1. He has the gift of the gab.

He is gifted
He is a chatterbox
He is a good conversationalist

2. Parental property has become a bone of contention between the siblings.

unifying factor
cause of quarrel
cause of rivalry

3. Once in a blue moon, we meet each other.

Frequently
Sometimes
Very seldom indeed

4. He has been jobless for several months, and it is his wife who keeps the pot boiling.

Keeps the fire burning
Idioms and phrases exercise

Avoids starvation
Keeps firing
Gets angry

5. In the end he had to eat the humble pie.
apologize humbly
defend himself vigorously
adopt an aggressive attitude

6. To be a good orator, you don’t have to play to the galleries.
make a fool of yourself
offend the audience
appeal to the lower taste
appease select audience

7. The officer took him to task.
Praised him
Reprimanded him severely
Dismissed him
Promoted him
Idioms and phrases exercise

Answers

1. c) He is a good conversationalist.
2. b) something that causes a quarrel
3. c) very seldom indeed
4. a) avoids starvation
5. a) apologize humbly
6. d) to appeal to the lower taste
7. a) rebuked him