

Refranes y expresiones idiomáticas del mundo hispanohablante

ANSWER KEY

1. España, "A buenas horas, mangas verdes".
Literal Translation: At good hours, green sleeves.
Meaning: Too little, too late.
2. Argentina, "Más incómodo que hacer gárgaras con dulce de leche".
Literal Translation: More uncomfortable than gargling dulce de leche.
Meaning: To be stuck in an uncomfortable situation.
3. Chile, "Le busca la quinta pata al gato".
Literal Translation: He/she looks for the fifth leg of the cat.
Meaning: To make a situation more complicated than it needs to be.
4. Colombia, "El que tiene tienda que la atienda".
Literal Translation: He who has a store looks after it.
Meaning: One must always be responsible for their own belongings.
5. Ecuador, "Llevar piñas a Milagro".
Literal Translation: To bring pineapples to Milagro.
Meaning: To bring something useless to an event. Milagro is an Ecuadorian town that grows pineapple, so it would be useless to bring a pineapple there.
6. México, "Quién vive con compañía, vive con alegría".
Literal Translation: He/she who lives with company, lives with happiness.
Meaning: Surrounding yourself with company will bring you happiness.
7. Costa Rica, "Más Tico que el gallo pinto".
Literal Translation: More Tico than the gallo pinto.
Meaning: Nothing is more Costa Rican than one of the country's national dishes, gallo pinto.

8. República Dominicana, "A caballo regalado, no se le mira el diente".
Literal Translation: Don't look at the tooth of a horse gifted to you.
Meaning: Do not find fault with something that has been received as a gift.

9. Puerto Rico, "Más vale pájaro en mano que cien volando".
Literal Translation: A bird in the hand is better than one hundred flying.
Meaning: Better today than tomorrow.

10. Venezuela, "Cuidado, te va morder un peluche".
Literal Translation: Be careful, a stuffed animal will bite you.
Meaning: Said to someone who is trying to achieve an objective at the expense of others.

11. Honduras, "Camarón que se duerme se lo lleva al corriente".
Literal Translation: A shrimp who falls asleep is washed away by the current.
Meaning: If you do not take advantage of an opportunity, you'll lose it.

12. Perú, "El que se fue a Barranco, ¡perdió su banco!".
Literal Translation: He who went to Barranco lost his bench.
Meaning: Finders keepers, losers weepers.