

# VOCABULARY Review Units 1-3 Adages - 1 (word study)

“Clothes make the man” is an example of an adage. An adage is a saying passed down through the years that makes a memorable and often witty or humorous observation about some familiar aspect of life. The adage “Clothes make the man” suggests that the clothes we wear reflect how we want to be perceived by others. It also suggests that people will make judgments about a person based on how he or she dresses.

## Choosing the Right Adage

Read each sentence. Use context clues to figure out the meaning of each adage in boldface print. Number your paper 1-10 then write the letter of the definition for the adage in the sentences.

1. When Amy’s entire family tried advising her on her science project, she politely told them that **too many cooks spoil the broth**. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. Christopher resented missing outings because of his cello practice, so his father often had to remind him that **April showers bring May flowers**. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. **Beggars can’t be choosers**, so don’t complain about the food your friends shared with you when you forgot your lunch. \_\_\_\_\_
  4. “**Better safe than sorry**,” my mother said as she waited for me to fasten my seatbelt. \_\_\_\_\_
  5. Because we believe **the more the merrier**, we often invite a group of friends over for movie night. \_\_\_\_\_
  6. Since **misery loves company**, Chris and Ty, who had both failed to make the track team, sat together at lunch. \_\_\_\_\_
  7. **Cold hands, warm heart** describes my aunt. She can be brusque and no-nonsense, but is always the first to send a thoughtful card or gift in times of trouble. \_\_\_\_\_
  8. Greg had failed to sell his writing for years, but **every dog has its day**, and he finally sold his first novel. \_\_\_\_\_
  9. **You can’t have your cake and eat it, too**, so don’t expect Kim, whom you insulted last week, to invite you to her party. \_\_\_\_\_
  10. When you start a new job, **a new broom sweeps clean**, but soon the work will probably start to feel routine. \_\_\_\_\_
- a. You shouldn’t be picky when accepting generosity.
  - b. Unhappy people band together for comfort and commiseration.
  - c. Activities are more fun with a large group.
  - d. A person who does not show feelings easily can still be very kind.
  - e. Something new seems exciting at first.
  - f. You cannot have things both ways.
  - g. Good results often come from unpleasant things.
  - h. Having too many helpers on a project can ruin the result.
  - i. Eventually, everyone has a chance for success or luck.
  - j. Practicing caution can prevent suffering later.