

Идиот!?

This issue we consider the shape of things. Specifically: squares and circles and corners, and how they are used in common idioms and expressions. Read the collocations and sentences below. Some are similar to familiar English expressions. But some might make your head “turn square.” **Match the expressions with their English equivalents or translations. Then write out a few short dialogues that contain these new “geometric-mathematical” expressions.**



квадрат

квадратный/ая/ое/ые (m., f., n., pl.) - в квадрате



круг

круглый/ая/ое/ые - в кругу



угол

угловой/ая/ое/ые - в углу

- ___ идиот в квадрате
- ___ У меня от ___ голова квадратная!
- ___ У меня голова кругом идёт.
- ___ А кругом ни души!
- ___ в кругу друзей
- ___ круглый год
- ___ круглые сутки
- ___ круглая сирота
- ___ круглый отличник
- ___ круглый дурак
- ___ красный угол / держать в красном углу
- ___ поставить в угол
- ___ загнать в угол
- ___ снять угол

- A. Rent a small place to live (sometimes: a part of a room).
- Б. To corner / to herd into a corner.
- В. To put (someone) in a time-out/ in the “corner.”
- Г. A “complete” orphan
- Д. My head is “square” from...
- Е. A straight “A” student (in the US).
- Ё. A total fool.
- Ж. Year-round
- З. In a/the circle of friends.
- И. Day and night, or 24/7.
- Й. My head is spinning / going in circles.
- К. And not a soul (to be seen) around!
- Л. An idiot / a complete and total idiot.
- М. The “red” / best corner (of the house)/ to keep in the red corner

Here is an old Russian saying for you to read/solve:

Не красна изба углами, красна пирогами.

It's the quality of the pies that makes a home. (One should judge someone's house not by the way it looks inside or out, but by the way you are welcomed – e.g. with pies – at that house.)

KEY: 1. Л, 2. Д, 3. И, 4. К, 5. З, 6. Ж, 7. И, 8. Г, 9. Е, 10. Ё, 11. М, 12. В, 13. Б, 14. А