

THE CREATURES OF ENGLISH IDIOMS

LEONARD R.N. ASHLEY

Brooklyn, New York

Animals and birds, even lower forms of life, appear significantly in the traditional and often colorful idioms of English which teach the wisdom of the folk. Are you wise enough to provide the correct expression—and, if necessary, the name of the creature involved in each of these cases?

1. disgraceful outcast
2. flee
3. pretend to be dead
4. easy target
5. largest helping
6. quit a dependency cold
7. burden of doom
8. spitefully refuse someone something the owner does not need, or sulk
9. tend carefully to one's personal needs or interests
10. annoy someone
11. act ostentatiously
12. distracting clue
13. very quickly
14. a little evidence does not suffice to prove the point
15. a task can be performed in various ways
16. even the lowest get lucky sometimes
17. do not question a gift's value
18. don't poke your nose into things
19. it depends who suffers the injury
20. long-established habits cannot be changed
21. don't disturb things
22. basic nature is immutable
23. don't act as if you could foretell the future
24. the meek rise up at last
25. clumsily destructive

Answers can be found in Answers and Solutions at the end of this issue.