then changed your **tune** completely?
7. Have you ever resented playing second **fiddle** to someone e.g. a sibling?
8. What piece of news or a story has struck a **chord** with you recently?
9. What things were **drummed** into you by your parents?
10. Should small children be made to face the **music** for their misbehaviour?
11. Are you comfortable with **playing** it by ear or do you usually follow a plan you have decided on in advance?
12. How much time do you spend on fine **tuning** your English homework before handing it in?

**3. Last but not least. Some more creative practice:**

- Choose FOUR music idioms and describe how you would act and feel if you were one of the biggest musicians of all times.
- Choose THREE music idioms and invent a new music genre that you think is missing from today's music scene.
- Choose FOUR music idioms and write four questions for a musician you would like to meet (one idiom per question).
- Choose FOUR music idioms. List songs one should listen to when they are sad. Justify your choices.
- Choose TWO music idioms and describe which song best represents you or your attitude to life and why?

**And just before you disappear on me:...Why did the pianist keep banging his head against the keys? He was playing by ear ;)**