

Fire Idioms Worksheet

1 **Put a fire idiom or saying into each sentence below. You may need to change the form.**

there's no smoke without fire	hold/hang fire
set the world on fire	baptism of fire
in the firing line	get on like a house on fire
have a few irons in the fire	play with fire
out of the frying pan into the fire	fight fire with fire

- a That job seems even worse than my one now. I don't want to jump _____
_____.
- b We could make a decision on it now, but I think we should _____
_____ until we have all the information.
- c I didn't think my secretary would like the new sales rep, but actually they _____
_____.
- d _____ . It can't all be lies about the problems their
business is having.
- e I suggest you _____. If he is going to see a lawyer, I
think you should too.
- f It's just _____ going into business with David. He is
a dangerous partner to deal with.
- g I was given the highest profile account to handle when I joined the firm. It was a real
_____.
- h Bill found himself _____ after he proposed an
unpopular budget.
- i If I don't get that job, I still _____, so I'm not worried.
I've applied for some other positions and I've a good chance of getting them.
- j Terry had some good ideas but they didn't _____. He is
unlikely to contract extension.

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2 *Now match an idiom or saying connected with fire to its meaning.*

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|---|--|------|--|
| a | there's no smoke without fire | i | use the same methods as your opponent to win |
| b | get on like a house on fire | ii | a very difficult initial experience |
| c | have a few irons in the fire | iii | delay making a decision |
| d | in the firing line | iv | likely to be criticized or got rid of |
| e | play with fire | v | move from one difficult situation to another |
| f | hold/hang fire | vi | do something risky |
| g | baptism of fire | vii | have lots of possibilities available |
| h | fight fire with fire | viii | not exciting or successful |
| i | not set the world on fire | ix | get on very well, quickly |
| j | out of the frying pan
into the fire | x | when unpleasant things are said there is
probably good reason |

3 *Using the idioms, write sentences that are true for you:*

- a I get on like a house on fire with
- b I think was playing with fire when
- c I experienced a baptism of fire when
- d I was in the firing line when
- e I think having a few irons in the fire is

Compare your answers with a partner.