



What does the idiom “cold comfort” mean?

What does the idiom “cold comfort” mean?

- A. Comfort given without any empathy
- B. Comfort given in a cold environment
- C. Comfort given only in difficult times
- D. Comfort given with warm clothing

Show Answer...

Correct Answer: A (Comfort given without any empathy)

Explanation:

The idiom “cold comfort” means to receive some form of consolation or reassurance that is of little or no help or benefit to the recipient. It is often used in situations where someone is attempting to provide comfort or support, but it is done without any real understanding or empathy for the person’s situation. For example, “I appreciate your kind words, but it’s cold comfort to know that I’m not alone in my struggles,” or “Hearing that the company is experiencing financial difficulties is cold comfort to those of us who have lost our jobs.”

The phrase “cold comfort” can also be used to describe situations where the outcome is not as bad as it could have been, but it still provides little consolation to those affected by it. For instance, “The fact that we avoided a complete disaster is cold comfort to those who still suffered significant losses.”

In summary, the idiom “cold comfort” means receiving a form of consolation or reassurance that is of little or no help or benefit. It is often used in situations where the person providing comfort lacks empathy or understanding, or where the situation remains challenging despite some positive outcomes.

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