

Министерство образования Республики Беларусь
Учреждение образования
«Брестский государственный университет имени А. С. Пушкина»

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ИДИОМАТИКА АНГЛИЙСКОГО ЯЗЫКА

IDIOMATICS OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

*Допущено Министерством образования Республики Беларусь
в качестве электронного учебного пособия для студентов
учреждений высшего образования по специальности
«Современные иностранные языки (с указанием языков)»*

Брест
БрГУ имени А. С. Пушкина
2023

ISBN 978-985-22-0577-1

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Об издании – 1, 2

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УДК 811.111'276.1(075.8)
ББК 81.432.1я73

Рецензенты:

кафедра «Иностранные языки»
УО «Белорусский национальный технический университет»
(заведующий кафедрой кандидат педагогических наук, доцент **О. В. Веремейчик**)
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Идиоматика английского языка = Idiomatics of the English language [Электронный ресурс] :
электрон. учеб. пособие / А. С. Секержицкая, М. В. Ярошук ; М-во образования Респ.
Беларусь, Брест. гос. ун-т им. А. С. Пушкина. – Брест : БрГУ, 2023. – Режим доступа:
<http://rep.brsu.by:80/handle/123456789/8612>.

ISBN 978-985-22-0577-1.

Издание включает задания на формирование и совершенствование лексических навыков, аутентичные тексты и диалоги по темам учебной программы, систему упражнений для развития умений и навыков устной и письменной английской речи, аудио- и видеоматериалы, глоссарий, тестовые задания и предназначено для усвоения наиболее употребимых идиоматических выражений современного английского языка.

Адресуется студентам специальности 1-21 06 01-01 «Современные иностранные (английский, немецкий) языки». Может быть использовано студентами иных профильных специальностей, а также слушателями специальностей переподготовки.

Разработано в PDF-формате.

УДК 811.111'276.1(075.8)
ББК 81.432.1я73

Текстовое учебное электронное издание

Системные требования:
тип браузера и версия любые; скорость подключения к информационно-телекоммуникационным сетям любая; дополнительные надстройки к браузеру не требуются.

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- Использованное ПО: Windows 10, Texmaker;
- ответственный за выпуск Ж. М. Селюжицкая, технический редактор А. С. Секержицкая, корректор Е. Г. Сальникова, компьютерный набор и верстка А. С. Секержицкая;
- дата размещения на сайте: 26.04.2023;
- объем издания: 784 МБ;
- производитель: учреждение образования «Брестский государственный университет имени А. С. Пушкина», 224016, г. Брест, ул. Мицкевича, 28. Тел.: 8(0162) 21-70-55. E-mail: rio@brsu.brest.by.

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ВВЕДЕНИЕ

В XXI веке существенно изменился социокультурный и образовательный контекст изучения иностранных языков в Республике Беларусь и в Европе в целом, повысился статус иностранного языка как востребованной дисциплины в практической и интеллектуальной деятельности специалиста. В современном контексте иностранный язык рассматривается не только в качестве средства межкультурного общения, но и средства формирования личности как субъекта национальной и мировой культуры. Грамотное использование идиоматических выражений позволит будущим специалистам не только передавать тончайшие смысловые и стилистические оттенки иностранного языка, но и повышает языковую культуру, а также знакомит студентов со способом мышления носителей изучаемого языка.

Электронное учебное пособие «Идиоматика английского языка» способствует подготовке специалистов в области иностранного языка, обладающих высоким культурным уровнем и широким кругозором. Овладевая идиоматическим фондом иностранного языка, сопоставляя устойчивые выражения английского и родного языка, студенты в полной мере осознают язык как средство общения, взаимопонимания людей, развития их интеллектуальных возможностей.

Цель электронного учебного пособия «Идиоматика английского языка» заключается в совершенствовании у будущих специалистов навыков владения английским языком на базе систематизированных знаний по идиоматике английского языка, овладение теоретическими и практическими знаниями в использовании идиоматических выражений.

Задачи электронного учебного пособия:

- совершенствование навыков речевого использования идиоматических структур;
- развитие и совершенствование навыков перевода, адекватного понимания идиоматических выражений и их эквивалентов в родном языке;

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- развитие социокультурной компетенции и навыков речевого этикета;
- формирование и развитие прагматической компетенции;
- создание оптимальных условий для реализации творческого потенциала;
- воспитание у студентов толерантности и уважения к социальным, национальным, религиозным и профессиональным ценностям разных стран и народов.

Содержание и структура электронного учебного пособия соответствует программе дисциплины «Идиоматика английского языка» для студентов факультета иностранных языков, обучающихся по специальности 1-21 06 01-01 «Современные иностранные (английский, немецкий) языки» на пятом году обучения в течение десятого семестра.

Электронное учебное пособие состоит из 11 разделов:

1. Введение.

2. “Unit 1. Types of idiomatic expressions”, в котором представлены дефиниция и классификация идиоматических выражений, особенности значения и употребления, проблема перевода, устойчивые выражения и их виды, обиходные выражения, сравнения, биномиальные устойчивые выражения, эвфемизмы, пословицы и поговорки с примерами и упражнениями на тренировку лексического материала.

3. “Unit 2. Happily ever after”, в котором представлен комплекс упражнений с идиоматическими выражениями, связанными с семьей, семейными ценностями, друзьями, обществом, отношениями между людьми.

4. “Unit 3. Getting away from it all”, в котором представлен комплекс упражнений с идиоматическими выражениями, связанными с видами и способами путешествий, проведением досуга.

5. “Unit 4. Getting on in life”, в котором представлен комплекс упражнений с идиоматическими выражениями, описывающими внешность, поведение, характер, положительные и отрицательные эмоции; идиоматическими выражениями, связанными с работой, деньгами, бизнесом; идиоматическими выражениями с

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компонентами «цвет», «животные», «части тела».

6. “Reading comprehension and speaking”, в котором представлена обширная подборка аутентичных текстов, обеспечивающих информационное наполнение тем, а также задания для углубления коммуникативной компетенции обучаемых в рамках заданной проблематики. Данные тексты используются в качестве речевых образцов для монологического и диалогического высказываний.

7. “Listening and watching comprehension”, в котором представлены аутентичные аудио- и видеоматериалы, а также упражнения на формирование навыков аудирования.

8. “Supplementary exercises”, в котором представлены упражнения на совершенствование лексических навыков по пройденным темам и задания на совершенствование навыков устной и письменной речи.

9. “Achievement test”, в который включено 100 пунктов с выбором вариантов ответа для определения глубины усвоения материала.

10. “Glossary”, в котором представлено около 700 идиоматических выражений и их определения, встречаемые в данном пособии.

11. References.

В результате изучения материала студент *должен знать*:

- общие закономерности возникновения и функционирования в языке устойчивых идиоматических выражений;
- особенности употребления идиоматических единиц в зависимости от коммуникативной ситуации;
- основные культурные и социальные сферы применения идиоматических выражений изучаемого языка.

Студент *должен уметь*:

- использовать изученные идиоматические выражения в речи в соответствии с ситуацией общения;
- самостоятельно анализировать и применять изучаемые фразеологические

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единицы в различных языковых контекстах;

- анализировать и критически оценивать адекватность употребления устойчивых выражений в зависимости от различных бытовых ситуаций.

Студент *должен владеть*:

- навыками употребления идиоматических выражений в речи;
- навыками перевода идиоматические выражения на родной язык;
- навыками рациональных приемов поиска, отбора и использования информации при анализе художественного текста;
- навыками первичного лингвистического анализа языкового материала.

В систему заданий электронного учебного пособия «Идиоматика английского языка» положены принципы активизации обучаемых, нарастания трудностей, взаимосвязанного формирования языковых навыков и речевых умений и проблемности. Тексты и задания представляют богатый материал для расширения лексического запаса, развития творческого мышления, навыков свободного говорения и ведения аргументированной дискуссии по предложенным проблемам. Эффективность образовательного процесса на основе электронного учебного пособия обеспечивается его коммуникативной и профессиональной направленностью, оптимальным сочетанием аудиторной и самостоятельной работы, а также использованием различных режимов работы: индивидуальной, парной, групповой и т. д.

Электронное учебное пособие может использоваться как основное пособие в ходе изучения дисциплины «Идиоматика английского языка». Наличие внутренних гиперссылок облегчает поиск нужной информации по тексту электронного учебного пособия. При выполнении итогового теста не требуется дополнительный контроль со стороны преподавателя. Правильные или неправильные ответы выдаются автоматически. Для работы с документом требуется только установленная на компьютере или мобильном устройстве программа для чтения файлов в формате PDF.

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UNIT 1. TYPES OF IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS

Idioms are a type of formulaic language. Formulaic language consists of fixed expressions which you learn and understand as units rather than as individual words. Idiomatic expressions are fixed combinations of words whose meaning is often difficult to guess from the meaning of each individual word.

Idiomatic expressions are constructed in different ways. This book will introduce you to the different types of idiomatic expressions:

- idioms – similes – proverbs – clichés
- metaphors – binomials – euphemisms – phrasal verbs

What is an idiom?

An idiom is an expression where the meaning is different from the meaning of the individual words.

For example, “to have your feet on the ground” is an idiom meaning “to be sensible”: Tara is an intelligent girl who **has both her feet firmly on the ground**.

Idioms are used for different purposes:

– for emphasis, e.g. The singer’s second album **sank like a stone**. (= failed completely);

– to agree with previous speaker, e.g.

A: Did you notice how Lisa started listening when you said her name?

B: Yes, that certainly made her **prick her ears up**. (= start listening carefully);

– to comment on people, e.g. Did you hear Tom has been invited to dinner with the prime minister? He’s certainly **gone up in the world!** (= gained a better social position or more money than before);

– to comment on a situation, e.g. The new finance minister wants to **knock** the economy **into shape**. (= take action to get something into a good condition);

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- to make an anecdote more interesting, e.g. It was just one disaster after another day, sort of **domino effect**. (= when something, usually bad, happens and causes a series of other things to happen);
- to catch the reader's eye, e.g. a **debt of dishonour instead** of the usual *debt of honour* (= the debt that you owe someone for moral rather than financial reasons);
- to indicate membership of a particular group, e.g. surfers **drop in on** someone (= to get on a wave another surfer is already on).

A lot of idioms are formed using phrasal verbs.

For example: After he left me, it took me a long time to **pick up the pieces** (= It took me a long time to return to a normal life).

Many idioms are colloquial, which means that they are used in informal conversation rather than in writing or formal language.

For example: I won't tell anyone your secret. **My lips are sealed.**

An idiom uses language in a non-literal – metaphorical – way.

The following are examples:

1. I am up to my eyes in work at the moment.
2. At the meeting I felt a bit out of my depth.
3. I was over the moon when I heard she had had twins!
4. It broke my mother's heart to see her home burn to the ground.

If you are up to your eyes, you are very busy. If you are out of your depth, you might be in the sea, but you are more likely to be in a situation, which you do not understand for some reason. If you are over the moon, you are extremely happy about something. If something breaks your heart, you are very sad about it.

In these examples, it is clear that the idiom is a whole expression. This is the traditional view of idioms.

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Ex 1. Identify literal and idiomatic use of words in the following sentences.

1. The river **flooded** several villages.
2. The crowd **flooded** on to the pitch.
3. **Piles** of rubbish lay everywhere.
4. He has **piles** of money.
5. I love roast **potatoes**.
6. Euthanasia. Now, that is a very hot **potato**!
7. I have an uncle **at sea**.
8. I am all **at sea**.

Ex. 2. Explain the idiomatic expressions in the following sentences and paraphrase the sentences.

1. I am feeling a bit **under the weather** this morning.
2. We arrived in the **nick of time**.
3. I **know London like the back of my hand**.
4. Do you think you could **pull a few strings for me**?
5. I could **not get a word in edgeways**.
6. I am fed up with **rat race**.
7. My father thought I would **follow in his footsteps**.
8. Hurry up! You are **cutting it a bit fine**, aren't you?
9. Let's **look on the bright side**, shall we?
10. Come on, we cannot just **sweep this under the carpet**.

What is a metaphor?

Metaphors exist in all languages. You use them in your own language. A metaphor is a figure of speech that describes an object or action in a way that isn't literally true, but helps explain an idea or make a comparison. For example: A crowd is water. When you have that idea in your mind, you understand that the crowd can flow, flood, or trickle.

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Here are some of the common metaphors practised in this book:

1. Time is money.

We save time. We can spare 5 minutes. We can run out of time.

2. Business is war.

Advertising is a minefield in which you have targets and keep your sights on what your competitors are doing.

3. Life is a journey.

You can be on the road to recovery. You might be at a crossroads in your life because you are in a **dead-end job**.

Ex. 3. Match the idiomatic expressions (1-8) with the metaphors (a-h).

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. I simply cannot afford more than a week off. | a) Moods are weather. |
| 2. You win some, you lose some. | b) A company is a ship. |
| 3. He had a constant stream of visitors. | c) Life is gambling. |
| 4. I think I am in a rut. | d) People are liquid. |
| 5. Carry on but keep your head down. | e) Seeing is understanding. |
| 6. We are going to have to weather storm. | f) Business is war. |
| 7. He was a bit hazy about the amount. | g) Time is money. |
| 8. I just do not see the point. | h) Life is a journey. |

Why are idioms and metaphors so important?

Firstly, they are important because they are very common. It is impossible to speak, read, or listen to English without meeting idiomatic language. This is not something you can leave until you reach an advanced level. All native speaker English is idiomatic.

The second reason is that very often the metaphorical use of a word is more common today than its literal use. But it is important for you to know the literal meaning. Often the literal meaning creates a picture in your mind and this picture makes the other meanings easier to understand.

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Ex. 4. Look at these pairs of sentences. Decide which contains the literal and which the non-literal use of the words in bold.

- 1a. I have **lost** my car keys.
- 1b. I have **lost** my confidence.
- 2a. I **picked up** a few bargains at the market on Saturday.
- 2b. I cannot **pick up** my suitcase. There is too much in it.
- 3a. We cannot sit here. The **ground** is too wet.
- 3b. This idea will never get off the **ground**.
- 4a. So, what is your **side** of the story?
- 4b. Somebody has put a scratch right down the **side** of my car.
- 5a. I do not know what I have done to my **back**. It really hurts when I bend.
- 5b. Have you been talking about me behind my **back**?
- 6a. She can be a bit aggressive, but her **heart** is in the right place.
- 6b. Did you hear my father has had a **heart** attack, but he is all right.

The third reason why this kind of language is important is because it is fun to learn and to use. Because there is so much to learn, anything which helps you to remember things is important and if the language you are learning is more colourful and interesting, there is more chance that you will remember it. You will also sound more natural if your English contains more idioms.

Can you translate idioms?

The simplest answer to this question is NO. This is an area where languages can be very different. Sometimes you can translate an idiom from one language to another, but most often this is not possible. For example, there is an English idiom “to let sleeping dogs lie”. The German and Italian equivalents also speak of sleeping dogs, but not the French or Spanish.

It is important that you are very careful if you have to translate idioms. Never translate an idiom word for word. You must translate the whole expression. Sometimes you will be

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able to translate the English idiom into an idiom in your own language. However, there may be no idiom and you may just have to explain the meaning. One of the reasons idiomatic language is difficult to translate is because it is the area of language closest to culture. The metaphors of one culture will be different from those of another.

Ex. 5. Translate the idiomatic expressions in bold into your language.

1. When my father saw what I had done to his car, he **went through the roof**.
2. I should have been a teacher, but I dropped out and became a pop singer. **I was the black sheep of the family**.
3. My car is in a terrible state. **It is on its last legs**.
4. I wish he would shut up. He could **talk the hind legs off a donkey**.
5. Excellent as the project may be, it is bound **to be given the axe** because of the lack of support from the local government.
6. I was advised to delete the files containing irrelevant data, so I should not **lose my bearings** while doing my job.
7. Why do not you **let bygones be bygones** instead of turning your heads away from each other?
8. You will **be skating on thin ice** if you invest so much money in this risky business.
9. Howard Wikes is a shrewd and skillful politician. He knows too well how **to play to the gallery**.
10. Do not pay attention to what Norman says. He knows nothing about marketing strategies and that is why he is **talking through his hat**.
11. Adam went on making his cynical remarks just because he wanted to make me angry. But I did not **rise to the bait**, which in turn made him mad.
12. Susan was very disappointed when she did not **make the grade** in achieving the unexpected result of her research.

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What are similes?

Similes are expressions which compare two things; they always include the words *as* or *like*. You can use similes to make your spoken and written English more colourful and your comparisons more powerful. For example:

My brother's **as thin as a rake**. (extremely thin)

Pilar is **as bright as a button**. (extremely clever)

My new sweater **fits like a glove**. I'm so pleased with it. (fits extremely well)

Dan **ran like the wind** to get the message to Paula before she left. (extremely fast)

You should learn similes as whole phrases, because it is usually not possible to change the individual words (e.g. we do not say as thin as a stick or as thin as a pole). Where it is possible to change the individual words, the meaning of the simile changes, for example:

I needed a drink of water. My mouth was **as dry as a bone**. (extremely dry/thirsty)

His lecture was **as dry as dust** and everyone was bored. (extremely boring)

Ex. 6. Match the beginning of each sentence with its ending. Complete each sentence with *as* or *like*.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. My new dress fits | a) a maniac |
| 2. You'll need to run | b) silk |
| 3. She's as thin | c) a button |
| 4. Sandra always looks as fresh | d) a bone |
| 5. He drove off | e) a rake |
| 6. Her mouth felt as dry | f) a glove |
| 7. Their son is as bright | g) the wind to catch the train |
| 8. Her hair felt as smooth | h) a daisy |

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Ex. 7. Choose the correct word to complete each simile.

1. That book was so boring. It was as dry as (*a bone/dust*).
2. I can't believe I didn't know the answer. I feel as thick as (*two short planks/thieves*).
3. You explained so well – it's a difficult concept, but it's as clear as (*crystal/mud*).
4. I wonder what they're plotting – they look as thick as (*two short planks/thieves*).
5. After working in that airless room my mouth feels as dry as (*a bone/dust*).
6. I can't understand what he's trying to say – it's as clear as (*crystal/mud*).

What are binomials?

Binomials are a type of idiom in which two words are joined by a conjunction (linking word), usually *and*. The order of the two words is fixed. For example, we always say **black and white**, NOT white and black: Managing climate change isn't a **black and white** issue. (separate and clear)

The words can be:

- synonyms (words which mean the same): Sara's work is always very **neat and tidy**.
- opposites: If you go for cheaper speakers, the sound quality may be a bit **hit and miss**. (sometimes good, sometimes bad)
- the same word: They finished the race **neck and neck**. (equal)
- rhyming: Tables in the canteen take a lot of **wear and tear**. (damage through everyday use)
- alliterative: After the match the players' legs were **black and blue**. (very bruised)
- joined by words other than *and*: **Little by little**, Vera gained the horse's confidence. (gradually)

Trinomials are a similar type of idiom, in which three words are joined, e.g. I've looked **here, there and everywhere** for my glasses but can't find them. (everywhere)

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Ex. 8. Fill in the gaps with the correct binomial (trinomial) from the list.

*all fingers and thumbs / in dribs and drabs / out and about / at sixes or sevens /
chalk and cheese / waxed and warned / blood, sweat and tears / time after time*

1. People started to enter the room. (*small amounts at a time*)
2. Jack's commitment to work throughout this year. (*fluctuated*)
3. Have a few days' rest and you'll be in no time. (*active, doing usual activities*)
4. I've told him not to leave his car unlocked. (*many times*)
5. The work required but it was worth it. (*hard work*)
6. The whole team was since Kay resigned. (*in a state of confusion*)
7. I keep dropping things today – I'm (*unable to do what somebody wants to do*)
8. My mom and I are like, but we get on well. (*totally different*)

What are proverbs?

Proverbs are short sentences which refer to something most people have experienced and which give advice or warnings. Like idioms, their form is fixed, and it is not always possible to guess the meaning of the proverb looking at each of the words.

Ex. 9. Match the beginning of each sentence with its ending.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Every cloud | a) mother of invention. |
| 2. Nothing ventured, | b) there's a way. |
| 3. Necessity is the | c) spice of life. |
| 4. Where there's a will | d) nothing gained. |
| 5. Variety is the | e) has a silver lining. |

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Ex. 10. Correct the mistakes in the following proverbs.

1. We had no tent, so we made a shelter out of branched and leaves to protect ourselves from the storm. It was a case of need is the mother of invention.
2. I'm doing three jobs at the moment to pay my studies, still, they say that change is the spice of life.
3. I went to the gym every day for three month and felt so much fitter. It was very hard work but nothing pained, nothing gained.
4. I decided that bungee jumping was too dangerous and didn't go with my friends – better to be safe than dead.
5. We've got ten laptops at half-price. But hurry – it's first come, first serve.
6. Three big bills at the same time? It never pours but it rains!

What are euphemisms?

Euphemisms are a type of idiom used to avoid saying words which may offend or be considered unpleasant. They are useful to learn, as they will help you communicate using language which is appropriate for the situation you are in.

Euphemisms are used:

- to talk about subjects which may upset or offend, such as death: It was obvious he was not **long for this world**, but he never lost sense of humour. (going to die soon)
- to avoid using direct words for body functions: I'm just going to **spend a penny**. (use the toilet)
- for humorous effect when telling anecdotes: My boss was **effing and blinding** because he had lost a confidential report. (swearing)
- by the media or political institutions to tone down unpleasant situations: Many soldiers have **made the supreme / ultimate sacrifice** for their country. (died)

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Ex. 11. Rewrite each sentence using a euphemism in the correct form from the list bellow. There may be more than one possible answer.

*a bit on the side / answer the call of nature / breathe one's last / effing and blinding /
four-letter words / friendly fire / have a bun in the oven / in one's birthday suit /
in the altogether / not long for this world / one's number is up / pardon my French /
play the field / powder one's nose / spend a penny*

1. She's pregnant.
2. He's naked.
3. I'm just going to the toilet.
4. The old man knew he would soon die.
5. He has lots of girlfriends.
6. He's always swearing.
7. Excuse me for swearing!
8. We must reduce the number of times we accidentally fire on our own men.

What are clichés and fixed statements?

A cliché is a comment that is often used in a certain common, everyday situation. It is a comment that most people are familiar with and is therefore not original. Clichés are often used in everyday conversation and they are also frequently played with in advertising slogans and newspaper headlines.

Ex. 12. Answer the following questions using words from the list.

*a horse / after the event / bliss / enough / the bridge side /
it will out / pebbles / fish / the fat lady*

1. Who do we say has to sing before we can be confident something has finished?
2. What do we say is as good as a feast?

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3. What side do we say you have to look on if you are trying to be optimistic?
4. What do we say there are plenty more of on the beach?
5. What do we say that ignorance is?
6. What do we say that it is easy to be wise?
7. Which animal do we say you can lead to water but not make drink?
8. What do we say there are plenty more of in the sea?
9. What do we say will happen with truth?

Ex. 13. Correct the mistakes in the following idioms.

1. Let me a break!
2. There are plenty more sharks in the sea.
3. So long, so good.
4. It's not over until the fat lady dies.
5. Truth will escape.
6. Dad's the word.

What is a phrasal verb? A phrasal verb is a verb formed from two (or sometimes three) parts: a verb and an adverb or preposition. These adverbs and prepositions are often called particles when they are used in a phrasal verb. Most phrasal verbs are formed from a small number of verbs (for example, get, go, come, put and set) and a small number of particles (for example, away, out, off, up and in). Phrasal verbs sometimes have meanings that you can easily guess (for example, sit down or look for).

However, in most cases their meanings are quite different from the meanings of the verb they are formed from. For example, hold up can mean “to cause a delay” or “to try to rob someone”. The original meaning of hold (for example, to hold something in your hands) no longer applies.

There are five main types of phrasal verb. These are:

1. Intransitive phrasal verbs (= phrasal verbs which do not need an object).
For example: You are driving too fast. You ought to **slow down**.

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2. Transitive phrasal verbs (= phrasal verbs which must have an object) where the object can come in one of two positions:

(1) Between the verb and the particle(s).

For example: I think I will **put** my jacket **on**.

(2) After the particle.

For example: I think I will **put on** my jacket.

However, if the object is a pronoun (he, she, it, etc), it must usually come between the verb and the particle.

For example: I think I will **put it on**. (NOT I think I will **put on it**.)

3. Transitive phrasal verbs where the object must come between the verb and the particle.

For example: Our latest designs **set** our company **apart** from our rivals.

4. Transitive phrasal verbs where the object must come after the particle.

For example: Why do you **put up with** the way he treats you?

5. Transitive phrasal verbs with two objects, one after the verb and one after the particle.

For example: They **put** their success **down to** good planning.

Some transitive phrasal verbs can be used in the passive, but the object cannot come between the verb and the particle. For example:

Active: The soldiers **blew up** the bridge / The soldiers **blew** the bridge **up**.

Passive: The bridge was **blown up** by the soldiers.

Active: **Switch** the lights **off** before you leave / **Switch off** the lights before you leave.

Passive: The lights must be **switched off** before you leave.

Active: It is time they **did away with** these silly rules.

Passive: It is time these silly rules were **done away with** (where the subject is either not known or not needed).

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Ex. 14. Look at these extracts from the articles. There are twelve phrasal verbs. Underline them and write them down.

1. Smoke from the fire in the kitchen set a fire alarm off the Mr. and Mrs. Newtons managed to get out through a window. One man in the flats upstairs was watching TV and had not realised what was happening. He had the shock of his life when firemen broke in and told him to leave immediately.

2. Annoyed by the telephone salespeople? Do not put up with them any longer! Whenever one rings you up, you should ask them to hold on because you have to consult someone. You then simply carry on doing what you were doing before. When you return after about ten minutes, you should find that the caller has hung up.

3. We needed money to pay off the loan so I decided never to turn down any jobs that I was offered. Of course the work piled up and I just could not do it all. My wife was worried that I was going to crack up and started helping me when she could.

Ex. 15. Match each phrasal verb from the previous exercise with its correct definition. Use each verb once only.

1. If you an alarm, for example, you cause it to start.
2. If you are in a building where there is danger and you, you manage to escape.
3. When firemen come to a house and, they enter it using force.
4. If you someone or something, you tolerate them.
5. If you someone, you phone them.
6. If you ask someone to, you want them to wait.
7. If you doing something, you continue doing it.
8. You when you end a phone conversation.
9. If you a loan, you pay the money you owe.
10. If you the offer of a job, you say you do not want it.
11. If work, you have too much to do.
12. When people are under a lot of pressure and they have a nervous breakdown.

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Ex. 16. Choose the correct alternative to complete the sentence.

1. I must go on a diet. I a lot of weight while I was on holiday. (*held up / put on / settled down / weighed up*)
2. We were really when we saw how much he had changed. (*barged in / pulled out / taken aback / whipped up*)
3. So you have passed the driving test! This a celebration! (*bursts into / calls for / looks after / takes after*)
4. I try to be friendly but it is hard to some of my colleagues. (*come up with / get by / get on with / speak out*)
5. I had better take on my pills. I think I have got a headache (*catching up / coming on / dying down / winding up*)
6. The plane and was soon flying high over the town. (*clouded over / fired away / piled up / took off*)
7. After he was knocked down it took a long time to (*bring him round / fit him in / keep him in / let him off*)
8. What do you think the initials LTP? (*build up / stand for / take over / turn out*)
9. As they are identical twins it is difficult to (*mix them up / take them apart / tell them apart / set them up*)
10. One of them was injured so the team had to the competition. (*back away from / drop out of / get back at / get behind with*)
11. That is not the way to solve the problem. You are in the wrong way. (*coming across / going about / taking over / turning on*)
12. Suddenly the fire alarm and everyone had to leave the building. (*got around / set off / shot up / went off*)
13. She is so depressed. All these problems are really (*getting her down / getting round her / taking her on / toning her down*)

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14. He as a quiet, sensible and thoughtful person. (*bubbles over / catches on / comes across / puts through*)

15. I am not going – so do not try to me going! (*speak to / talk into / tell into / talk out of*)

16. A car suddenly in front of me and I could not stop in time! (*crossed out / gave in / pulled out / shot up*)

Ex. 17. Complete each pattern by inserting the missing verb from the list.

*burst / check / come (x3) / give / go / keep / turn (x2) /
look (x2) / miss / put (x2) / see / sleep / take*

1. on (special make-up when I appear on stage).
2. up (the volume if you cannot hear).
3. through (her disguise if she is not convincing enough).
4. across (these photos while tidying up my room).
5. off (those thin clothes and put on something warmer).
6. back on (the time when we lived in London).
7. through (all that noise while everyone else was woken up).
8. ahead with (all the improvements we have asked for).
9. up (appearances despite all our financial problems).
10. up with (suggestions for places to hold the conference).
11. out in (a rash after eating tomatoes).
12. down (the volume if it is too loud).
13. into (the hotel before the others arrive).
14. forward (a proposal and hope that they will accept it).
15. up (any new words in the dictionary).
16. out on (all the fun if you do not come).
17. into (tears when she heard the news).
18. away (the secret if they keep questioning him).

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UNIT 2. HAPPILY EVER AFTER

Ex. 1. Explain the following idiomatic expressions in italics and paraphrase the sentences.

- It was a *turning point* in my life.
- He proposed to me completely *out of the blue*.
- Life is full of *ups and downs*.
- I started to *have second thoughts* about it.
- There has to be *give and take* in a relationship.

Ex. 2. Explain the following idiomatic expressions and use them in situations of your own.

- Love is blind
- to be over the moon
- to see the world through rose-coloured spectacles
- to have your head in the clouds
- to be on cloud nine
- to have your feet (firmly) on the ground

Ex. 3. Explain the following expressions and put them in the dialogues below.

*at each other's throats / a shoulder to cry on / there's no love lost /
through thick and thin / clear the air / ups and downs /
don't see eye to eye / fight like cat and dog*

1. – Thanks for listening, Rachel. I feel better talking to you.
– That's OK. You can always come to me if you need
2. – You've had the same flat mate for years, haven't you? You must get on very well.
– Well, we have had our over the years but on the whole it's worked very well.

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3. – Do you get on well with your brothers and sisters?
– Yes, I do, but my brother and elder sister
4. – Is it true that Laura and Jeff are having problems?
– I think so. They seem to be most of the time these days.
5. – How are you getting on with your new business partner?
– Well, we on everything, but that is a good thing. It is when we agree on something too quickly that mistakes are made.
6. – My parents have been married for 50 years.
– In those years people stayed together
7. – Why was there such a bad atmosphere at the meeting?
– You are new here. Didn't you notice that between George and Andrew?
8. – There's a bad atmosphere in our office. Some people are not talking to each other.
– Well, it is time you had a meeting to

Ex. 4. Complete the following statements about good relationships. Explain their meanings.

house / need / books / turn / hit / spot / pick / foot / close / wavelength

1. I think my teacher has a soft for me.
2. Even if you get married, do not neglect your friends.
3. It is always fun to meet someone you it off with.
4. I must say I get on like a on fire with my mother-in-law.
5. I get on best with people who are on the same as myself.
6. My children all try to stay in my good
7. Do someone a good, and you have made a friend.
8. Do your best not to get off on the wrong
9. A friend in is a friend indeed!
10. You can your friends, but you cannot pick your relations!

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Ex. 5. Complete the sentences with the correct preposition.

1. Do you need a shoulder to cry
2. We are not the same wavelength.
3. They stayed together thick and thin.
4. We got like a house fire.
5. We got off the wrong foot.
6. They are each other's throats.
7. There is no love lost them.
8. I am not his good books.
9. They do not see eye eye.
10. I have a soft spot her.

Ex. 6. a) Fill in the following words in the definitions below.

crush / rocks / knot / plunge / stand / guts

1. When boats sail too close to the land, can be a real danger.
 2. If you cannot hot water, it means you cannot tolerate it.
 3. Everything inside you – your stomach, kidneys, liver are your
 4. If you accidentally sit down on a packet of biscuits, you will them.
 5. When you tie two pieces of string together, you make a
 6. The meanings of dive and are very similar. You can or dive into the sea.
- You can something into water, but you cannot dive something in.

b) Put the following nouns into these expressions and explain their meanings.

crush / heels / rocks / plunge / knot / love

- tie the – on the – have a on someone
- fall in – take the – head over in love

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c) Now use the correct form of the idiomatic expressions in these situations.

1. – I've never seen Camilla so relaxed and happy. What has happened to her?
– Didn't you know? She has met Mr Right! She is with this French chef who works in a restaurant in the town centre.
2. – Kate, do you remember our art teacher at school? He was nice, wasn't he?
– Oh. Yes, Mr Eastwood. I will never forget him! I on him until the day I saw him with his six children and dreadful wife!
3. – Tim, you and Sharon have been together now for ten years. Isn't it about time you tied?
– Well, funny you should mention it. Last night we decided to take so I hope you are free on June 12! I am looking for a best man!
4. – I hear you've got Tom and Barbara's children staying with you at the moment.
– Yes, I am afraid Tom and Barbara's marriage is They are having a little time and space to talk on their own.

d) Make up your own dialogues using the idiomatic expressions from this exercise.

Ex. 7. a) Match the two parts of each conversation.

1. Are Luke and Louise still together?
2. Has Brian asked you to stay behind late again, Tony?
3. David's told me that he will not come skiing with us if Frank is going to be there. Have you any idea why?
4. What is your honest opinion of our new Head of Marketing?
5. Why won't the three political parties involved get together and cooperate?
 - a. Well, as far as I can gather, *there is no love lost between them*. They *fell out over something* last year and have not spoken since.
 - b. No, I am afraid not. *They have gone their separate ways*.
 - c. Yes, it is always me, isn't it? I think he has *it in for me*.

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- d. *I cannot stand her.* And I cannot be more honest than that!
e. It is quite simple. *They hate each other's guts!* They would not even share a taxi.

b) Make up your own dialogues using the idiomatic expressions from this exercise.

Ex. 8. a) Read the letter and explain the idiomatic expressions in bold.

Dear Mum,

just a quick note to ask you for a bit of advice. I am quite worried about Sharon and I just do not know what to do.

She came round a few weeks ago to tell me that she had been on a date with Paul Regan, **an old flame** of hers from university. Now, I do not know if you remember him, but I do – he **stole her heart** at the beginning of her first year and she was convinced that she had met **the man of her dreams**. For a while, it seemed that she was **head over heels in love** with her too, but then, all of a sudden, at the end of her second year, he told her he never wanted to see her again and **broke her heart**.

Anyway, it seems that he has had **a change of heart**, but I just don't trust him. She says she is not interested in him, but quite obviously she is. She cannot hide the way she feels – you know how she **wears her heart on her sleeve**, I know Sharon and I have not always **seen eye to eye** on a lot of matters, but she is my sister and I do care about her. What worries me is that the same thing might happen again.

I know **all's fair in love and war**, but as I said, I do not want to watch her **go through** it all over again. Could you talk to her please?

Love, Brenda.

P.S. Mum, careful what you tell her because she thinks Paul **is the bee's knees**.

b) Match the items with the idiomatic expressions from the text above.

- a. a change of one's feelings for smth/smb; f. to cause smb great unhappiness;

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- b. to allow one's feelings to be too obvious;
- c. very much in love with smb;
- d. smb one was once in love with;
- e. the ideal man;
- g. to make smb fall in love with one;
- h. to be the best there is;
- i. to agree about matters;
- j. all actions are justified.

Ex. 9. Fill in the gaps with the following idiomatic expressions.

*head over heels in love / a change of heart /
broke his heart / bee's knees / see eye to eye*

1. Sally when she told David she was leaving him.
2. David must have had because he has decided to move to Manchester after all.
3. Tracy thinks her new boyfriend is the – she never stops talking about him.
4. After their first date they fell with each other.
5. Robert and I are always arguing – we never on anything.

Ex. 10. Fill in the gaps with the following idiomatic expressions.

*the man of her dreams / wear your heart on your sleeve /
an old flame / stole your heart / all's fair in love and war*

Frank: Hi, Mike. I ran into of yours yesterday.

Mike: Oh, really? Who?

Frank: Karen, of course. The one who on that holiday in Andorra.

Mike: Of course, Karen. How is she?

Frank: Fine. She is getting married next year.

Mike: Hmmm. She said I was in Andorra. I really loved her, you know.

Frank: I know she betrayed you. But then, as they say, “.....”. Next time do not

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Ex. 11. a) Read the dialogue and explain the idiomatic expressions in bold.

Gladys: Morning, Mabel. You will never guess who I got a letter from today!

Mabel: Go on, who?

Gladys: Edith Barclay, you know, she used to live at number 6.

Mabel: Edith Barclay! Ooh, I have not heard from her **for donkey's years!** Have she and her son **buried the hatchet** yet?

Gladys: Well, that is what she wrote to tell me! Oh, do you remember when Samuel was little? He was **the apple of his mother's eye** and then they **fell out** when he started seeing that girl. What was her name?

Mabel: Ooh, Sheila Briggs. Her parents were lovely folk, but she was **the black sheep of the family.**

Gladys: I cannot see what he saw in her. I remember he chased after her for ages – she really **played hard to get!**

Mabel: Yes. And then when they finally started seeing each other he was like **putty in her hands** – he even stopped talking to his mother because that girl told him to.

Gladys: Terrible. Anyway, back to the letter ... the Briggs girl must have finally **driven him round the bend** – because he broke up with her.

Mabel: Oh good!

Gladys: Yes, and guess what? Edith introduced him to a young lady – Edith said she is a lovely girl. Anyway, apparently they **tied the knot** last month and now, what with Sam's good job and all, they are **living in clover!**

Mabel: How lovely! Mind you, I always thought they would sort it out in the end – after all **blood is thicker than water.**

Gladys: Quite right!

b) Match the items with the idiomatic expressions from the dialogue above.

- a. to pretend one is not interested in smb;
- b. to annoy smb a lot;

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- c. easily controlled or manipulated;
- d. a person disapproved of by members of the family;
- e. blood ties or family relationships are the strongest;
- f. a long time;
- g. smb one is most fond of;
- h. to forget old quarrels.

c) Make up your own dialogues using the idiomatic expressions from this exercise.

Ex. 12. Rewrite the following sentences using the words in bold. Do not change these words in any way.

1. Robert and Helen have decided to get married at Christmas. **(tie)**
2. It has been ages since I last went to the theatre. **(donkey's)**
3. Although David is acting like he is not interested, it is obvious that he likes Mary. **(playing)**
4. After years of arguing, the sisters agreed to forget their differences. **(hatchet)**
5. Her constant complaining really annoys me. **(bend)**
6. No, Mary is not my girlfriend. She is someone I used to go out with. **(flame)**
7. Isn't it nice to see a young couple so much in love? **(head)**
8. After they won the lottery, they lived comfortably for the rest of their lives. **(clover)**
9. My wife and I disagree about keeping a dog. **(eye)**
10. He tricked her into marrying him, but then I suppose it is all right because he loves her. **(war)**
11. After ten years of living together, they finally got married. **(knot)**
12. I think Ann really likes Charles but she is pretending not to be interested. **(hard)**
13. Sally has made Geoff go on a diet. Geoff does anything she wants. **(putty)**
14. You have not spoken to your sister for a month. It is time you forgot your disagreement. **(hatchet)**

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

15. Tom really loves Claire. She is the most important person in his life. (apple)

Ex. 13. Choose the word which best completes each sentence and explain their meanings.

1. Anne always does whatever Frank tells her to do. She is like in his hands.

a. glue b. putty c. butter d. clay

2. Fred was in after he won the lottery.

a. clover b. grass c. wheat d. barley

3. Perhaps because he was so different, he became the black of the family.

a. cow b. cat c. sheep d. donkey

4. Laura thinks her son can do no wrong – he is the apple of her

a. eye b. ear c. heart d. mind

5. Why not ask your family for a loan – after all, blood is than water.

a. denser b. heavier c. thinner d. thicker

Ex. 14. Fill in the gaps with the idiomatic expressions from the list:

*bee's knees / donkey's years / stolen his heart / thicker than water /
change of heart / round the bend / black sheep of the family /
man of my dreams / broke my heart / wears his heart on his sleeve*

1. He, anyone can see how much he loves her.

2. Bill is really annoying to share a flat with. He is driving me

3. She seems to have, I hope she doesn't break it.

4. I have been working here for

5. Ever since Debbie got the leading role in the play, she thinks she is the

6. I always support my brother in arguments. After all, blood is

7. Uncle Mark dropped out of school and has never had a steady job. He is the

8. The headmaster has had a and he is not going to expel you after all.

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

9. He is tall, dark, handsome, a millionaire and he wants to marry me. He is the
10. Yvonne when she left me for Adrian.

Ex. 15. a) Explain the following idiomatic expressions.

- 1) to see eye to eye with someone;
- 2) to have/get one's own way;
- 3) to be close to someone;
- 4) to be the black sheep of the family;
- 5) to take someone's side.

b) Now decide which expressions you could use in the sentences below.

- a) The problem is that her parents never stop her from doing anything that she wants to do. She's become a very spoilt child as a result.
- b) My family is very ashamed of my brother and never talk about him. He was expelled from school and has been in prison twice.
- c) Whenever I had an argument with my mother or father, I could always rely on my grandparents to support me.
- d) My father and I usually agree about most things, but when it comes to politics we have completely different views.
- e) I can talk to my sister about problems because I know she will understand me and share my feelings.

Ex. 16. Explain the idiomatic expressions from the list. Work with your partner. Take turns asking and answering the questions opposite using the multi-word verbs and expressions from the list in your answers.

*bring up / look back on / tell off / get on with / look up to / take after /
get away with / grow up / get round / have one's own way / see eye to eye / be close to*

1. What kind of relationship do you have with the people in your family?

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

2. Are you similar to anyone in your family?
3. Do you have the same opinions as other member of your family?
4. Where did you spend your childhood?
5. Who took care of you when you were young?
6. Did you have a strict upbringing?
7. When were you reprimanded as a student?
8. Were you able to do what you wanted all the time?
9. Who did you admire when you were a teenager?
10. When you think about the past, what do you remember?

Ex. 17. Fill in the following words in the definitions below.

pod / spitting / flesh / knot / chalk / blood

1. Your heart pumps your through your body.
2. Peas grow in a
3. Some teachers still use to write on blackboards.
4. There's now a taboo about in public, although it was very common a hundred years ago.
5. The of an animal is the part we usually eat as meat.
6. When you tie two pieces of string together, you make a

Ex. 18. Explain the following idiomatic expressions and use them in the sentences below.

*a baby of the family / the black sheep of the family /
blood is thicker than water / own flesh and blood / fight like cat and dog /
like father, like son / two peas in a pod / tie the knot*

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

1. Jamie is only five but he is mad about football, just like his dad. You know what they say –
2. I have two sisters who are older than me and then my younger brother Mark who is twenty-two. He is the
3. They have two daughters and they look just the same. They are like
4. Sam is not the best person for the job but his father made him head of Marketing in the family business. As you know,
5. My brother and his girlfriend have finally decided to They are getting married in spring.
6. I get on very well with my brother now but we used to when we were younger.
7. Everyone expected Susan to go to university like the rest of us, but she got a job in a casino on a ship. She is
8. My son is in trouble with the police. I normally have no sympathy with people who break the law but it is different when it is your own

Ex. 19. Put the following words in the sentences below and explain their meanings.

cheese / footsteps / homes / tree / relative / family / side / image

1. Look at Marie. She is the spitting of her mother, isn't she?
2. Pippa is going to medical school. She is following in her father's
3. A recent survey shows that two out of three convicted criminals come from broken
4. I have Scottish blood. My grandparents on my mother's originally came from Glasgow.
5. George is very interested in his family's history. He can trace his family back to 1550.
6. Everyone in my family plays a musical instrument. Music runs in the
7. I got a letter today from a long-lost in Australia. I did not even know he existed! He is coming to visit in the summer.

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

8. My sister and I look alike but when it comes to personality, we are like chalk and

Ex. 20. Give the idiomatic expression to the definitions in bold.

1. I am depending on you, so **do not disappoint** me.

2. The children **liked her** the moment they met her.

3. After a year they **ended their relationship**.

4. Rachel is a good friend and I can always come to her if I **need support and help**.

5. It was a real surprise, he appeared **without warning**.

6. There is a bad atmosphere in the office, I think it is high time to **put aside past difficulties**.

7. You have been dating for three years. Isn't it the time to **marry**?

8. Unfortunately, their family life is **in trouble**, but I still hope they will make up again.

9. It is a pity that John is not the man I can **fasten my faith to**.

10. How can I trust you, you **are always cheating**.

11. She is still wearing rose-coloured spectacles and **believe in perfect relationships**.

12. It has **been ages** since I last went to the cinema.

13. After years of strong arguments, two sisters agreed to **forget their differences**.

14. His constant complaining really **annoys me**.

15. He must have had a **change of his mind** because he has decided to quit the job.

16. Tracy thinks her new boyfriend **is the best** – she never stops talking about him.

17. She cannot hide her feelings, you know, she **shows her feelings to everyone**.

18. We never talk of our uncle. He was expelled from school and now he is in prison. He is our **biggest problem**.

19. I am getting on well with my parents and **respect** them for everything they have done to me.

20. These kids **look very much the same**. It is amazing.

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Заккрыть

Ex. 21. Insert the correct preposition.

1. Do you need a shoulder to cry?
2. We are not the same wavelength.
3. They stayed together thick and thin.
4. We got like a house fire.
5. We got the wrong foot.
6. They are each other's throats.
7. I am not his good books.
8. There is no love lost them.
9. They do not see eye eye.
10. I have a soft spot her.
11. I wish people would not fall so easily over silly things.
12. My mum is very strict but I can easily get her.
13. We are very different but I think my brother takes my dad a little.
14. When I do something wrong my parents always tell me
15. Peter could not get of doing the washing up.
16. Looking on my childhood I should say it was very happy time.
17. He showed different photos that conjured very nice memories.
18. A virtual identity takes you real life making you neglect friends in reality.
19. He is a good friend and always stands me and never lets me
20. Cannot understand what he sees her, she is not the right person for him.

Ex. 22. Translate into English using idiomatic expressions or phrasal verbs.

1. Поступление в университет было решающим моментом в моей жизни.
2. Не стоит всегда быть слишком оптимистичным, жизнь полна взлетов и падений.
3. Ты очень эгоистичен, в отношениях важны компромиссы.
4. Кто-то должен быть реалистом, я рад, что он твердо стоит на земле.

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

5. Тебе уже давно пора сделать решительный шаг и поменять работу.
6. После первого свидания они влюбились друг в друга.
7. Она разбила мне сердце, сказав, что уходит от меня.
8. Вместо того чтобы назначить на эту должность человека, который является настоящим профессионалом, он взял своего племянника, ну что ж, семейные узы – не вода.
9. После получения наследства он живет припеваючи.
10. Она пошла по стопам своего отца и решила стать врачом.
11. Джоанна очень испорченный ребенок и все делает как ей захочется.
12. Я его уважаю за все, что он сделал, чтобы воспитать нас достойными людьми.
13. Я всегда считал тебя своим самым близким другом.
14. В любой самой безнадежной ситуации всегда есть надежда.
15. Я рада, что вы помирились и зарыли топор войны.

Ex. 23. Answer the questions below.

1. Would you expect to find the black sheep of the family living in clover? Why / Why not?
2. If you were the apple of somebody's eye, would they be like putty in your hands? Why / Why not?
3. Would it be wise for two people who do not see eye to eye to tie the knot? Why / Why not?
4. If you wear your heart on your sleeve, are you likely to have your heart broken? Why / Why not?

Ex. 24. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have just heard that their daughter is planning on getting married. Using some of the idioms below, discuss possible reasons why they might be angry.

- head over heels in love
- the man of her dreams

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- all is fair in love and war
- to tie the knot
- the black sheep of the family
- the apple of smb's eye
- the bee's knee
- to steal smb's heart
- to see eye to eye
- to drive smb round the bend

Ex. 25. Work in pairs. Study one problem situation below. Take turns to describe the problem situation to each other, and discuss the advice you would give. Try to use as many idiomatic expressions from this unit as possible.

Student A *Problem situation* You have a young sister who sees the world in a very naive and idealistic way. Last week she met a young man on a blind date and immediately fell in love with him. She says he is the ideal man for her, but you cannot understand what she finds wonderful or attractive about him. Your parents do not like him. Yesterday he unexpectedly asked her to marry him and she accepted. She is extremely happy but you think she is too young. What should she do?

Student B *Problem situation* A friend of yours, Tom, has a very difficult relationship with his girlfriend. One moment their relationship is very good, and the next it is very bad. They often have arguments because neither of them will compromise about anything. Although in the end they are always friends again, and you think the problem is that recently they have become less close to one another. Tom has told you he met someone else last week, and liked this person very much. He now feels differently about his girlfriend, and he is thinking of ending their relationship. But he knows his girlfriend depends on him for help and support, and doesn't want to disappoint her. What should he do?

When you have finished, report back to the rest of the group. Say if you agree or disagree with the advice that was given.

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Заккрыть

UNIT 3. GETTING AWAY FROM IT ALL

Ex. 1. Match the idiomatic expressions with their meanings.

1. I **had a whale of a time**.
 2. I **recharged my batteries**.
 3. I like places **off the beaten track**.
 4. It was **just what the doctor ordered**.
- a) I am ready to come back to work.
 - b) It was exactly what I needed.
 - c) I like going to quiet and unusual places.
 - d) I had a wonderful time.

Ex. 2. a) Fill in the following expressions in the dialogues below.

- a) *A change is as good as a rest.*
- b) *We had a whale of time.*
- c) *We have packed everything except the kitchen sink.*
- d) *There is no place like home.*
- e) *It was like home from home.*
- f) *I always travel light.*
- g) *It was just what the doctor ordered.*
- h) *We are going to recharge the batteries.*

1. – Welcome back, Chris. You look well. Did you have a good time?

– Fantastic. Sun, sea and excellent food

2. – Are you having a holiday this year, Kathy?

– I am going to look after my brother's children for a week. It is not exactly a holiday but you know what they say –

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

3. – Are you glad to be back?
– Very much! We had a wonderful holiday, but you know what they say –
4. – But there's nothing to do in the middle of the forest! How will you fill your days?
– You do not go to Sweden for a wild time!
5. – Would you like to borrow my suitcase or have you got one of your own?
– It's OK, thanks. I do not need it.
6. – Are you sure everything is in the cases?
– Yes, positive
7. – You have been on a skiing holiday, haven't you? What was it like?
– Yes, I went with some friends. It was great
8. – Did you stay in a hotel or an apartment?
– An apartment. It had everything – fridge, microwave, colour TV, even a washing machine

b) Make up your own dialogues using the idiomatic expressions from this exercise.

Ex. 3. Explain the following idiomatic expressions and use them in situations of your own.

- It is just a **stone's throw away**.
- Travel **broadens the mind**.
- **To get away from it all**.
- He is such a **globe-trotter**.
- **To have itchy feet**.
- **To travel light**.

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

Ex. 4. Explain the following idiomatic expressions and use them in the situations below.

*getting away from it all / the time of our lives / in the middle of nowhere /
let your hair down / a short break / make a nice change /
watching the world go by / off the beaten track*

1. – When are you off on holiday?
– Tomorrow. I cannot wait. I am really looking forward to
2. – Did I hear you were off on holiday next week?
– Yes, we are just having I am back in again on Wednesday.
3. – The best thing about the town was it was so quiet. We were the only tourists.
– Yes, I am like you. I prefer places
4. – Why do you always go to Ibiza?
– You have never been? It is the best place to really
5. – Have you been to Paris?
– Yes, I love Paris. I love sitting in a café
6. – How was your holiday, Mike?
– Fabulous. We had
7. – You normally go to Corfu in the summer, don't you?
– Yes, but this year we are going cycling in the Alps. It will
8. – Where is this cottage you are renting in Portugal?
– Oh, it is miles from anywhere

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

Ex. 5. Put the following pairs of words into the sentences below and explain the idiomatic expressions.

change / rest away / all time / lives
just / doctor no / home whale / time

1. A is as good as a
2. I need to get from it
3. There is place like
4. We had a of a
5. It was what the ordered.
6. We had the of our

Ex. 6. a) Read the letter and explain the idiomatic expressions in bold.

Dear Mary,

Sorry Lionel and I were such poor company last weekend, but we were both feeling **down in the dumps**, especially after finding out that Terry had been **keeping us in the dark** about the severity of the company's money problems. I was so angry with him. My own brother – can you believe it? Believe me, running a family business is **not all it has cracked up to be!**

Anyway, the morning after you left, I was reading the paper when an advert for a week in a country **caught my eye**. It sounded **right up our street**, so I mentioned it to Lionel and, after a lot of persuading, he finally agreed that we both needed to **take things easy** for a bit.

We have been here for five days now and I feel so much better, it is right **off the beaten track**, so Lionel and I have had enough peace and quiet to talk about company's problems and come up with some solutions. I will tell you one thing – Terry is going to **come down to earth with a bump** when we get back!

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

This place is truly fantastic and Lionel's **in his element** at the moment as the river near here is excellent for fishing. He got up **at the crack of dawn** today and returned at lunch-time with an enormous trout!

I had better go now as we are leaving tomorrow and I have not started packing yet. I will give you a ring as soon as we get back.

Love, Jane.

b) Match the items with the idiomatic expressions from the text above.

- 1) to relax;
- 2) to keep smb unaware of smth;
- 3) to be not as good as people say;
- 4) to stop dreaming and start thinking practically;
- 5) isolated and quiet;
- 6) within one's range of interest;
- 7) depressed;
- 8) very happy/sad to a situation;
- 9) to get smb's attention;
- 10) very early in the morning.

Ex. 7. Fill in the gaps with the following idiomatic expressions.

*kept in the dark / caught my eye / down in the dumps /
came down to earth with a bump / all it's cracked up to be*

1. Sam thought he could pass his exam without studying, but he when he failed.
2. He was about his surprise retirement party.
3. The new restaurant is not, it may look nice, but the food is awful!
4. I bought Ann some flowers because she looked
5. The beautiful clothes in the shop window, so I went in and bought a dress.

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Заккрыть

Ex. 8. a) Fill in the gaps with the following idiomatic expressions.

*right up my street / take things easy / the crack of dawn /
off the beaten track / in your element*

Greg: Hi, Jim. How did you spend your week off?

Jim: I went camping in Snowdonia. It was brilliant, no phones or traffic or anything like that for a whole week. It was completely

Greg: That sounds! I could do with a few days out of the city.

Jim: Yeah, imagine it Greg – getting up at every day and watching the sun rise as you cook your breakfast, then a bit of walking or fishing with no one telling you what to do.

Greg: You must have been, Jim!

Jim: You are right there! Actually, I am going again next weekend. Do you want to come?

Greg: Maybe another time. I think I'll just stay at home and instead.

b) Make up your own dialogues using the idiomatic expressions from this exercise.

Ex. 9. a) Read the advertisement and explain the idiomatic expressions in bold.

GET AWAY FROM IT ALL

On the Costa Blanca

Hotel Blanca

- 1 week – only \$ 100
- 5-star hotel, full board
- lively holiday resort

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

Tired of holidaying in the same old **run-of-the-mill** places? Are you searching for sandy white beaches where you can sunbathe till you are **as brown as a berry**, or **round-the-clock** bars and discos where you can dance all night? If so, then **your best bet** is the Costa Blanca in Spain.

You will be **over the moon** with both Hotel Blanca and its delightful location on the Spanish coast, where you'll find a multitude of ways to **get into the swing of** your holiday, ranging from jet-skiing to paragliding. Food-lovers won't be disappointed either, as the Hotel Blanca has two terrific restaurants. One word of warning, however, for more conventional diners – **steer clear** of the Chili a la Blanca – it is hot!

So, you fancy a holiday where you can **let your hair down**, and return home with **a new lease of life** – try the Hotel Blanca – we guarantee you won't regret it.

b) Match the items with the idiomatic expressions from the text above.

- to take a break from work or problems;
- all day and all night;
- a return of energy or enthusiasm;
- to become accustomed to smth;
- to relax and enjoy oneself;
- to avoid;
- extremely pleased;
- very suntanned;
- the most appropriate choice;
- ordinary and unexciting.

Ex. 10. Rewrite the following sentences using the words in bold. Do not change these words in any way.

1. Speaking in front of an audience can be nerve-racking, but once you become accustomed to it, you'll find it easy. (**swing**)

2. My apartment block has a 24-hour security system. (**clock**)

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

3. I'm tired of ordinary novels. I want to read something original. (**mill**)
4. We decided to go to a desert island so that we could escape from our daily problems. (**away**)
5. I was extremely happy when I won the first prize. (**moon**)

Ex. 11. Replace the words in bold with the idiomatic expressions from the list.

*steer clear of / letting my hair down /
new lease of life / best bet / was as brown as a berry*

On the first day of my summer holiday in France I was in the mood for **enjoying myself and having some fun**, and finally I decided that a day of jet-skiing would be **my most suitable option**. Once I had learnt how to control the machine and **stay away from** the big waves, I really started to enjoy whizzing across the surface of the sea. When I arrived back at the hotel I **had a fantastic suntan** and felt as if I had been given a **burst of new energy**. It was a great way to start my holiday.

Ex. 12. Explain the idiomatic expressions from the list and fill in the gaps.

*down in the dumps / best bet / right up your street /
get away from it all / take things easy / run-of-the-mill / a new lease of life /
let your hair down / off the beaten track / caught my eye*

1. The doctor told him to until he was strong enough to work again.
2. Sharon felt so we decided to try and cheer her up.
3. This interesting magazine article, so I decided to send it to you.
4. This beach is so very few people know about it.
5. Grandpa seems so much happier since his retirement; it's given him
6. If you are looking for a cheap holiday, your is Wright's Travel.
7. After a tense week at work, we decided to go out on Friday night and

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

8. This resort is a bit; it has some good points, but it is nothing special.
9. I think you will find this restaurant is; it has got great food, it is quiet and very reasonable.
10. The politician needed a break from his busy schedule, so he went on a sailing trip to

Ex. 13. Rewrite the following sentences using the words in bold. Do not change these words in any way.

1. This novel is not as good as everyone says it is. (**cracked**)
2. I play badminton quite often now that I know the game and I am getting better at it. (**swing**)
3. After her holiday, trouble at work made Martha face reality again. (**earth**)
4. Janet was really happy at the disco as she loves dancing. (**element**)
5. It is the first time we have won the cup and we are delighted. (**moon**)
6. John worked all day and all night to finish the assignment. (**clock**)
7. Since shellfish upsets my stomach, I try to avoid it. (**steer**)
8. My father did not tell me about my mother's illness. (**dark**)
9. After a week on the beach in Tunisia, I have a great suntan. (**berry**)
10. I get up early in order to avoid the traffic on the way to work. (**crack**)

Ex. 14. a) Read the text and put the following seven paragraphs in the correct order.

a) "Aren't we going to run out of petrol quite soon?" I said. "No, don't worry, there is plenty left," he said. Five minutes later the car came to a standstill. We were out of petrol. Martin told me not to worry and said he was sure there was a petrol station somewhere nearby. He got out of the car and walked off. Much to my surprise, he came back ten minutes later with a can full of petrol. He put the petrol in the tank, got in, and we drove off. I felt more relaxed now, and thought everything would be all right. Two miles later the car broke down.

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

b) Martin switched on the windscreen wipers, but we could not make out anything because the rain was so heavy. I warned him about the dangers of driving on wet roads, but instead of slowing down, he speeded up. He said it was getting late. Fortunately, we finally found the street where my interview was to take place. Martin turned to me and said, "Better late than never." As he said this, a car pulled out in front of us without warning. Martin managed to swerve just in time to avoid hitting it – but he ran into a parked car instead. The parked car was beyond repair – it was a complete write-off.

c) The following weekend Martin picked me up at 8.30 a. m. He said his alarm clock had not gone off and he had overslept, so we set off later than we had planned. My mother was quite excited by the idea of my going to London for an interview, and she came to the front door to see us off. Unfortunately, it was the rush hour, and we were held up in a traffic jam for the next thirty minutes, but eventually the road was clear and we headed the motorway. I noticed we were short of petrol and pointed this out to Martin.

d) I did not panic, but i could feel the nervous tension building up in my stomach. "Don't worry," he said, "I know what's wrong with it. I'll fix it in no time at all." An hour later he was still under the car trying to repair it – but without success. Then another car pulled up next to us and the driver asked if we needed any help. He asked where we were heading for and, when we told him, he pointed out we were going in the wrong direction. He repaired the car, we thanked him for helping us, and we set off again. I do not know how it happened, but instead of arriving in London we ended up in Manchester.

e) The worst journey I have ever made was the time when I had to go to London for a job interview. I was living in York, in the north of England, at the time and my car was under repair. I planned to go by train, but a friend called Martin said, "No, don't go by train. You know how unreliable they are. They never run on time. I am going to London next week, so I can give you a lift." I told him I had to be at the interview by 3.00 o'clock without fail. He assured me we would arrive in time. "Don't worry," he said. "We'll be there in no time."

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

f) Martin got out of the car and told the other driver he was responsible for the accident. The other driver blamed Martin for what had happened. I left them arguing and went in for my interview. I apologized for being five minutes late, but they said it was all right because the interviewer had not arrived yet. When he came in, I recognized him – it was the man who had pulled out in front of us. I did not get the job.

g) Martin told me not to worry. He said he knew a quick route to London from Manchester that would reduce our journey time by half. This sounded too good to be true, but I tried to believe him. He said that if we drove fast, we would make up for lost time. To some extent this was true, because he did drive faster, but unfortunately a police car caught up with us and told us to pull over to the side of the road. The police officer fined him for speeding and we drove off. We continued our journey. We were near London when it started to rain.

b) Look at how the following multi-word verbs are used in the text. Then match the verbs in A with the definitions in B.

A

1. to break down
2. to pull over
3. to hold someone/something up
4. to pull out
5. to see someone off
6. to end up somewhere
7. to pull up
8. to head for somewhere
9. to run out of something
10. to make something out

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

B

- a) to move a vehicle closer to the side of the road either to stop or to pass
- b) to manage to see or read something
- c) to have no more of something
- d) to find yourself in a situation you had not intended
- e) to delay someone or something
- f) to move or travel towards somewhere
- g) to stop working because of a failure
- h) to accompany someone to a place of departure and say goodbye
- i) to slow down and stop a vehicle
- j) to drive a vehicle into a different or faster lane

c) Respond to the following prompts. Decide what you would say in each situation, using the multi-word verb prompts.

1. You look into the fridge and see there is no milk. What do you say?
2. You arrive late for a meeting because you were delayed in a traffic jam. What do you say?
3. You want to know if your parents will come with you to the airport to say goodbye when you leave. What do you say to them?
4. Your friend is reading a letter but the handwriting is not very clear. She asks you to try and read one of the words for her. You try but you cannot. What do you say?
5. You are talking to someone at a motorway restaurant. He tells you he is driving north. You want to know what his destination is. What do you ask?
6. You are in a taxi and you want the driver to stop outside the bank. What do you say?

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

7. You are in your car on the motorway and it stops working. You phone a garage for help. What do you say?

8. You want the driver of another car to move his car closer to the side of the road so that you can pass in your car. What do you say?

9. You are in your friend's car and you see another car begin to move out in front of you. You want to warn your friend. What do you say?

10. You are in your friend's car and your friend is not driving very carefully. You are frightened the journey will end with you both in hospital. What will you say?

Ex. 15. Give the idiomatic expression to the definitions in bold.

1. On the way back to England we **broke our journey for a short time** in Paris and spent a couple of days there.

2. Why don't you take much luggage, do you **always take little**?

3. We **had a wonderful time** in Switzerland, sun, snow and the friends. What else to wish?

4. I always travel to Italy; it is the best place **to relax**.

5. The best thing about the town its quietness. I prefer **isolated and quiet places**.

6. In the middle of the workday, the Spanish **like to sleep**.

7. When I was on the island I could not breathe, it was a thousand degrees outside.

8. Young people at the end of the week enjoy **a nighttime activity**.

9. After the death of their mother, the sisters **felt depressed**.

10. I would never forgive him for **keeping me unaware** of the meeting.

11. This place is amazing and we **feel happy** at the moment.

12. The baby got up **very early** and nobody could sleep a wink afterwards.

13. The apartment block has a **24-hour** security system.

14. Having known that she passed her exams Helen was **extremely happy**.

15. After a holiday, I always experience a **return of energy and enthusiasm**.

16. I do not eat meat, I **avoid** it.

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

17. After a week on the beach, she **had really nice suntan**.
18. Tomorrow I am going to the airport to **say goodbye to my parents**.
19. After the divorce she was **in a terrible state**: no money, no friends and no home.
20. We **have no more** of vegetables at home I cannot make Greek salad.

Ex. 16. Insert the correct preposition.

1. We tried to fix the machine but success.
2. My friends congratulate me passing my test successfully.
3. The cost of living is going all the time.
4. I was late because our plane did not take on time.
5. Rome is a nice place to visit. We have been looking the city for six hours and still have not visited all the places.
6. We checked of the hotel very early and set for the airport by taxi.
7. My last holiday was a total nightmare and I was really looking to it.
8. The coach will drop us at the post office about 10 p. m.
9. The town has been steeped history and great care has been taken to make modern buildings look almost the same.
10. The city is always bursting tourists no matter what season is.
11. The place is very nice and dotted pleasant cafés where you can sit and relax.
12. When I was at the concert, I was really sitting and soaking the atmosphere.
13. In today's fast developing world, their traditions live
14. I warned him against speeding but instead of slowing he speeded
15. He asked where we were heading and showed the way.
16. I was late for the meeting because I was held in a traffic jam.
17. There was a coach at the airport waiting to pick us at the hotel in time for breakfast.
18. The new place was not all it is cracked to be, it looked nice, but the food was awful.

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

19. I went camping and it was the beaten track.
20. Speaking in front of the audience can be nerve-cracking, but then you get the swing of it and find it easy.

Ex. 17. Translate into English using idiomatic expressions.

1. Я волнуюсь, их самолет еще не приземлился.
2. Наш отель был недалеко от пляжа, в двух шагах.
3. Он не может долго сидеть на одном месте, он очень нетерпеливый.
4. Я живу в прекрасном месте, мой дом недалеко от Хай стрит.
5. Я обожаю сидеть в кафе в курортных городках и наблюдать за проходящими мимо людьми.
6. В прошлом году они отдыхали на море, в этом году отправились в горы, прекрасная перемена.
7. Отдохнуть от работы – твой самый правильный выбор.
8. Статья в сегодняшней газете привлекла мое внимание, поэтому я и купила ее.
9. Дедушка кажется намного счастливее после выхода на пенсию, это новый виток его жизни.
10. Я полагаю, этот новый ресторан – то, что надо: хорошая еда, спокойное место и разумные цены.
11. Шерон в депрессии, поэтому мы решили поддержать ее и вывезли на два дня на море.
12. Это дорога более чем опасная – нет перил и очень узко.
13. Такая красота мешает концентрации концентрации, поэтому на дороге много аварий.
14. Погодные условия препятствуют быстрой езде.
15. Дорога практически пустынна, не на что смотреть, за исключением бескрайнего горизонта.

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

Ex. 18. Describe a long journey that you have done by car, train, bicycle or on foot but do not mention any place names. Can your groupmates guess where the trip took place? Try to use as many idiomatic expressions from this unit as possible. Talk about the ideas below:

- How long was the trip?
- How did you feel during it?
- Was it tiring or not?
- What landscape(s) did you see?
- Would you recommend it?

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

UNIT 4. GETTING ON IN LIFE

Ex. 1. a) Read the dialogue and explain the idiomatic expressions in bold.

Charles: So James, how is the business doing?

James: Not so good, old boy! I have been having problems with old Rumpton. I am afraid I am going to have to **give him the boot**.

Charles: Rumpton! But he has been running the factory for years!

James: Yes Charles, I know, but he is getting on a bit you know. He is sixty-two and, quite frankly, I do not think he knows what he is doing anymore. He seems to have turned into **a lame duck** in recent years – no control over the workforce and, well, between you and me, the company is **feeling the pinch**. You know our profits are down twenty per cent since last year.

Charles: Goodness me! You are not **in the red**, are you?

James: Certainly not! We have not **hit rock bottom** just yet! No, we do not owe anyone anything. We **are still in the black** – for now, at least.

Charles: Well, it sounds like you are **playing with fire** if you keep him for much longer. You definitely need to get somebody else to **step into his shoes**.

James: Yes, but who? I need somebody who is going to run the place with a **firm hand** – not take any nonsense, you know?

Charles: Yes, quite. Do be careful though, old chap. A hasty decision will not **pay dividends**, believe me!

b) Match the items with the idiomatic expressions from the dialogue above.

- a) in debt
- b) in credit / making profit
- c) to replace smb
- d) to reach the lowest point
- e) to suffer because of lack of money

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На весь экран

Закреть

- f) to fire smb from their job
- g) a company/person that is weak
- h) to bring advantages at a later date
- i) control and discipline
- j) to take dangerous risk

c) Make up your own dialogues using the idiomatic expressions from this exercise.

Ex. 2. Fill in the gaps with the following idiomatic expressions.

a lame duck / in the red / in the black / a firm hand / playing with fire

1. You should stop spending so much money or you will be before you know it!
2. There are very few problems at this school as the headmaster governs the students with
3. Tom's new business turned out to be and he lost a lot of money.
4. Gayle felt relieved when she put her wages into the bank as she was finally again.
5. You are if you quit your job before finding another one.

Ex. 3. a) Read the story and explain the idiomatic expressions in bold.

"What? Another loan? No way, Kim. I've already given you **a small fortune!**" Kim shuddered as she knew her father **meant business**; she could hear it in his voice.

"But, Dad. Please! Just until I **get the company off the ground**. Once I get some orders I'll be fine." She was desperate. Unless her father helped her out, her new clothing company would never get the chance to **bear fruit**. "I am **living on a shoestring** already; all I get is my income support!" She could hear her father trying to interrupt, but she went on, "Listen, I've been **burning the midnight oil** this month and I am exhausted, but I've figured out that just another thousand should do it. You'll see!"

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

“I said no, Kim,” her father stated sternly. “You seem to think that **I am rolling in it**, but I am not – I work hard to earn the little that I do, and to be honest, I am not sure if I will be able to **keep my head above water** if I keep lending you money.” Kim fought back a sob. She could not believe that he would let her down.

“I’m begging you, Dad. It will not be **money down the drain**. Just give me a chance to show you! You’ll get it all back with interest!” Kim waited nervously for her father’s reply. Eventually, he answered.

“Alright, love. But this is the last time. I hope that you realize that your mother and I are really going to have to **tighten our belts** though.”

b) Match the items with the idiomatic expressions from the text above.

- a) to manage with very little money
- b) to live on a smaller budget
- c) to be serious about what one says
- d) to work late at night to achieve smth
- e) a lot of money
- f) to start a business/company
- g) money wasted
- h) to survive despite financial problems
- i) to produce good results
- j) to be rich

Ex. 4. Fill in the gaps with the following idiomatic expressions.

money down the drain / live on a shoestring / rolling in it / bear fruit / a small fortune

Peter: Susan, I have the most wonderful news!

Susan: What is it? What has happened?

Peter: All the hard work we put into our formula is about to Someone wants to market it. We will be rich. We will not have to

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

Susan: That is wonderful, darling! I knew that it was not when we put all our savings into improving the formula. It will earn us

Peter: You are right, dear. Let's go out and celebrate. After all, soon we will be

Ex. 5. Fill in the gaps with the following idiomatic expressions.

meant business / head above water / given the boot / pay dividends / hit rock bottom / tighten her belt / rolling in it / step into his shoes / living on a shoestring / a lame duck

1. With what little money I have from my savings, I can barely keep my
2. The rent on Vicky's new flat is very high, so she will have to from now on.
3. The long hours and hard work we put into the new company are finally beginning to
4. Ross is such an irresponsible employee; I would not be surprised if he is soon.
5. Arthur is off sick for a few months. So, Jenny, you will have to
6. Nora's as a secretary. She cannot do the job and is an expense to the company.
7. The company after all the investors suddenly pulled out.
8. We have been all winter so that we can afford to get married in August.
9. The public realized that the new government as soon as it raised the nation's taxes.
10. You could ask your boss to buy you a new company car; after all he is

Ex. 6. Rewrite the following sentences using the words in bold. Do not change these words in any way.

1. During the economic crisis, even the royal family had to spend less money than usual. (**belts**)
2. Money is so scarce at the moment that I have had to take a second job just to survive. (**water**)
3. I knew that Ray had been working late as he looked exhausted. (**oil**)

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

4. I knew that Mrs Watkin was serious when I got a letter from her lawyer. (**business**)
5. It costs a lot of money to start a business. (**ground**)
6. It is a good idea to take out a small loan to help start your business. (**ground**)
7. For the first time in years, IHD industries is making a profit. (**black**)
8. Young offenders need strict guidance to help them reform. (**firm**)
9. You will have to work late tonight in order to finish the project. (**oil**)
10. People have been suffering financially since the government raised taxes. (**pinch**)
11. The company's investment in computer design is now producing good results. (**fruit**)
12. Money spent on the National Lottery is just money wasted. (**drain**)
13. If you are in debt, you should get another job. (**red**)
14. My family lost a huge amount of money in the stock market crash of 1929. (**fortune**)
15. You are taking a big risk if you borrow money to buy stocks and shares. (**fire**)

Ex. 7. Say whether the idiomatic expressions in the sentences below are used correctly or incorrectly. Then replace the incorrect idioms with a suitable alternative.

1. She **was given the boot** last week and now she has to find another job.
2. I am afraid you are **in the black** again, Mr Jones – you owe the bank ?500.
3. Helen was **a lame duck** when she sold her property at a great profit.
4. Many students **live on a shoestring** while they are at university.
5. In my opinion, buying a second-hand car is just **money down the drain**.
6. Our company finally started to **hit rock bottom** after its fourth year in business and we paid off our loan.
7. After Anna's father retired, she **stepped into his shoes** and became the director of the family business.
8. I knew my rival **tightened his belt** when I received a call from his lawyer.

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Назад

На весь экран

Закреть

9. You have been **playing with fire** again, haven't you? You have not stopped yawning all morning.

10. We really **felt the pinch** after spending so much money on our new house.

Ex. 8. a) Use these words to complete the following.

- literal meaning

rush / candles / loose / fit / thumbs / burn

1. We have eight fingers and two
2. I need a new pair of trousers. These are too round the waist.
3. Do not touch that! It is very hot. You will yourself.
4. My car is only small but you can just five people in it.
5. Sorry, I have not got time to talk. I am in a
6. In Britain, it is traditional to put on birthday cakes – one for each year.

- figurative meaning

plate / end / finger / candle / hands / thumbs / feet / eyes

- a) lift a
- b) at a loose
- c) have your full
- d) twiddle your
- e) burn the at both ends
- f) up to my
- g) on my
- h) enough on my

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

b) Use the idiomatic expressions in the following situations and explain their meanings.

1. You are late. Did you miss the train? – Yes, I did not leave the office till six. I am in work at the moment.

2. How was your first day at work? – Really boring. I had nothing to do. I just sat at my desk

3. Bill wants to know if you can spend some time training the new secretary. – I am afraid I have not got a minute. – I cannot. I have already got

4. You look tired. Are you OK? – Yes, I just need to get to bed earlier. I have been recently – late nights and early starts.

5. Come in. Sit down, make yourself at home. – Thanks. I need a rest. I have been all day.

6. So, I am going to spend the whole weekend painting the outside of the house. – Do you want some help? My boyfriend is away so I am this weekend.

7. Do you and Paul share the cooking and cleaning? – You must be joking. He never

8. My sister's three children are coming to stay with me this weekend. – You'll Rather you than me!

Ex. 9. a) Complete these dialogues using the following idiomatic expressions.

a) *It has been dead all day.*

b) *I am tied up till after lunch.*

c) *I have been on the go all day.*

d) *I can fit you in on Thursday.*

e) *It has been one thing after another.*

f) *We have been rushed off your feet!*

1. Everything has gone wrong today, hasn't it? – Yes

2. Shall we go for a drink after work? – No, thanks. I am tired

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

3. So, is Wednesday a good day for you? – No, but
4. Have you had many customers today? – No,
5. You have had a lot of customers this morning, haven't you? – Yes,
6. Can I talk to you about a problem that has just come up? – Sorry,

b) Make up your own dialogues using the idiomatic expressions from this exercise.

Ex. 10. Five of the idioms in this unit are commonly used with *been*. Complete them with the key word.

1. I have been (*candle*).
2. I have been (*feet*).
3. It has been (*thing*).
4. I have been (*rushed*).
5. It has been (*dead*).

Ex. 11. Fill in the following words in the definitions below.

a) literal meaning

pipeline / dead-end / ropes / ladder / steady / rock

1. If something is, it does not move.
2. Oil, gas and water come to us along a
3. If you are in a small boat and you make it, it might capsize.
4. A road which goes nowhere is a
5. On a sailing boat, the sails are controlled by means of
6. If something is too high and out of your reach, use a

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

b) figurative meaning

*a steady job / in the pipeline / a dead-end job /
a short-list / the top of the tree / a new branch*

1. Imagine just putting letters in envelopes all day. What a
2. We have got two major projects to finish and an even bigger one
3. Marks and Spencer's are opening in town next summer.
4. I just had a really good job interview. I am on of five.
5. Where is there to go once you have reached?
6. A lot of people are happy with even if it is not very interesting.

Ex. 12. a) Complete these idiomatic expressions with the following verbs and explain their meanings.

*show / hold / take on / make / go / climb /
stand in / rock / breathe / find / stand / land*

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| a) a name for yourself | g) boat |
| b) a job down | h) over someone's head |
| c) the career ladder | i) someone the ropes |
| d) down someone's neck | j) a job |
| e) staff | k) cannot the place |
| f) your feet | l) for somebody |

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Назад

На весь экран

Закреть

b) Use eight of the expressions in the correct form in the following situations.

1. Do you think it is worth me doing a part-time MBA? It is a lot of work. – It depends how much you want to

2. My new job's OK but there are lots of things I am still used to. – That is normal. It always takes a few months before you really

3. I suppose your busiest time is around Christmas, isn't it? – Yes, we always extra just for that period.

4. Are you working late again tonight? – I am afraid so. Peter's for the last month's sales figures. They have got to be ready for tomorrow morning's meeting.

5. I am going to have a word with Jack and try to change my holidays. – Jack's on a course this week and Marie is so you'd better wait till he gets back. You know what she's like.

6. You know Frank is not going to put your idea on the agenda for tomorrow's meeting, do not you? – Isn't he? In that case I'll have to and talk to his head of department.

7. I bumped into Paul last week. He's just started a new job selling insurance. – I wonder how long that will last. He cannot for longer than six months.

8. Where's Andrew working nowadays? – Haven't you heard? He has just a great with that new American bank in the City.

Ex. 13. Put the missing words in the idiomatic expressions below.

1. I am to my ears in work.

2. It has been one thing another.

3. I have been my feet all day.

4. Are you a loose end this evening?

5. I'm tied up after lunch.

6. We have been rushed our feet.

7. I have already got enough my plate.

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На весь экран

Заккрыть

8. I have been burning the candle both ends.

9. I can fit you on Monday.

Ex. 14. Read the text and match the words in bold to the definitions below.

My son Tom applied for dozens of job before he was finally **taken on** at Brown's Home Furnishings. He is only seventeen, and his father and I thought he should stay at school – but he was never really suited to studying and he did not enjoy it there. Anyway, he is an intelligent lad and very likeable, and they **took to** him straightaway. In fact, they offered him a place on their training scheme right after the interview.

We think he was lucky to get work, with all the unemployment round here and the number of people who have been **laid off** because of the weak economy. Mr. Brown, his boss, has said that if Tom works hard and does a good job, he will give him a permanent job at the end of the year. He is even **putting up** the money for Tom to do an evening class in computing once a week. It means he misses his last bus home, but luckily my sister Mary lives nearby, so she **puts him up** on Wednesdays.

At the moment Tom is **dealing with** customer queries. I certainly would not like to face all those phone calls, but Tom seems to be **getting on** really well with it. The responsibility seems to suit him. He also likes being on flexi-time, because he was never any good at **getting up** in the mornings. He has to **clock in and out** every day, but at least he can choose what hours he works – within reason, of course!

Tom is much happier now than he was at school – he really seems to be **benefitting from** the experience. Even Mr. Brown has said he is making the most of his opportunities. I am so proud of him!

a) *cease to employ smb, due to a lack of work;*

b) *provide/supply smth;*

c) *get out of bed;*

d) *gain an advantage/profit from smth;*

e) *attend to / handle smth;*

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

- f) *immediately like smb/smith;*
- g) *accept smb as an employee;*
- h) *give smb temporary accommodation;*
- i) *make progress;*
- j) *put a card into a machine to show the time one arrives for work/leaves work.*

Ex. 15. Replace each word/phrase in bold with a suitable expression from the list, using the correct tense form.

get on / lay off / put me up / take on / take to

1. My father was **made redundant** at the end of last year. –
2. Whenever I am in Brussels, my cousin Kay **lets me stay at her house**. –
3. If you are looking for a job, I think they are **employing** new staff at the supermarket. –
4. She **liked** her new colleagues as soon as she met them. –
5. John is **progressing** really well in his new job – he has just been promoted. –

Ex. 16. Read the letter and match the expressions in bold to the definitions below.

Dear Mike,

I thought of you this morning when I came into work, because things have changed so much since you were here. Hazel Watson **was taken over** as boss, and the whole office **has been shaken up**. I am second-in-command now, so work **takes up** a lot more of my time, I still have to **draw up** plans for every department, of course, but I also have to **sit in on** endless management meetings as an adviser. These meetings sometimes go on for hours, because we have to **go through** all the other departments' plans one by one!

Anyway, I like Hazel, I mean, it is a shame old Dave Jarvis was **kicked out** – or, as the official story has it, “decided to **step down**” – but I think he was just too old for

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the job. I will miss Dave, of course, but at least I will not have to **put up with** that disgusting pipe smoke in the office any more. Hazel does not smoke, and she does not **go on** and on about how things used to be in her days, either.

Anyway, I have got to go now. If you are passing the office, do drop in and see us!

All the best, Tina

- a) *attend smth as an observer;*
- b) *read/check smth carefully;*
- c) *be in charge/responsible when smb else stops;*
- d) *force smb to leave a job/club;*
- e) *accept/endure smth unwillingly;*
- f) *voluntarily retire/resign from a job/position;*
- g) *radically reorganize smth;*
- h) *talk about smth repeatedly;*
- i) *use/occupy smth;*
- j) *prepare/design/write smth.*

Ex. 17. Rewrite the following sentences using the words in bold. Do not change these words in any way.

- 1. The Chancellor is making plans for the new budget right now. (**up**)
- 2. He was forced to leave the club for being rude to the other members. (**out**)
- 3. Lots of new staff have been employed at the garden centre recently. (**taken**)
- 4. Several factory workers were made redundant as a result of a drop in sales. (**laid**)
- 5. When Mr Ross finally retired, Susan became the managing director. (**down**)
- 6. The new management has completely reorganized things. (**shaken**)
- 7. Jenny liked to play the piano from her very first lesson. (**took**)

Ex. 18. a) Read the dialogue and explain the idiomatic expressions in bold.

– Well, I am not **taking in lying down!** The management's proposal to increase our working hours without increasing our pay is unacceptable. We must protest. We have

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got to do something about it!

– Oh, do not worry. I am sure they will back down. The management is full of **hot air** – they never do what they say they are going to do.

– No, no, I believe they are serious and we cannot let that happen. I think we have got to **dig our heels in** over this one, and I reckon most of the staff will feel the same.

– Just a minute! **Taking the law into your own hands** is not a solution. Organising something like that could **seal your fate** in in this company. You could lose your job.

– No, I am **sticking to my guns**. We have got to do something radical – we have been quiet for too long. It is people like you who **sit on the fence** that encourage management to treat us with no respect.

– I **am up in arms** about the proposal too. But cannot we talk the management round to our point of view? I reckon we could explain that the workforce will **vote with their feet** and get jobs elsewhere – that could **do the trick**.

b) Match the items with the idiomatic expressions from the text above.

a) to ensure the death/failure of smb/smth;

b) to accept smth harmful/unpleasant without complaint / a struggle

c) false promises/claims;

d) to do smth to combat injustice without abiding by the rules/law;

e) to refuse to have an opinion or take sides on an issue;

f) angry because one is opposed to smth;

g) to show one's opinion by (not) participating in smth;

h) to keep supporting a particular belief / course of action;

i) to show firmness over smth, especially one's own desires;

j) to achieve what is wanted.

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c) Fill in the gaps with the idiomatic expressions from the list.

*sealed his fate / hot air / voting with their feet /
the law into their own hands / stuck to his guns*

1. Ralph is so full of that I never take what he says seriously.
2. When the mob take the outcome is disastrous.
3. Although he was heavily criticized, the Minister
4. Hastings when he contradicted his boss in public.
5. By shopkeepers were able to change the law on opening hours.

d) Make up your own dialogues using the idiomatic expressions from this exercise.

Ex. 19. a) Read the reports and explain the idiomatic expressions in bold.

A

The **running battle** between the Union of Teachers and the government over wages intensified on Tuesday after Union leader, Gerry Tuffnal, threatened strike action unless teachers are granted a 5 % pay rise.

The Minister of Education, Stanley Baxter, announced yesterday that giving a pay rise was **easier said than done** as it would mean increasing taxes. However, his words seemed to **fall on deaf ears** as **the grass roots** of the Union were still in support strike action yesterday.

Stanley Baxter and Gerry Tuffnal are currently holding discussions together **behind closed doors** in an attempt to come to some kind of compromise.

B

Protesters are continuing to obstruct construction work on the proposed site for Stackton Airport's new runway in spite of police threats to remove them by force unless they **call it a day**.

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Yesterday afternoon the ringleader, known only as “Josh”, announced that the threats were **cutting no ice** with him and his colleagues. He added that if force were to be used on the demonstrators, who had been peaceful so far, **the law of the jungle** would apply thereafter. He also quoted **chapter and verse** an agreement not to extend the airport, signed by airport officials and the Minister of Transport in 2006.

The current Transport Minister, Jack Glenn retaliated last night saying that the protesters had no right to **sit in judgement** as the Ministry of the Environment had since granted permission for a new runway on the site. He ended his statement saying that arrests would be made if the protest were to become disorderly.

b) Match the items with the idiomatic expressions from the texts above.

- a) smth which sounds/appears simple but is difficult to achieve/do;
- b) ordinary people, not in authority but whose opinions are influential;
- c) long-lasting struggle;
- d) in private/secretly;
- e) to fail to impress;
- f) in full detail;
- g) to decide if smb/smith is good/bad;
- h) the situation where the law is disregarded and the strongest succeed;
- i) to stop doing smth;
- j) to be ignored, especially of speech/advice.

c) Fill in the gaps with the idiomatic expressions from the list.

call it a day / law of the jungle / behind closed doors / deaf ears / cuts no ice

- 1. Our complaints to the Collins about their barking dog have fallen on
- 2. Her show of sincerity with me. I know she is lying.
- 3. Jury decisions are made to ensure the privacy of jury members while teaching their verdict.

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4. After working for fifteen hours, Peter decided to and go home.
5. It was the during the January sales, bargain hunters fought to be the first to snap up the goods.

Ex. 20. Insert the word which best completes each sentence.

1. The activists' protest against the extension of the power station fell on ears.
2. I am afraid Chris' witty comments no ice with me.
3. After failing her law exam for the third time, Jessica decided to it a day.
4. The meeting was for the partners only and was held behind doors.
5. Your computer works fine. I just reloaded the programme and that did the
6. The grass of the party have been demanding improvements in education for years.
7. The medical profession with their feet by refusing to prescribe Pomvol.
8. Detective Armstrong wanted to be given and verse on the backgrounds of murder victims.
9. "How can you sit in over the exhibition when you know nothing about the art?"
10. Following the fall of dictatorships, often it is the of the jungle which rules.

Ex. 21. Choose the word which best completes each sentence and explain the idiomatic expressions.

1. Mr. Taylor is the best computer programmer I ever met. He certainly knows his (*cheese/onion/pepper*)
2. Do not me with so many questions at once. I can only give you one answer at a time. (*cake/pepper/butter*)
3. Was the exam difficult? No, it was a piece of (*cake/chocolate/beef*)
4. Liverpool are playing Arsenal in the Cup Final. Liverpool are certain to win: Arsenal are easy! (*beans/peas/meat*)
5. You are such a couch Why do not you turn off the television, throw away those empty pizza boxes and go for a walk? (*potato/beetroot/carrot*)

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6. When the police asked him if he had robbed the shop, he spilled the and told them everything. (*peas/grapes/beans*)

7. Maggie was a bit rude to me when I was offered the job that she had applied for. It was probably just sour (*peas/grapes/beans*)

8. I do not get paid much for the work I do. My boss pays me (*peas/cookies/peanuts*)

9. I am not surprised you never have any money left by the middle of the month. You spend it like! (*sand/water/oil*)

10. You are such a fingers: you're always dropping things and breaking them. (*butter/oil/water*)

11. Sarah's new boyfriend is more than twice her age, but he is very rich. Perhaps I should look for a daddy as well! (*salt/pepper/sugar*)

12. What are you smiling about? You look like the cat who got the! (*milk/cream/sausage*)

13. You look embarrassed. You've gone as red as a! (*tomato/beetroot/beef*)

14. I stay at home and look after the children, and my wife goes out to work. Well, one of us has to bring home the (*nuts/pork/bacon*)

15. It only takes one bad to give a company a bad reputation. (*strawberry/pear/apple*)

16. I hate flying. Whenever I have to get on a plane, I go cold all over and my legs turn to (*jam/water/jelly*)

17. I am the boss of the company. Mrs. Manser is the big here. (*watermelon/bacon/cheese*)

18. Your latest excuse for being late is pathetic! It really takes the! (*biscuit/chips/bread*)

19. Manchester United just scored again. You should have seen it: it was a of a goal! (*pear/banana/peach*)

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20. Our new manager is very enthusiastic. Everyone agrees that he is as keen as
(*garlic/mustard/onion*)

21. Are you cold? I will turn the heating on. Before you know it, you'll be as warm as!
(*toast/potato/spaghetti*)

22. I told him to sit down and behave, and he just blew a at me!
(*strawberry/raspberry/gooseberry*)

23. You are mad, crazy, deranged, completely! (*pear/banana/peach*)

24. Mr. Lewis is the of the earth: he is a good, honest man and everyone respects him. (*sugar/salt/pepper*)

25. What on earth are you wearing? You look a right! (*orange/banana/lemon*)

26. I really do not like horror films. They are not my cup of (*coffee/tea/juice*)

27. Andy is always calm and relaxed. He never panics or loses his temper. He is as cool as a (*tomato/cucumber/apple*)

28. When the United Nations decided that the war was illegal, the President was left with on his face. (*egg/bacon/porridge*)

29. If you are unhappy about your job, do something. Do not just about it.
(*pork/veal/beef*)

30. Toby Morrison would be ideal for the job. He works hard and he is a really smart (*toast/cookie/bread*)

31. Brenda's new boyfriend is very good-looking, but he is not very intelligent or interesting. He is just a bit of eye (*candy/cookie/egg*)

Ex. 22. Insert the word which best completes each sentence. Explain the idiomatic expressions in bold.

black / blue / brown / green / grey / pink / red / white / yellow

1. Elsa congratulated me on getting the job, but I could tell that secretly she was **with envy**.

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2. Generally I am a very calm, relaxed person. But when people are rude to me, I start to **see**

3. I very rarely see my parents these days. They only come to visit **once in a** **moon**.

4. Everyone in my family is a teacher, but I decided from a young age that I wanted to be an actor. I guess I have always been **the** **sheep**.

5. My wife asked me if I liked her new dress. Well, I thought it was horrible, but of course I told her it looked wonderful. You have to tell a little **lie** from time to time, don't you?

6. I hate applying for a new passport. There is so much **tape** involved.

7. You can ask me to lend you money **until you are** **in the face**, but my answer is still 'No'.

8. When Maria was attacked in the street, instead of running away she started **screaming** **murder** until someone came to her help.

9. The best way to stay **in the** is to eat sensibly, take regular exercise, drink in moderation and not smoke.

10. I think the new underground railway is **a** **elephant**. The city already has a very efficient bus and tram system.

11. Everyone in my department is very happy because the project we have been working on for six months has finally been **given the** **light**.

12. There were 200 people in a room designed for only 75. It was like the **Hole of Calcutta** in there.

13. Your report is full of errors and spelling mistakes. I do not think you were using your **matter** when you wrote it.

14. You must hear the new album by the American rock group Nuclear Puppy: it's-**hot**!

15. I had a real-**letter day** yesterday: my boss gave me a pay rise, I won ?60 on the lottery, and my boyfriend took me to my favourite restaurant for dinner.

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16. Most of the people in my town are-**collar** workers. There are very few people working in factories.

17. The company has been doing badly for over two years, and now everyone agrees that it is a financial **hole**.

18. Nobody in the office likes him very much: he is always-**nosing** the boss.

19. Your garden looks wonderful. What lovely, healthy plants. You must have **fingers!**

20. I had not heard from Jo for almost ten years, so when a letter from her came **out of the**, I was naturally very surprised.

21. He would never argue with or contradict his boss. He is **far too**

22. Yesterday I had an overdraft of almost ?300, but I got paid today, so my bank account is **in the** again. Unfortunately I do not think it will stay like that for long!

23. Nobody knew who had been stealing money from the office, until the new salesman was **caught**-**handed** opening the safe.

24. I feel terrible this morning because I was out **painting the town** last night, and did not go to bed until 3 o'clock.

25. If I were you, I would avoid the boss today. You are **in his** **books** after that rude comment you made about his wife.

26. I know he was angry, but I was still shocked at the terrible language he was using. The **air was turning**!

27. (At a party): Hello, Anthea. Thanks for coming. Lovely to see you again. Let me get you a drink. **Glass of**?

28. I wouldn't recommend him for a position in management: he is still **a bit**

29. When I told Sara that I wanted to go out for a drink with my ex-girlfriend, she did not say anything, but she gave me a really **look**.

30. There was not much we could do when we discovered that the office had been robbed except call the police station and wait for **the boys in** to arrive.

31. What is the matter with you? You have been **in a** **mood** all evening.

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32. It is only my parents who are coming to dinner tonight, not the Queen of England! There's need to **roll out the carpet**.

33. (Complete this sentence with two different colours): I was told that I had got the job at the interview, but I won't be happy until I see it **in and**

34. (Complete this sentence with two different colours): After falling off his bicycle, he was **and** all over.

Ex. 23. Read the sentences and tell if a person is in a good state or not.

1. Amanda is **at her wits' end**.
2. Ian **is in a state**.
3. Amelia is **at death's door**.
4. Nigella is **not feeling herself**.
5. Imogen **is in good shape**.
6. Tom's condition is **touch-and-go**.
7. Felicity is **feeling blue**.
8. Orville is **on top of the world**.
9. Oliver is **on the warpath**.
10. William looks **washed out**.
11. Paul is **feeling pooped**.
12. Priscilla **is a picture of health**.
13. Frank is **as fit as a fiddle**.
14. Claudia is **on cloud nine**.
15. Dave is **down in the dumps**.
16. Olivia is **over the moon**.
17. Regan is **run down**.
18. Henrietta has **not got a care in the world**.
19. Samantha is **seeing red**.
20. Pamela is **in the pink**.

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21. Olga is **on a high**.
22. Fernando **feels lousy**.
23. Charles is **chucking his toys out of the pram**.
24. Justin is just **peachy**.
25. Sean looks **shattered**.
26. Henry is **hopping mad**.
27. Freddy **feels really rough**.
28. Teresa has **taken a turn for the worse**.
29. Camilla has **come down with something**.
30. Davina is **dead on her feet**.
31. Harry is **het up**.
32. Lucy **looks like death warmed up**.
33. Ursula is **under the weather**.
34. Belinda is in a **black mood**.
35. Larry is **like a dog with two tails**.

Ex. 24. Look at the idiomatic expressions in bold in sentences and decide if the people:

- (A) have a lot of money.
(B) have very little or no money.
1. Steve is **up to his ears in debt**.
 2. Kevin is **on the dole**.
 3. Jamie has **made his pile**.
 4. Sue **cannot make ends meet**.
 5. Jacqueline is **stinking rich**.
 6. Mark's boss **pays him chickenfeed**.
 7. Tarquin is **loaded**.
 8. Laurence is **hard up**.

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9. Christine is **well off**.
10. Brenda is **in the red**.
11. John is **strapped for cash**.
12. Mike is **made of money**.
13. Don is **penniless**.
14. Judy **has money to burn**.
15. Pete **is broke**.
16. Tim **has more money than sense**.
17. Alison is **rolling in it**.
18. Bob **is skint**.
19. Andy **is down and out**.
20. Jeanette is **feeling flush**.
21. Charles is **raking in money**.
22. Annabel is a bit **down-at-heel**.

Ex. 25. Look at the idiomatic expressions in bold in sentences and decide if the people.

(A) have paid a lot of money for something.

(B) have paid a small amount of money for something.

1. The shop sold us our hi-fi for a **rock-bottom price**.
2. A pizza and a glass of wine cost us ?10. It was **daylight robbery**.
3. We paid **next to nothing** for the holiday.
4. It **cost us the earth** to get our car repaired.
5. It **did not break the bank** to travel business class to New York.
6. I paid ?6 for a hot dog and a Coke. What a **rip-off**!
7. My new car cost me a **packet**.
8. It **cost us an arm and a leg** to change our flight times.
9. We paid a **tidy sum** for our new computer.

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10. The rent on my house is a bit **steep**.
11. How much was my new camera? Well, it **did not come cheap**.
12. The restaurant served excellent food, **at a price**.
13. This suit **set me back** a bit.
14. This home cinema system was **going for a song**.
15. We had an excellent meal, and it was **dirt-cheap**.
16. I paid **good money** to stay in this hotel.

Ex. 26. Complete the sentences with one of the body idiomatic expression.

*arm / back / chin / ear / elbow / eye / face / finger / foot / hair / hand /
head / heart / leg / lip / neck / nose / shoulder / throat / toe / tongue / tooth*

1. (a) I can't quite remember the name of the restaurant we went to last night, but it's **on the tip of my** (*I know the name of the restaurant, but I cannot remember it at this exact moment*)

(b) Helen has a rather **sharp**, especially if you do something to upset her. (*Helen has a severe and unkind way of talking to people*)

2. (a) You've won the lottery? I do not believe you! You are **pulling my** (*You are telling me something that is not true, as a joke*)

(b) My new camera **cost me an arm and a** (*My new camera was very expensive*)

3. (a) Do you want to speak to me? Well, go ahead: I am **all** (*I am listening carefully*)

(b) Dave works hard, but he is still a bit **wet behind the** (*Dave is a bit young and lacking knowledge and experience*)

4. (a) I'm sorry, but your explanation **went right over my** (*I did not understand your explanation*)

(b) I made a small mistake, and my boss **bit my** **off!** (*My boss reacted in a rude and angry way when there was no reason*)

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5. (a) I've always wanted to live in Australia. I would **give my right** to go out there right now. *(I would do anything to go to Australia)*

(b) There are lots of things wrong with the company I work for. I have a list **as long as my** *(I have got a very long list of problems with my company)*

6. (a) We caught the train **by the skin of our** *(We caught the train, but we nearly missed it)*

(b) My children are always **fighting** **and nail.** *(My children are always fighting and arguing a lot)*

7. (a) Have I done something to upset Noel? I just said hello to him and he **gave me the cold** *(Noel treated me in an unfriendly way, or refused to speak to me)*

(b) I cannot work properly with you **looking over my** all the time. *(I cannot work properly because you are always watching me and then criticising my work)*

8. (a) You really **put your** **in it** when you asked Hilary how her husband was: he left her for another woman last week. *(You said something that upset or embarrassed Hilary)*

(b) I was going to ask Sarah to go out with me, but at the last minute, I got **cold** *(I suddenly felt nervous about doing something that I had planned to do)*

9. (a) I can't stand Erica. She **gets right up my** *(Erica annoys me a lot)*

(b) I offered Bob a job working in the shop, but he just **turned his** **up** at it. *(Bob refused to accept the job I offered him because he did not think it was good enough)*

10. (a) Mr Jennings thinks he's a popular teacher, but the children are always making fun of him **behind his** *(The children say things about Mr Jennings without him knowing)*

(b) I am trying to work. **Get off my**! *(Stop criticising me)*

11. (a) I cannot go out with you tonight. I am **up to my** in work. *(I have got a lot of work to do)*

(b) I have just lost the company a \$ 10,000 order. I will probably **get it in the** for that. *(I will probably be criticised or punished for losing the order)*

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12. (a) You are always working so hard. Why do not you **let your down** for a change? (*Why do not you relax and enjoy yourself?*)

(b) I thought Heidi would be angry with me for going out with her boyfriend, but to my surprise, she **did not turn a** (*Heidi did not seem surprised or shocked that I went out with her boyfriend*)

13. (a) Your secret is safe with me. **My are sealed.** (*I will not tell anyone about your secret*)

(b) **Read my**: get out, you are fired! (*Listen very carefully to what I am saying*)

14. (a) I would love to help you, but **my are tied.** (*I cannot help you because a rule or law is preventing me*)

(b) I cannot see you at the moment, I'm afraid: **my are full.** (*I am extremely busy with a difficult job*)

15. (a) When John stood up and started singing in the restaurant, it **made my curl.** (*I was extremely embarrassed when John started singing*)

(b) I did not mean to **tread on your**, but I did not realise it was your job to answer the phone. (*I did not mean to offend you by doing something that you are responsible for*)

16. (a) Could you **keep an on** the children while I go to the shops? (*Could you look after the children for a short while?*)

(b) Andy and I get on very well together, even though we do **not** always **see to** (*Andy and I do not always agree on the same things*)

17. (a) Richard and Mark were **at each other's all** through the meeting. (*Richard and Mark were arguing in an angry way*)

(b) Television channels are always **forcing** programmes about the environment **down our** (*Television channels are always forcing us to accept programmes about the environment*)

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18. (a) Amy has **a of gold**. (*Amy is a very kind person*)
 (b) Brian seems a bit rude and bad-tempered, but **his is in the right place**. (*Brian tries to be kind and do good things, even though it does not always seem like this*)
19. (a) Good luck in the exam. I will be **keeping my crossed** for you. (*I'll be hoping that things will happen in the way that you want them to*)
 (b) Natalie is extremely lazy. She **will not lift a to help us**. (*Natalie will not do anything to help us*)
20. (a) When he slipped on the banana skin, none of us could **keep a straight**. (*We could not prevent ourselves from laughing*)
 (b) We need to end the conflict without **losing**. (*We need to end the conflict without losing people's respect by appearing weak or stupid*)
21. (a) I know that you're having a hard time at the moment, but try to **keep your up**. (*Try to be brave and happy, even though you are in a difficult situation*)
 (b) I was very critical of his work, but he **took it on the**. (*He accepted something unpleasant in a brave way without complaining*)
22. (a) Maggie is upset because her boyfriend **gave her the** last night. (*Maggie's boyfriend told her that he did not want to go out with her anymore*)
 (b) Could you give me some **..... room**, please? (*Could you give me enough space so that I am comfortable?*)

Ex. 27. Explain the following idiomatic expressions and fill in the gaps. Many of them can be used more than once.

anorak / bigmouth / bunny boiler / busybody / chatterbox / chinless wonder / clock-watcher / couch potato / crank / creep / daydreamer / Don Juan / eager beaver / early bird / golden boy / happy camper / life and soul of the party / moaning Minnie / pain in the neck / rolling stone / rough diamond / salt of the earth / Scrooge / Scrounger / Skiver / slave driver / smart Alec / smart cookie / stuffed shirt / tearaway / troublemaker / wallflower / wet blanket / wimp / wolf in sheep's clothing

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1. Nobody likes Peter very much because he is so annoying. He is a right!
2. Andy is so boring. Did you know that his idea of a perfect day is going to the station to collect train registration numbers? What a/an!
3. I know that you do not like your job very much, but I wish you would stop complaining about it all the time. Do not be such a/an!
4. Imelda loves working here: she is a real
5. Alan is an excellent and intelligent manager who runs the department well and deals effectively with any problems that come up. Everyone agrees that he is a/an
6. You have been sitting in front of the television for almost four hours. Why do not you turn it off and go for a walk? You are turning into a/an
7. We were having a wonderful evening until Anne joined us. Why does she have to be so negative about everything all the time? She is such a/an!
8. Don't be such a/an! If you concentrated instead of speaking all the time, you would get more work done.
9. If you want some help, ask Imelda. She is always happy and willing to help out: she's a real!
10. I hope Rick comes out with us tonight. He is such good fun, always the
11. Poor Samantha is a bit of a/an She would have much more fun and would get to know more people if she had more confidence.
12. Don is a bit of a/an He never eats vegetables because he thinks they slow down your brain!
13. Don't be such a/an! You only have a small cut on your hand; you have not lost a whole arm!
14. All the newspapers are writing about Gordon Stapleton. He is the new of English football.
15. When Laurence ended his relationship with Mandy, she refused to accept it and started sending him insulting letters. Then one day she went to his house and threw a brick through his window! I never realised she was such a!

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16. My line manager Mr Burton is a real Yesterday he made us work for six hours without a break, and would not let us leave until 7 o'clock.

17. Maureen is the in this company. She starts work at 7 o'clock, two hours before anyone else arrives.

18. I am afraid my son has become a bit of a/an He stays out all night with his friends and he never listens to a word I say.

19. All the girls in the office love Dan, and he loves them back! He is a regular

20. Mrs Ranscombe is such a/an I wish she would stop interfering in my life!

21. My boss is a real: he pays us peanuts and has not given us a pay rise for two years.

22. James is a bit of a/an He never seems to pay attention during his lessons, and does not appear to take in anything I say.

23. Martin is not ill! He is not at work because he is too lazy to come in, the!

24. Michelle never pays for anything when we go out, and just relies on other people. She is such a/an

25. Mike has always been a/an He can never stay in the same place for very long, and he rarely keeps the same job for more than six months.

26. Our new secretary is a/an She does not work very hard, and she cannot wait for the working day to end.

27. Everyone respects Arthur. He is the

28. I would avoid Christine, if I were you. She is a real, and loves to start arguments.

29. When I ask you a question, I want you to give me a short, sensible answer. Do not be a/an!

30. Come on, Bill. Relax and enjoy yourself! Do not be such a/an

31. Anthony is always following the boss around, carrying his briefcase and papers, opening doors for him and bringing him cups of coffee. What a!

32. Don't ask Tina to keep a secret: she is a real

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33. I know that Mr Connor is not very well spoken and does not behave very politely, but he is a pleasant and kind man, a real

34. Mr Kelly seems nice and kind when you first start working for him, but in fact he's a ruthless businessman who will fire you the first time you make a mistake. He is a real

35. Tarquin is a bit of a He has lots of money, but everyone thinks he is weak and stupid.

Ex. 28. Complete the idiomatic expressions in bold with the name of an animal, insect from the list. Many of the names can be used more than once. The meaning of each idiomatic expression is explained in brackets at the end of each sentence.

*bee / bird / cat / chicken / dog / donkey / duck / fish / fly /
goat / goose / hen / horse / monkey / pig / rat / shark / whale*

1. I always thought Laurence was rather shallow and superficial, but yesterday I saw him reading a book of Renaissance poetry. He is a bit of a **dark**, isn't he? (someone with a secret, especially a secret ability, skill or achievement that surprises you when you discover it)

2. I am not going out with you looking like that. You **look like something that the dragged in!** Brush your hair and put on some clean clothes! (to have a very dirty or untidy appearance)

3. I live on the 14th floor of a tower block, so I have a wonderful**'s-eye view** of the town. (a good view of something from a high position)

4. How did I know that you were going out with Lucy? Aha! **A little told me!** (an expression used for saying that you are not going to say who told you something)

5. It really **gets my**, the way she keeps interrupting all the time. (to annoy someone)

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6. William did not get the promotion he wanted last year, and he has had **a in his bonnet** about it ever since. (to be very involved in something that you think is important, in a way that other people find annoying)

7. You really **let the out of the bag** when you asked Louise what time her party started. She did not know anything about it. It was supposed to be a surprise. (to tell someone something that was supposed to be a secret)

8. Where have you been? You are soaking wet! You **look like a drowned!** (looking very wet and cold)

9. Tony! What a surprise! It is wonderful to see you again. I have not seen you **for’s years!** (an extremely long time)

10. The hotel used to be the best in town, but since the new manager took over it’s really **gone to the’s.** (not as good at it was in the past)

11. I do not trust Eric when he says he is working late at the office. To be honest, I **smell a** (to be suspicious, or to think that someone is trying to trick you)

12. That is the third burger you have eaten. I wish you would stop **making such a of yourself.** (to eat a lot of food)

13. “Do you think I will pass my driving test tomorrow, Julie?” “Sorry, Mark, I do not think you **have a in hell’s chance.**” (to have no chance at all of doing something)

14. I only started my new job last week, and I still feel **like a out of water.** (to be in a situation that you know nothing about or are not used to)

15. “How did you know that Mr Roberts is going to resign?” “I **got it straight from the’s mouth.**” (information that comes from someone who is directly involved – in this case, from Mr Roberts)

16. Have you met our new manager? He really **thinks he is the’s knees!** (to think you are very clever and important)

17. What do you think of our new English teacher? Personally I think she’s a bit of **a cold** (someone who is not very friendly)

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18. Antonia is very timid: she **would not say boo to a** (an expression used to describe someone who is very quiet and shy)

19. Why do I always have to **do the work**? (boring work that needs a lot of effort but has to be done as part of a job)

20. I would love to be **a on the wall** when Debbie tells Mr Roberts what she thinks of him! (to be able to see what people are doing without them noticing you)

21. Two weeks before her wedding, Jane went to a nightclub for her **..... night**. (a celebration for a woman who is about to get married, in which only her women friends take part)

22. I am so hungry, I could **eat a**! (an expression used for saying that you are very hungry)

23. The bank would not lend me the money, so I had to go to a **loan** (someone who lends money to people and charges them a very high rate of interest)

24. My boss is such a **..... bag**. I do not think I can go on working for her much longer. (somebody who is unpleasant with other people)

25. I feel really sorry for poor old Steven: he is so **..... pecked**. (criticised and given orders all the time by a wife or female partner)

26. It was a very simple job, but I **made a’s ear of it**. (do something very badly)

27. I wanted to go to Spain for my holiday, but just before I left for the airport I lost my passport. As you can imagine, that really **cooked my** (to cause a lot of problems for someone, or spoil their plans)

28. I cannot help you at the moment, I am afraid. I have **got bigger** to fry. (to have more important things to do or think about)

29. The party was wonderful. We had **a of a time**. (to have a lot of fun)

30. You can tell John that he is a stupid boring idiot if you like, but I’m afraid it will just be **water off a’s back**. (an expression used for saying that advice, warnings or insults do not affect someone)

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31. I have got so many things to do today. I am **running around like a headless!** (trying to do a lot of things quickly without being sensible or calm about it)

32. He thinks he is better than us. I wish he would **get off his high** (stop behaving as if he knows more or is better than anyone else)

33. Corporate **fats** have once again been accused of putting profits before people. (people who receive too much money for the job they do)

34. I do not like him, I do not respect him, and I **do not give a’s** what he thinks. (to not care about something at all)

35. While we are in town doing our shopping, let’s go and see my mother. That way, we can **kill twos with one stone.** (to achieve two aims with one action)

36. I have never seen Arnie looking so happy. He is **like a with two tails.** (to be very happy because something good has happened)

Ex. 29. Complete the following sentences with an appropriate form of *work* (for example, present continuous, past simple, etc), and an appropriate particle or particles, to make phrasal verbs.

1. The exact details of the event have not been yet. (*To decide or agree on something*)

2. We will have to Joey to find out what is going on. (*To try to influence someone, often in order to get information from them*)

3. In my experience, the best way of tension is by playing a good game of tennis. (*To get rid of a feeling, or get rid of some weight, by doing something that involves physical activity*)

4. Are you tell me that you have lost my camera? (*To prepare yourself to do something difficult, or try to prepare someone for bad news. This phrasal verb needs two particles*)

5. I have finally what that strange noise in the attic is. (*To solve a problem by considering the facts*)

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6. The total cost of our holiday last year, including flights and accommodation, at about ?300. *(To add up to a particular amount)*

7. When I damaged my father's car, he made me the cost of the repairs. *(To pay someone what you owe them by doing a job for them instead of giving them money)*

8. I am not very hungry. Perhaps I should go for a walk to an appetite. *(To develop a particular feeling)*

9. If she improving her game, she could be a champion. *(To try hard to develop or improve something)*

10. Unless we getting fit before the game, we will not win. *(To spend time producing or improving something)*

Ex. 30. Explain the expressions in bold in the sentences.

1. He cooked us a fantastic breakfast. We had **the whole works!**

2. Everything was going well, and then the boss **threw a spanner in the works.**

3. We will **have our work cut out for us** if we want to continue making money from this project.

4. I was hot, tired and in a really bad mood, but a cold shower **worked wonders!**

5. You will pass your exams, but only if you **work your socks off.**

6. He was very hungry, and **made short work** of the meal I had cooked.

7. We are only a little bit late, and we have got a good excuse, so do not get so **worked up!**

8. It is very difficult to obtain a visa to visit the country, but if you know how to **work the system**, it can be very easy.

9. I have **worked my fingers to the bone** for this company for twenty years, and now they tell me that they do not need me anymore!

10. I work in the customer complaints department for a major airline, so being shouted at by angry customers is all **in a day's work** for me.

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Ex. 31. Give the idiomatic expressions to the definitions in bold.

1. With little money, I have from my savings I can barely **survive**.
2. The rent on the flat was very high, so we had **to live on a smaller budget**.
3. He decided to leave the company, so Jenny **replaced him**.
4. The company **reached the lowest bottom** after all the investors pulled out.
5. We have been **managing with very little money** all winter so that we can go on holidays in June.
6. She is a **very weak person** as a secretary, so I would not be surprised that she **was fired**.
7. You could ask your boss to buy you a new computer after all, he **is very rich**.
8. I am **in debt** after buying a house and now I really **suffer because of lack of money**.
9. The company needs **control and discipline** and only then, it would definitely **produce good results**.
10. He applied for several jobs before he **was finally accepted** at Brown's Engineering.
11. My mum **is always supporting** me with the money that allows me to do an evening computer class.
12. At the moment she **is handling with** customer queries.
13. The management of the company is **full of false promises** – they never do what they say they are going to do.
14. I **am angry about** the proposal but what I can do.
15. I reckon we can explain that the workforce will **go on strike**.
16. **The long-lasting struggle** between our companies intensified on Tuesday.
17. He said that **giving a rise** was difficult to achieve.
18. I suppose we should discuss the problem **in private**.
19. Organising something like that could **ensure the death** in the company.
20. After working for fifteen hours, Peter decided to **stop working** and go home.

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Ex. 32. Insert the correct prepositions.

1. I am to my ears in work.
2. It has been one thing another.
3. I have been my feet all day.
4. Are you a loose end this evening?
5. I am tied up after lunch.
6. We have been rushed our feet.
7. I have already got enough my plate.
8. They cannot leave the company while they have such debts to pay
9. It is not easy to opt of a lifestyle that is generally considered prestigious.
10. I would better get at 7 o'clock tomorrow, since the conference begins at 8.30.
11. The new school hall cost ? 2 million to build, but the school's Board of Governors put some of the money.
12. I have got lots of work of my own, so I cannot deal your problems as well.
13. All the workers have to clock when they arrive in the morning to start their shift.
14. This company would benefit complete reorganization.
15. The country has been taken by force.
16. He is always running me
17. I will take that job, but only as a favour to you.
18. I kept being late for work, so I have taken getting up earlier recently.
19. The arrival of Flight 421 will be delayed – the plane took half an hour later.
20. I am afraid I have run sugar. Could I borrow some from you?

Ex. 33. Translate into English using idiomatic expressions.

1. Наши жалобы на его лающую собаку наткнулись на стену непонимания.
2. Ее показная искренность за закрытыми дверями не произвела впечатления. Я знал, что она лжет.

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3. Он принадлежит к простому народу, поэтому ему иногда трудно понять людей из Совета директоров.
4. Когда он взял власть в свои руки, последствия были ужасными.
5. Несмотря на жесткую критику, министр продолжал отстаивать свою точку зрения.
6. Ты играешь с огнем, проводя такую политику в компании.
7. У меня проблемы, боюсь, меня скоро выгонят.
8. Фирма в тяжелом положении, нам нужна жесткая рука.
9. Новый бизнес Тома в бедственном положении, к сожалению, Том потерял много денег.
10. У меня такой низкий доход, что я еле-еле свожу концы с концами.
11. Все усилия, приложенные нами, без сомнения скоро принесут плоды.
12. Нора уходит на больничный, придется тебе работать вместо нее.
13. Я понял, что миссис Уоткинс не шутила, когда я получил письмо от ее адвоката.
14. Если ты в долгах, не стоит рассчитывать на мою помощь.
15. Начинать бизнес с нуля – очень затратное дело.

Ex. 34. What do you think is more important, work or family? Write a paragraph explaining the reasons for your choice. The first sentence should clearly state your opinion, and the remaining sentences should support your main idea. Try to use as many idiomatic expressions from this unit as possible.

Ex. 35. Think of your own dream job. Do not include the name of the job. Try to use as many idiomatic expressions from this unit as possible. Present the descriptions of your dream jobs.

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READING AND SPEAKING COMPREHENSION

Text 1. EAST MEETS WEST ON LOVE'S RISKY CYBERHIGHWAY

Before you read

1. The phrase “East Meets West” refers to a famous line written by the English poet Rudyard Kipling : “Oh, East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet” What do you think Kipling meant? Do you agree or disagree?

2. The “cyberhighway” in the title is the worldwide pathway of instant communication made possible by the Internet. How could such a highway have risks?

3. Some of the people described in the article say they are too busy for a social life because they work so many hours. Do you have enough time in your life for friendship and romantic relationships?

a) Read the text and explain the italicized expressions.

Alevtina Ivanova and other Russian bachelorettes like her are looking for a few good men abroad. “Unfortunately, in our collapsed economy, very few men are able to support a family properly,” she says. “Russian men lack confidence, they become fatalistic, they drink, and they die young. It’s not surprising that Russian women *pin their hopes* elsewhere.”

Ms. Ivanova, a veteran of half-a-dozen serious cyber-relationships with European and American men, is among thousands of Russian women turning to the Internet to meet Westerners. The potential suitors are equally frustrated with the dating prospects in their home countries.

“American women are too independent, too demanding, too critical,” says Chris, a middle-aged US businessman visiting Moscow to meet “several very nice ladies” he contacted over the Web. The visitor, who asked that his last name not to be used, cites a joke often repeated here: “A Russian wife wants to keep house for you. An American

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wife wants to get rid of you, and keep the house.”

Dozens of Web-based agencies are busy playing match-maker, for fees paid by both the women, who send in their pictures and bios for posting on international Websites, and the men, who can obtain contact information for the women who pique their interest.’

Though there are no firm statistics, it is estimated that between 4,000 and 6,000 women from the former USSR marry US citizens each year. One agency currently lists 25,000 women from Russia other former Soviet republics seeking Western mates, there are dozens more agencies, each offering thousands of would-be-brides. Some agencies have branched into travel, translation and other services to profit from what they say is an exploding traffic.

While some describe these international e-introductions as offering *matches made in heaven*, others see nightmares in cyberspace. “People bring their illusions as well as their dreams to this market,” says Tatiana Gurko, head of the independent Center for Gender Studies in Moscow. “Like any physical place, the Internet has predators *lurking about*, and sometimes they may be hard to spot.”

Western men increasingly report being *ripped off* by Russian women, who write sweet e-mails, send sexy digital photos, hit them up for cash, and then disappear.

On the other side, tales filtering back to Russia of Internet *marriages gone sour* – including the murder of a Russian e-mail-order bride in the US-have *put women on their guard*.

However, Ivanova, who now works as an adviser to DiOritz, a large Moscow matchmaking agency, says that although none of her cyber-relationships have led to marriage, she has had no regrettable experiences.

“You can find out everything you need to know about a man in five e-mails,” she says breezily. “Men are fairly obvious; you just need to question them properly.” To her, the requirements on both sides are clear: “A woman need only be attractive and educated, but a man must have property, means and a good job.”

Yelena Khronina, who plans to soon wed “a wonderful Norwegian man” she met via

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the Internet, says her dreams has come true. ‘It’s so hard to be a woman in Russia,’ Ms Khronina sighs. “But then you visit this beautiful, orderly, prosperous country, and spend time with a man who treats you with kindness and respect. Why would anyone say no to that?”

The potential dangers of *dabbling in cyberromance* are dramatized in a recent film, Birthday Girl, in which Nicole Kidman plays a mail-order bride from Moscow who brings a gang of Russian mafia thugs *crashing into the life* of her English bank-clerk beau. In real life, *the string is* usually more *mundane*. An unsuspecting Western man falls in love after a few gushing e-mail exchanges with a *false identity* posted on a Website – sometimes the photos are actually of a Russian actress or a fashion model – and is persuaded to *wire cash* for a ticket to visit him, or to meet some personal emergency.

“A woman can *string a man along*, playing on his emotions and sympathy and, in doing so, *trick him into* giving her money or expensive items,” says Paul O’Brien, a US Web designer who has temporarily *given up* his search for a Russian wife after being *burned by* two women who just wanted money from him.

Mr O’Brien says he resorted to the Internet because of America’s fast-paced, impersonal and workaholic culture. “A lot of guys I know work many, many hours and do not have time for a social life,” he says. “So it seems particularly appealing to them when these agencies offer to help them make contact with beautiful and single women,” he says, but warns: “Prospective suitors need to be very wary of the women out there who have no intention of developing a relationship with them.”

Russian women insist it is they who face the greatest hazards. Many have heard about Anastasia Solovyova, a Russian from the former Soviet republic of Kyrgyzstan, who was murdered by her American husband two years ago. She had been his second mail-order bride. Experts say there are many more tales of miserable, and sometimes tragic, mismatches.

“You come to a strange country, to meet a man you’ve only corresponded with by e-mail,” says Ivanova. “There are issues of language, culture and personal morality. It

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takes a lot of trust, and for some women it goes badly wrong.”

The terrorist attacks of September 11, which brought the Russian and US government closer together, may, paradoxically, have *put* at least a temporarily *damper on the love fest*.”

Tamara Babkina, deputy director of Wedding Palace No. 4, which is the only office in Moscow where foreigners can legally marry, says that until the year 2001, Americans were the largest group marrying Russian women. “We had 175 US-Russian weddings in 2001, but since September 11 there has not been a single one,” Ms. Babkina says.

While no one wants to *go on record* criticizing love, some experts argue that the *Westward outflow* of Russian women must be viewed as *a baneful social indicator*.

“Russia has become the world’s leading *exporter of wives*, and this is a tremendously profitable business,” says Ms. Gurko. “It may be a real supply and demand situation,” she says, “but let’s try to remember that this vast supply of terrific women is *made up* of individuals whose hopes have been crushed in their own country.

“It’s so sad that, in order to seek a better life, a Russian woman has to leave.”

b) Read the three paragraphs below, then choose the one which best summarizes the main idea of the article.

1. With the help of Web-based agencies, thousands of Russian women are seeking husbands abroad, primarily in the United States and Western Europe. While many of the relationships are reported to have happy endings, there are also risks involved on both sides. The fact that so many Russian women want to leave their country to get married is one indicator of the country’s serious economic and social problems.

2. Alevtina Ivanova is a young Russian woman who has tried unsuccessfully to find a European or American husband with property, means and a good job. She does not want to marry a Russian man, so she expects to keep looking until she finds the ideal husband. Ivanova is aware of the dangers, but feels that the rewards far outweigh the risks.

3. The dangers of trying to find a romantic partner via the Internet are great for both

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Russian women and American men. There are many issues that can go badly wrong. The case of the Russian woman who was murdered by her American husband is well known, and there are many more cyber-relationships that end in divorce. It is also common for Russian women to rip off American men.

c) Say whether these sentences are true or false.

1. It is estimated that between 4,000 and 6,000 women from the former USSR marry US citizens each year.
2. American women are increasingly fed up with American men and are looking for husbands in Western Europe.
3. Internet dating services are very popular in Asia.
4. Some Western men have been cheated out of money by Russian women who post beautiful photographs but have false identities.
5. In 2001, Norwegians were the second largest group marrying Russian women.
6. One Russian e-mail-order bride was murdered by her American husband.
7. Some of the matchmaking agencies now operating in Russia are not licensed by the government and cannot be trusted.
8. Russia has become the world's leading exporter of wives.

d) Answer the questions below.

1. Alevtina Ivanova is critical of Russian men's ability to support a family. Specifically, what does she not like about them?
2. Based on your answer to question one, what can you infer that Alevtina likes about Westerners? Do you agree that these are important qualities for a prospective husband? Discuss them with your group mates.
3. What about men in your country? Do you think the woman would approve of them as potential husbands? Why or why not?

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Text 2. PROJECTING AN ONLINE IDENTITY

Before you read

1. How do people project their identity through social media?
2. What is different about the identities people use in the gambling world?
3. Do you keep in touch with people via social media? If so, which media do you use? Why?
4. Do you change your profile picture very often? If so, what makes you change it? What kinds of photos do you choose?

a) Read the text and explain the italicized expressions.

There are more than 2 billion users of social media in the world. When you *check out* the online profiles of these people, the first thing you see is their profile picture and cover photo. It gives you a first, albeit superficial, impression of their identity or how they choose to project it online.

Extroverts and narcissists are easy to spot – they are always gazing directly at the camera or doing something daring like parachuting or bungee-jumping. They are inclined to smile and look confident. These are the kinds of people who post a lot of images of themselves and expect lots of ‘likes’ when they do!

Introverts, on the other hand, have a tendency to *look away from* the camera in their profile pics. They may post another kind of image altogether – perhaps a landscape or something that *conjures up* a particular mood, or their pet. This distracts the attention away from them and onto something that they like.

Those who are a little more light-hearted might show a photo of themselves when they were a cute four-year-old, and that might encourage their friends to *follow suit*, and share their own childhood pics. On work-oriented social media sites on the other hand, it is more common to see professional-looking photos. For example, having bookshelves in the background of your photo can make you look learned and intelligent.

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Of course, there are other reasons why people change their profile pictures: in response to a particular piece of news, or to show support for a cause or solidarity for a certain group of people. If many people do this at once, people can *feel peer pressure* to do the same – another example of ‘sharing’ in the online world.

But it is not just on social media that people project an online identity. This issue is even more pronounced in the gaming community. The avatars that gamers use are often far more removed from their real selves and represent a fantasy image of someone they dream of being. Due to the nature of the games themselves, people’s chosen avatars often perform a role in a virtual world like Second Life. Many avatars can walk and talk but also fly or be reborn – their creation can push the boundaries of our imagination. This represents an opportunity for people to *take on a whole* new identity, to play a new role in their imagined life. It is a form of escapism, but it can also be incredibly liberating.

The only problem is that these virtual identities can *take over* your life, leading some people to neglect their real-world obligations and friendships. Perhaps this is the danger of developing a new identity online – that the real world is just too boring in comparison!

b) Read the text again and underline the correct alternative.

1. You can get a(n) *detailed* / *incomplete* impression about a person’s identity from looking at their profile picture.
2. People who smile at the camera *usually* / *rarely* want people to like them.
3. Introverts choose images which *are mysterious* / *do not show* their faces.
4. It’s common to show *professional* / *childhood* photos if you don’t want to be taken seriously.
5. When changing their profile pictures, people sometimes *feel* / *do not often feel* pressure to copy each other.
6. People’s identities in virtual worlds are much *more* / *less* fantastic than on social media.

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7. These identities can provide you with a lot of freedom. They are also *dangerous* / *a form of escape*.

8. People's real identities can be far more *interesting/boring* than their invented ones.

c) Find the verbs and verb phrases 1–8 in the article. Match them with their meanings a–h. Which two verbs / verb phrases collocate with ‘an identity’?

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. check out | a) identity |
| 2. spot | b) adopt |
| 3. gaze | c) bring a feeling to mind |
| 4. conjure up | d) control |
| 5. follow suit | e) get information about smb/smith |
| 6. project | f) do what someone else has done |
| 7. take on | g) try to make other people have a particular idea about you |
| 8. take over | h) look in a particular direction for a long time |

d) Is the article right about online identities or does it take the issue too seriously? Explain your answer.

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Text 3. OUT TO LUNCH

Before you read

1. The average workday in many countries is eight hours long. If you could work any hours of the day or night, which eight hours would you choose? Why?
2. Read the title of this article and then take one minute to skim it. What do you think the article will be about? Share your ideas with a partner.
3. Scan the article to find the information below.
 - What cities are mentioned in this article?
 - How many people are mentioned in the article? What are their names?
4. In some countries it's a tradition to rest for an hour or two in the middle of the day. Why do you think this tradition exists? Share your ideas with a partner.

a) Read the text and explain the italicized expressions.

Birds do it. And Spaniards most especially do it – every day, in broad daylight. They nap. Grown adults – executives, teachers, civil servants – *wink off* in the middle of the workday. From 1 or 2 o'clock to 4.30 or so every afternoon, Spain stops the world for a stroll home, a leisurely meal, and a *few z's*. Common Market technocrats have informed the Spanish that this is not the way things will get done in a unified Europe.

At a time when productivity is the world's largest religion, the siesta tradition *lives on*. In Spain, work operates under the command of life, instead of the other way around. No task is so critical that it cannot wait a couple of hours while you attend to more important matters like eating, relaxing, or catching up on sleep. When the midday break hits, offices empty and streets clear. Befuddled foreigners quickly learn that they have entered a new *circadian order*.

“At first, I kept *looking for* things to do in the afternoon, and I just couldn't believe that nothing was open,” recalls Pier Roberts, an Oakland writer who lived in Spain for several years. “I walked the streets of Madrid looking for somewhere to go. It was *a thousand degrees* outside, you could see the heat waves, and it was like *a ghost town*.”

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Taking a long break in the middle of the day is not only healthier than the conventional lunch; it is apparently more natural. Sleep researchers have found that the Spanish biorhythm may be *tuned more closely* to our biological clocks. Studies suggest that humans are ‘biphasic’ creatures, requiring days *broken up* by two periods of sleep instead of one ‘monophasic’ shift. The drowsiness you feel after lunch comes not from the food but from the time of day.

“All animals, including humans, have a biological rhythm,” explains Claudio Stampi, director of the Chrono Biology Research Institute in Newton, Massachusetts. “One is a 24-hour rhythm – we get tired by the end of the day and go to sleep – and there is a secondary peak of sleepiness and a *decrease in alertness* in the early afternoon. Some people have difficulty in remaining awake, doing any sort of task between one and four in the afternoon. For others it is less difficult, but it is there. So there is a biological reason for siestas.”

Unlike the average lunch break, the siesta is a true break in the action because there is no choice but to come to a full and complete stop. You cannot do errands; the shops are closed. You cannot make business calls; nobody is at the office. Most people go home for lunch, or *get together* with family or friends for a glass of wine and *nod out afterwards*.

The Spanish need their sleep. They have a long night ahead of them, because another key component of the siesta lifestyle is its *nocturnal orbit*. After the afternoon work shift, from 4.30 to 8 p. m. or so, they may join friends for a drink. Dinner starts at 9 or 10 p. m., and from there it is *out on the town* until one or two in the morning.

“It is bad night in Madrid if you get home before six in the morning,” laughs Roberts. The siesta’s origins lie in climate and architecture. Like people in other places around the globe that are *blast furnaces* much of the year, Spaniards turned to shade and stillness to avoid incineration in the middle of the day. At night, packed, simmering dwellings drove people into the streets to *cool down*.

While climate is still a factor, the siesta lifestyle today is driven primarily by the *social imperative* of Spanish life, which places an equal if not greater emphasis on life

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outside the office. “We are not so obsessed only with work,” says Florentino Sotomayor of the Spanish Tourist Board. “We take a break and have the opportunity of having coffee or beer with friends and thinking and talking about different issues, not only work.”

b) For each item below, circle the answer that best completes each statement.

1. The main idea of this article is that
 - a) people everywhere should take naps
 - b) napping is an important tradition in Spain
 - c) it is important to have traditions
 - d) the nightlife is exciting in Spain
2. During the midday break in Spain, people
 - a) go home for lunch
 - b) do errands
 - c) make business calls
 - d) go shopping
3. The main idea of the fourth paragraph is that
 - a) the conventional lunch break is natural and healthy
 - b) all animals have biological clocks
 - c) food makes you feel drowsy
 - d) it is natural for humans to nap
4. A biphasic creature needs
 - a) two sleep periods a day
 - b) eight hours of sleep a day
 - c) two days of sleep
 - d) a long night of sleep

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5. You can infer from the article that some businessmen in European countries

- a) hope the siesta tradition will be introduced in their countries
- b) think the siesta tradition is impractical
- c) think that the siesta tradition will grow in popularity
- d) don't agree that napping is good for you

6. The overall tone of this article is

- a) serious and academic
- b) light and silly
- c) light and informative
- d) scientific and technical

c) Answer the questions below.

1. The writer claims that "productivity is the world's largest religion." What do you think he means by this? Do you agree? Why / Why not?

2. Each of the statements from the reading below is an exaggeration of the truth. Why do you think the author exaggerates the truth?

- It was a thousand degrees outside.
- It is a bad night in Madrid if you get home before six in the morning.

3. What do you think are the advantages and disadvantages of the siesta tradition? Add them to the chart below. Then decide if you think siestas are a good idea.

d) Group work. Our traditions give information about our values, or what you believe is important. What do you think these traditions say about values?

- In Japan, it is a tradition to take your shoes off before you enter a house.
- In Spain, it is a tradition to take a long lunch break so you can have a leisurely lunch with your family and take a nap.
- In the United States and other countries it is a tradition for men to give women flowers on birthdays, anniversaries, and other occasions.

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e) Answer the questions below.

1. What is one of your culture's most important traditions? What does it say about your culture's values?
2. When you were a child, what was one of your favourite holiday traditions?
3. What do these two quotations mean to you?
 - A tradition without intelligence is not worth having (T. S. Eliot).
 - Tradition is a guide and not a jailer (W. Somerset Maugham).

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Text 4. AT YOUR OWN RISK

Before you read

1. Do you drive or cycle? Which do you prefer? Why? If not, why do not you travel this way? If so, where do you like driving/cycling?
2. Are there any well-known or dangerous roads in your country? Why are they well known?

a) Read the text and explain the italicized expressions.

Yungas road, Bolivia

This is the world's most dangerous road. Its nickname is 'Camino de la Muerte' (Road of Death) for a reason – it *claims more than 200 lives per year*. Starting in Bolivia's capital, La Paz, it ascends to a height of 4650 metres before dropping 300 metres to Coroico, in the tropical Yungas region. The landscape thus changes very fast as the road winds its way over steep hillsides of lush greenery and round rocky outcrops. The road *could not be more perilous* – it has no rails and is only about 3.2 metres wide. Rain and fog can *hamper visibility* and there are loose rocks in many places. Yet, despite all this, the *breathhtaking scenery* and its potential danger has attracted an increasing number of tourists, mostly mountain bikers. This is also due to the fact that there is *an amazing stretch of downhill riding*, around 50 km long. Every year thousands embark on this crazy adventure. Just think carefully before you join them!

Stelvio Pass, Italy

The British motoring programme Top Gear called this the 'greatest driving road in the world'. The Stelvio Pass has 48 *never-ending hairpin* turns that zigzag through Alps, making this a *real challenge* for any driver. Overtaking is strictly prohibited here! The road's construction dates back to the 1820s and design has changed very little since then. Before the end of World War I, it formed the border between the Austro-Hungarian Empire and Italy. Today, it connects the Italian region of Lombardy with Austria. Apart from cars, in high season scores of *cyclists and motorcyclists struggle to ride* this highest

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stretch of road in the Eastern Alps. Italy's top cycling competition, the Giro d'Italia, often crosses it. Do not let the astonishing Alpine *views break your concentration* – the panorama gets increasingly beautiful as you ascend – you will *need all your wits* about you to drive this successfully. The reward comes when you get to the top and can experience great skiing on the Stelvio glacier at an elevation of 2750 metres. Enjoy!

Trans-Sahara Highway, Northern Africa

Most roads are dangerous because of heights but some are frightening for other reasons. This *highway's risks* actually are significantly greater than the two mountain passes above. Here, the danger lies in the road's extreme length (over 4500 km), the fact that only 85 percent of it is paved and the number potentially complicated border crossings. The highway links the capitals of Algeria and Nigeria – Algiers and Abuja – and crosses the whole of Niger via the city of Agadez. The *barren landscape* and desert barely change for days on this road. Still want to do it? Before you *set off*, you will need a special 4x4 adapted for the desert climate, at least two spare tyres and plenty of fuel and water supplies. Sandstorms and temperatures of up to 50 °C can be a major problem, with sand blocking parts of the route. So why undertake such a journey? For the incredible peace and quiet that you will experience and the thrill of taking a journey of really *epic proportions*.

b) Read the article again. Match the roads 1–3 with the facts a–i. There are three facts per road.

1. Yungas Road, Bolivia
 2. Stelvio Pass, Italy
 3. Trans-Sahara Highway, Northern Africa
- a) it is technically very difficult to drive;
 - b) there are many fatalities every year;
 - c) you need to make special preparations before tackling the journey;
 - d) it is worth it when you reach the top;

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- e) there could be some issues when crossing from one country to another;
- f) the road is not entirely finished;
- g) it has become a major tourist attraction;
- h) it hosts an important competition;
- i) the views on the road change incredibly fast.

c) Underline the correct alternative.

1. Any road can be *panoramic/perilous*, you always have to be careful when you drive.
2. Some weather conditions can really *harm/hamper* your progress on the road.
3. The landscapes are really *breathtaking/hair-raising* but don't stop to look at them or you could fall!
4. The road is really dangerous because it is never straight, it *zigzags/straightens* continuously.
5. The history of the road is interesting, it *dates back / stretches* to World War I.
6. If you *undertake/overtake* this road, you will need to be especially prepared.
7. The road is particularly *barren/unsealed*, there is nothing to see except the flat land and the horizon.
8. The *reward/rock fall* of a great view at the end of a journey always makes it worthwhile.

d) Which of these roads would you like / not like to travel on? Why?

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Text 5. WHY I QUIT THE COMPANY

Before you read

1. What are your career goals? How do you expect to achieve them?
2. Read the title of the article and then take one minute to skim the text. What do you think the article will be about?
3. In today's busy world, people seem to have less time to spend with friends and family. What types of problems might this cause? Do you think it is more important to 'live to work' or 'work to live'? Explain why.

a) Read the text and explain the italicized expressions.

When I tell people that I quit working for the company after only a year, most of them think I am crazy. They cannot understand why I would want to give up a prestigious and secure job. But I think I would have been crazy to stay, and I will try to explain why.

I started working for the company immediately after graduating from university. It is a big, well-known trading company with about 6,000 employees all over the world. There is a lot of competition to get into this and other similar companies, which promise young people a wealthy and successful future. I was set on course to be a Japanese 'yuppie'.

I had been used to living independently as a student, *looking after myself* and organizing my own schedule. As soon as I started working all that changed. I was given a room in the company dormitory, which is like a fancy hotel, with a 24-hour hot bath service and all meals *laid on*. Most single company employees live in a dormitory like this, and many married employees live in company apartments. The dorm system is actually a great help because living in Tokyo costs more than young people can afford – but I *found it stifling*.

My life rapidly became reduced to *a shuttle between* the dorm and the office. The working day is officially eight hours, but you can never leave the office on time. I used to work from nine in the morning until eight or nine at night, and often until midnight. Drinking with colleagues after work is part of the job; you cannot say no. The company

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building contained cafeterias, shops, a bank, a post office, a doctor's office, a barber's... I never needed to leave the building. Working, drinking, sleeping, and standing on a horribly crowded commuter train for an hour and a half each way: This was my life. I spent all my time with the same colleagues; when I was not involved in entertaining clients at the weekend, I was expected to play golf with my colleagues. I soon lost sight of the world outside the company.

This isolation is part of the *brainwashing process*. A personnel manager said: "We want excellent students who are active, clever, and tough. Three month is enough to train them to be devoted businessmen." I would hear my colleagues saying: "I'm not making any profit for the company, so I'm not contributing." Very few employees claim all the overtime pay due to them. Keeping an employee costs the company \$ 400,000 a year, or so the company claims. Many employees put the company's profits before their own mental and physical well-being.

Overtiredness and overwork leave you little energy to analyze or criticize your situation. There are shops full of 'health drinks', cocktails of caffeine and other drugs, which will keep you going even when you are exhausted. Karoshi (death from overwork) is increasingly common and is always being discussed in the newspapers. I myself collapsed from working too hard. My boss told me: "You should control your health; it is your own fault if you get sick". There is no paid *sick leave*, I used up half of my fourteen days' *annual leave* because of sickness.

We had a *labour union*, but it seemed to have an odd relationship with the management. A couple of times a year I was told to go home at five o'clock. The union representatives were coming around to investigate working hours; everyone knew in advance. If it was 'discovered' that we were all working overtime in excess of fifty hours a month our boss might have had some problem being promoted; and our *prospects* would have been affected. So we all pretended to work normal hours that day.

The company also controls its employees' private lives. Many company employees under thirty are single. They are expected to devote all their time to the company and

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become good workers; they do not have time to find a girlfriend. The company offers scholarships to the most promising young employees to enable them to study abroad for a year or two. But unmarried people who are on these courses are not allowed to get married until they have completed the course! Married employees who are sent to train abroad have to leave their families in Japan for the first year.

In fact, the quality of married life is often determined by the husband's work. Men who have just got married try to go home early for a while, but soon have to revert to the norm of late-night work. They have little time to spend with their wives and even on the weekend are expected to play golf with colleagues. Fathers cannot find time to communicate with their children and child rearing is largely left to mothers. Married men posted abroad will often leave their family behind in Japan; they fear that their children will fall behind in the *fiercely competitive* Japanese education system.

Why do people *put up* with this? They believe to be a normal working life or just cannot see an alternative. Many think that such personal sacrifices are necessary to keep Japan economically successful. Perhaps, Japan's education and *socialization* processes do not equip people with the intellectual and spiritual resources to question and challenge the *status quo*. They *stamp out* even the desire for a different kind of life.

However, there are some signs that things are changing. Although many new employees in my company were quickly brainwashed, many others, like myself, complained about life in the company and seriously considered leaving. But most of them were already in *fetters of debt*. Pleased with themselves for getting into the company and *anticipating* a life of executive luxury, these new employees throw their money around. Every night they are out drinking. They buy smart clothes and take a taxi back to the dormitory after the last train has gone. They start borrowing money from the bank and soon they have a debt growing *like a snowball rolling down in a slope*. The banks demand no security for loans; it is enough to be working for a well-known company. Some borrow as much as a year's salary in the first few months. They cannot leave the company while they have such debts to *pay off*.

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I was one of the few people in *my intake of employees* who did not get into debt. I left the company dormitory after three months to share an apartment with a friend. I left the company exactly one year after I entered. It took me a while to find a new job, but I am working as a journalist now. My life is still busy, but it is a lot better than it was. I am lucky because nearly all big Japanese companies are like the one I worked for, and conditions in many small companies are even worse.

It is not easy to *opt out* of a lifestyle that is generally considered to be prestigious and desirable, but more and more young people in Japan are thinking about doing it. You have to give up a lot of *superficially attractive* material benefits in order to preserve the quality of your life and your sanity. I do not think I was crazy to leave the company. I think I would have gone crazy if I had stayed.

b) Order the events in “Why I Quit the Company” from the first (1) to the last (9).

- After three months, he left the dormitory to share an apartment with a friend.
- He graduated from university.
- He found a new job as a journalist.
- As a student, Tomoyuki Iwashita lived independently.
- As soon as he started work, he moved to the company dormitory and commuted to work.
- He has a busy life now, but he feels happier.
- While he was living in the dorm, he worked very hard during the week and played golf with colleagues on the weekends.
- He quit the company after one year.
- Immediately after that, he started working for a large trading company.

c) Say which of the following were NOT part of Mr. Iwashita’s life as a company man.

1. Commuting for an hour and a half each day.

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2. Falling into debt.
3. Collapsing from working too hard.
4. Taking a lot of paid sick leave.
5. Playing golf with clients.

d) Answer the questions below.

1. Do you think the writer is happy to quit the company? Find at least two lines in the article to support your answer.
2. Would you like to work for the company described in the article? Explain why or why not.

e) Read the statements from the article and write F if it is a fact or O if it is an opinion.

1. I started working for the company immediately after graduating from university.
2. There is a lot of competition to get into this and other similar companies.
3. I was set on course to be a Japanese 'yuppie'.
4. The working day is officially eight hours.
5. Very few employees claim all the overtime pay due to them.
6. Many company employees under thirty are single.
7. My life is still busy, but it is a lot better than it was.
8. I think I would have gone crazy if I had stayed.

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Text 6. LETTERS OF APPLICATION

Before you read

1. Have you ever had a full or part-time job? How did you get your job? Share your experiences with a partner.
2. What do you think are the reasons for writing a letter of application?
3. Is it a good idea to talk about your best qualities and accomplishments in a letter of application?
4. What points should be mentioned in a letter of application? Share your ideas with a partner.

a) Read the text and explain the italicized expressions.

A letter of application is a sales letter in which you are both salesperson and product, for the purpose of an application is to attract an employer's attention and persuade him or her to *grant you an interview*. To do this, the letter presents what you can offer the employer, rather than what you want from the job.

Like a resume, the letter of application is a sample of your work; and it is, as well, an opportunity to demonstrate, not just talk about, your skills and personality. If it is *written with flair* and understanding and prepared with professional care, it is likely to *hit its mark*.

There are two types of application letters. A solicited letter is sent in response to a help-wanted ad. As such a letter will be in competition with many, perhaps several hundred others, it must be composed with distinction. At the same time, it must refer to the ad and the specific job advertised.

An unsolicited letter is sent to a company for which you would like to work though you know of no particular opening. The advantage of this type of application, however, is that there will be little competition and you can define yourself the position you would like to apply for. You can send out as many letters as you wish, to as many companies as you are aware of; it is a good idea, though, to find out the name of a specific person to

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whom you can send the letter—a more effective approach than simply addressing a letter to “Personnel.”

Because a letter of application must *sell your qualifications*, it must do more than simply restate your resume in paragraph form.

While the resume must be factual, objective, and brief, the letter is your chance to interpret and expand. It should state explicitly how your background relates to the specific job, and it should emphasize your strongest and most *pertinent characteristics*. The letter should demonstrate that you know both yourself and the company.

A letter of application must communicate your ambition and enthusiasm. Yet it must, at the same time, be modest. It should be neither aggressive nor meek: neither *pat yourself on the back* nor ask for sympathy. It should never express dissatisfaction with a present or former job or employer. And you should avoid discussing your reasons for leaving your last job.

Keep in mind the following principles when writing your letter of application:

1. Start by attracting attention. You must say, of course, that you are applying and mention both the specific job and how you heard about it. But try to avoid a *mundane opening*. Instead of:

I would like to apply for the position of legal secretary, which you advertised in the Los Angeles Times of Sunday, August 10...

Try something a bit more original:

I believe you will find my experiences in the Alameda District Attorney’s office have prepared me well for the position of legal secretary, which you advertised in the Los Angeles Times of Sunday, August 10...

2. Continue by describing your qualifications. Highlight your strengths and achievements and say how they suit you for *the job at hand*. Provide details and explanations not found on your resume, and refer the reader to the resume for the remaining, less pertinent facts.

3. Assure the employer that you are the person for the job. List verifiable facts that

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prove you are not exaggerating or lying. Mention the names of any familiar or prominent references you may have. In some way, distinguish yourself from the mass of other qualified applicants.

4. Conclude by requesting an interview. Urge the employer to action by making it easy to contact you. Mention your telephone number and the best hours to reach you, or state that you will call him or her within a few days.

A complete application should contain both a letter of application and a resume. While it is possible to write a letter so complete in detail that a resume *seems redundant*, it is always most professional to include both.

Finally, a word about salary: basically, unless instructed by the want ad, it is best that you not *broach the subject*. Indeed, even if an ad requires that you mention your salary requirements, it is advisable simply to call them “negotiable.” However, when you go on an interview, you should be prepared to mention a salary range (e. g., \$ 40,000 – \$ 45,000). For this reason, you should investigate both your field and, if possible, the particular company. You do not want to ask for less than you deserve or more than is reasonable.

b) Read the article again. For each item below, choose the best answer.

1. The main purpose of this reading is to

- a) show people how to write effective letters of application
- b) help people find interesting jobs
- c) explain the differences between a resume and a letter of application

2. A letter written in response to a help-wanted ad is letter.

- a) an unsolicited
- b) a solicited
- c) a reference

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3. A letter of application should the information contained in a resume.

- a) restate
- b) not address
- c) expand upon

4. It is – to mention salary requirements in a letter of application.

- a) wise
- b) unnecessary
- c) inadvisable

5. The tone of a letter of application should be

- a) polite and businesslike
- b) strong and aggressive
- c) friendly and personal

6. The author of this reading would probably agree that

- a) resumes are more important than letters of application
- b) anyone can learn to write a good letter of application
- c) it is better to be too modest in a letter of application than too aggressive

c) Consider the issues. Answer the question below.

According to the author, what are the things you should and should not do when writing a letter of application?

d) Discuss.

1. It's a good idea to know some basic information about a company before you write a letter of application. What are three ways you can gather information on a new company before writing your letter?

2. Why is it important not to express dissatisfaction with a former job or employer in a letter of application or on an interview?

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Text 7. REVENGE OF THE BABY-SITTER

a) Read the text and explain the italicized expressions.

Well here I am after a stressful but exciting and eventful baby-sitting job. I was babysitting Macy and Alex. What trouble makers! They *had ants in their pants* the whole time. Anyway, I got them back good. I'll tell you about it.

I came over prepared with *everything but the kitchen sink*, ready for anything. Well Macy and Alex's parents left and I found out I wasn't ready for anything. They were starting *jumping off the walls*. Usually I can settle down the kids but not Macy and Alex. I was getting *hot under the collar*. I asked them if they were hungry and they screamed yes. I made them Mac n' Cheese and while I was doing that they were up to the usual *monkey business*. I sat them down at the table and gave them their plates. They were being very well behaved and I sensed that something was wrong but I was stupid and just *buried my head in the sand*.

After dinner they silently watched TV. I cleaned up dinner and flopped down on the couch. I wanted to call it a day, but Macy and Alex's parents wouldn't be home till 6 and it was only 4. I asked them if I could do any house work and they answered back with, "Yeah, you could do the dishes." They answered together in chorus like they had planned it. I ignored it and went to go dry the dishes. When I opened the cupboard door to put a plate away, a ton of syrup was poured all over me! I turned around and the kids threw a bucket of bright orange, purple, and green feathers on me. I just about *hit the roof*! Macy started to make fun of me and Alex joined in. I was ready to *jump down their throat*. I was furious! I sent them to their rooms and tried to clean up my clothes. It was the one time when I didn't bring extra clothes and needed them. I thought I was *behind the eight ball*, but I remembered that I could call my mom so I did. She brought me new clothes and took my "bird suit" home to wash.

I had an hour and a half to get back at Macy and Alex. I had no idea what to do. I finally came up with *bee in your bonnet* idea. I began working *faster than a speeding bullet*. I finished up my prank with half an hour left to spare. I wasn't surprised when I

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found the kids asleep. They really had *burned the candle at both ends*. I woke them up gently and had them come out into the living room. They didn't suspect a thing; I was getting excited. Macy walked into the kitchen and tripped over invisible string. A pie came flying into her face. She cried *bloody murder* and ran. She slipped on the banana peel and a gallon of honey was poured over her. Macy turned around and glared at me. I pulled the string and there went my water gallon. Alex knew him *sitting duck* and he was right. I pulled his strings too. Custard was poured on him, then chocolate syrup, whipped cream, and a cherry on top. They were both *mad as a wet hen*, but then lightened up. "You got us back good," said Macy. Alex agreed.

We cleaned up the mess together until *the eleventh hour* and finished just as Macy and Alex's parents came in the door. The kids explained our day in full detail and I was surprised to hear that they wanted me back. I said I would, and they took me home.

Now here I sit waiting for my next babysitting assignment and writing in my diary of my day *feeling my oats*. While I did... "Ringgggg"... OH NO! It's the revenge of the baby sitter!!!! Oh no, oh no, it's going to eat me.

b) Make up a short story on analogy (5–7 sentences) using the idiomatic expressions from the text above.

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Text 8. THE SLEEP OVER

a) Read the text and explain the italicized expressions.

It was a very rainy day - it was *raining cats and dogs*! It was way too cold to go outside to play, and I (Ryan) was having my friend Adam comes over. We were planning on riding our scooters and bikes, but it was way too wet and windy. The door made a loud knocking noise. I answered it, and Adam had an apple in his hand. He gave it to my mom - boy, what a *goody two shoes* he is! I and Adam aren't *two peas in a pod*. He was always *clean as a hound's tooth* and I, well, I'm a *backseat driver* - well, at least that's what people say about me. Time went by and it was already 9:30. I was planning on playing some video games and eating ice cream, but Adam just wanted to *burn the midnight oil* because it was a weekend! We decided to go to bed, so I got into some sweat pants and a shirt and got in bed, but like *a bolt from the blue* Adam came out in bunny pajamas. I could not stop laughing! "Take those off and change into normal clothes!" I demanded.

"People are right, you are a backseat driver!"

That's when I totally hit the roof! "Oh yeah, well you're just *a bull in a china shop*!" That's when we both started to get mad.

"I'll call my mom - maybe she will pick me up and take me home!" Adam said.

It was 9:45 and Adam was calling his mom. She finally answered, and boy did she sound *down in the mouth*. "What's wrong, Mom?" asked Adam.

All she said quietly was, "I'm just *down in the dumps* today because I lost my job today."

"What!" I yelled. "When?"

"Just today; He just called me!"

"Then I guess you wouldn't be able to come pick me up from Ryan's house, 'cause I am about to *blow my stack*!" Adam said.

Adam's mom always *called the shots* so when she heard that Adam wanted her to pick him up at 1:00 a.m. she just blew her stack! "Adam, it's eleven o'clock. You need to

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work out your guy problems, and I'll see you tomorrow.”

Soon Adam and Ryan solved their problems, and they were then *all ears* to what each other had to say. Soon they became two peas in a pod, and they promised to be best friends *through thick and thin*.

b) Make up a short story on analogy (5–7 sentences) using the idiomatic expressions from the text above.

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Text 9. THE HORROR OF THE BOY'S BATHROOM

a) Read the text and explain the italicized expressions.

I watched Chris as he ran out of the boys' bathroom in horror. I asked him what was wrong and he said, "THE HORROR OF THE BOYS BATHROOM!" I had heard of the horror of the boy's bathroom before, but I never thought it was true. I decided to investigate. I went into the boys' bathroom and the lights were out. So I got a flashlight and looked around. Then I saw it, a hole in the floor. I went and asked the custodian for a ladder and I brought the ladder into the boys bathroom and climbed into the hole and found that under the school was a haunted house. All over there was ghosts, vampires, ghouls, bats, and other monsters searched the place and after a while I noticed that I was *going in circles*. I knew that if I didn't get home for dinner I would be *behind the eight ball*. So I searched and I finally found the way out.

Right away I went to the principal and he asked me, "Where have you been?" I said, "It's a long story."

He said, "I'm *all ears*." So I told him about the haunted house. He told me to take him there so I did. But as soon as he saw the haunted house, he ran out screaming, "THE HORROR OF THE BOYS BATHROOM!" The principal couldn't talk after what he had seen, until another student said, "What's the matter, *cat got your tongue*?"

"I was just *scared to death*."

"Well what happened, I'm all ears."

Let's just say the horror of the boy's bathroom is real. I need to stop this *monkey business*; I need to give that haunted house the *pink slip*. I can't have boys running out of the bathroom with their *hearts in their mouths*. At least we have more than one boys' bathroom here. Let's board up that boys bathroom and *keep it under our hats*. That haunted house is *long-toothed*. How can we *keep this under our hat*, as everybody knows *little pitchers have big ears*? Well, *keep your fingers crossed* and hopefully that won't happen.

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We tried to give the haunted house the pink slip many times, but it just wouldn't take it. We could just demolish it, but that would destroy the school. It will be *touch-and-go* 'til we figure something out.

The haunted house was never dealt with - we just boarded up the floor, and we never heard the HORROR OF THE BOYS BATHROOM again.

b) Make up a short story on analogy (5–7 sentences) using the idiomatic expressions from the text above.

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Text 10. CALL IT A DAY

a) Read the text and explain the italicized expressions.

“Sarah, you’re as fat as a pig!” said Jesse as she walks by. Sarah runs in the bathroom *down in the mouth*. “Why does everyone hate me? I feel like a *dead duck* right now,” she yells. “I don’t. You’re the *apple of my eye*.” A girl walks out of the bathroom washes her hands and says, “Why do people hate you, you’re nice, pretty, and fun. “Sally, you’re back from your grandma’s house, I thought I would be *pushing up daises* and *going bananas* without you.”

“So what have you been doing,” said Sally. “Well... I’ve been... dying of humiliation because Jesse Stanton is *getting under my skin*, she told the whole world that I peed my pants in fourth grade,” said Sarah. “Well we should *pay her back* for that,” said Sally. “Yeah, we should, so, do you want to come over today?” said Sarah. “We *see eye to eye*,” said Sally.

“So, what should we do to the mean, evil Jesse, pour milk on her like in the movies, or dump paint on her favorite shirt, or would that *open a can of worms*? I mean we are *airing her dirty laundry in public*?” said Sally. “I was kind of thinking print her grade slip all over the school,” said Sarah. “That’s a *bee in your bonnet* idea!” said Sally. I’m going to be *on top of the world* after this!” said Sarah.

Jesse saw the grade slip and *ate her heart out* about what she did to Sarah. “Sarah, I’m sorry for *driving you up the wall* and not *holding my tongue* about telling everyone that you peed your pants in fourth grade,” said Jesse. “So I guess we are even,” said Sarah. “I guess so,” said Jesse. “Let’s just *call it a day*,” said Sally. After that, life was a *bowl of cherries*.

b) Make up a short story on analogy (5–7 sentences) using the idiomatic expressions from the text above.

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Text 11. IDIOMS STORY

a) Read the text and explain the italicized expressions.

"It all started on Monday morning when several citizens of Tumbler City noticed that the sky didn't look quite right," started the man on the TV.

"I hate Days of Our Lives reruns!" exclaimed Lean as she turned off the TV.

Lean picked up her phone to call her friend, Bridge, but then she stopped herself. She dialed a random number and waited. One ring, two rings, three rings... "Hello?" said an old man's voice.

"Hello," Lean said.

"Hello?" said the old man.

"Hello," "Hello?" "Hello," "Hello?" "Good-bye!" "Hello? What? *Button your lip*, Kid. Donut be calling me no more. Why, back in my day we didn't do prank calls. As a matter of fact we didn't have telephones back then. None of this prank calling. You must think your life is a *bowl of cherries*. Well, if you heard some of my war stories you would get *butterflies in your stomach*. You must be *the black sheep of the family*; you have to pull pranks on your elders to feel important. Well, you're *barking up the wrong tree*, Little One..." the old man went on and on. The sad thing is he could have *saved it for a rainy day*. Lean hung up the phone when he said something about not having phones when he was young.

Lean tried calling the old man again but it was busy. She figured he was still talking to himself, so she just called summer. They *chewed the fat* until almost three in the morning and finally Bee said that they should *call it a day*. Some say that *blood is thicker than water* but Bridge and Lean are way closer than they are with their families. *Once in a blue moon* they get mad at each other but they always are friends' minutes after. A couple minutes later Lean tried the old man's phone number again. It was still busy.

"Hey, Lena," Bee said one Friday afternoon.

"Yeah," Lena said. She was bored on this *dog day of summer* and being bored always made her tired.

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“Are you going to play at the finals?” She was always asking this and it was kind of getting old.

“Yes, I told you.”

b) Make up a short story on analogy (5–7 sentences) using the idiomatic expressions from the text above.

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Text 12. THE TRIP

a) Read the text and explain the italicized expressions.

My Dad is a trip, an *off your rocker* maniac. I think that sometimes he has *ants in his pants*. Sometimes he comes home from work and says: "I hear that the fishing is really good at Clear Lake." So we go off to the lake to fish, and come back at eleven o'clock. Sometimes at school I feel *like a fish out of water* at school because I don't go to school that much. Today I came home happy because it was Friday and I just a got my new Xbox 360 on Thursday. My friends were coming over tonight; then we would play together 'til Sunday night. My dad had different ideas for the weekend. The next day I found myself at Mount Hood snowboarding. I guess I *bit off more than I could chew* because I found myself snowboarding down a black diamond all by myself down going like 40 m.p.h. All of a sudden I saw rock cliff straight in front of me, and I thought that I was a *dead duck*. But then I quickly turned and made it *by the skin of my teeth*. After that I was extremely scared so I stopped on the side of the trail. Two teenagers stopped and asked if I was ok. When I got down the hill I decided that I should check what I'm trying to I bit off. My Dad was **as mad as a wet hen** about what I did, so I just hung out *like a lazy dog* at the lodge. I am now enjoying *seventh heaven* in my warm and fuzzy house.

b) Make up a short story on analogy (5–7 sentences) using the idiomatic expressions from the text above.

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Text 13. LITTLE ASSIGNMENTS

a) Read the text and explain the italicized expressions.

“Hey Mom, I will be in my room.”

“Ok, but don’t *burn the midnight oil* studying for that test of yours,” Mom said.

That night I did stay up burning the midnight oil for my test. I only got 5 hours of sleep that night, but the good news is I aced the test. That day at school I was given an assignment on animals. This is the start of my assignment, and *the early bird catches the worm*.

Kate has a concert tomorrow, and she is singing one of her songs. Kate looks like she has *butterflies in her stomach*. “Hey Kate, you look like you have *ants in your pants*. Are you feeling *like a fish out of water*?” That night I thought that Kate was going to be all right, but it turned out I had a vision where I saw Kate falling off the stage. The next morning I told Kate what I saw in my vision the night before. Early that day Kate’s concert started, and I sat closer than normal because of my vision. All of a sudden Kate looked *as quiet as a mouse*. Then she closed her eyes and started to fall off the stage, just like in my vision. I caught her in my arms *just in time*, while everyone else was frightened or *scared to death*.

b) Make up a short story on analogy (5–7 sentences) using the idiomatic expressions from the text above.

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Text 14. MIGUEL GOES SMART

a) Read the text and explain the italicized expressions.

"I'll show them," said Miguel, "those fools have their *heads in the clouds*." He yelled. "I know I was right!! (For once)" And then his good friend Thomas came by. Miguel said *I'm as mad as a wet hen!*" Thomas said "Tell me what happened, *in all ears*." Miguel started saying. "Thomas, the sky is falling!! You believe me right?" Thomas looked at him doubtfully. "Miguel," he started saying, 'i think you have your head in the clouds. I'm sorry." Thomas walked away.

Miguel who had just been let down by one of his best friends started to scream. A lot of people started running over to see what was wrong. And some of the people just ignored him. But among the crowd, he saw a girl named Kelly. That's when he came to his senses. He thought in his mind, "Okay, so maybe I was as stupid as a cow. Later on in the evening he said to Kelly "you're as beautiful as a rose just blooming." She said "Oh Miguel that touched me in the heart." Thomas saw everything that was going on. He thought "Wow, he actually got a girlfriend on his own and with no one's help." Then he thought, "Wow, he's as stupid as Michael Jackson." Miguel started spending most of his time with Kelly. She made him read books. Do harder math, and also made him mad as a wet hen every now and then. He had to *burn the candle at both ends* sometimes too. Finally when he got enough, he said "Ok you're as annoyed as a mouse. Were thrown." Kelly broke down in tears. she cried" Why?" Miguel said well over the years, as I read more books, I found out your just you posing me.

b) Make up a short story on analogy (5–7 sentences) using the idiomatic expressions from the text above.

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Text 15. ALYSON'S ESSAY

a) Read the text and explain the italicized expressions.

"Settle down," said Ms. Bingo, "school isn't over yet!" Alyson's sixth grade class was celebrating because they had only two hours of school left before winter break. "Before we leave, I would like to give you your homework assignment to do over winter break." The class groaned. "Now don't *go bananas!*" continued Ms. Bingo, "We will spend the next hour starting your essays. Alyson, your *head is in the clouds!*" she snapped. "The essay is going to be on an assigned subject. Tyler's is the Great Salt Lake. Marissa: Vikings. Alyson: Edward Grover. Emma's is the Redwoods..."

Edward Grover... Edward Grover... "Who's that?????" Alyson had never even heard of him!"

"Alyson, Alyson," Ms. Bingo's face loomed into view, "I know Edward Grover will be *a tough nut to crack*, but you will find that he invented many great things!"

"Yeah, but finding information on him will be like **finding a needle in a haystack**. I'll *bite the dust* in this project!" whined Alyson.

"All right, I will give you a different one, but *keep it under your hat*. How does Bran Monistat sound?"

"On second thought, I'll stick with Edward Grover," sighed Alyson.

As soon as she got home, Alyson told her mom about the problem. "Honey, I'm sure you're just *making a mountain out of a molehill*." Over the first few days, Alyson *left no stone unturned* and went to four different libraries, but all of them were either out of the inventor books or had never had them. Finally her dad told her she was probably *barking up the wrong tree*. So Alyson stayed up late *surfing the web* and *burning the midnight oil*. Her sister tried to help by telling her that *every cloud has a silver lining* because Alyson was really *down in the dumps*.

On the last day, Alyson's friend Kelsey came over to *chew the fat* and *lend an ear*. She was a *top banana* in inventing things and also a science nerd so she knew at once who Edward Grover was. "This essay is going to be a *piece of cake!*" said Kelsey. "Now

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just be the *second fiddle* and listen.” Then Kelsey told her all about Edward Grover and his great accomplishments.

“Now I’ll have to write *until the cows come home* to finish it,” said Alyson.

“I’ll stay here and help if you want,” offered Kelsey.

“You are a *true-blue friend*, but it’s O.K. I think I can *take the bull by the horns* from here.”

Alyson worked until *the eleventh hour*. She was *up against the wall*, but she finally got it done. And at school the next morning when asked about her project, she grinned and said, “Oh, it was a bowl of cherries.”

b) Make up a short story on analogy (5–7 sentences) using the idiomatic expressions from the text above.

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Text 16. THE PRINCE AND THE SERVANT

a) Read the text and explain the italicized expressions.

By Caleb P. The servant and the prince were like *two peas in a pod* even though the prince was *born with a silver spoon in his mouth* and the servant was born with *chicken feed*. The king had a very hard time with that because he was a fat cat. It was like *a bolt from the blue* when the prince asked the king to buy the servant new clothes, the king *chewed up the scenery* at that. The prince said that he and the servant were going to *hit the road*. The king was *down in the mouth*. He didn't know what to do. He felt like he was *in the doghouse*. The king let them go *out of the clear blue sky*. So the servant and the prince set off. They were up until *the eleventh hour* walking away from the castle. The prince felt *like a fish out of water* because he was out of the castle for so long. The prince wanted to drop the servant like *a hot potato*, but he didn't.

The servant led them to London. He said we had to look for what sounded like a shack. It would be like trying *finding a needle in a haystack*. Every time we thought we found it we were *barking up the wrong tree*. The prince got *hot under the collar* but when they got there he was *tickled pink*. The prince felt home sick so he said that there is *more than one way to skin a cat* and that he was going home. When he got home the king *jumped down his throat* but was glad to have him home. After that the king and prince always *saw eye to eye*.

b) Make up a short story on analogy (5–7 sentences) using the idiomatic expressions from the text above.

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LISTENING AND WATCHING COMPREHENSION

Ex. 1. a) Listen to three people talking about the identities they project on social media. Match the people 1–3 with the facts a–c. 

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 1. Leandra | a) had a profile picture that did not reflect his/her real personality. |
| 2. Boris | b) likes to share the good things in life. |
| 3. Carol | c) changes his/her profile photo all the time. |

b) Listen again. Are the sentences true or false?

Leandra

1. She chose the photograph that gave the impression that she was more attractive than she really is.

2. She does not regret projecting an untrue image of herself.

Boris

3. He changed his profile photo for no particular reason.

4. He wanted people to be curious about him.

Carol

5. She likes to tell people when she is happy or sad.

6. She feels that the images she posts express her true identity.

c) These adjectives are from the recording. Match the adjectives with their meanings.

upbeat / melancholic / optimistic / enigmatic / solitary / insecure / confident

A person who

1. likes to be alone is

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2. is mysterious and difficult to understand is
3. is not very confident about himself/herself is
4. is full of energy and enthusiasm is
5. is prone to being sad is
6. believes in his/her own abilities is
7. is hopeful about the future and thinks good things will happen is

Ex. 2. a) Listen to two people, Robert and Sharon, talking about travelling on the roads in different countries. Answer the questions. 

1. Which of the roads is Sharon's favourite?
2. Which roads do they talk about?
3. What road and why does Robert mention in the first place?

b) Listen again and circle the correct answer.

1. Why doesn't Robert like the idea of travelling on these roads?
 - a) He is not an adventurous person.
 - b) He does not like heights.
 - c) He does not like driving or cycling.
2. Why does Sharon prefer the Bolivian route?
 - a) She considers it the most dangerous.
 - b) She loves mountain-biking and it is the best route for that.
 - c) She believes the landscape is really varied and different.
3. Why does Robert prefer the idea of walking?
 - a) Otherwise, you cannot really enjoy the views because you are going too fast.
 - b) He is not enough to cycle.
 - c) It is much safer to walk, there is less risk of accidents.

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4. Sharon believes that the Trans-Sahara Highway must be
- a) really boring because the landscape does not change.
 - b) an amazing challenge for anyone who likes epic journey.
 - c) an endurance test for people and therefore not very enjoyable.
5. What does Robert add when describing the history of the Romanian road?
- a) It was a crazy idea of the Romanian leader Ceausescu.
 - b) Many people died building the road.
 - c) Historically, it is more interesting than the Italian road.
6. How does the conversation end?
- a) Robert and Sharon **agree to disagree**.
 - b) They generally agree, except about the Romanian road.
 - c) They both agree not to go anywhere for the moment.

c) The words/phrases in the list are from the recording. Match the words/phrases in the box with their meanings 1–8.

*understatement / blast / appeal to somebody / thrilling /
nickname / adrenalin rush / harrowing / hairpin bend*

- 1.: a very sharp turn in a road that forms a u-shape
- 2.: extremely upsetting or frightening
- 3.: to damage or destroy something with explosives or bombs
- 4.: a sudden feeling of excitement from an increase in a chemical released by your body
- 5.: to attract or interest somebody
- 6.: an informal/friendly term for somebody or something
- 7.: a way of saying something that makes it seem less important or serious
- 8.: extremely exciting

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d) Work in pairs or small groups and discuss. Describe a long journey that you have done by car, bicycle or on foot but do not mention any place names. Talk about the ideas below. Once you have described it, can your groupmates guess where the trip took place?

- How long was the trip?
- How did you feel during it?
- Was it tiring or not?
- What landscape(s) did you see?
- Would you recommend it?

Ex. 3. a) Listen to someone talking about his dream job. How does he answer the questions? 

1. What is your dream job?
2. What skills/qualifications/experience do you have that would help you qualify for the job?
3. What qualities are important for the job?
4. What could you do to help you on your path to your dream job?

b) Listen again and choose the correct alternatives to complete the key phrases.

1. I guess my dream job *would have to be / has to be* a filmmaker.
2. I would *relish having the opportunity / love to have the opportunity* to work in an environment like that.
3. I am fairly qualified in that *I am doing a degree in ... / I have a degree in ... / I studied at ... / I have previous experience in*
4. I would like to think that I am a fairly *organised/motivated/creative* individual.
5. I am not afraid *to try out new ideas / tell people what I think / get stuck in / put myself on the line.*

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран



Заккрыть

6. I have quite a *good eye for detail* / *a product* / *things that are going to work*.
7. I think it is essential to be *hardworking* / *open-minded* / *flexible*.
8. I am also doing some *work experience* / *a part-time course in*


c) Think of your own dream job. Work in groups and take turns to present your ideas. You each have three minutes for your presentation. At the end, decide who you would give the dream job to.

Ex. 4. a) Watch the video “Animal Idioms”. Try to remember as many as possible idiomatic expressions and their meanings.  


b) Make up a dialogue using idiomatic expressions from the video above.

Ex. 5. a) Watch the video “Body Idioms”. Try to remember as many as possible idiomatic expressions and their meanings.  

b) Make up a dialogue using idiomatic expressions from the video above.

Ex. 6. a) Watch the video “Colour Idioms”. Try to remember as many as possible idiomatic expressions and their meanings. 

b) Make up a dialogue using idiomatic expressions from the video above.

Ex. 7. a) Watch the video “Doubt and Incertinuty Idioms”. Try to remember as many as possible idiomatic expressions and their meanings. 

b) Make up a dialogue using idiomatic expressions from the video above.

Начало

Содержание




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Назад

На весь экран


Заккрыть

Ex. 8. a) Watch the video “Feelings Idioms”. Try to remember as many as possible idiomatic expressions and their meanings. 


b) Make up a dialogue using idiomatic expressions from the video above.

Ex. 9. a) Watch the video “Food Idioms”. Try to remember as many as possible idiomatic expressions and their meanings. 


b) Make up a dialogue using idiomatic expressions from the video above.

Ex. 10. a) Watch the video “Holiday Idioms”. Try to remember as many as possible idiomatic expressions and their meanings. 


b) Make up a dialogue using idiomatic expressions from the video above.

Ex. 11. a) Watch the video “Stress Idioms”. Try to remember as many as possible idiomatic expressions and their meanings. 

b) Make up a dialogue using idiomatic expressions from the video above.

Ex. 12. a) Watch the video “Time Idioms”. Try to remember as many as possible idiomatic expressions and their meanings. 

b) Make up a dialogue using idiomatic expressions from the video above.

Ex. 13. a) Watch the video “Wealth and Money Idioms”. Try to remember as many as possible idiomatic expressions and their meanings. 

b) Make up a dialogue using idiomatic expressions from the video above.

Начало

Содержание




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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

Ex. 14. a) Watch the video “Weather Idioms”. Try to remember as many as possible idiomatic expressions and their meanings. 

b) Make up a dialogue using idiomatic expressions from the video above.

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

SUPPLEMENTARY EXERCISES

Ex. 1. Choose the most appropriate ending to each sentence.

1. Peter had egg on his face after saying he was much better than all the other drivers, and then
 - a. winning the race
 - b. coming last in the race
 - c. coming second in the race
2. This job is my bread and butter, so
 - a. I don't really need it
 - b. I don't get paid for it
 - c. I can't afford to lose it
3. When he was out of work, Frank was a couch potato and he
 - a. put on a lot of weight
 - b. lost a lot of weight
 - c. lost a lot of height
4. The company hopes that their new computer game won't just be a flash in the pan, but that it'll
 - a. be popular for a long time
 - b. be unpopular for a very long time
 - c. be very popular for a short time
5. Kenny gave me a knuckle sandwich and I said,
 - a. "No thanks, I'm not hungry."
 - b. "Thanks, I needed that."
 - c. "Ouch! That hurt!"

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

6. Her homework was a piece of cake because
- a. the house was very quiet
 - b. it was filled with nuts
 - c. it was so easy to do
7. Which of the following would most people say is a recipe for disaster?
- a. educating poor people
 - b. reducing pollution from factories
 - c. destroying huge forests
8. While I was chewing the fat with Graham, he
- a. ate too much fat and got sick
 - b. told me all about his new job
 - c. got really tired and asked me to stop
9. Even though Uncle Barry drinks like a fish, he
- a. never drinks alcohol
 - b. never looks drunk
 - c. never drinks much
10. They said configuring the software is easy as pie, but I don't think it is. I found it
- a. really difficult
 - b. really easy
 - c. really delicious
11. Jeremy had to eat humble pie because
- a. there was nothing else to eat
 - b. he wanted to seem humble
 - c. it was clear he was wrong

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

12. Bernie said I couldn't possibly get Marion to go on a date, and he had to eat his words when I

- a. said I definitely would
- b. took her out for dinner
- c. couldn't get her to go out with me

13. The band came back on stage and played one last song and it went down a treat. Everybody

- a. booed and hissed
- b. clapped and cheered
- c. yawned and nodded off

14. It was obvious that many people had greased the chief of police's palm because he had

- a. become very poor
- b. become very rich
- c. become very greasy

15. Jerry has come up with another of his half-baked schemes to make millions of dollars, but it

- a. needs more baking
- b. can't possibly work
- c. will work for sure

16. Of all his stories, the one that most people found the hardest to swallow was the one about

- a. being taken for a ride in a U.F.O. by aliens
- b. being given fried spiders to eat in Cambodia
- c. seeing people stick pins and needles through their cheeks

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

17. I'll give you the story in a nutshell because
- a. you need to know everything
 - b. we don't have much time
 - c. it'll make it more interesting
18. Parents who feed their children junk food risk turning them into
- a. healthy, happy, active kids
 - b. overweight, unhealthy, unhappy kids
 - c. well-balanced and well-fed kids
19. Classical music isn't really Mary's cup of tea, so when I offered to take her to a concert of chamber music, she
- a. wasn't all that excited
 - b. was really excited
 - c. looked very exciting
20. We'll put the project on the back burner for a while because
- a. it's a terrible plan
 - b. we've already tried it
 - c. we're too busy just now
21. Losing that job was a blessing in disguise because it meant I
- a. got a much better job
 - b. lost my house
 - c. was unemployed for years
22. After saying Beverly made too many mistakes, Bob added insult to injury by saying
- a. they were small mistakes
 - b. she worked very slowly
 - c. her work was excellent

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

23. The school thought their new teacher's record was as clean as a whistle because he hadn't told them about

- a. his arrest for drunk driving
- b. his dirty bathroom
- c. his cheating at cards

24. My friends all called and told me to hang in there after I'd

- a. left for my honeymoon
- b. decided to go sky-diving
- c. broken my leg in an accident

25. Some staff think we need new packaging for our products, and others think we should leave well enough alone and

- a. change to new packaging
- b. go back to older packaging
- c. keep the same packaging

26. If people find something that makes them a lot of money, they often kill the goose that laid the golden egg because of

- a. their kindness
- b. their greed
- c. their anger

27. In business, it's often necessary to be quick on the draw, but sometimes it's better to

- a. think carefully before doing something
- b. do something faster than others
- c. be slow to understand what's happening

28. If you read between the lines, you will

- a. know what the writer really thinks
- b. be able to read a lot quicker
- c. make up the story for yourself

Начало

Содержание



Страница 146 из 214

Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

29. The best way to keep something under wraps is to
- a. put it into the refrigerator
 - b. stop thinking about it
 - c. let as few people as possible know about it
30. If someone says "You can say that again! it means they
- a. want you to repeat what you said
 - b. didn't understand what you said
 - c. agree with what you said
31. It stands to reason that the best way to learn to speak a foreign language is to
- a. read about it
 - b. think about it
 - c. practice using it
32. Her name is mud these days because
- a. she changed it
 - b. she didn't clean up
 - c. she was caught cheating
33. Her name escaped me just as I was introducing her to other guests. I felt
- a. really embarrassed
 - b. very proud
 - c. quite angry
34. Which of the following might a politician pull out of his bag of tricks during an election campaign?
- a. a pack of cards
 - b. a white rabbit
 - c. a promise to cut taxes

Начало

Содержание



Страница 147 из 214

Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

35. The bombing of their embassy should have been a wake-up call that told them many people

- a. liked what their country was doing
- b. didn't like what their country was doing
- c. didn't care what their country was doing

36. After arguing about politics for months, Julie and her husband agreed to disagree, and they

- a. got divorced
- b. found a new topic to disagree on
- c. stopped arguing about politics

37. The university was supposed to be open to everyone, but you wouldn't get a look in unless you

- a. went to a famous high school
- b. went to a normal high school
- c. hadn't been to high school

38. Johnny was very grateful and said "Man, I really owe you one!" after I'd

- a. saved his drowning son
- b. passed him the salt
- c. opened the door for him

39. Marco tried to keep a low profile because he didn't want to be

- a. ignored by the public
- b. bothered by the media
- c. paid by his employer

40. Jim's definitely got the x-factor. He's

- a. just had an x-ray
- b. putting on weight
- c. an amazing performer

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

41. If someone drops a bombshell, they

- a. make a serious mistake
- b. create a big problem
- c. have some big, bad news

42. If you say to someone "You're so full of yourself!" they'll probably feel

- a. proud
- b. upset
- c. pleased

43. Steve is trying to improve at golf because when he plays with his friends, he can't hold his own.

- a. hard
- b. little
- c. pretty

44. After hearing the first track on the new CD, Theo said, "That's just the ticket!" and then he

- a. checked all his pockets
- b. took it off and threw it away
- c. bought himself a copy

45. Leila said the new restaurant was nothing to write home about. She thought it was

- a. excellent
- b. just average
- c. really terrible

46. My Uncle Jed lives in a little old cabin in the back of beyond, right near

- a. a subway station
- b. a baseball stadium
- c. a mountain range

Начало

Содержание



Страница 149 из 214

Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

47. I'd had lots of problems with the hotel, but having the air conditioner break down on a really hot night was the last straw. The next day I

- a. moved out
- b. told the manager
- c. fixed the air conditioner

48. I know my new Rolex is the real McCoy because

- a. I bought it from the Rolex store in Paris
- b. I bought it from a guy in a pub
- c. I bought it online from ReallyCheapRolex.com

49. Bob and Jane decided to tie the knot because

- a. it had come undone
- b. they loved one another
- c. they needed to save money

50. Sue says it'll be worth her while going to Cambodia to teach homeless children new work skills because

- a. she's happy when she's helping people
- b. she won't have to pay them to work
- c. they'll give her their wages when they get jobs

51. It had never occurred to Ursula that her husband might run off with a younger woman one day. She was

- a. not at all surprised
- b. very surprised
- c. expecting it to happen

52. People call Ray a chip off the old block because he

- a. reminds them of his father
- b. reminds them of his son
- c. reminds them of their fathers

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

53. Marrying James was just a means to an end for Kerry. Her real goal was
- a. to be his wife
 - b. to meet his sister
 - c. to be rich
54. There's been a question mark over his loyalty to the club ever since he said
- a. he'd never play for another team
 - b. he was happy with his contract
 - c. you never know what the future will bring
55. You could be in a vicious circle if the solution to one problem becomes the
- a. cause of another one
 - b. result of another one
 - c. solution to another one
56. Our workers are already upset, and you'll just add fuel to the fire if you
- a. give them a bonus
 - b. pay for their medical care
 - c. cut their wages
57. For Ari, music is an end in itself. She doesn't do it to
- a. enjoy herself
 - b. entertain people
 - c. make money
58. We normally travel in business class, but if all else fails I guess we can go in
- a. first class
 - b. economy class
 - c. the baggage hold
59. You can keep abreast of current affairs by
- a. reading old newspapers
 - b. watching the latest movies
 - c. checking out news websites

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

60. If you got somewhere safe and sound, you got there
- a. because it was easy to get there
 - b. even though you got hurt on the way
 - c. even though there was some danger on the way
61. Doctors say they are sure, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that
- a. fatty foods are good for you
 - b. cigarettes are bad for you
 - c. fruits and vegetables are bad for you
62. I've dotted the i's and crossed the t's, so there
- a. will be a few mistakes
 - b. will be lots of mistakes
 - c. shouldn't be any mistakes
63. Our school's basketball team is going great guns in the tournament. They have
- a. lost every game
 - b. won two out of four games
 - c. won every game
64. I've been in Hardy's good books ever since I
- a. crashed his car
 - b. fixed his computer
 - c. got drunk at his wedding
65. Some people thought the wedding was over the top, but I think it's alright to
- a. get married in a neighborhood church
 - b. get married in a medieval castle
 - c. get married in a public park

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

66. If you make a mistake, and then someone rubs it in by talking about it, it'll make you

- a. feel worse about it
- b. feel better about it
- c. forget about it

67. The movers and shakers in the world of banking

- a. transport equipment to new banks
- b. work behind the counters in banks
- c. control banks and other financial institutes

68. We looked at the pros and cons of

- a. using old people as slaves
- b. eating poisonous mushrooms
- c. changing to a vegetarian diet

69. Our new cook Wendy was thrown in at the deep end on her first day when she had to

- a. cook breakfast for a family of eight
- b. cater for a seminar of 200 people
- c. take the afternoon off

70. Stanley was looking for information on council regulations

- a. property Vis-a-Vis taxes
- b. Vis-a-Vis property taxes
- c. property taxes Vis-a-Vis

71. While many people died in the explosion outside the market, my cousin had a narrow escape because

- a. he'd gone to live in a different city
- b. he'd left the market a minute before
- c. he died the next day in a hospital

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

72. Which of these plans would be a pipe dream for most people?

- a. travelling to your country's capital city
- b. playing football for Manchester United
- c. watching the Olympic Games on television

73. During their war of words, Jenny and Ben

- a. put each other in hospital
- b. discussed the issues quietly
- c. got angry with each other

74. We decided to call it a day because

- a. we had so much to do
- b. we were short of time
- c. it was getting late

75. Our football players were sick of being kicked by the other team, so they decided to fight fire with fire and they

- a. tried to win by playing fair
- b. had the other team's manager fired
- c. kicked them back

76. My Nigerian friend John is having trouble finding work here in London, but he says if push comes to shove he can always

- a. go back to Nigeria
- b. go to jail
- c. win the lottery

77. Mark said he'd keep my advice in mind, and next time he was in this situation he'd

- a. have forgotten what I'd said
- b. think about what I'd said
- c. ask me what to do

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

78. Roberto is going to pop the question to

- a. the woman of his dreams
- b. whoever has the right answer
- c. his very rich uncle

79. The character in a movie who saves the day is

- a. the director
- b. the hero
- c. the victim

80. These Persian carpets cost the earth, so

- a. they must be good quality
- b. they can't be very good
- c. let's get them while they're cheap

81. Stan thinks he got a raw deal from his insurance company, so he's writing a letter

- a. to thank them
- b. to complain to them
- c. to congratulate them

82. Stanley saw it as a vote of confidence in his abilities when the manager asked him to

- a. think about getting another job
- b. manage the new office in Beijing
- c. bring him a glass of water

83. All hell broke loose after

- a. a girl pulled out a phone
- b. a guy pulled out a gun
- c. a dentist pulled out a tooth

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран

Закрыть

84. He was given carte blanche to teach the new staff

- a. exactly the way he was told to
- b. according to the guidelines
- c. using whatever methods he liked

85. Someone might say "each to their own" when they see or hear about something that they think is

- a. completely normal
- b. probably stolen
- c. a bit strange

86. Sam couldn't get a word in edgeways because Cindy was

- a. playing music
- b. listening too much
- c. talking too much

87. I know Keith worries about keeping up with the Joneses because he never

- a. wears clothes that show the brand
- b. goes out without putting on his Rolex
- c. notices how expensive someone's shoes are

88. Our boss says a person's private life is neither here nor there if

- a. they have nowhere to live
- b. they do a good job
- c. it affects their performance at work

89. Gary took what I said the wrong way, and he looked

- a. really happy
- b. very excited
- c. quite upset

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран

Закрыть

90. My car is a bit the worse for wear because

- a. I just got it back from the garage
- b. I forgot to wear my seatbelt
- c. I recently drove it around Australia

91. For which job would a jack of all trades be best suited?

- a. a dealer in a casino
- b. a caretaker in a school
- c. a teller in a bank

92. We started an online business, but after a while it was back to the drawing board because

- a. we couldn't make a profit
- b. we made a lot of money
- c. we wanted to improve our drawing

93. A journalist is digging up dirt on a politician in order to

- a. help the politician's campaign
- b. damage the politician's image
- c. increase the politician's popularity

94. We were having dinner in a restaurant last night when this guy at the next table flew off the handle because

- a. the food was so delicious
- b. the waiter was so handsome
- c. the waiter brought the wrong thing

95. You can see that Mike's got a soft spot for dogs. Whenever he sees one, he

- a. kicks it
- b. pats it on the head
- c. keeps away from it

Начало

Содержание



Страница 157 из 214

Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

96. Henry said he'd leave no stone unturned in his search for a woman to marry. He will

- a. look for women under stones
- b. try everything to find a wife
- c. marry any woman who accepts him

97. When I heard the poem, some of the lines rang a bell and

- a. some of them beat a drum
- b. sounded very beautiful
- c. I thought I'd heard it somewhere before

98. Monique has decided to take the plunge and

- a. keep her job for a while
- b. start up her own business
- c. put all her money in the bank

99. We'll have to leave the list of guests we're inviting to our wedding up in the air until we know

- a. how many we can invite
- b. what the weather will be like
- c. if any are of them are afraid of heights

100. You could have knocked me over with a feather when I heard that

- a. we were having sandwiches for lunch
- b. the electricity bill had arrived
- c. I had won a million dollars in the lottery

101. It's raining cats and dogs, so

- a. watch out for falling animals
- b. make sure you take an umbrella
- c. keep your pets inside

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

102. You'll find out who your fair-weather friends are when you get

- a. rich and famous
- b. sick and depressed
- c. married and have kids

103. The kids in the hospital had a ray of sunshine in their lives when

- a. some famous footballers visited them
- b. they were taken to sit outside in the sun
- c. the nurses checked their blood pressure

104. William's head is in the clouds. He needs to

- a. take better care of himself
- b. be a bit more realistic
- c. stop thinking he's better than everyone else

105. I'd better make hay while the sun shines and do some work on my book

- a. while I have a bit of free time
- b. despite having so much else to do
- c. even though I don't feel like writing

106. His boss came into the office and quick as a wink Mark hit a key on his keyboard because he

- a. wanted to show off his keyboard skills
- b. was running short of time
- c. didn't want his boss to see what he was looking at

107. I was so snowed under today that I had to

- a. wear extra warm clothes
- b. see a doctor
- c. cancel a meeting

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран

Закрыть

108. If someone is under a cloud, they might

- a. take an umbrella in case it rains
- b. try to prove they're innocent
- c. stop and wait until it passes

109. Tom's been feeling under the weather for a couple of days, so he's

- a. going to see a doctor
- b. going to see a lawyer
- c. going to see a priest

110. If you weather a storm, you get through something that could have

- a. helped you
- b. excited you
- c. harmed you

111. Ben says his life was a roller-coaster ride while

- a. he was living in an amusement park
- b. he was staying in a cottage in the countryside
- c. he was getting divorced and changing his job

112. You'll be burning your bridges if you

- a. save your money while working in a bank
- b. steal a customer's money while working in a bank
- c. borrow some money while working in a bank

113. We can say "we'll cross that bridge when we come to it" if someone asks about

- a. how to get over a river
- b. a future problem
- c. a failed business

Начало

Содержание



Страница 160 из 214

Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

114. When political correctness became popular in the nineties, millions of people jumped on the bandwagon and

- a. said it was incorrect
- b. became politically correct
- c. corrected people's politics

115. We drove to Paris, and after getting out of London it was plain sailing all the way because

- a. there was hardly any traffic
- b. it rained so much it was flooding
- c. we had a strong westerly tailwind

116. The United Nations will have to put the brakes on some important programs unless it can

- a. find more money
- b. waste more money
- c. print more money

117. When Jenny started working at the hospital, she rocked the boat by

- a. saying how well it was run
- b. questioning the way things were done
- c. doing her job quietly and not saying much

118. Tell your kids to steer clear of that dog. I was told that

- a. it bites people
- b. it wags its tail
- c. it loves children

119. We'd planned to have our wedding in the local park, but the head of the council upset the applecart when he

- a. backed his car into some stalls at the market
- b. refused to give us permission
- c. congratulated us on our wedding

Начало

Содержание



Страница 161 из 214

Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

120. If Taylor doesn't start eating healthy food, it's only a question of time before, he

- a. starts losing weight
- b. has serious health problems
- c. begins to get healthier

121. Ollie said he had a whale of a time at the jazz festival and he

- a. wishes he hadn't gone
- b. wants to go again next year
- c. probably won't bother going again

122. The café is open round-the-clock, so

- a. it's open 24 hours a day
- b. it's located around a clock tower
- c. it opens whenever a customer comes

123. My uncle Ron is always so far behind the times that he

- a. never arrives anywhere on time
- b. never knows what the date is
- c. never knows what young people are interested in

124. Most people's day-to-day exercise includes some

- a. homework
- b. housework
- c. teamwork

125. Fatima wants to lose weight, so she's decided to stop eating cakes for the time being. She'll try not to eat them

- a. for the rest of today
- b. for the rest of her life
- c. until she thinks she's lost enough weight

Начало

Содержание



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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

126. Rashid has promised his family that from now on he won't drink alcohol. This means he's promised not to drink alcohol

- a. until he goes out
- b. until tomorrow morning
- c. for the rest of his life

127. On most Saturday mornings Bill and Fran work in their garden, but from time to time they'll

- a. stay at home
- b. play golf instead
- c. watch the sunset

128. Jerry's life as a poor student is hard, but he says it'll be worth it in the long run when

- a. he gets home and relaxes
- b. he has fun on the weekend
- c. he gets a good job after graduating

129. Tim's mum said it was high time he paid her money for rent because

- a. he's been paying it too long
- b. he's just lost his job
- c. he's had a job for months

130. She got to the exam centre just in time. She was lucky she didn't get there

- a. a few minutes earlier
- b. a few minutes later
- c. a few minutes beforehand

131. If you're stuck in traffic jam, a good way to kill time is to

- a. leave the car and walk
- b. get some beers and have a party
- c. read a book

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

132. Most of the time our neighbors are very quiet, but now and then they'll

- a. watch TV
- b. have a party
- c. have a chat

133. If someone says "it's now or never it means

- a. there's no time to do something
- b. it's the last chance to do something
- c. they never want to do something

134. We live in a town in the desert now. It's hot and dry most days, and once in a blue moon it will

- a. be sunny all day
- b. rain quite a lot
- c. be cooler at night

135. The moment of truth in a court case is when the

- a. the verdict is announced
- b. the judge arrives
- c. the lawyers send their bills

136. People have been living in the Nile valley since the year dot. They've been there

- a. for an extremely long time
- b. since the tenth century
- c. for quite a while

137. Shelley makes the same mistakes time after time. She

- a. quickly learns from them
- b. never seems to learn
- c. tries hard to make them

Начало

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Назад

На весь экран

Закрыть

138. They've been to Disneyland time and time again because

- a. they didn't enjoy it much
- b. they don't have much free time
- c. the kids love it

139. If you do something year in, year out, you do it

- a. all year long
- b. every year
- c. every second year

140. She gave us a ballpark figure for the cost because she

- a. didn't know the exact amount
- b. knew how much a ballpark cost
- c. wanted to tell us the exact amount

141. I had a night on the town with Lee and, we

- a. worked until dawn
- b. watched TV at my place
- c. left the last club at 2 a.m.

142. Gillian's business has been losing money for years, but there's light at the end of the tunnel now because

- a. she's closing down her business
- b. she's starting to get more orders
- c. the tunnel has been completed

143. We're heading out to paint the town red tonight, so don't forget to

- a. bring plenty of cash
- b. bring your paint brushes
- c. bring your laptop

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

144. Dwayne is the new kid on the block. He

- a. has just started working here
- b. is going to get a promotion
- c. is about to lose his job

145. The medicines are kept under lock and key so that

- a. they can't be used
- b. we can get them quickly
- c. the children can't get them

146. Sam says some things are water under the bridge and he doesn't want to talk about them, such as

- a. what happened in his childhood
- b. what he's doing these days
- c. his plans for the future

147. The police think the murderer is hiding in the forest, but they're barking up the wrong tree. He is

- a. in a different tree
- b. in a different forest
- c. not in a forest

148. It's hard not to beat around the bush when you have to

- a. put out a bushfire
- b. give someone some good news
- c. tell someone some bad news

149. The safety officer can't see the wood for the trees because

- a. she's too focused on safety issues
- b. she thinks all the trees look the same
- c. she doesn't know which way to look

Начало

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

150. “Wow, everything really is coming up roses for us this month” said Bobby after he and his wife had

- a. checked their flower garden
- b. checked their plumbing
- c. checked their investments

151. My grandma said, “I might be ninety years old, but I still feel as fresh as a daisy.” She

- a. feels much younger
- b. looks much older
- c. sounds much wiser

152. My sister said that I went out on a limb when I

- a. climbed high in the tree
- b. said murder was wrong
- c. said killing animals for food is murder

153. Jules and Clive were starting to have problems in their marriage, so they decided to nip the problem in the bud and

- a. get a divorce
- b. get some counseling
- c. pretend it wasn't happening

154. Martin was always told by his parents and teachers that he was the cream of the crop, so he thought he was

- a. worse than other kids
- b. the same as other kids
- c. better than other kids

Начало

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

155. Bazza was driving through the desert from Perth to Sydney, but he's up a gum tree now because

- a. he's looking for emu eggs
- b. a kangaroo chased him up there
- c. he's run out of petrol

156. If Professor Jones didn't spend all his time in his ivory tower, he would

- a. be much healthier than he is
- b. make much more money
- c. know what people were thinking

157. The chickens are coming home to roost for Dennis at last. For years he treated his wife and children badly, and now

- a. they're taking care of him
- b. they're still putting up with him
- c. they've left and he's old and lonely

158. The movie's director hit the roof when the actress

- a. forgot her lines
- b. did her scene perfectly
- c. kissed him on the cheek

159. The shop's manager had to go out for a while, so Julie held the fort

- a. when he got back
- b. while he was gone
- c. before he went

160. I said "Make yourself at home" after

- a. inviting my friends inside
- b. arriving at my friend's house
- c. driving my friend to the airport

Начало

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

161. Leila said the new restaurant was nothing to write home about. She thought it was

- a. excellent
- b. just average
- c. really terrible

162. Karen says I should put my own house in order before I

- a. go on my vacation
- b. give advice on decorating homes
- c. tell other people what they should do

163. Natasha says she's tired of going to run-of-the-mill restaurants every night. She wants to

- a. go somewhere special
- b. go somewhere cheap
- c. go somewhere normal

164. The writing had been on the wall for a few months, so no-one was surprised when the restaurant

- a. finally closed down
- b. closed for renovations
- c. opened a second branch

165. The assistant coach is waiting in the wings, and when the coach retires, he'll

- a. leave as well
- b. take over as coach
- c. keep his job as assistant coach

166. Al says one of the issues we face that's a matter of life and death for the whole planet is

- a. global warming
- b. illegal immigration
- c. copyright infringement

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

167. The union's proposal for higher wages is dead in the water. Most companies

- a. cannot afford to pay higher wages
- b. won't mind paying higher wages
- c. are dying to pay higher wages

168. Look at Larry - he's dead to the world. He must be

- a. really sick
- b. really tired
- c. really lazy

169. I wonder if Mike realizes he's digging his own grave by

- a. paying all his taxes
- b. cheating on his taxes
- c. complaining about his taxes

170. Luke said that after he kicks the bucket, he wants to

- a. go back to university
- b. go to the pub for a drink
- c. go to heaven

171. Sandra killed two birds with one stone by going to Paris. She practiced her French before her exam and she

- a. got better at speaking French
- b. read a book on French history
- c. went to her friend's wedding

172. After Julie made a killing on the stock exchange, she

- a. did her time in jail
- b. recovered in a hospital
- c. celebrated in a nightclub

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

173. David said, "Never say die!" after

- a. His friends said, "Die!"
- b. failing his driving test again
- c. coming to work late

174. Our Uncle Bernhard is a law unto himself. He

- a. lives in a flat and drives to work
- b. lives in a house and takes a train to work
- c. lives in a caravan and rides a bicycle to work

175. The judge gave her a slap on the wrist by sentencing her to

- a. thirty years in jail
- b. execution in the electric chair
- c. a few hours of community service

176. Which type of person is most often accused of corruption involving vested interests in companies?

- a. English teachers
- b. dairy farmers
- c. politicians

177. The government officials are being investigated for corruption. If everything they've done has been above board, they'll have

- a. a lot to worry about
- b. nothing to worry about
- c. something to worry about

178. James seemed to think he was above the law, so he was shocked when

- a. he failed his law exam
- b. he was released from jail
- c. he was arrested for selling drugs

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Назад

На весь экран

Закрыть

179. Sonny was arrested for robbery, but he beat the rap so now he's

- a. still in jail
- b. back home
- c. due in court

180. When they arrested the suspected killer, the police did everything by the book. They

- a. wrote down what they were doing
- b. followed procedure exactly
- c. read from a book while arresting him

181. The guy in the apartment next door was caught red-handed

- a. watching bad TV
- b. peeping on our cute neighbor
- c. cooking an awful dinner

182. He cooked the books of his business, and now he

- a. has been arrested
- b. can't read them
- c. has to eat them

183. After stealing millions of dollars from the company accounts, he covered his tracks by

- a. destroying the computer files
- b. telling the police he'd done it
- c. flying straight to Argentina

184. James will have to face the music when he

- a. goes to a concert
- b. goes to hospital
- c. goes to court

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Назад

На весь экран

Закрыть

185. One of world's best-known boxers fell from grace because he

- a. won the world heavyweight title
- b. was found guilty of rape
- c. had tattoos on his face

186. Government officials in the Republic of Amoralia feather their own nests by

- a. catching birds
- b. taking bribes
- c. working hard

187. If George doesn't keep his nose clean he'll

- a. get sick
- b. go to jail
- c. get smelly

188. If someone lays down the law, they tell people what they have to do in a

- a. quiet and gentle way
- b. funny and lively way
- c. serious and stern way

189. If Harry doesn't mend his ways, he could

- a. get some new ones
- b. end up in jail
- c. be very successful

190. The red tape makes getting government approval take

- a. a long time
- b. a short time
- c. a good time

191. The jury's still out on whether the new drug works because

- a. the jury is still doing some tests
- b. people being tested aren't getting sick
- c. the test results are still being analyzed

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

192. Newspapers reported that some basketball referees have received under-the-table payments for

- a. refereeing their games
- b. influencing the score in some games
- c. playing golf in their free time

Ex. 2. Translate into English using idiomatic expressions.

1. Большая загруженность в последнее время, даже на выходных, стала переломной точкой в его жизни и он решил сбежать от суматохи, начать путешествовать налегке и веселиться от души, и это стал для него именно тем, чего ему так не хватало.

2. В детстве я мечтал стать путешественником, расширить свой кругозор и посетить самые отдаленные уголки нашей планеты.

3. В наше непростое время каждому человеку просто необходимо иметь того, кто поддержит и поймет.

4. Вам необходимо повернуть направо на светофоре, который находится в паре шагов от банка.

5. Даже если вы расходитесь с кем-то во взглядах, не будьте эгоистичным, не держите человека в неведении, а всегда относитесь к нему с почтением.

6. Иногда попытки найти общий язык с людьми и добиться своего ни к чему хорошему не приводят.

7. Иногда стоит расслабиться, а не гнаться за успехом и славой, стараясь убить двух зайцев одним выстрелом.

8. Иногда хочется сбежать от всего этого и оказаться на краю света, где-то у черта на куличках.

9. Иногда, чтобы не потерять голову, необходимо сменить обстановку, чтобы набраться свежих сил.

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

10. Мне птичка на хвосте принесла, что он неудачник и прохиндей и всегда пытается выйти сухим из воды, чем довел до белого каления и сидит уже в печенках у своего начальника, и тот собирается его уволить.

11. Набивая себе цену не забудь, что ты можешь начать халтурить и оказаться среди худших.

12. Наш новый коллега постоянно меняет свою точку зрения и до сих пор остается для нас темной лошадкой.

13. Не важно, сколько ему лет, к нему всегда будут относиться как к ребенку.

14. Предложение новой работы стало для него сюрпризом, однако это было как раз то, что он так долго искал, и он был на седьмом небе от счастья.

15. Он боится сделать решительный шаг, боится, что его будут ругать.

16. Он почуял недоброе и решил остаться в стороне, так как опасается взлетов и падений.

17. Он привык играть с огнем и думает, что он самый-самый.

18. Он совершенно не похож на своего брата – он ничем не примечательный, часто остается незамеченным, из него можно веревки вить и ему легко разбить сердце.

19. Он часто чувствует себя не в своей тарелке, оказывается в трудном положении, и выполняя всю трудную работу, часто сам себе роет яму.

20. Она не может усидеть на месте и просто понаблюдать за жизнью вокруг.

21. Она не чаяла души в своем племяннике и никогда не давала упасть ему духом.

22. Она постоянно витает в облаках и питает слабость к детям и животным.

23. Они похожи друг на друга как две капли воды, всегда на одной волне и живут припеваючи.

24. Пришло самое время перестать жить как кошка с собакой, расставить все по своим местам и зарыть топор войны.

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25. Сейчас, вспоминая свое былое увлечение, оглядываясь назад и спустившись с небес на землю, она не могла понять, как она когда-то могла так увлечься им, совершенно не скрывать своих чувств и эмоций, была готова быть с ним и в горе и в радости и даже выйти замуж за него.

26. Смотреть на мир сквозь розовые очки, легко относиться ко всему и полностью со всеми соглашаться является характерной особенностью их семьи.

27. Тебе пора пересмотреть свое мнение, повзрослеть и уже твердо стоять на ногах, иначе все пойдет насмарку.

28. Тебе пора перестать задаваться, бездельничать, перестать производить плохое впечатление и войти в курс дела.

29. Хотя и говорят, что в любви, как и на войне, все средства хороши, но никогда не стоит забывать о воспитанности, порядочности и честности.

30. Чтобы стать хорошим директором школы, необходимо иметь холодное сердце, трезвый рассудок и твердую руку.

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

GLOSSARY

a bit on the side - a sexual relationship with someone who is not married to you, or the person you have the relationship with

above board – if a plan or business agreement is above board, it is honest and not trying to deceive anyone

above the law – not required to obey the law

add fuel to the fire – to make an argument or bad situation worse

add insult to injury – said when you feel that someone has made a bad situation worse by doing something else to upset you

agree to differ / **agree to disagree** – if two people agree to differ, they accept that they have different opinions about something and stop trying to persuade each other that they are right

air somebody's dirty laundry in public – to discuss very private, personal matters, especially that which may be embarrassing, in public or with other people

all hell breaks loose – a situation suddenly becomes violent and noisy, especially with people arguing or fighting

all's fair in love and war – all actions are justified

a night on the town - an evening when you go to various places and enjoy entertainment such as dancing, eating in a restaurant, or drinking in a bar

anorak – a boring person who is too interested in details

answer the call of nature – to satisfy a bodily urge to urinate or defecate

apple of one's eye – somebody one is most fond of

as brown as a berry – very suntanned

as cool as a cucumber – very calm or very calmly, especially when this is surprising

as fit as a fiddle – very healthy and strong

as keen as mustard – very eager and interested in everything

as long as one's arm – very long

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

as quiet as a mouse – silent, meek, and gentle
as warm as a toast – very warm
at a price – for a lot of money
at death's door – very sick
at sixes or sevens – in a confused, badly organized, or difficult situation
at the crack of dawn – very early in the morning
at your wits' end – so worried, confused, or annoyed that you do not know what to do next
baby of the family – the youngest member of the family treated always as a child
back of beyond / back of the beyond – a place far away from any big town
back to the drawing board – back to the beginning of a process to start it again, because it is not working
backseat driver – a passenger in a car who keeps giving the driver advice that he or she has not asked for / a person who gives unwanted advice or criticism
bag of tricks – a supply of expedients or devices
ballpark figure / ballpark estimate – a rough numerical estimate or approximation of the value of something that is otherwise unknown
bark up the wrong tree – to try to do something in a way that will not work
be a bit green – not to have a proper qualification
be a fly on the wall – to be able to see what people are doing without them noticing you
be a peach of something – to be very good
be all ears – to be waiting eagerly to hear about something
be all fingers and thumbs – to move your hands in an awkward way
be at a loose end – to have nothing to do
be at each other's throats – to argue angrily
be at the top of the tree – to occupy a prominent position / to be at the head
be bananas – to be crazy
be broke – to be without money

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

be caught red-handed – to be discovered while doing something bad or illegal
be dead on your feet – to be very tired
be down and out – to have no luck, no money and no opportunities
be down-at-heel – to wear old clothes, or in a bad condition, because of not having much money
be easy meat – to be easily deceived
be far too yellow – to be afraid
be feeling flush – to have a lot of money
be given the axe – if employees, services, etc. get the axe or are given the axe, a decision is made to get rid of them
be hard up – to have very little money
be het up – to be worried or angry and not calm
be in / get into a state – to become nervous and upset
be in good shape – to be prepared and ready to do smth
be in the black – to have money in the bank and be not in debt
be/live in clover – to enjoy a life of money and comfort
be in the pipeline – to be planned
be just a bit of eye candy – to be somebody/something that is attractive but not very interesting or useful
be left with egg on one's face – to look stupid because of something that you have done
be like a fish out of water – to be in a situation that you know nothing about or are not used to
be like chalk and cheese – to be completely different from each other
be loaded – to have much money
be no/little love lost between – not to like each other

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

be on its last legs – to be in such bad condition that it will soon be unable to work as it should

be on one's feet – to work for a long time

be on the dole – to be unemployed and receive money from the government

be on the same wavelength – to understand each other easily

be on the tip of one's tongue – if something that you want to say is on the tip of your tongue, you think you know it and that you will be able to remember it very soon

be penniless – to have no money

be raking in money – to have or get a large amount of money

be shaken up – to radically recognize something

be skating on thin ice – to be doing smth that is dangerous or involves risks

be skint – to have no money

be stinking rich – to be extremely rich

be strapped for cash – to not have enough money

be taken over – to be in charge/responsible when somebody else stops

be the bee's knees – to be the best there is

be the picture of health – to look very healthy, innocent

be the spitting image of somebody – to look extremely similar to someone

be up in arms – to be angry because one is opposed to smth

be up to one's ears in debt – to have no money

be up to one's eyes in something – to be very busy doing something

be up to one's neck in something – to be very busy be well off – to be rich

be washed out – to be no longer successful and have no chance of success in the future

bear fruit – to produce good results

beat around the bush / beat about the bush – to avoid talking about what is important

beat the rap – to escape or avoid blame or punishment

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

bee in one's bonnet – to be very involved in something that you think is important, in a way that other people find annoying

beef about smth – to complain about something

behind closed doors – in private/secretly

behind one's back – if you do something behind someone's back, you do it without them knowing, in a way that is unfair

behind the eight ball – in a difficult situation or in a worse situation than other people

behind the times – old-fashioned

benefit from – to gain an advantage/profit from something

beyond a shadow of a doubt – if you know or believe something beyond a shadow of a doubt, you are certain that it is true

big cheese – a person of influence

bigmouth – a person who often says things that are meant to be kept secret

bird's-eye view – a good view of something from a high position

bite off more than you could chew – to try to do something that is too difficult for you

bite one's head off – to speak to someone in a quick, angry way, for no good reason

bite the dust – to fall so that your body hits the ground heavily / to die / to end in failure / to stop working

black hole – an activity or organization on which very large amounts of money are spent but which does not produce any profit or useful result / a region in space where the force of gravity is so strong that nothing, not even light, can escape from it / an imaginary place in which things are lost

black Hole of Calcutta – an unpleasantly full and hot room

black look – an expression on one's face that is full of anger and hate

black mood – a very unhappy feeling

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

black sheep – a person who has done something bad that brings embarrassment or shame to his or her family

blessing in disguise – something that seems bad or unlucky at first but causes something good to happen later

blood is thicker than water – blood ties or family relationships are the strongest

blood, sweat and tears – extremely hard work, or the greatest effort possible, in order to achieve something

bloody murder – in a loud and violent manner ran off, screaming

blow a raspberry at somebody – to not care a damn for somebody/something

blow somebody's stack – become very angry

bolt from the blue – something important or unusual that happens suddenly or unexpectedly

born with a silver spoon in your mouth – to have a high social position and be rich from birth

boys in blue – a humorous name for the police

brake one's heart – to cause somebody great unhappiness

breathe down someone's neck – to stay close to someone, watching everything that they do

breathe one's last – to die

bring home the bacon – to earn money for a family to live on

broaden the mind – to make somebody understand more and know more about different subjects, ideas, places, etc.

brown-nose – to try too hard to please someone, especially someone in a position of authority, in a way that other people find unpleasant

bull in a china shop – one who is aggressively reckless and clumsy in a situation that requires delicacy and care

bunny boiler – an annoying woman

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

burn the candle at both ends – to work or do other things from early in the morning until late at night and so get very little rest

burn the midnight oil – to work late at night to achieve smth

burn your bridges / burn your boats – if you are in a situation and you burn your boats/bridges, you destroy all possible ways of going back to that situation

bury one's head in the sand – to refuse to think about unpleasant facts, although they will have an influence on your situation

bury the hatchet – to forget old quarrels

busybody – a person who is too interested in things what do not involve them

butterfingers – a person who drops things they are carrying or trying to catch

butterflies in your stomach – a feeling of being very nervous or frightened about something

button your lip – to say nothing or stop talking

by the book – exactly as the rules tell you

by the skin of one's teeth – if you do something by the skin of your teeth, you only just succeed in doing it

call it a day – to stop what you are doing because you do not want to do any more or think you have done enough / to stop working for the day

call the shots – to be in the position of being able to make the decisions that will influence a situation

can't see the wood for the trees – to be unable to understand a situation clearly because you are too involved in it

carte blanche – complete freedom to do something

cat got your tongue – something you say to someone when you are annoyed because they will not speak

catch one's eye – to get somebody's attention

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

change of heart – a change of one's feelings for smth/smb

chapter and verse – in full detail

chatterbox – a person, especially a child, who talks a lot

chew the fat / **chew the rag** – to talk with someone in an informal and friendly way

chew up the scenery – to be exaggeratedly or flamboyantly melodramatic or overly emotional while acting a role, as for television, theater, or film

chickens come home to roost – the bad things that someone has done in the past have come back to bite or haunt the individual

chinless wonder – a silly man, typically of high social class

chip off the old block – someone who is very similar in character to their father or mother

chuck one's toys out of the pram – to behave in a petulantly upset or angry manner

clean as a hound's tooth – very clean; spotless / innocent and free from sin or wrong

clean as a whistle – extremely clean

clear the air – to remove the bad feelings between people

climb the career ladder – to get higher position

clock in and out – to put a card into a machine to show the time one arrives for work/leaves work

clock-watcher – a person who repeatedly looks to see that time it is on order to see how much longer they have to work

cold fish – someone who is not very friendly

come down to earth with a bump – to stop dreaming and start thinking practically

come down with something – to start to suffer from an illness, especially one that is not serious

cook one's goose – to cause a lot of problems for someone, or spoil their plans

cook the books / **cook the accounts** – to change numbers dishonestly in the accounts (= financial records) of an organization, especially in order to steal money from it

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Назад

На весь экран

Закреть

cost an arm and a leg – to be very expensive

cost the earth / charge the earth – to cost, charge, etc. a lot of money

couch potato – a person who watches a lot of television and does not have an active life

could eat a horse – to be very hungry

cover your tracks – to hide or destroy the things that show where you have been or what you have been doing

crank – a person who has strange ideas and believes

cream of the crop – the best of a group of similar things or people

creep – an unpleasant person, especially a man

cross that bridge when we come to it – not to worry about a possible future problem but will deal with it if it happens

cut it/things fine – to allow very little time for smth

cut no ice – to fail to impress

dark horse – someone with a secret, especially a secret ability, skill or achievement that surprises you when you discover it

day-to-day – happening every day as a regular part of your job or life

daydreamer – a person who often thinks about smth else or being somewhere else instead of paying attention to what is happening where they are now

daylight robbery – you have to pay far too much money for smth

dead duck – someone or something that is very unlikely to be successful, especially because of a mistake or bad judgment

dead in the water – failed and it seems impossible that it will be successful in the future

dead to the world – sleeping

dead-end job – a job in which there is no chance of progressing to a better, more important job

deal with – to attend to / to handle something

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

dig one's heels in – to show firmness over something, especially one's own desires

dig one's own grave – to do something that causes you harm, sometimes serious harm

dig up dirt – discover and reveal damaging information about someone

dirt-cheap – very cheap

do the donkey work – to do the boring work that needs a lot of effort but has to be done as part of a job

do the trick – to achieve what is wanted

dog day of summer – the period between early July and early September when the hot sultry weather of summer usually occurs in the northern hemisphere / a period of stagnation or inactivity

Don Juan – a person who has had sex with a lot of women

dot the i's and cross the t's – to pay a great deal of attention to the details of something, especially when you are trying to complete a task

down in the dumps – depressed / unhappy

down in the mouth – sad

draw up – to prepare/design/write something

drink like a fish – to drink too much alcohol

drive somebody round the bend – to annoy somebody a lot

drive somebody up the wall – to make someone extremely angry

drop a bombshell – to surprise everyone

each to their own – other people are free to like different things

eager beaver – a person who is willing to work very hard

early bird – a person who gets up or arrives early

early bird catches the worm – said to advise someone that they will have an advantage if they do something immediately or before anyone else does it

easier said than done – something which sounds/appears simple but is difficult to achieve/do

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Назад

На весь экран

Закреть

easy as pie / easy as ABC – very easy

eat humble pie – to admit that you were wrong

eat somebody's heart out – to feel great sadness / to suffer from envy or jealousy

eat your words – to admit that something you said before was wrong

effing and blinding – swearing, cursing

end in itself – something that one does because one wants to and not because it will help achieve or accomplish something else

every cloud has a silver lining – said to emphasize that every difficult or unpleasant situation has some advantage

everything but the kitchen sink – almost all that you can imagine of something

everything's coming up roses – turning out to be good Now that he finally has a job, everything's coming up roses for him

face the music – to accept criticism or punishment for something you have done

fair-weather friend – someone who is a good friend when it is easy to be one and who stops being one when you are having problems

fall from grace – a situation in which you do something that makes people in authority stop liking you or admiring you

fall in love with somebody – to be very attractive to somebody and begin to love them

fall on deaf ears – to be ignored, especially of speech/advice

fall out - to have an argument with somebody so that you are no longer friendly with them

family tree – a drawing that shows all the members of a family, usually over a long period of time, and how they are related to each other

faster than a speeding bullet – extremely fast

fat cats – people who receive too much money for the job they do

feather your own nest – to make yourself rich, especially in a way that is unfair or dishonest

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

feel blue – to feel sad

feel lousy – to feel ill / to feel sorry

feel pooped – to feel fatigued, exhausted

feel rough – to feel ill

feel the pinch – to suffer because of lack of money

feeling one's oats – when applied to humans, typically describes someone who feels newly emboldened, often behaving in a cocky or arrogant fashion

fight fire with fire – to use the same methods as someone else in order to defeat them

fight like cat and dog – to have angry arguments all the time

fight tooth and nail – to try very hard to get something you want

find a needle in a haystack – something or someone that is difficult and nearly impossible to find

find one's feet – to become familiar with and confident in a new situation

firm hand – control and discipline

flash in the pan – something that happened only once or for a short time and was not repeated

fly off the handle – to react in a very angry way to something that someone says or does

follow in somebody's footsteps – to do the same thing as someone else did previously

for donkey's years – an extremely long time

for the time being – at this time

force something down one's throat – to force someone to listen to opinions and ideas and to try to get him or her to accept them

four-letter word – a short word that is considered to be extremely rude and offensive

fresh as a daisy – to be full of energy and enthusiasm

friendly fire – during a war, shooting that is hitting you from your own side, not from the enemy

from now on – from this moment and always in the future

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

from time to time – sometimes, but not regularly

full of yourself – to think that you are very important in a way that annoys other people

get a look in – to have a chance to do something or to succeed

get away from it all – to go somewhere, usually on holiday, where you can completely relax and forget your responsibilities or problems

get away with – to succeed in avoiding punishment for something

get bigger fish to fry – to have something more important to do

get cold feet – to suddenly become too frightened to do something you had planned to do, especially something important such as getting married

get enough on one's plate – to be very busy / to have much work

get into the swing of something – to become accustomed to smth

get it in the neck – to be punished or severely criticized for something that you have done

get of one's back – used to tell someone to stop criticizing you

get off on the wrong foot – to make an unsuccessful start in something

get off one's high horse – to stop behaving as if he knows more or is better than anyone else

get off the ground – to start a business/company

get on – to make progress

get on with – to start or continue doing something, especially work

get one's goat – to annoy someone

get right up somebody's head – to annoy somebody a lot

get round – to persuade somebody to allow you something by using your charm

get under somebody's skin – to make somebody annoyed or angry

give and take – willingness to accept suggestions from another person and give up some of your own

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

give one's right arm – if you say that you would give your right arm to do or have something, you mean you would like it very much

give somebody elbow room – to give somebody freedom to do what they want / space to move around in

give somebody the boot – to fire somebody from their job

give somebody the cold shoulder – to intentionally ignore someone or treat someone in an unfriendly way

give somebody the elbow – to end your romantic relationship with someone

give the green light – to give permission for someone to do something or for something to happen

globe-trotter – someone who often travels to a lot of different countries

go as red as a beetroot – to have a red face because you are embarrassed

go bananas – very silly

go down a treat – people like it very much

go for a song – to be very cheap

go great guns – to go fast or successfully

go in circles – to do a lot or seem very busy without achieving anything

go on – to talk about something repeatedly

go out on a limb – to do something risky or extreme, which puts you in a position of weakness

go over somebody's head – to speak to or ask permission from someone who has more authority than the person who you would normally go to in that situation

go through – to read/check something carefully

go to the dogs – not as good as it was in the past

go through the roof – to get very angry

golden boy – a person who is very successful and is much admired although often only temporarily

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

good money – an amount of money that you think is large
goody two shoes – an ostentatiously virtuous or well-behaved person
grass roots – ordinary people, not in authority but whose opinions are influential
grease someone's palm – to secretly give someone money in order to persuade them to do something for you
green with envy – very unhappy because someone has something that you want
grey matter – the darker tissue containing nerve fibres (= structures like threads) found in the brain and spinal cord
grow up – to gradually become an adult
half-baked – has not been considered carefully enough
hang in there / hang on in there – said as a way of telling someone to not give up, despite difficulties
happy camper – a person who is happy with their situation
hard to swallow – difficult to believe
have a bee in your bonnet – to keep talking about something again and again because you think it is very important
have a bun in the oven – to be pregnant
have a cat in hell's chance – to have no chance at all of doing something
have a crush on someone – to have a romantic infatuation
have a sharp tongue – to be someone who often criticizes and speaks in a severe way
have a soft spot for somebody – to be fond of
have a whale of a time – to have a lot of fun
have ants in somebody's pants – to not be able to keep still because you are very excited or worried about something
have egg on your face – to look stupid because of something that you have done
have green fingers – to have the ability to make plants grow
have money to burn – to spend a lot of money on things that are not necessary

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

have more money than sense – to spend a lot of money on smth that you think is unnecessary

have one's feet (firmly) on the ground – to be practical and able to take care of yourself

have one's hands full – to be so busy that you do not have time to do anything else

have one's head in the clouds – to not know the facts of a situation / to be impractical, aloof, or fanciful to the point of being very unhelpful or counterproductive

have second thoughts – to change your opinion about something or start to doubt it

have/get itchy feet – to start to want to travel or do something different

have/get one's own way – to persuade other people to allow you to do what you want

head over heels in love – completely in love

heart of gold – a kind and generous character

heart in somebody's mouth – to be very excited or nervous about something anticipated

hen night – a celebration for a woman who is about to get married, in which only her women friends take part

hen pecked – a henpecked man is controlled by and a little frightened of a woman, especially his wife

hit it off with somebody – to be friendly with each other immediately

hit rock bottom – to reach the lowest point

hit the road – to leave a place or begin a journey

hit the roof – to become extremely angry

hold a job down – to manage to keep a job for a period of time

hold somebody's tongue – to not speak

hold the fort – to have responsibility for something while someone else is absent

hold your own – to be as successful as other people or things in a situation / to not become more ill or more weak

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

home from home – a place where you feel as comfortable as you do in your own home

hopping mad – very angry

hot air – false promises/claims

hot potato – a problem, situation, etc. that is difficult to deal with and causes a lot of disagreement

hot under the collar – embarrassed or angry about something

I owe you one – said to thank someone for helping you and as a way of saying that you will do something for them in the future

if all else fails – if what was planned cannot happen

if push comes to shove – it can be done if the situation becomes so bad that you have to do it

in a nutshell – very briefly, giving only the main points

in black and blue – with dark marks on your skin caused by being hit or having an accident

in black and white – in writing

in dribs and drabs – in small amounts, a few at a time

in one's birthday suit – not wearing any clothes

in one's black books – in a black list

in one's element – very happy/sad to a situation

in someone's good books – in disfavour with someone

in the altogether – naked

in the black – in credit / making profit

in the doghouse – in a situation in which someone is angry at you for something you did or did not do

in the long run – at a time that is far away in the future

in the middle of nowhere – far away from any towns and cities and where few people live

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

in the red – in debt

it stands to reason – said when something is obvious or clear from the facts

it's high time – it is past the time when something should have happened

ivory tower – to live or be in an ivory tower is not to know about or to want to avoid the ordinary and unpleasant things that happen in people's lives

jack of all trades – someone who can do many different jobs

jump down somebody's throat – to react angrily to something that someone says or does

jump on the bandwagon – to join an activity that has become very popular or to change your opinion to one that has become very popular so that you can share in its success

junk food – food that is unhealthy but is quick and easy to eat

jury is still out – people do not yet know the answer or have not yet decided if it is good or bad

just in time / just in the nick of time – at the last possible moment

just the ticket – very suitable and exactly what is needed

just what the doctor ordered – exactly what is wanted or needed

keep a low profile – to avoid attracting attention to yourself

keep a straight face – to manage to stop yourself from smiling or laughing

keep abreast of – to make sure you know all the most recent facts about a subject or situation

keep an eye on something – to watch someone or something or stay informed about the person's behavior, esp. to keep someone out of trouble

keep one's chin up – to try to be brave and happy, even though you are in a difficult situation

keep one's fingers crossed – to hope strongly that something will happen

keep one's head above water – to survive despite financial problems

keep somebody in the dark – to keep somebody unaware of something

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

keep something in mind – to be careful to remember something important
keep something under somebody's hat – to not reveal or discuss something publicly
keep up with the Joneses – to always want to own the same expensive objects and do the same things as your friends or neighbours, because you are worried about seeming less important socially than they are
keep your nose clean – to avoid getting into trouble
kick out – to force somebody to leave a job/club
kick the bucket – to die
kill the goose that lays the golden egg – to destroy something that makes a lot of money for you
kill time – to do something while you are waiting for something else to happen
kill two birds with one stone – to achieve two aims with one action
know somebody's onion – to have good practical skills and knowledge in a particular activity or subject
know smth like the back of your hand – to have very good and detailed knowledge of smth
knuckle sandwich – a punch in the mouth
lame duck – a company / person that is weak
land a job – to get a job
last straw – the latest problem in a series of problems, that makes a situation impossible to accept
law of the jungle – the situation where the law is disregarded and the strongest succeed
law unto oneself – a person who acts in a way that shows he or she does not care what kind of behavior other people think is acceptable
lay down the law – to forcefully make known what you think should happen
lay off – to cease to employ somebody, due to a lack of work / to make redundant
leave no stone unturned – to do everything you can to achieve a good result, especially when looking for something

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

leave well enough alone / let well enough alone – to allow something to stay as it is because doing more might make things worse

lend an ear – to listen to someone with sympathy

let bygones be bygones – used to tell someone that they should forget about unpleasant things that happened in the past, and especially to forgive and forget smth had that someone has done to them

let one's hair down – to allow yourself to behave much more freely than usual and enjoy yourself

let the cat out of the bag – to tell someone something that was supposed to be a secret

life and soul of the party – a person who is energetic and funny and at the centre of activity

life is a bowl of cherries – something that you say that means that life is very pleasant. This phrase is often used humorously to mean the opposite

lift a finger – to make any effort

light at the end of the tunnel – signs of improvement in a situation that has been bad for a long time, or signs that a long and difficult piece of work is almost finished

like a dog with two tails – very happy because something good has happened

like a lazy dog – someone who is lazy or idle

little bird told me – an expression used for saying that you are not going to say who told you something

little pitchers have big ears – children hear everything, especially when you least expect them to

live on a shoestring – to manage with very little money

loan shark – a person who charges very large amounts of money for lending money to someone

long-last relative – used to refer to a relation, friend, or object that you have not seen for a long time

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

long-toothed – be old, often too old to do something

look a right lemon – to look like a very silly person

look back on – to think about something that happened in the past

look like a drowned rat – to look very wet and cold

look/feel like death warmed up – to look or feel very ill

look like something that the cat dragged in – to have a very dirty or untidy experience

look like the cat who gets the cream – to look very satisfied

look on the bright side – to find good things in a bad situation

look over one's shoulder – to have somebody in sights and criticise

look up to – to admire or respect somebody

lose face – to become less respected by others

lose your bearings – not to know where you are

Love is blind - loving smb makes you unable to see their faults

lurk about – to spend time in a chat room or on a social media website and read what other people have posted without posting anything yourself

mad as a wet hen – extremely angry, enraged, very exasperated

made of money – very rich

make a killing – to earn a lot of money in a short time and with little effort

make a mountain out of a molehill – to make a slight difficulty seem like a serious problem

make a name for yourself – to become famous or respected by a lot of people

make a pig's ear of something – to do something badly, wrongly, or awkwardly

make hay while the sun shines – to make good use of an opportunity while it lasts

make one's pile – to earn a large amount of money

make one's toes curl – to bring about an extreme reaction of embarrassment or delight in someone

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

make such a pig of oneself – to eat a lot of food

make the grade – to be good enough to be successful at smth

make yourself at home – to relax and make yourself comfortable in someone else's home

man of one's dreams – the ideal man

matches made in heaven – two people who are perfect for each other

matter of life and death – a situation that is extremely serious

mean business – to be serious about what one says

means to an end – something that you do because it will help you to achieve something else

mend your ways – to begin to behave well, having until now behaved badly

moaning Minnie – a person who annoys other people by complaining all the time

moment of truth – an occasion when something important happens that tests someone or something and that will have an effect on the future

money down the drain – money wasted

monkey business – behaviour that is not acceptable or is dishonest

more than one way to skin a cat – there are many methods one may employ in achieving one's ends

movers and shakers – people with a lot of power and influence

my lips are sealed – said when you are promising to keep a secret

narrow escape – a situation in which you avoid danger although you very nearly do not

neither here nor there – not important, or not connected with the subject being discussed

never say die – said to encourage people to keep trying

new kid on the block – someone who is new in a place or organization and has many things to learn about it

new lease of life – a return of energy or enthusiasm

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

next to nothing – very little

nick of time – at the last possible moment

night on the town | **out on the town** – an evening when you go to various places and enjoy entertainment such as dancing, eating in a restaurant, or drinking in a bar

nip something in the bud – to stop something before it has an opportunity to become established

not all it has cracked up to be – not as good as people say

not be somebody's cup of tea – to be not the type of thing that you like

not break the bank – to not cost too much

not come to cheap – something of good quality and is therefore expensive

not feel yourself – not to feel as happy or healthy as usual

not get a word in edgeways/edgewise – to not be able to say anything because someone else is talking all the time

not give a monkey's – not at all worried by something

not long for this world – to die soon

not make ends meet – to have just enough money to pay for something that you need

not say boo to a goose – someone who is very quiet and shy

not see eye to eye – to not agree with each other

not turn a hair – to not show any emotion when you are told something bad or when something bad happens

nothing to write home about – not exciting or special

now and then / **now and again** – sometimes, but not regularly

now or never – said when you must do something immediately, especially because you will not get another chance

off the beaten track – in a place where few people go, far from any main roads and towns

off the walls – surprising and unusual / strange or very different, often intentionally

off your rocker – in a very strange or silly way

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

old flame – somebody one was once in love with

on a high – happy and excited

on cloud nine – extremely happy and excited

on the back burner – temporarily not being dealt with or considered, especially because it is not urgent or important

on the rocks – likely to fail soon

on the warpath – angry and ready to fight

on top of the world – extremely happy

once in a blue moon – not very often

one bad apple – one person, thing, element, etc., to ruin the entire group, situation, project

one's best bet – the most appropriate choice

one's heart is in the right place – to be kind and do good things, even though it does not seem like this

one's number is up – going to die; no longer continue doing a job, activity, etc.

open a can of worms – to initiate, instigate, or reveal a situation that is or is likely to become very complicated or problematic or that will have a negative outcome

out and about – active; doing the things you usually do

out of the blue – completely unexpected

out of the clear blue sky – completely unexpectedly / out of nowhere

over the moon – very pleased

over the top – too extreme and not suitable, or demanding too much attention or effort, especially in an uncontrolled way

own flesh and blood – your family or relations

packet – a large amount of money

pain in the neck – a person who is very annoying

paint the town red – to go out and enjoy yourself by drinking alcohol, dancing, laughing with friends, etc.

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

pardon my French – said when you are pretending to be sorry for using a word that may be considered offensive

pay dividends – to bring advantages at a later date

pay somebody chickenfeed – to pay a small and not important amount of money

pay somebody peanuts – to pay little money

pay somebody back – to do something unpleasant to someone because they have done something unpleasant to you

peachy – very good

pepper somebody/something with – if you pepper a speech or piece of writing with something, you include a lot of that particular thing

piece of cake – something that is very easy to do

pin one's hopes – to hope that something or somebody will help you to achieve what you want

pink slip – a notice from an employer informing employees that they no longer have jobs

pipe dream – an idea or plan that is impossible or very unlikely to happen

plain sailing – easy and without problems

play hard to get – to pretend one is not interested in somebody

play to the gallery – to behave in a way intended to make people admire or support you

play the field – to hold an interest in a number of people or things, especially to become romantically or sexually involved with a number of partners

play with fire – to take dangerous risk

pop the question – to ask someone to marry you

powder one's nose – a polite or humorous way of saying that you are going to go to the toilet

pros and cons – the advantages and disadvantages of something, especially something you that you are considering doing

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

pull one's leg – to tell someone something that is not true as a way of joking with the person

pull the strings – to be in control of an organization, often secretly

push up daisies – be dead

put one's foot in something – to say something by accident that embarrasses or upsets someone

put somebody up – to give somebody temporary accommodation / to let somebody stay at somebody's house

put the brakes on – to slow down or stop an activity

put up the money – to provide/supply something

put up with – to accept/endure something unwillingly

put your own house in order | **get your own house in order** – to solve your own problems

putty in one's hands – easily controlled and manipulated

question mark over someone/something – an expression used when doubt exists about a particular thing

question of time – used when you think that something will happen at some point in the near future

quick as a flash / **quick as a wink** / **quick as lightning** – quickly or suddenly

quick on the trigger | **quick on the draw** – quick to respond / very fast in taking one's gun from its holster

rain cats and dogs – to rain very heavily

rat bag – somebody who is unpleasant with other people

rat race – a way of life in modern society, in which people compete with each other for power and money

raw deal – bad or unfair treatment

ray of sunshine – a happy person who makes others feel happy, especially in a difficult situation

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

read between the lines – to try to understand someone's real feelings or intentions from what they say or write

read one's lips – to follow the movements of someone's lips in order to understand what is being said, especially if you are unable to hear them speak

real McCoy – the original or best example of something

recharge one's batteries – to rest and relax for a period of time so that you feel energetic again

recipe for disaster – very likely to become a disaster

red tape – official rules and processes that seem unnecessary and delay results

red-hot – very successful or popular

red-letter day – a special, happy, and important day that you will always remember

right up one's street – within one's range of interest

ring a bell – to sound familiar

rip off – to cheat somebody by making them pay too much money for something

rip-off – something that is not worth that you pay for it

rise to the bait – to accept an offer or suggestion that seems good but is really a trick

rock the boat – to do or say something that will upset people or cause problems

rock-bottom price – the lowest price

roll in money – to be rich

roll out the red carpet – to give a guest special treatment

roller coaster | **roller-coaster ride** – a small railroad, esp. in an amusement park, with open cars that travel quickly along a steep, curved track that goes up and down over and over / a feeling, situation, or experience that changes very quickly

rolling stone – a person who is always travelling and changing jobs

rough diamond – a person who is kinder and more pleasant than they seem to be from their appearance

round-the-clock – all day and all night

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

rub it in – to make someone feel worse about something the person already feels embarrassed about

run around like a headless chicken – trying to do a lot of things quickly without being sensible or calm about it

run in the family – many members of the family have it

running battle – long-lasting struggle

run-of-the-mill – ordinary and unexciting

safe and sound – not hurt or damaged

salt of the earth – a very good and honest person

save something for a rainy day – to save something for a time when it might be needed unexpectedly

save the day – to do something that prevents a likely defeat or failure

scared to death – very severely frightened or worried / hyperbolically alludes to having been frightened so badly as to have died from it

scream blue murder – to show your anger about something, especially by shouting or complaining very loudly

Scrooge – a person who spends as little money as possible and is not generous

Scrounger – a person who tries to get things, money and food by asking for them

seal one's fate – to ensure the death/failure of somebody/something

second fiddle – less important or in a weaker position than someone else

see eye to eye – to agree about matters

see red – to become very angry

see the world through rose-coloured spectacles – to see only the pleasant things about a situation and not notice the things that are unpleasant

set somebody back – to cost someone money

seventh heaven – a state of bliss or extreme happiness

shattered – extremely upset

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

short-list – a list of people who have been judged the most suitable for a job or prize, made from a longer list of people originally considered, and from which one person will be chosen

shoulder to cry on – somebody who is willing to listen to your problems and give you sympathy, support and encouragement

show someone the ropes – to show someone how to do a job or activity

sit in judgement – to decide if somebody/something is good/bad

sit in on – to attend something as an observer

sit on the fence – to refuse to have an opinion or take sides on an issue

sitting duck – someone or something that is very easy for an enemy to shoot or attack

Skiver – a person who is absent from work without permission

slap on the wrist – a small punishment when a more severe punishment is deserved

slave driver – a person who makes other people work very hard

small fortune – a lot of money

smart Alec – a person who tries to appear clever or who answers questions in a clever way that annoys other people

smart cookie – a clever person who makes good decisions

somebody's hands are tied – if your hands are tied, you are not free to behave in the way that you would like

smell a rat – to be suspicious, or to think that someone is trying to trick you

snowed under – having too much to do

someone's name is mud – other people are angry with somebody because of something they have said or done

something escapes you – you can't remember it

something occurs to you – suddenly and unexpectedly start to think about something

sour grapes – bad behavior that happens because someone else is more successful

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

spend a penny – to urinate

spend something like water – to spend something very quickly

spill the beans – to tell people secret information

stand in for somebody – to change somebody

stand the place – to defend one's opinion

stay in the pink – to stay in very good health

steady job – work that is likely to continue for a long time and for which you will be paid regularly

steal one's heart – to cause someone to feel love and affection

steep – too much or more than is reasonable

steer clear of – to avoid someone or something that seems unpleasant, dangerous, or likely to cause problems

step down – to voluntarily retire/resign from a job/position

step into somebody's shoes – to replace somebody

stick to one's guns – to keep supporting a particular belief / course of action

stone's throw away from – a short distance

straight from the horse's mouth – information that comes from someone who is directly involved in this case

stuffed shirt – a person who behaves in a very formal and old-fashioned way and thinks that they are very important

sugar daddy – a rich and usually older man who buys presents for or gives money to a younger person, especially a woman, usually so that the younger person will spend time with him and have a sexual relationship with him

surf the web – to browse the various content of the Internet

sweep smth under the carpet – to hide a problem or try to keep it secret instead of dealing with it

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

take a turn for the worse – to become worse

take after – to be similar to an older member of family in appearance or character

take in lying down – to accept something harmful/unpleasant without complaint / a struggle

take on – to accept somebody as an employee / to employ

take on staff – to hire somebody

take something on the chin – to accept unpleasant events bravely and without complaining

take something the wrong way – be offended by something

take the biscuit – to be especially annoying, surprising, etc. or to be the worst or best of its kind

take the bull by the horns – to do something difficult in a brave and determined way

take the law into one's own hand – to do something to combat injustice without abiding by the rules/law

take the plunge – to make a decision to do something, especially after thinking about it for a long time

take things easy – to relax

take to somebody/something – to immediately like somebody/something

take up – to use/occupy something

talk the hind legs off a donkey – to talk without stopping for a long time

talk through your hat – to talk about smth without understanding what you are talking about

tearaway – a young person who behaves in an uncontrolled way and is often coming trouble

tell off – to speak angrily to somebody because they have done something wrong

the eleventh hour – the last moment or almost too late

think to be the bee's knees – to think you are very clever and important

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

through thick and thin – to support or stay with somebody even if there are problems or difficulties

throw someone in at the deep end – to put someone into a new situation, job

tickled pink – very pleased

tidy sum – a lot of money

tie the knot – to get married

tighten the belt – to live on a smaller budget

time after time – again and again; repeatedly

time and time again – very often

time of one's life – an extremely enjoyable experience

top banana – the person with the most authority, power, or influence in a group or organization

touch-and-go – uncertain

tough nut to crack – a problem that is very difficult to solve or a person who is very difficult to understand

travel light – to bring very few things with you when you go somewhere

tread on somebody's toes – if you step/tread on someone's toes, you say or do something that upsets or annoys that person, especially by involving yourself in matters that are not your responsibility

troublemaker – a person who causes problems to other people

true-blue friend – completely loyal to a person or belief

turn one's head up – to refuse to accept something because of thinking it is not good enough

turn to jelly – to suddenly feel weak because you are frightened, nervous, or ill

turning point – the time at which a situation starts to change in an important way

twiddle one's thumbs – to do nothing for a period of time, usually while you are waiting for something to happen

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

two peas in a pod – very similar especially in appearance

under a cloud – not be trusted or popular because people think you have done something bad

under lock and key – locked away safely under the table – a secret, hidden action

under-the-table - secretly

under the weather – feel ill

under wraps – secret

until the cows come home – for a very long time

until to be blue in the face – to waste your efforts because you will get no results

up a gum tree – in a very difficult situation

up against the wall – in a difficult or troubling situation in which one's options or ability to act are limited or constrained

up in the air – uncertain, often because other matters have to be decided first

ups and downs – a mixture of good and bad things

upset the applecart – to cause trouble, especially by spoiling someone's plans

vested interest – a strong personal interest in something because you could get an advantage from it

vicious circle – a continuing unpleasant situation, created when one problem causes another problem that then makes the first problem worse

vis-a-vis – in relation to / in comparison with

vote of confidence – an occasion when the members of a parliament or other organization are asked to say that they support the people in authority and agree with their actions / a sign that you are pleased with the quality of something or what someone has done or produced

vote with one's feet – to show one's opinion by (not) participating in smth

wait in the wings – not yet active or important, but are ready or likely to be so soon

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

wake-up call – if something that happens is a wake-up call, it should make you realize that you need to take action to change a situation / a phone call that you arrange to be made, for example in a hotel, to wake you up at a certain time

wallflower – a shy person, especially a girl or woman, who is frightened to involve herself in social activities and does not attract much interest or attention

war of words – serious or angry discussions about something that people disagree on, especially discussions that continue for a long time

war story – a story of a memorable personal experience typically involving an element of danger, hardship, or adventure politicians

watch the world go by – to look at people as they go past

water off a duck's back – criticisms of or warnings to a particular person that have no effect on that person

water under the bridge | **water over the dam** – problems that someone has had in the past that they do not worry about because they happened a long time ago and cannot now be changed

waxed and warned – grow stronger and then weaker again

wear one's heart on one's sleeves – to allow one's feelings to be too obvious

weather a storm – to deal with a difficult situation without being harmed or damaged too much

wet behind the ears – young and without experience

wet blanket – a person who says or does something that stops other people enjoying themselves

white elephant – something that has cost a lot of money but has no useful purpose

white lie – a lie that is told in order to be polite or to stop someone from being upset by the truth

white-collar worker – a person who works in an office, doing work that needs mental rather than physical effort

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Назад

На весь экран

Заккрыть

wimp – a person who is not strong, brave or confident

without a care in the world – without worrying about anything

wolf in sheep's clothing – a person with a pleasant and friendly appearance that hides the fact that they are evil

worse for wear – tired or in poor condition because of a lot of work or use

worth your while – important, useful, or satisfying enough to be worth the effort you make

writing / handwriting is on the wall – said to mean that there are clear signs that something will fail or no longer exist

X-factor – a quality that you cannot describe that makes someone very special

year dot / the year one – a very long time ago

year in, year out - every year, especially in a way that seems boring

you can say that again – used to show that you completely agree with what someone has said

you could have knocked me over with a feather – said when you are extremely surprised

your bread and butter – a job or activity that provides you with the money you need to live

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