

Dictons et expressions idiomatiques du monde francophone

ANSWER KEY

1. Haiti, "Piti piti zwazo fènich li."
Literal Translation: Little by little the bird makes his nest.
Meaning: Little strokes fell great oaks.
2. Belgique. "At' n'aise, on a tout le temps."
Literal Translation: At your ease, we have tons of time.
Meaning in English: Go at your own pace.
3. Sénégal, "Conduire dans des tablettes de chocolat."
Literal Translation: Driving on bars of chocolate.
Meaning in English: Driving on a road full of cracks and potholes.
4. Côte D'Ivoire. "Avoir son coeur qui est tombé dans son caleçon."
Literal Translation: To have one's heart fallen in one's underpants.
Meaning: To be on the verge of feeling a strong emotion.
5. France, "Avoir le mal du pays."
Literal Translation: To have the bad of a country.
Meaning: To feel homesick.
6. Martinique. "Trop presé pa ka fé jou ouvé."
Literal Translation: Too stressed to lift up the day.
Meaning: If you spend all your day worrying, you won't have time to enjoy life.
7. La Réunion. "Y fait pas la boue avant la pluie."
Literal Translation: Mud is not created before the rain.
Meaning: Don't jump to conclusions.
8. Suisse, "Y'a pas le feu au lac."
Literal Translation: There's not a fire in the lake.
Meaning: There's no need to hurry.

9. Guadeloupe, "Chacun sait ce qui cuit dans sa marmite."
Literal Translation: Everyone knows what's cooking in their pot.
Meaning: No one knows you better than you know yourself.
10. Canada, "Y'a pas d'quoi sauter au plafond."
Literal Translation: There's nothing to jump to the bottom about.
Meaning: Don't make a mountain out of a molehill.
11. Cameroun, "Sauter et caler en l'air."
Literal Translation: Jump and stall in the air.
Meaning: Get lost!
12. France, "Il fait un froid de canard."
Literal Translation: It is cold as a duck.
Meaning: It's freezing cold out here.