PROVERBSMANIA · WORLD PROVERBS WORKSHEET #1

SUPER EASY!

How 6 nations say “a piece of cake”

English level B1–B2 · 15–20 minutes · free to print and share

IN ENGLISH

a piece of cake
easy as pie
child's play

Meaning: very easy; it needs almost no effort.

USE IT

A: How was the driving test?

B: A piece of cake! I passed on the first try.

A: Can you fix my bike?

B: Sure, it's easy as pie.

1 Six nations, six funny pictures

RUSSIA · Russian

Проще пареной репы

proshche parenoy repy

Literally: Simpler than a steamed turnip.

Before potatoes arrived, turnips were everyday food in Russia, and steaming one was quick and simple.

JAPAN · Japanese

朝飯前

asameshi-mae

Literally: Before breakfast.

So easy that you can finish it before breakfast, even on an empty stomach.

BRAZIL · Portuguese

É canja!

Literally: It's chicken soup!

Canja is a light chicken-and-rice soup: simple to make and easy to eat.

TURKEY · Turkish

Çocuk oyuncağı

Literally: A child's toy.

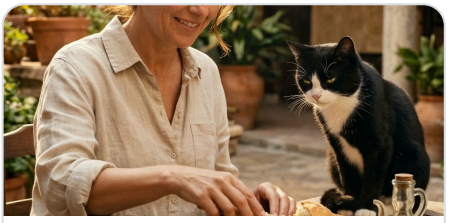
So easy that it is like a toy for a child. Suggested by our viewer @Cherrymew-wb6!

THE NETHERLANDS · Dutch

Een fluitje van een cent

Literally: A little whistle for one cent.

A whistle that cost one cent was a tiny, cheap thing. No big deal at all.



SPAIN · Spanish

Pan comido

Literally: Already eaten bread.

The bread is already eaten, so the job is basically done.

Cake, turnip, breakfast, soup, toy, whistle, bread.

Seven pictures, one truth: some things are so easy that every culture found a funny way to say it.

Practice

Name _____

A Match the country with its picture

1	Russia ____	**a**	Already eaten bread
2	Japan ____	**b**	Before breakfast
3	Brazil ____	**c**	A little whistle for one cent
4	Turkey ____	**d**	Simpler than a steamed turnip
5	The Netherlands ____	**e**	It's chicken soup!
6	Spain ____	**f**	A child's toy

B Circle the right word

1. "How was the exam?" "A piece of (cake) / (bread)!"
2. For my grandma, knitting a scarf is easy as (pie) / (soup).
3. This puzzle is (child's) / (cat's) play. My little brother solved it.
4. "The homework is a piece of cake." This means the homework is (very hard) / (very easy) / (delicious).

C True or false? Tick T or F.

1. In Japan, an easy job is something you can do "after dinner."	T	F
2. In Brazil, "É canja!" literally means "It's chicken soup!"	T	F
3. The little Dutch whistle cost one euro.	T	F
4. In Spanish, "pan comido" means the bread is already eaten.	T	F
5. A ProverbsMania viewer suggested the Turkish idiom.	T	F

D Your turn: how does YOUR language say "very easy"?

My language: _____

The idiom: _____

Literally (in English): _____

My example sentence: _____

Write it in the comments under our Shorts. We might feature it in a future video!

WATCH THE VIDEOS

A Piece of Cake? (Short)

Easy as Pie? (Short)

All videos @ProverbsManiA

ANSWER KEY

A 1-d · 2-b · 3-e · 4-f · 5-c · 6-a

B 1 cake · 2 pie · 3 child's · 4 very easy

C 1 F (before breakfast) · 2 T · 3 F (one cent) · 4 T · 5 T

D Your own answer. Share it with us!

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