**Unscramble The Proverbs**

gold

is

Silence

Actions

louder

than

words

speak

that

ends

well

All’s

well

helps

them

themselves

God

help

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Many

make

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a

of

Birds

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Learn

Walk

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The

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crushes

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has

**Find out if you are a good "proverb prophet" by making the correct choice to complete the proverb.**

1. A woman and the sea are the same in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. colour b. anger c. wind
3. If you do not have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, you follow the same route twice.

a. feet b. heart c. brain

1. Better to be envied than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. pitied b. sorry c. jealous

1. Better \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than never.

a. now b. today c. late

1. What you learn as a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, you cannot forget as an old person.

a. toddler b. student c. child

1. He who \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ his home, governs his life.

a. governs b. leads c. learns

1. Act quickly, think \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

a. slowly b.deeply c. simply

1. Ignorance of the law is no excuse for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it.

a. respecting b. misbehaving c. breaking

1. Good accounts make \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ friends.

a. good b. best c. bad

1. An iron rod bends while it is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

a. cold b. rough c. hot

**Find the matching squares.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| -Good morning, John.  -I'm planting beans. | Things must be done in their proper time, not before . | One hand washes the other and both the face. | Look who's talking! |
| The donkey called the rooster bigheaded. | History repeats itself. | Everything in its time and mackerel in August. | The child will be like his parents. |
| Shoe from your place, even if it is patched. | You scratch my back and I will scratch yours. | The apple will fall under the apple-tree. | Miscommunication.  One says one thing,  the other gives an unrelated response. |
| The centuries copy each other. | Take a spouse from the place you come from, even if s/he is not so great. | Your child and your dog (behave) the way you teach them. | When you set up rules early, the behaviour that follows adheres to these rules. |

**Arrange the starts and ends of these proverbs correctly.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| At the deaf man's door,  The cracked glass,  In the kingdom of the blind,  When you hear of many cherries,  It's better to lose an eye, | **Correct proverbs:** |
| the one-eyed man is king.  cannot be fixed.  hold a small basket.  than to get a bad name.  knock as much as you like.  . |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A  C  R  O  S  S  D  O  W  N | 1. The more you get, the more you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_  4. Strike while the iron is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_  5. Old habits \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ hard.  7. Many hands \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ light work.  10. There’s no fool like an \_\_\_\_\_ fool.  12. . Love conquers \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  13. Do as I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and not as I do. | 1 | 2 |  | 3 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 4 |  |  |  |
|  | 5 |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6 |  |  | 7 | 8 |  | 9 |
| 2. All is fair in love \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ war.  6. Barking \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_seldom bite.  8. Love conquers \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  9. Money is the root of all \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  11. Every dog has his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | 10 |  | 11 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 12 |  |  |  |  |
| 13 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Do the puzzle with commonly heard proverbs. Then match with the Greek equivalent proverbs below.**

1.Στον έρωτα και στον πόλεμο όλα επιτρέπονται.

2. Σκυλί που γαυγίζει, δε δαγκώνει.

3. Δει δη χρημάτωνκαι άνευ τούτων ουδέν εστί γενέσθαι των δεόντων. (Δημοσθένης)

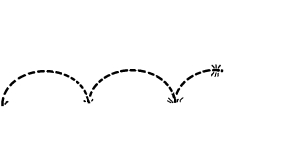
4. Η αγάπη πάντα στέγει, πάντα πιστεύει, πάντα ελπίζει, πάντα υπομένει.

( Ο Ύμνος της Αγάπης του Αποστόλου Παύλου στην προς Κορινθίους Α’ επιστολή του.)

5. Το καλό πράγμα αργεί να γίνει.

6. Θέλει και την πίτα ολόκληρη, και το σκύλο χορτάτο.

**Expressions that appear in many European languages.**

**A FLEA IN your EAR** [](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_FI-Tx5dT_f4/TQ5gXJdJvbI/AAAAAAAAAag/sZvznD4TqrY/s1600/images.jpeg)**[](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_o5KYjTB6jyQ/S_uIR4R-dAI/AAAAAAAAA90/gl1r6buoCg8/s1600/%CF%88%CF%8D%CE%BB%CE%BB%CE%BF%CF%82+00.jpg)**

**(Gr.) μου μπαίνουν ψύλλοι στα αφτιά** : αρχίζω να έχω υποψίες, ψυλλιάζομαι

In modern Greek, to have a flea put in your ear is that somebody is putting a suspicion into your head. The same expression occurs, with much the same sense, in other European languages, including German, Italian and French.

The root association must surely be the result of getting a literal flea in one’s ear, something that wasn’t so rare in earlier times when hygiene was poor and houses — and their occupants — were often infested with fleas. A flea entering one’s ear would jump about in its attempts to get out and bite in frustration. It’s hard to imagine anything more vexatious or frustrating — it’s known to have driven some people almost mad (the old remedy was to pour oil into the ear, which drowned the flea).

It’s curious how so many different implications have been drawn from one simple circumstance. A flea moves fast, so it may have suggested something desirable but unattainable, or a thing that’s excitable and uncontrollable like a sudden passion. A flea may have been thought to be an external influence that whispered messages of distrust or ardour into the ear. English speakers may have judged that the physical and emotional discomfort aroused by a flea in the ear resembled severe criticism or rebuke. It may be that several of these ideas fused in various language versions of the expression.

In Dutch, it’s a way to say that you’re fidgety or restless. In English it principally refers — as you say — to a stinging reproof, though to send a person away with a flea in their ear can mean to snub them or angrily refuse a request.

People of Byzantine Empire were good at finding unique punishments. When they arrested an eavesdropper, they threw hot oil in his ears and he was deafened. Emperor Julian felt extreme aversion for eavesdroppers. He could forgive a traitor but not an eavesdropper. He made a special law for them, asking for their martyrdom.

But when the law was sent to the Senate to be authorized, it was rejected as it was thought that the act of eavesdropping was not so serious after all. ‘Besides, curiosity is a natural human trait and the man who commits eavesdropping is simply curious and does that beyond his will’ the senators said. So, hot oil was not thrown in his ears anymore and a lighter sentence was enforced. Julian got furious but he accepted the change of punishment. In the beginning the new punishment was thought to be funny but when in force it was extremely clever. They put fleas in the eavesdropper’s ears. The small insects entered deeply in the labyrinth of the ear and started jumping trying to get out. The eavesdropper could only be relieved when oil was thrown in his ear so as the flea was drowned.

The phrase ‘A FLEA IN your EAR’ has been known since then but it ended up meaning having suspicions into your head.



***KNOCK ON WOOD* OR *TOUCH WOOD***

**(Gr.) χτύπα ξύλο**

**A**

To *touch wood* or *knock on wood* is a superstitious action to ward off any evil consequences or bad luck, perhaps because of some recent action you’ve taken or untimely boasting about your good fortune (“I’ve never been in danger of drowning, touch wood”); it can also be a charm to bring good luck.

The origin is unknown, though some writers have pointed to pre-Christian rituals involving the spirits of sacred trees such as the oak, ash, holly or hawthorn. There is, I’m told, an old Irish belief that you should knock on wood to let the little people know that you are thanking them for a bit of good luck. There’s also a belief that the knocking sound prevents the Devil from hearing your unwise comments. Others have sought a meaning in which the wood symbolises the timber of the cross, but this may be a Christianisation of an older ritual. It wasn’t always wood that was lucky: in older days, iron was also thought to have magical properties, and to touch iron was an equivalent preventative against ill-fortune.

The phrase itself is relatively modern, as the oldest citation for the British version of the phrase, *touch wood*, that I can find dates only from 1899. The American equivalent *knock on wood* is roughly contemporary, with my first example from 1905.