

## Matching Exercise: Proverbs with adverb clauses beginning with *If*

### Instructions:

1. Duplicate the proverb beginnings on colored paper, and the proverb endings on paper of a contrasting color. Cut along the lines to make individual cards.
2. Distribute the cards with proverb beginnings to half of the class, and the cards with corresponding proverb endings to the other half of the class. (Give each student one card; set leftover cards aside.) Clarify the meaning of unknown words.
3. Students mingle with classmates who are holding cards of a contrasting color until they find a match that makes a complete proverb.
4. When students find a match, they confirm the match with the teacher and then walk to the front of the room with their partner. (Or they can “freeze” in place with their partner.)
5. Students read the proverbs aloud to the class.

**Variation:** Scatter the cards on a table. Students stand around the table and work collaboratively to match proverb beginnings and endings.

**Note:** Each proverb is well known in the country listed below it. Of course, the proverb, or a version of it, might be well known in other countries as well.

### 1. PROVERB BEGINNINGS

If at first you don't succeed,	If you let everyone walk over you,
If you don't know how deep the river is,	If you want to learn how to be polite,

If you keep people waiting,	If you want medical advice,
If it isn't broken,	If the father is a frog,
If you want to climb a ladder,	If life gives you lemons,
If you go a donkey's house,	If you dig a hole for someone else,
If you play with fire,	If you can't beat 'em (them),

## 2. PROVERB ENDINGS

try, try again. United States	you become a carpet. Bulgaria
don't test the water with two feet. Ghana	watch people who are impolite. Egypt
they will have time to count your faults. France	walk around the village with a bandage on your hand. Bulgaria
don't fix it. United States	the son will be a frog. Japan
you have to begin at the bottom. England	make lemonade. United States

don't talk about ears. Jamaica	you might fall into it yourself. Russia
you will get burned. Many countries	join 'em (them). United States