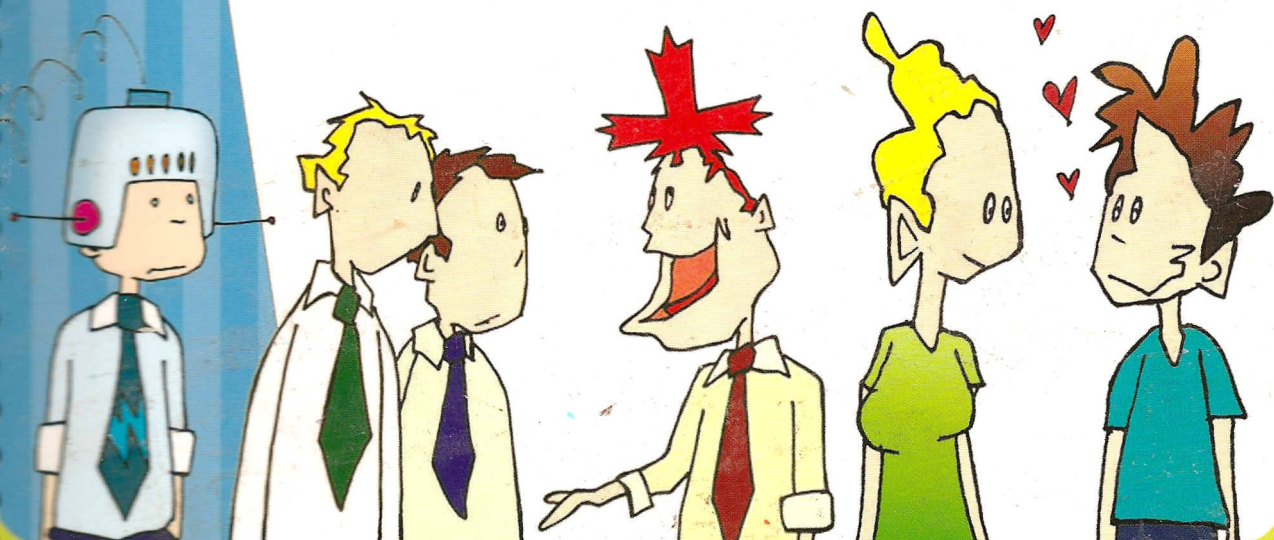


illustrated
**Everyday
Expressions**
with stories

Casey Malarcher

2





Illustrated

Everyday Expressions

with stories

Casey Malarcher

2

Contents

LESSON 1

8

be composed of
fall asleep
set out

clean off
fill out
wait on

come across
in retrospect

dress up
on the whole

LESSON 2

14

be crazy about
have a point
turn out

call it a day
more often than not
wrap up

concentrate on
never mind

get along with
take a look at

LESSON 3

20

bring up
draw the line at
lose one's temper

by all means
fix up
pull over

by chance
get lost

carry on
high time

LESSON 4

26

a steal
on hand
think highly of

at hand
on one's own
try out

get better
refer to A as B

more or less
take one's time

LESSON 5

32

as of yet
dwell on
take by surprise

at one's fingertips
get a hold of
take time off

brand-new
learn (something) by heart

cut in
mix up

LESSON 6

38

as a rule
in spite of
run into

be at a loss
look to A for B
when it comes to

come up with
neither A nor B

for short
point out

LESSON 7

44

add to
hit upon
give rise to

day after day
in short
resign oneself to

go through
of one's own accord

have to
once and for all

LESSON 8

50

at times
come from
stand a chance

be likely to
feel for
without question

be opposed to
for the sake of

by accident
get away with

LESSON 9

56

as usual
for ages
turn down

back up
hand over
work out

be cut out for
serve one right

catch on
take apart

LESSON 10

62

abide by
go without saying
take up

apart from
keep one's fingers crossed
tend to

as if
make sure

go for
run over

LESSON 11

68

blow up
come to
sort of

bring back
for the most part
tear down

burn down
make one's way

catch fire
no matter

LESSON 12

74

be free to
keep track of
turn up

become of
no way
what if

die of
on the other hand

furnish A with B
stand to reason

LESSON 13

80

at first glance
clear-cut
take into account

attend to
drive one crazy
turn into

back and forth
fed up with

be no use -ing
play a part in

LESSON 14

86

be bound to
give in
tell A from B

day in and day out
hand out
upside down

for sale
in one's way

give birth to
make a difference

LESSON 15

92

as soon as
end up
in no time

attribute A to B
get over
used to

be apt to
get used to

cut down on
in comparison with

LESSON 16

98

beats me
let down
stand out

date back to
might as well
think over

have access to
not at all

lead the way
put out

LESSON 17

104

a far cry from
ill at ease
think up

be better off
in charge of
what's up?

be out of the question
look into

get through
think nothing of it

LESSON 18

110

catch a cold
fool around
pay off

close call
get nowhere with
succeed in

do without
hold back

dry out
in time

LESSON 19

116

all in all
cross out
name A after B

burst out
get the better of
stick around

change one's mind
in regard to

criticize A for B
look over

LESSON 20

122

all along
on account of
suffer from

be true of
pass away
under the weather

cut out
speak up

every so often
stay put

LESSON 21

amount to
deal with
or so

at (the) most
either A or B
pay back

be broke
fall short of

come to an end
in need (of)

128

LESSON 22

as far as
get even with
up to now

be up to one
in light of
use up

carry out
no wonder

follow up on
now that

134

LESSON 23

be concerned about
look on A as B
to say nothing of

break down
put away
trade in

get stuck
relieve A of B

have nothing to do with
take for granted

140

LESSON 24

as for
get out of
sell out

deal in
go wrong
thanks to

dream up
in addition to

find fault with
mess up

146

LESSON 25

anything but
in terms of
see eye to eye

go Dutch
keep one's word
settle down

hang out
lay off

in accordance with
live up to

152

LESSON 26

drop someone a line
let go of
rule out

how come
lie down
yield to

in brief
on behalf of

keep off
owing to

158

LESSON 27

as a matter of fact
make a point of
waste one's breath

at random
make room for
you bet

in favor of
on the spot

keep up
sum up

164

LESSON 28

come about
in the long run
so far, so good

do away with
on average
take over

in advance
set aside

from scratch
settle for

170

LESSON 29

as to
lose track of
pull one's leg

by and large
make believe
throw up

due to
on no account

fall behind
originate from

176

LESSON 30

be well off
lose one's head
stand up to

for good
make faces
what for

let alone
regardless of

look back on
result in

182

P r e f a c e

The purpose of the *Illustrated Everyday Expressions with Stories* series is to introduce English language learners to common idioms through humorous examples and illustrations. The lessons in this book will both entertain and enlighten students while providing exposure to how each idiom can be used in a variety of contexts.

Each lesson of the book begins with a list of ten target idioms. Within each lesson, target idioms are first defined for students. The definitions may explain the idiom in simple terms or use synonyms or other idioms to build a student's understanding of the meaning underlying each idiom. Each definition is then followed by sample sentences and short dialogs using the idiom in context. Finally, idioms are illustrated with humorous illustrations which can help build a memorable picture of each idiom's usage in the reader's mind.

Following the definitions and examples of the target idioms are two exercise pages for students to practice their understanding of idioms from the lesson. These pages include a

multiple-choice exercise of ten questions and a dialog exercise. In the multiple-choice exercise, students choose the correct idiom from the lesson to complete each sentence in the exercise. For the dialog exercise, students complete a cloze exercise of a dialog using six selected idioms from the lesson.

The final page of each lesson presents a short reading incorporating the idioms presented in the lesson. These readings give students additional exposure to idiom usage in context, as well as providing extended reading practice along with an entertaining presentation of the target idioms. Teachers using *Illustrated Everyday Expressions with Stories 2* in the classroom can use the readings as a springboard for discussion of the topics or situations described in the readings.

Illustrated Everyday Expressions with Stories series provides students with a useful approach to learning common English idioms. Students will also have fun in the learning process. We hope that you enjoy using *Illustrated Everyday Expressions with Stories*.

Lesson 1

be composed of

clean off

come across

dress up

fall asleep

fill out

in retrospect

on the whole

set out

wait on

❑ **be composed of** = comprise; be made of

The class was composed of students from the US, Canada, and England.

Water is composed of hydrogen and oxygen.

A: That's a very interesting sculpture.

B: Yes, it's composed of wood, glass, and old shoes.



❑ **clean off** = clear; take everything off

You should clean off your desk. It's very dirty.

He cleaned off the shelf so that his new roommate could use it.

A: When is dinner?

B: In a few minutes. Please help me clean off the table.



☐ **come across** = find by chance

I came across some old photographs at my parent's house.
She came across her favorite singer's latest album at the record store.

A: Please check my homework.

B: Sure. If I come across any mistakes, I'll tell you.



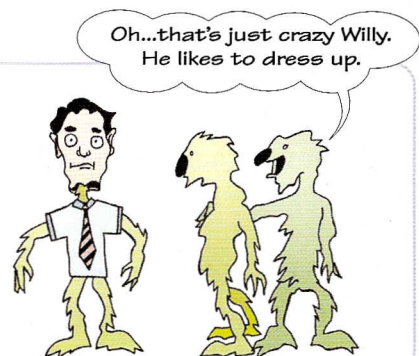
☐ **dress up** = wear fancy clothes for a special occasion

Many children dress up as ghosts and monsters on Halloween.

Do I need to dress up for dinner at your parent's house?

A: Why did you buy that suit?

B: I want to dress up for the party.



☐ **fall asleep** = go to sleep

Don't fall asleep when you are driving!
He falls asleep in class almost every day.

A: You look really tired.

B: I couldn't fall asleep last night.



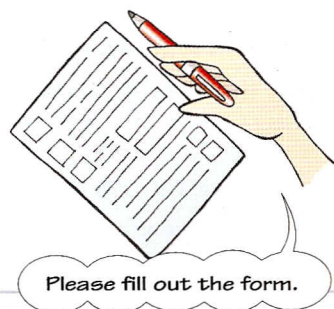
☐ **fill out** = write all of the information needed on a form or application

Everyone has to fill out a customs form when they enter a country.

Can you help me fill out this form? I don't understand it.

A: I'd like to apply for a credit card.

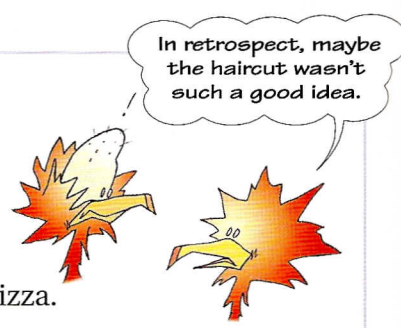
B: OK. Just fill out this form and sign it.



❑ **in retrospect** = looking back at the past

In retrospect, I should have studied harder in high school.
You can see all of your past mistakes easily in retrospect.

A: Wow, I am so full!
B: Me, too. In retrospect, we should have ordered only one pizza.



❑ **on the whole** = in general; all things considered

On the whole, I enjoyed my time in the United States.
Although there were some slow parts, on the whole the movie was good.

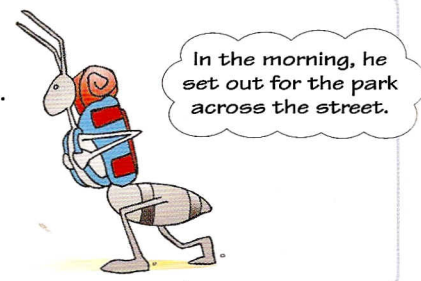
A: What did you think of the test?
B: On the whole, I felt it was quite easy.



❑ **set out** = leave; begin a journey

He set out for the market early in the morning.
She packed everything in her car and set out for California.

A: Did Bob leave already?
B: Yeah, he set out early this morning.



❑ **wait on** = serve someone in a restaurant

The man who waited on us last night had a French accent.
How many tables can you wait on at the same time?

A: Excuse me, no one has waited on us yet.
B: I am very sorry. I'll get a waiter right away.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. _____, the university has a very good library and computer center.
 - a. Come across
 - b. In retrospect
 - c. On the whole
2. At first, the band _____ a keyboard player, a guitarist, and a singer, but they added a drummer and bassist later.
 - a. was composed of
 - b. dressed up
 - c. waited on
3. He could see _____ that he should never have told her about his family.
 - a. be composed of
 - b. fill out
 - c. in retrospect
4. Here is the menu. Someone will be here to _____ you in a few minutes.
 - a. come across
 - b. set out
 - c. wait on
5. I planned to do my homework after the movie last night, but I _____ when I got home.
 - a. cleaned off
 - b. fell asleep
 - c. set out
6. Let's _____ for our anniversary and go to an expensive restaurant.
 - a. clean off
 - b. dress up
 - c. fill out
7. Please _____ the table because it is almost time to eat dinner.
 - a. clean off
 - b. fill out
 - c. set out
8. She _____ the registration form and gave it to the secretary.
 - a. filled out
 - b. on the whole
 - c. waited on
9. Where did you _____ this interesting painting?
 - a. be composed of
 - b. come across
 - c. fall asleep
10. We _____ for my parent's house very early, but didn't arrive until after midnight.
 - a. dressed up
 - b. fell asleep
 - c. set out

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

is composed of
dress up

clean off
on the whole

came across
wait on

At a fancy restaurant:

Lucy: Will Arthur _____ us this evening? He's my favorite waiter here.

Sam: I requested him, so he should be our waiter.

Lucy: Oh my! They didn't _____ this table very well. There is a sticky spot here.

Sam: Don't touch it. I'll call someone over to clean it. Excuse me!

Waiter: Yes, sir?

Sam: My wife _____ a sticky spot on the table. Can you find someone to clean it up for us?

Waiter: Right away.

Lucy: The staff here _____ such professionals. They are all so polite and efficient.

Sam: Yes, _____, this is really a first-class restaurant. It is a little expensive, but worth it.

Lucy: Look at that man over there! He didn't _____ at all. He is not wearing a tie or a jacket.

Sam: That's Mel Gibson!



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

¹ I go to college in Boston, but my parents now live in Florida. During the summer vacation, I went to visit them. I **set out** from downtown Boston by bus on Tuesday afternoon. Thursday night, I got off the bus in Florida. I had a lot of trouble **falling asleep** on the bus, so I was exhausted by the time I arrived at my parents' house. **In retrospect**, I probably should have just taken a plane to Florida.

² After I was in Florida for a few days, I was well rested again. However, I soon got bored. My friends were all in Boston. I decided to get a job. I **came across** an advertisement for a job at a local restaurant. I **filled out** an application and got hired right away.

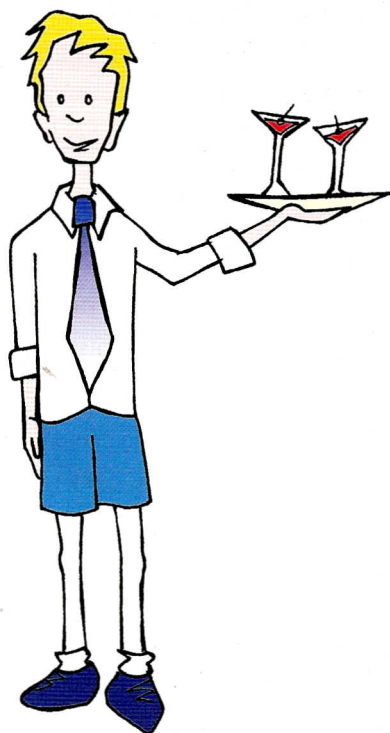
³ On the first day of work, I got up early and got ready. I didn't have to **dress up** for work, but I did have to wear a uniform. The restaurant made everyone wear a formal white shirt and black shorts. The staff **was composed of** high school and college students.

⁴ At first, there were no customers, but around noon, the restaurant got crowded. I **waited on** customers and helped **clean off** tables. **On the whole**, it was pretty easy work. It wasn't too busy but it wasn't too slow either.

⁵ As the lunch crowd started to leave, I stopped at a table where an old man and an old woman were sitting. As I was picking up their empty plates, the old man asked me, "Are you from the north?"

⁶ I said, "Yes, sir. I'm from Boston. I guess you could tell right away I was from the north, because of the way I speak."

"Oh no," the old woman said. "We have never seen legs as white as yours before."



Lesson 2

be crazy about
call it a day
concentrate on
get along with
have a point

more often than not
never mind
take a look at
turn out
wrap up

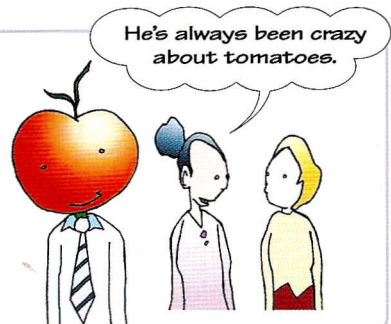
❑ **be crazy about** = like or enjoy in an extreme way

She is crazy about tennis. She plays every day.

My brother is crazy about movies. He spends all of his money going to see them.

A: I love buying new clothes.

B: Me, too. I'm crazy about shopping!



❑ **call it a day** = stop working

Let's call it a day!

Bill, you've been here for 10 hours! You should call it a day and go home.

A: It's 7:30. Let's call it a day.

B: Good idea. See you tomorrow.

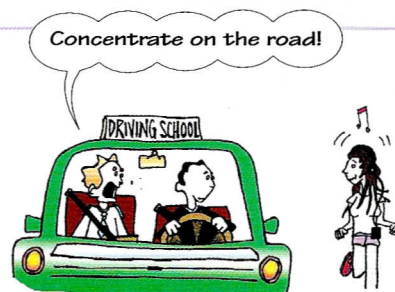


❑ **concentrate on** = focus attention toward

It's too noisy here. I can't concentrate on my homework.
He had to concentrate on the song to hear the words.

A: Just concentrate on hitting the ball.

B: OK, coach.

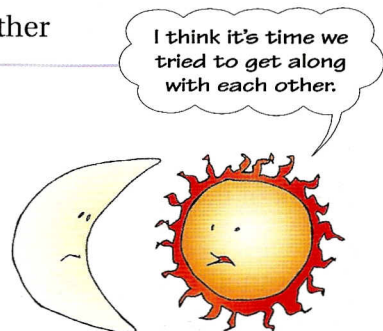


❑ **get along with** = be friendly with; live or work well together

Everyone in my family gets along well with each other.
She does not get along with her mother-in-law.

A: Why aren't you going to Beth's party?

B: I don't get along with her.



❑ **have a point** = said when you agree with someone's opinion

My sister says that I need to spend more time with my family. She has a point.

"That girl only seems stuck-up because she is shy."

"You have a point there."

A: The blue shirt looks better, but it's more expensive.

B: You have a point.



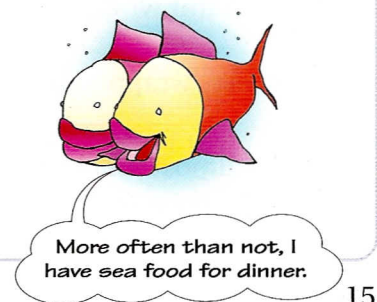
❑ **more often than not** = usually

More often than not, he spends his holidays with his parents.

She works late more often than not.

A: We'd better take an umbrella.

B: Right. It rains more often than not this time of year.



❑ **never mind** = forget; pay no attention to

Never mind the car's color. It runs great!

Didn't you wash the dishes yet? Never mind. I'll do them myself!

A: Sorry, we don't have leather bags.

B: Never mind. I'll look in another store.



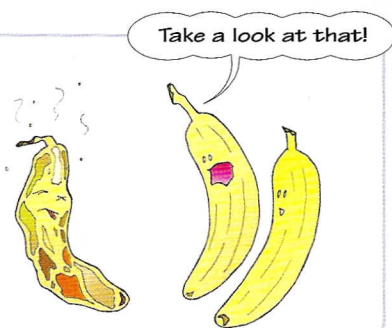
❑ **take a look at** = look at to evaluate

The doctor took a look at her foot to see if it was broken.

Please take a look at my essay and let me know what you think of it.

A: Something's wrong with the car.

B: I'll take a look at it after lunch.



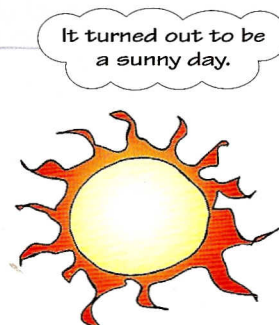
❑ **turn out** = finally be; end up

The weather looked bad this morning, but it turned out to be a nice day.

He tried to cook a special dinner for his girlfriend, but it didn't turn out well.

A: Good luck with your new project.

B: Thanks! I'll let you know how it turns out.



❑ **wrap up** = finish; bring to an end

The senator wrapped up his speech by quoting the president.

The party wrapped up around 3 a.m. after the beer ran out.

A: It's almost lunchtime.

B: OK. Let's wrap up and go out to eat.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. _____ I have to sleep with my bedroom window open because our air conditioner doesn't work very well.
 - a. Never mind
 - b. Get along with
 - c. More often than not
2. He _____ his step-brother.
 - a. has a point
 - b. gets along well with
 - c. turns out
3. I _____ music, especially dance music.
 - a. get along with
 - b. take a look at
 - c. am crazy about
4. We did a lot. Let's _____ and get some rest.
 - a. call it a day
 - b. never mind
 - c. turn up
5. It's lunchtime. Let's _____ this meeting and go out to eat.
 - a. concentrate on
 - b. have a point
 - c. wrap up
6. My father wants to have someone _____ our car engine.
 - a. get along with
 - b. take a look at
 - c. wrap up
7. She was too tired to _____ her reading, so she went to bed.
 - a. concentrate on
 - b. have a point
 - c. turn out
8. Things will _____ well in the end. You just have to be patient.
 - a. take a look at
 - b. turn out
 - c. call it a day
9. She said that a good education begins at home. She _____.
 - a. concentrated on
 - b. gets along with
 - c. has a point
10. Can you help me with this? _____. I see you are busy.
 - a. Take a look
 - b. Never mind
 - c. Wrap up

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

never mind
have a point

am not crazy about
take a look at

got along with
turn out

At a coffee shop:

Alice: How did your date last night _____?

Carol: It was O.K. We _____ each other, but I didn't feel any attraction for him.

Alice: What do you mean?

Carol: He was a nice guy, but not my type. I _____ a man who spends his whole day with a computer. I prefer someone who is more of a "people person."

Alice: Computer programmers make a lot of money, Carol.

Carol: You ____, Alice. Actually, he does work for a very large company.

Alice: Is he handsome?

Carol: We took a picture together at one of those funny photo booths. Here, _____ him for yourself.

Alice: That's him? Oh, ____, Carol. You can do better than that!



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

I usually **get along with** everyone at my office. Recently however, the woman who sits across from me bought a new cell phone. She **was crazy about** it. **More often than not**, she was chatting with her friends. It was very difficult to **concentrate on** work. One afternoon, we all decided to **call it a day** and go out for dinner. However, we made the woman promise not to bring her cell phone into the restaurant.

"Do you think you'll survive without it?" I joked to her.

"No problem," she said.

² The evening was fun but it was getting late so we **wrapped up** dinner and left the restaurant. I was the last to leave and just as I was getting into my car, a waiter came running up to me.

"I found this purse at your table!" he said. I **took a look at it**.

"That's my co-worker's purse," I said.

"Why don't you call and leave a message on her answering machine," the waiter suggested. "You can use the phone in the restaurant."

³ We went inside. I was about to dial her home number when I had an idea. "**Never mind** leaving a message on her machine. I'll call her cellular phone. That way, she can drive back before she gets all the way home."

"You **have a good point!**" the waiter said.

⁴ When I called her cellular phone, a ringing noise came from her purse. It **turned out** that her phone was in her purse the whole time!



Lesson 3

bring up

by all means

by chance

carry on

draw the line at

fix up

get lost

high time

lose one's temper

pull over

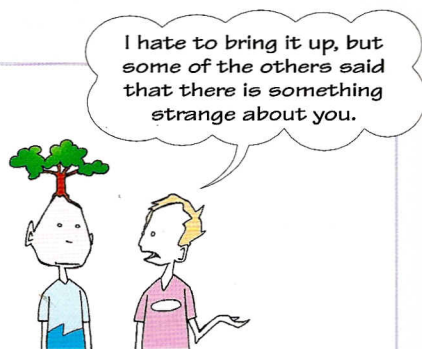
□ **bring up** = start to talk about something

I hate to bring this up, but you have some food between your teeth.

When my mother is mad at me she always brings up the time I forgot her birthday.

A: I really don't like the new coffee machine.

B: You should bring it up at the next staff meeting.



□ **by all means** = said to encourage a person do to something

"May I have some more chicken?" "By all means!"

By all means, take your time and look around the store.

A: Could I borrow your pen?

B: By all means!



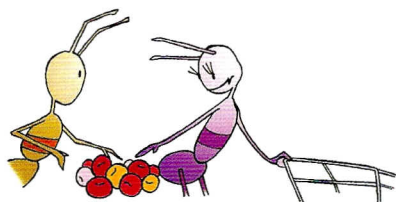
❑ **by chance** = not planned; luckily

By chance, the first birthday card she read was from her brother.

They met by chance while they were both vacationing in Hawaii.

A: Where did you get your cat?

B: I found him by chance in the park.



They met, by chance, at the supermarket.

❑ **carry on** = continue

After the storm passed, we carried on painting the house.

When the announcement was finished, the class carried on with the lesson.

A: Is everyone back from lunch?

B: Yes. Let's carry on with the meeting.



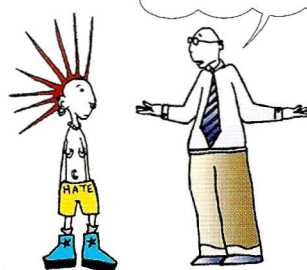
❑ **draw the line at** = say some point is the limit

My parents let me use the car, but they draw the line at allowing me to take long trips.

I don't mind sharing a room, but I draw the line at sleeping in the same bed.

A: Let's go to a nightclub.

B: OK, but I draw the line at doing disco!



❑ **fix up** = repair; make nice or good again

They fixed up the office by putting in new carpet and painting the walls.

It would cost more to fix up this old boat than to buy a new one.

A: Is John going to buy a new house?

B: No, he's going to fix up his old one.



❑ **get lost** = become confused about one's location

We got lost on the way to the theater.
The directions were not clear, so we got lost.

A: Why are you late?

B: I got lost on the way.



❑ **high time** = time for some action that has been postponed too long

I think it's high time we fix the heater. I'm freezing!
My mother said it was high time that I got my hair cut and found a job.

A: It's high time you cleaned your room!

B: Yes, Mom. I'll do it right away.



❑ **lose one's temper** = become angry

He lost his temper and hit the table with his fist.
It is dangerous to lose your temper while driving.

A: What happened to your hand?

B: I lost my temper and punched the wall!



❑ **pull over** = move one's vehicle to the side of the road and stop

She pulled over to take a picture of the beautiful scenery by the highway.
The police officer yelled at the driver, "Pull over!"

A: I think we're lost.

B: Let's pull over and look at the map again.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. After a short coffee break we _____ with the meeting.
 - a. carried on
 - b. fixed up
 - c. pulled over
2. I hate to _____ this subject now, but do you have the money you owe me?
 - a. bring up
 - b. carry on
 - c. get lost
3. If you are tired, _____ take a nap on my bed.
 - a. by chance
 - b. high time
 - c. by all means
4. My uncle is generous, but he _____ lending money to relatives.
 - a. by all means
 - b. draws the line at
 - c. high time
5. She can be very scary when she _____.
 - a. gets lost
 - b. carries on
 - c. loses her temper
6. _____, I found ten dollars under the table at the restaurant.
 - a. Draw the line at
 - b. By chance
 - c. High time
7. The bus driver _____ because one of the passengers got sick.
 - a. pulled over
 - b. fixed up
 - c. got lost
8. They wanted to _____ the old apartment, but they did not have enough money.
 - a. lose his temper
 - b. fix up
 - c. carry on
9. We _____ in London and drove around for hours in the fog.
 - a. fixed up
 - b. brought up
 - c. got lost
10. He was surprised when his boss told him, "I think it's _____ you got a raise."
 - a. high time
 - b. draw the line at
 - c. by chance

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

by all means
got lost

by chance
high time

carry on
pull over

On the highway:

Tom: Yes, Officer?

Policeman: I asked you to _____ because your brake light is broken.
May I see your license and car registration?

Tom: _____! Here they are.

Policeman: Well, I think it's _____ you had that fixed. It's not safe to
drive around with a broken brake light.

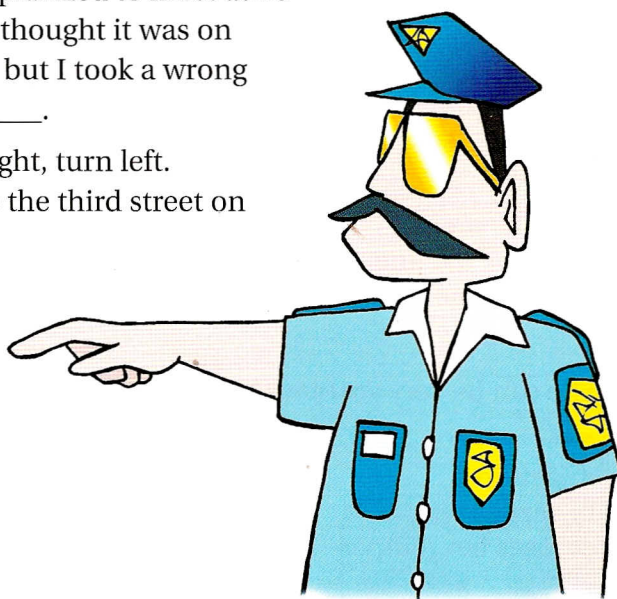
Tom: Yes, sir.

Policeman: I won't give you a ticket this time. Get that light fixed.

Tom: I will, Officer. Um, I wonder if you could help. I met my
friend _____ at the post office this
morning and we planned to meet at Le
Chez for lunch. I thought it was on
Lexington Street, but I took a wrong
turn and _____.

Policeman: At the next stoplight, turn left.
Lexington will be the third street on
the right.

Tom: Thank you,
officer!
_____ the
good work you
are doing!



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

Everybody knows that men hate to stop and ask for directions. My husband is no different. Every time we **get lost**, we drive around for hours before he finally **pulls over** and asks for help.

² One Saturday we saw an ad in the newspaper for a country dance and picnic at a farm outside of town. We **fixed up** our old cowboy hats, cut out the map from the newspaper and started driving. After a few hours, I **brought up** the fact that we were lost. Of course my husband **lost his temper** when I suggested we ask someone for directions.

"I can find it!" he yelled.

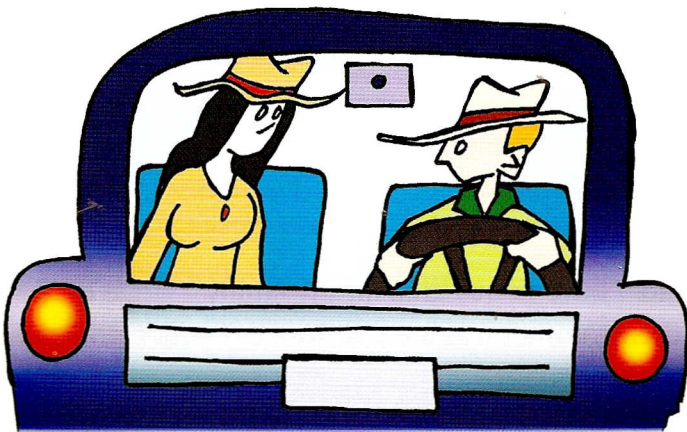
I didn't see any point in fighting about it, so I just told him, "**By all means, carry on.**"

³ After another hour of driving, I decided it was **high time** to ask for help. **By chance** we passed a little gas station with an old man sitting out by the pumps. My husband agreed to stop because we needed gas, but he **drew the line at** asking for directions. I got out of the car and walked over to the old man. Before I asked him anything he smiled and said,

"The map is wrong. It's Highway 23, not 32."

"How did you know?" I asked in surprise.

"You're the fifth woman whose husband has gotten lost in the last hour!"



Lesson 4

t a i r g i e t

a steal
at hand
get better
more or less
on hand

on one's own
refer to A as B
take one's time
think highly of
try out

❑ **a steal** = very cheap; a very good price

My friend sold me his old car. It was a steal!
The land next to the river is a steal! You should buy it.

A: I just bought a DVD player for \$95!

B: Wow! What a steal!



❑ **at hand** = near (time or space)

Christmas is at hand. I have to buy gifts for my family.
When I was a child, my mother was always close at hand.

A: I fear that war is at hand.

B: Don't worry. I'm sure the countries will reach an agreement.



❑ **get better** = improve

His cold got better after he took a day off work.
Her singing will get better if she practices every day.

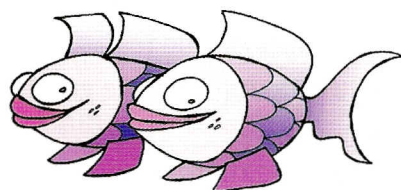
A: This movie is boring!
B: Don't worry. It gets better.



❑ **more or less** = approximately; almost

My cousin and I are more or less the same age.
The airline tickets were more or less the same price.

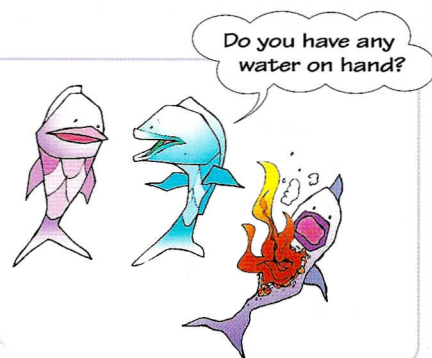
A: Which shirt is better?
B: They are more or less the same quality.



❑ **on hand** = near and ready for use

Do you have any bandages on hand? I cut myself.
There is a representative on hand twenty-four hours a day to help customers.

A: There's going to be five extra people at the party.
B: No problem. We have plenty of food on hand.



❑ **on one's own** = without help from others

She has lived on her own since she was twenty-two.
He cooked this whole meal on his own without any help from his mother.

A: Do you need help fixing the sink?
B: No, thanks. I can do it on my own.



❑ **refer to A as B** = use the name B for A

He referred to his classmate as his friend even though they only studied together.

Many people refer to this book as the author's greatest work.

A: What did your teacher say about your paper?

B: He referred to it as the work of a genius!



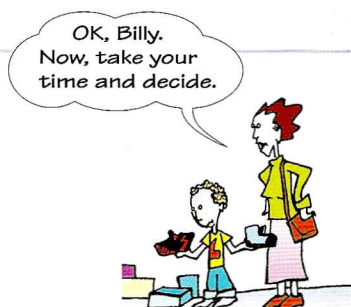
❑ **take one's time** = slowly; in a relaxed way

She took her time and made sure she did not make any mistakes on the test.

He is taking his time getting ready. He wants to look nice.

A: I'll be there as soon as I can!

B: Take your time. The movie doesn't start until 3:00.



❑ **think highly of** = have a good opinion of

Her teacher thought highly of her ability to draw.

He doesn't think very highly of his neighbors.

A: Mr. Henry is such a great teacher!

B: Yes. All the students think highly of him.



❑ **try out** = do or use to see if something works correctly

Don't buy the bike until you try it out first.

I tried out several software programs, but none of them were good.

A: Your skateboard looks really fun.

B: It is! Why don't you try it out?



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. He often _____ his wife as his best friend.
 - a. refers to
 - b. tries out
 - c. thinks highly of
2. I want to _____ that new language program for learning English while sleeping.
 - a. try out
 - b. take my time
 - c. get better
3. It has been six years, _____, since I visited my hometown.
 - a. more or less
 - b. at hand
 - c. a steal
4. Keep plenty of coffee _____ because this is going to be a long meeting.
 - a. more or less
 - b. on hand
 - c. on your own
5. She _____ her supervisor, so she does not mind when he offers her suggestions.
 - a. takes her time
 - b. thinks highly of
 - c. is on her own
6. Wherever the president goes, his bodyguards are close _____.
 - a. on their own
 - b. a steal
 - c. at hand
7. There is no rush, so you can _____ getting ready.
 - a. get better
 - b. refer to
 - c. take your time
8. This computer is _____ at this price. You should buy it before the sale finishes.
 - a. on hand
 - b. a steal
 - c. refer to
9. We had to study most of the material _____ because the professor only wanted to talk about his theory in class.
 - a. try out
 - b. more or less
 - c. on our own
10. You will never _____ if you don't rest and do as the doctor says.
 - a. think highly of
 - b. get better
 - c. refer to

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

take your time
more or less

refer to him as
getting better

on my own
thinks highly of

In the hospital:

Bob: How are you feeling, Mark?

Mark: I think I'm _____. At least I can move my fingers today.

Bob: Great! Everyone _____ the doctor who is treating you. They say he is the best.

Mark: Yeah. He is good. I heard the nurse _____ Dr. Miracle.

Bob: Well, everyone at work is hoping you can come back soon, but _____. Do you know how long you will be in the hospital?

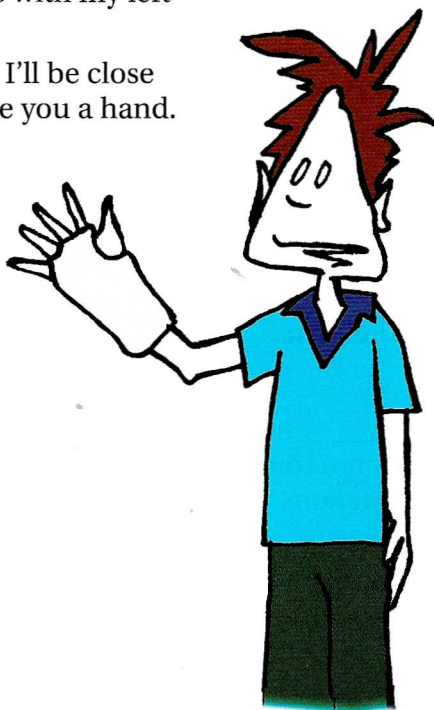
Mark: Actually, I am going home tomorrow. And since my wife has to work, I'll be _____ there all day.

Bob: Will you be OK?

Mark: I think so. I can manage things with my left hand _____.

Bob: If you need anything, just call. I'll be close at hand. I'll come over and give you a hand. Just hand over all your problems to me. I can handle them. I'll be on hand.

Mark: OK! OK! I get it. Very funny! Thanks, Bob!



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

My Brazilian friend has only lived in the United States for six months, but his English is great. Before he came to the US, he studied in a language school, but mostly he learned English *on his own* from reading English books and watching movies. He had learned basic conversation before he arrived in the US. Then, after he got here, his vocabulary and listening *got better* very quickly. I would say that he is now *more or less* fluent in English. However, sometimes he still has trouble with idioms.

² One day, he asked me to help him buy some jewelry for his girlfriend back in Brazil. Her birthday was close *at hand* and he wanted to get something nice. He showed me a picture of his girlfriend before we went shopping. When I saw the picture I said, "Wow! Your girlfriend is a real spring chicken."

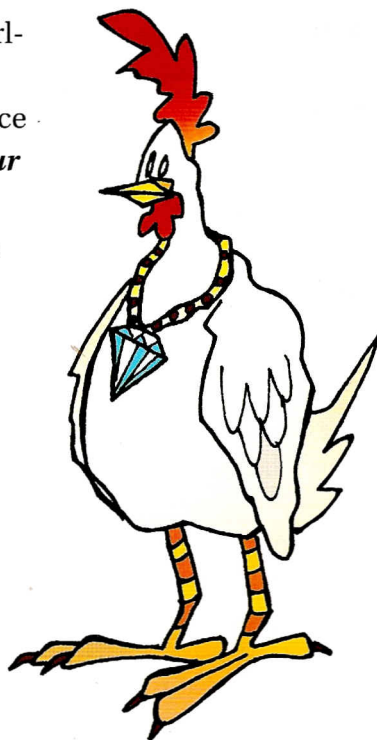
³ My friend asked me, "Why do you *refer to* my girlfriend *as* a chicken?"

I explained to my friend, "I just mean your girlfriend is very young and beautiful."

⁴ At the jewelry store, they had several very nice necklaces *on hand*. I suggested that we *take our time* and look at several stores, but my friend found a diamond necklace that was *a steal*. He called the saleswoman over to buy it.

⁵ As the saleswoman was taking out the necklace, my friend decided to *try out* the new idiom he learned. He showed the saleswoman the picture of his girlfriend and asked, "Don't you think she is a chicken noodle?"

My friend's English may not be perfect, but I still *think highly of* it.



Lesson 5

t a r g i e t

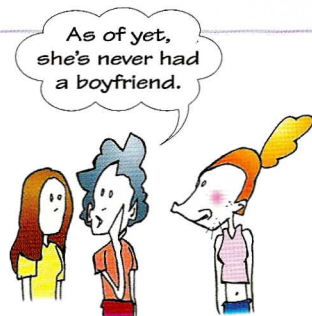
as of yet
at one's fingertips
brand-new
cut in
dwell on

get a hold of
learn (something) by heart
mix up
take by surprise
take time off

❑ **as of yet** = until this time; so far

As of yet, he has not been paid by the company.
The date for the final test has not been announced as of yet.

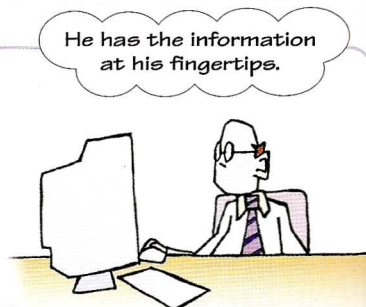
A: Are the new computers in?
B: I'm sorry, sir. They have not arrived as of yet.



❑ **at one's fingertips** = easily available; at hand

I don't have that information at my fingertips right now.
Can you wait a minute?
Keep all of your important papers at your fingertips at all times.

A: Wow! Your Palm Pilot is really great!
B: Yeah. It keeps important information right at my fingertips.



❑ **brand-new** = never used; totally new

Their brand-new car was stolen yesterday.

I bought a brand-new stereo to go with my television and DVD player.

A: Your shoes look very clean.

B: Actually, they're brand-new.



❑ **cut in** = go in front of someone unfairly; interrupt someone talking

I hate it when people cut in line at the movies.

She was telling a joke but her brother cut in and told the rest of it.

A: That man just cut in front of us!

B: How rude!



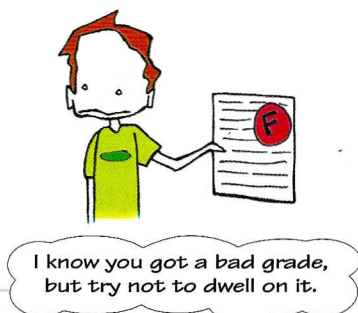
❑ **dwell on** = worry about or consider for a long time

She could not help dwelling on the fact that her mother was sick.

I know you lost your wallet, but try not to dwell on it.

A: I can't stop thinking about my old girlfriend.

B: Don't dwell on her. I'm sure you will find love again.



❑ **get a hold of** = contact; reach

He couldn't get hold of his friend to tell him the plans were changed.

Please write down a phone number where we can get a hold of you.

A: Did you get a hold of Mike?

B: No. His line was busy



□ **learn (something) by heart** = memorize; study to know without thinking

She can't read music, so she learns all the songs by heart.

I had to learn the whole book by heart in elementary school.

A: How did remember all those math equations?

B: I learned them by heart.



He's my favorite!
I've learned all his
songs by heart!



□ **mix up** = confuse

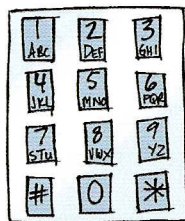
I mixed up your names. Could you say that again?

The office mixed up the addresses and sent the wrong forms to the two customers.

A: You are supposed to come tomorrow, not today.

B: Sorry! I mixed up the dates.

I often mix up my friends'
phone numbers.



□ **take by surprise** = surprise; come without warning

His friend's visit took him by surprise.

When he asked her to marry him, he took her completely by surprise.

A: I can't believe that your mother joined the army!

B: Yes. She took us all by surprise.

The phone call took
him by surprise.



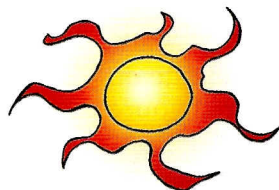
□ **take time off** = miss work for some time with permission

I have to take time off next week to go to the doctor.

Our company is very strict about taking time off.

A: Why don't we go to Paris next weekend?

B: I'm not sure if I can take time off work.



She took time off to enjoy a
vacation in the sun.

Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. She has not come home _____.
I don't know where she is.
 - a. as of yet
 - b. brand-new
 - c. at her fingertips
2. He bought a _____ television
because the screen on his old one
was too small.
 - a. at his fingertips
 - b. as of yet
 - c. brand-new
3. People often _____ the words
"their," "there," and "they're" when
writing.
 - a. take time off
 - b. mix up
 - c. dwell on
4. I couldn't _____ anyone at the
main office. No one would answer
the phone.
 - a. take by surprise
 - b. learn by heart
 - c. get a hold of
5. The boys tried to _____ line for
the roller coaster.
 - a. mix up
 - b. cut in
 - c. dwell on
6. I admire actors because of all the
lines they have to _____.
 - a. learn by heart
 - b. take time off
 - c. mix up
7. She was _____ by all of the
people who came to her birthday
party.
 - a. got hold of
 - b. taken by surprise
 - c. cut in
8. His filing system is excellent. All of
the important information he
needs is _____.
 - a. brand-new
 - b. at his fingertips
 - c. as of yet
9. Some husbands _____ from
work after their wives have a baby.
 - a. take time off
 - b. mix up
 - c. learn by heart
10. It does not do any good to
_____ your mistakes. Forget
them and go on.
 - a. dwell on
 - b. take by surprise
 - c. get hold of

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

get a hold of
mixed up

at my fingertips
take time off

learn by heart
as of yet

At the office:

Tom: Carol, has Bob come in to work yet?

Carol: Not _____. Would you like me to call him?

Tom: Yes, please. Do you know his phone number?

Carol: Yes, I keep all of the sales representatives' contact numbers
_____ here on my desk.

There are just too many to _____!

Tom: See if he is at home. I think we _____ the vacation schedule.
Both Bob and Sam asked to _____ the same week. Sam was
given the vacation, but Bob wasn't. But I don't know if Bob was
told the right information.

Carol: I'll call him as soon as I get a chance.

Tom: Thanks, Carol. Let me know if you _____ him.



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

My boyfriend **took time off** from work one Friday to move to a new apartment. It was a lot of hard work. When I got home later that evening, I was exhausted. I wanted to give my boyfriend a call and cancel our plans for the next day.

² My boyfriend also got a **brand-new** phone number for his new apartment, but **as of yet** I had not **learned it by heart**. I usually keep all the phone numbers I need **at my fingertips** in my day planner. Unfortunately, I had not written his number down. The only way I could think of to **get a hold of** my boyfriend was to call the operator and ask for Mike William's phone number.

³ I called the number that the operator gave me, but I was **taken by surprise** when a woman answered the phone. "Hello," she said.

I asked, "Can I speak to Mike?"

The woman said, "He is taking a shower right now."

I was shocked. At first, I didn't say anything.

"Is there anything that...?" she started to ask, but I **cut in**.

"Tell him to call his girlfriend when he gets out of the shower." I hung up the phone quickly without waiting for the woman's answer. I was a bit upset. However, I tried not to **dwell on** the fact that a woman was in my boyfriend's apartment while he was in the shower. I knew Mike made friends with the neighbors when he moved in, so I assumed the woman was his neighbor. She was probably just helping him clean the place up.

⁴ An hour passed and Mike had not called me back. I called again, and a man answered the phone. "Hello," he said. The voice was strange.

⁵ All of a sudden I realized that it was the wrong number. The operator had **mixed up** my boyfriend's number with another man named Mike Williams. I said, "You're not Mike!"

⁶ The man said, "And you're not my girlfriend. I've been trying to explain that to my wife for over an hour."



Lesson 6

as a rule
be at a loss
come up with
for short
in spite of

look to A for B
neither A nor B
point out
run into
when it comes to

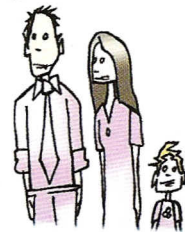
❑ **as a rule** = most of the time; normally

You should eat less meat and more vegetables, as a rule.
As a rule, the teacher does not like it when students leave early.

A: Do you think I can eat this banana?

B: Well, as a rule, eating is not allowed on the subway.

You should wash your white clothes and colored clothes separately, as a rule.



❑ **be at a loss** = be unable to think

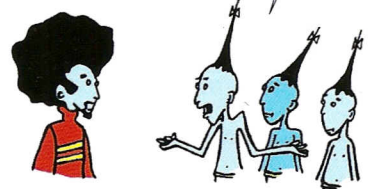
She was at a loss about what to do with the elephant in the backyard.

I know the man you are talking about, but I'm at a loss to think of his name.

A: I am at a loss as to what to cook for dinner.

B: Let's order pizza!

I'm at a loss for words.



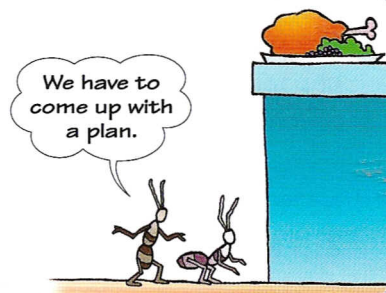
❑ **come up with** = think of

When did you come up with that idea?

He came up with a plan to solve the problem.

A: You named your dog Tweety?

B: It's the best I could come up with!



❑ **for short** = a shorter way to say a name

My name is Alexander, but you can call me Alex for short.

I work for Seattle Auto Company or SAC for short.

A: What kind of car is that?

B: It's a sport utility vehicle—SUV for short.



This is my friend
Koronotino
Calenotangas.
His friends call him
KC for short.

❑ **in spite of** = regardless of something; despite

In spite of the bad weather, we will go hiking.

The company kept hiring new employees in spite of its decreasing sales.

A: How was your trip to Mexico?

B: I had a great time in spite of the hurricane!



❑ **look to A for B** = turn and ask A to give B

You should look to your parents for help if you don't have enough money.

He looked to his best friend for advice when he needed a job.

A: Don't worry about the test. We can study together.

B: It's nice to know that I can look to you for help. Thanks!



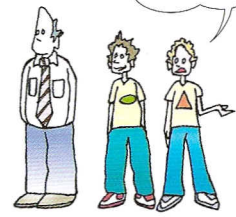
❑ **neither A nor B** = both A and B do not or are not

Neither I nor my sister is as beautiful as my mother.

She looked for her professor, but he was neither in his office nor in the classroom.

A: Neither Jim nor Amy are going to the movie.

B: I guess it's just the two of us then.



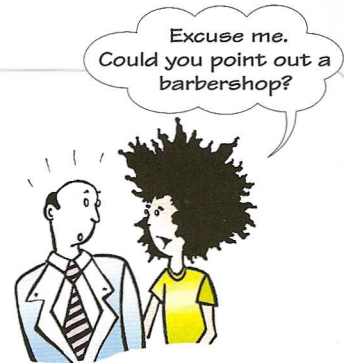
❑ **point out** = indicate

The waiter pointed out the chef's special on the menu.

He pointed out the places he visited on the map.

A: Wow! That girl is really ugly!

B: I should point out that she's my sister.



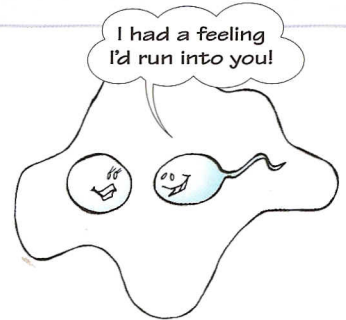
❑ **run into** = meet by chance

I often run into people I know at the bus stop.

While I was in Hollywood, I ran into a famous actor in the supermarket.

A: What took you so long at the store?

B: I ran into my old elementary school teacher.



❑ **when it comes to** = regarding; when dealing with

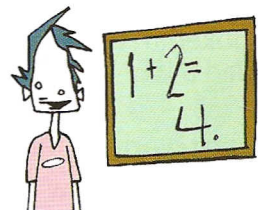
When it comes to explaining difficult subjects, she is the best teacher.

He doesn't know very much when it comes to cars.

A: Can you help me install this computer program?

B: Sorry. When it comes to computers, I am a real dunce.

He doesn't know very much when it comes to mathematics.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. _____, I never go swimming right after I eat.
 - a. As a rule
 - b. In spite of
 - c. Neither here nor there
2. He was _____ for words when he won the award.
 - a. at a loss
 - b. as a rule
 - c. for short
3. How did you _____ such a clever idea for a story?
 - a. be at a loss
 - b. come up with
 - c. look to
4. She was the perfect choice _____ finding someone to organize the conference.
 - a. ran into
 - b. when it came to
 - c. was at a loss
5. There was no need to _____ the mistake. Everyone could see it.
 - a. come up with
 - b. look to
 - c. point out
6. He drank _____ because he was driving.
 - a. neither beer nor wine
 - b. in spite of
 - c. for short
7. We _____ an old friend of ours at the movie theater.
 - a. came up with
 - b. ran into
 - c. were at a loss
8. You could _____ your grandparents for information about your ancestors.
 - a. point out
 - b. look to
 - c. run into
9. _____ the terrible weather, we had a nice time on our vacation.
 - a. In spite of
 - b. When it comes to
 - c. As a rule
10. Although our team name is the Buccaneers, people call us the Bucs _____.
 - a. in spite of
 - b. as a rule
 - c. for short

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

am at a loss
for short

coming up with
ran into

in spite of
neither blonde hair nor

At the dinner table:

Alice: Guess who I _____ today?

Tom: Who?

Alice: Robert Smith!

Tom: Who?

Alice: Robert Smith, the boy who used to cut our lawn.

Tom: I _____. What does he look like?

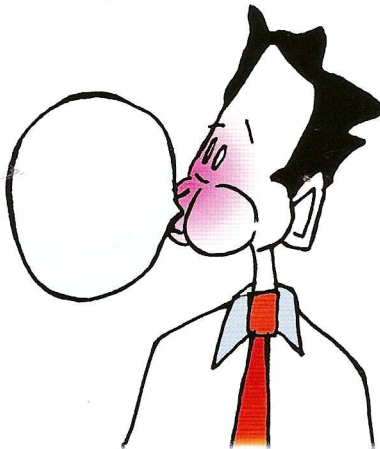
Alice: Remember? He had blonde hair and glasses. He was really short.

Tom: Nope. I'm not _____ any kid like that in my memory.

Alice: Anyway, he's starting college. Now he has _____ glasses. He has dark hair and he's much taller. But _____ the fact that he is grown up, he still chews bubble gum!

Tom: Now I remember him! We used to call him Bob _____.

Alice: Right! Bubble Gum Bob!



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

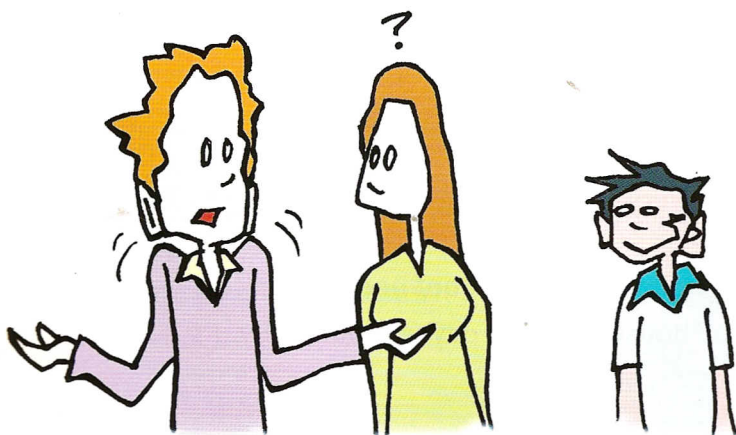
My husband and I went to a high school reunion party in our old town. Almost one hundred people were there. **As a rule**, I enjoy meeting people. But **when it comes to** large, noisy parties, I get very tired. I told my husband that I would prefer not to stay for too long. My husband **pointed out** that we should at least say hello to the people that we knew. We did **run into** several old friends at the party, so **in spite of** the crowd I still had a good time.

² During the party, a young man came up to us. "Hello, Mr. and Mrs. Brown," he said to us.

³ He looked familiar, but I didn't know where I had seen the young man before. I knew it was no use **looking to** my husband **for** help. He is terrible at **coming up with** names to match with faces. This time, we **were** both **at a loss** to think of his name. We talked with the young man for a while and then a couple came up to us. It was Don and Liz Wilson. (Her name is Elizabeth, but everyone calls her Liz **for short**). They were friends of ours. We had kept in touch, but had not seen them for many years.

⁴ The young man left after a few minutes to talk with some of his other friends. I told the Wilsons, "I'm sorry we did not introduce you to that nice young man. **Neither** my husband **nor** I could figure out his name."

"That's all right," said Mr. Wilson, "He is our son."



Lesson 7

add to
day after day
go through
have to
hit upon

in short
of one's own accord
once and for all
give rise to
resign oneself to

❑ **add to** = make larger; increase

The flooding only added to the problems caused by the storm.

The new research will add to our understanding of genetics.

A: Mom, why are you giving me your dirty socks?

B: I want to add to your collection.



Eating lots of chocolate will only add to your acne problem.

❑ **day after day** = every day for a long time

Day after day, she waited for a letter, but none came.

He walked past the house day after day without really noticing it.

A: How can that old man just sit in the park day after day?

B: That's a statue.



❑ **go through** = experience something unpleasant

He went through some medical tests last week.

When we travel, we always go through the same argument about where to stay.

A: Let's go on the roller coaster one more time!

B: No thanks. I don't want to go through that again.

She went through a stressful time last year.



❑ **have to** = must

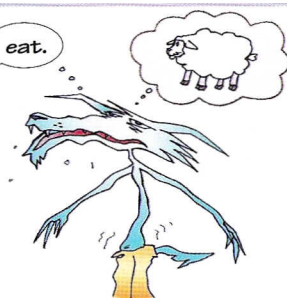
We have to buy more bread.

I have to finish this paper by Monday.

A: Can you go to the movies with me?

B: Sorry. I have to babysit tonight.

I have to eat.



❑ **hit upon** = suddenly think up

I hit upon a great idea for Amy's party while I was walking to school today.

How old was Einstein when he hit upon the idea of relativity?

A: This banana pizza is delicious!

B: Thanks. I hit upon the idea while at the zoo yesterday.

He hit upon a great idea for a birthday gift.



❑ **in short** = briefly; in summary

In short, I believe everyone should vote against the new tax.

In short, I don't want to work here any more.

A: What did you think of the movie?

B: Well, in short, it was the worst movie I've seen this year.



He's cute, funny, rich, and single. In short, he's perfect!

❑ **of one's own accord** = without being asked

My brother decided to clean the house of his own accord.
Her parents were going to tell her to get a job, but she got one of her own accord.

A: Did you put the cat outside?

B: No, he opened the door and went out of his own accord.

He washed the dishes of his own accord.



❑ **once and for all** = forever; for good; finally

I am going to get rid of those cockroaches once and for all!

He decided to stop smoking once and for all.

A: Where are you going with that hammer?

B: I am going to make that car alarm stop once and for all!



He decided to take care of his nose-hair problem once and for all.

❑ **give rise to** = cause something to happen

The meeting gave rise to some new plans for the future of the company.

The heavy rain gave rise to an increase in the number of mosquitoes.

A: I don't think we should leave the dog and cat alone together.

B: You're right. It could give rise to problems.

Your new hair style might give rise to some problems.



❑ **resign oneself to** = accept a situation as unchangeable

She resigned herself to working in her father's company.
You don't have to resign yourself to the same kind of life your parents had.

A: Aren't you upset about your test score?

B: No. I just resigned myself to being a poor student!



He resigned himself to working at the amusement park because he needed the money.

Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. He _____ do his homework now because he won't have time later.
 - a. day after day
 - b. has to
 - c. in short
2. In Russia, I found some interesting stamps to _____ my collection.
 - a. add to
 - b. go through
 - c. hit upon
3. He hopes the strong economy will _____ more new jobs.
 - a. go through
 - b. of its own accord
 - c. give rise to
4. The movie was, _____, one of the best films made this year.
 - a. went through
 - b. day after day
 - c. in short
5. She made up her mind, _____, to quit her job and look for a new one.
 - a. once and for all
 - b. have to
 - c. hit upon
6. The company _____ a new way to market its clothes.
 - a. hit upon
 - b. went through
 - c. of its own accord
7. He looks sad because he is _____ a divorce right now.
 - a. giving rise to
 - b. adding to
 - c. going through
8. I want to find a job where I don't have to do exactly the same thing _____.
 - a. in short
 - b. once and for all
 - c. day after day
9. She _____ staying in town during the vacation because she didn't have money to travel.
 - a. had to
 - b. resigned herself to
 - c. added to
10. The lamp fell off the table _____. Nobody bumped it.
 - a. of its own accord
 - b. resign itself to
 - c. give rise to

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

day after day
once and for all

have to
add to

of your own accord
resign yourselves to

In the car:

Nancy: Mom! Jimmy is touching me!

Mother: Enough! I'm sick of asking you to stop! Can't you children behave _____?

Jimmy: I didn't do anything. She's bothering me!

Mother: _____ it's the same thing! "He's touching me!" "She's bothering me!" Are you going to stop this arguing, or do I ___ stop the car?

Nancy: He started it, mom.

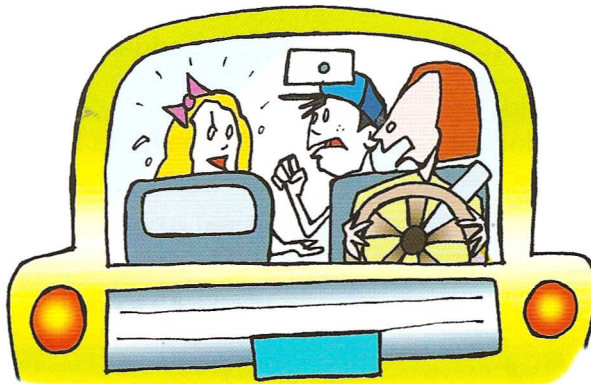
Jimmy: I did not!

Mother: I want you to stop this nonsense, _____!

Jimmy: Nancy better stop it before she makes me really mad.

Nancy: You can't make me.

Mother: That's it! The two of you better _____ a quiet night at home. You're both grounded! No television! No toys! No friends! Nothing. And no more talking or I will _____ your punishment.



Idioms in Context

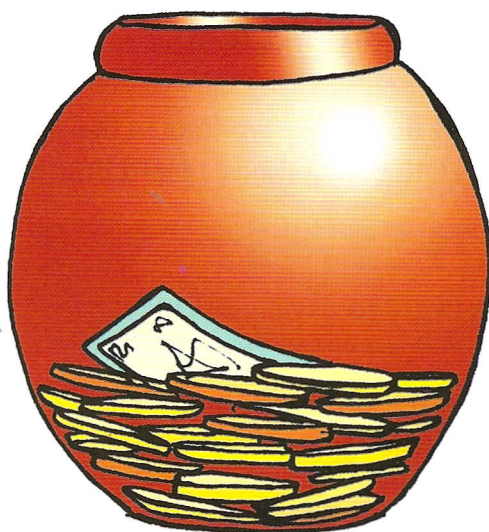
Read the following story.

My son is **going through** adolescence. With all that is going on in his life, he has a hard time remembering simple instructions. This **gives rise to** some problems.

² For example, Wednesday is the day to wash clothes at our house. My son used to always leave money in his pockets. He never checked his clothes **of his own accord**. **Day after day** I reminded him to do it, but he always forgot. I **resigned myself to** the fact that I'd **have to** keep checking his pockets for him.

³ Then I **hit upon** an idea to put a stop to my son's bad habit **once and for all**. I told my son, "I am going to put any money that I find in your pockets in a jar. When I have collected enough money, you have to use it to take me out to dinner and a movie." **In short**, I wanted to teach my son a lesson in a positive way.

⁴ On the next Wednesday, I looked into my son's room. He didn't see me. I watched him sit down on his bed and check all of his pockets for money. He took a few coins out of his pants. I was so happy! However, to my surprise, my son put the coins back into the pocket. Then stood up and got his wallet out of his bag. He took out a dollar bill and **added it to** the coins in the pocket on purpose! I never thought he wanted to take his mother to dinner and a movie. I was flattered!



Lesson 8

at times

be likely to

be opposed to

by accident

come from

feel for

for the sake of

get away with

stand a chance

without question

❑ **at times** = sometimes; there are times when

At times, I wish I had studied something other than medicine.

At times, he can be very cruel.

A: How do you like working in the circus?

B: It's OK. But, at times, I feel a little bored.



❑ **be likely to** = will probably

It is likely to snow this afternoon. Drive carefully.

Someone is likely to ask for your business card. Do you have any?

A: Let's order some pizza.

B: It's not likely to be open this early in the morning.



❑ **be opposed to** = against; not for; not in favor of

My mother was always opposed to my father's smoking.
I am not opposed to his joining us for the weekend.

A: Why does Bill only shower once a week?

B: He is opposed to wasting water.



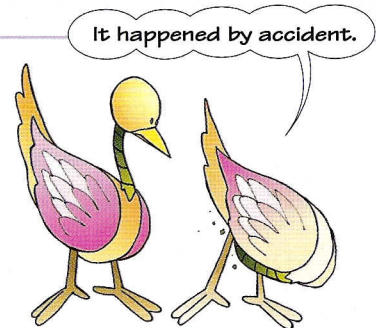
❑ **by accident** = without planning; by luck (good or bad)

By accident, he hit the wrong button on the keyboard and lost his file.

She walked into the bathroom by accident while he was in there.

A: What happened to my car?

B: I scratched it by accident. Sorry!



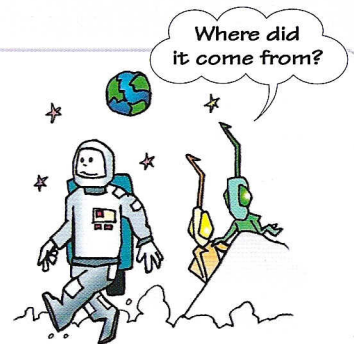
❑ **come from** = originate in some place

Where did your ancestors come from?

These bananas come from Brazil.

A: Where did all these books come from?

B: The library was selling its old books.



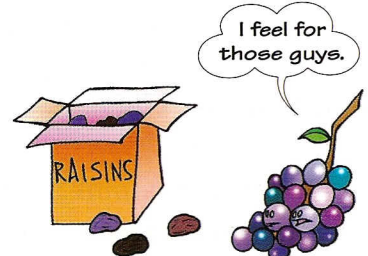
❑ **feel for** = have sympathy for

She felt for the people starving in Africa, so she sent money to the charity.

I really feel for homeless people.

A: Poor Tom! His pet iguana died.

B: Yeah. I really feel for him.



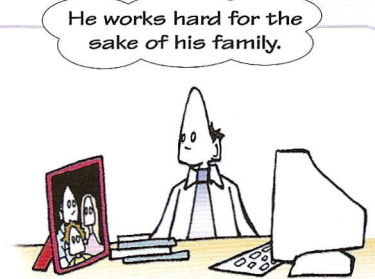
❑ **for the sake of** = to benefit or improve something

For the sake of time, we won't discuss the new budget at this meeting.

He had to quit smoking for the sake of his health.

A: Please don't try to cook anymore.

B: OK. I will stop for the sake of our relationship.



❑ **get away with** = avoid punishment

He thought he could get away with hiding a card in his sleeve, but he got caught.

She pretended she was a student to get the discount and she got away with it!

A: Did you hear that Sarah cheated on the test and got an A?

B: I can't believe she got away with it!



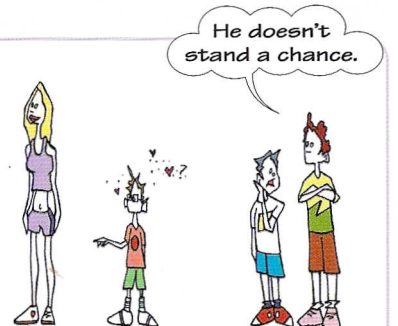
❑ **stand a chance** = have an opportunity to succeed

The players on the other team are all over six feet tall. We don't stand a chance!

I really want to ask her on a date. Do you think I stand a chance?

A: I can build the house by myself!

B: Hah! You don't stand a chance without me!



❑ **without question** = for sure; for certain

Without question, that is the best movie I have ever seen!

The test was, without question, the most difficult test of the year.

A: What do you think of my painting?

B: You are, without question, the most talented painter I know.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. _____, I wish I could go back to college and study art.
 - a. At times
 - b. By accident
 - c. Stand a chance
2. A small company like this doesn't _____ against a corporation like Microcomp.
 - a. come from
 - b. stand a chance
 - c. be likely to
3. Do you know where these plants _____?
 - a. feel for
 - b. are opposed to
 - c. come from
4. He _____ the plan of looking for oil in the Alaskan wilderness.
 - a. is likely to
 - b. is opposed to
 - c. comes from
5. How many people _____ attend the meeting?
 - a. stand a chance
 - b. are likely to
 - c. feel for
6. I just brought up the subject _____ conversation.
 - a. for the sake of
 - b. at times
 - c. by accident
7. The thief robbed the store in the middle of the day and _____ it.
 - a. was opposed to
 - b. felt for
 - c. got away with
8. He stepped on the cat's tail _____.
 - a. by accident
 - b. for the sake of
 - c. without question
9. The missionary _____ the poor people living in the mountains.
 - a. got away with
 - b. felt for
 - c. stood a chance
10. This is _____ the best party I've ever been to.
 - a. without question
 - b. at times
 - c. for the sake of

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

at times
came from

is likely to
stand a chance

is opposed to
without question

At the office:

Betty: Come in, Bob. I wanted to talk to you about this memo regarding staff meetings.

Bob: Sure. Is there a problem?

Betty: Maybe. But first, do you know where this memo _____? It says "the staff" but I think one person may have written it.

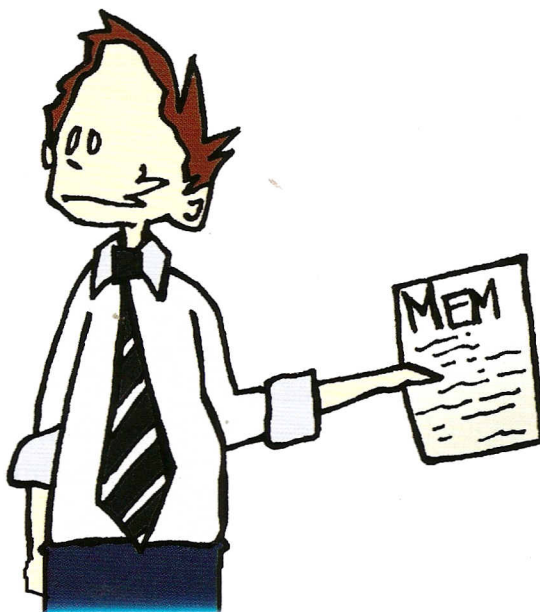
Bob: I don't know who wrote it, but almost no one _____ the suggestion of only having one meeting every two weeks.

Betty: I think it's a good idea, too. But if the idea is going to _____ of being accepted by management, we need to add one thing to the proposal.

Bob: What is that?

Betty: _____ it might be necessary to have an emergency meeting. Do you think the staff _____ accept the suggestion that we have meetings every two weeks with possible emergency meetings once in a while?

Bob: _____ that should be OK with everyone.



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

I often play golf with my father. Since I play golf on a college team, my father doesn't **stand a chance** of beating me. He is, **without question**, one of the worst golfers I've ever played with! In fact, I think even a beginner could beat him.

² **At times**, my father will cheat at golf. He'll kick the ball to put it in a better position. I'm not **opposed to** his occasional tricks. Even when I see him cheat, I still let him **get away with it for the sake of** the game. It helps keep the game interesting for both of us.

³ My father often hits the ball in the wrong direction. I remember one time my father hit a duck with his ball **by accident!** I really **felt for** the duck. My father's ball hit it right on the head! It quacked angrily and flew away.

"Don't worry, Dad," I said. "The duck **is likely to** make a full recovery."

⁴ My father asked, "Where did that duck **come from?** It shouldn't be on the golf course."

"The duck wasn't on the golf course, Dad," I pointed out to my father.



Lesson 9

t a r g i e t

as usual

back up

be cut out for

catch on

for ages

hand over

serve one right

take apart

turn down

work out

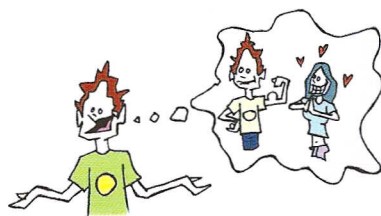
❑ **as usual** = in the normal way

He is going to be late as usual.

As usual, I brushed my teeth right after I ate dinner.

A: Where is Matt?

B: He's playing computer games as usual.



As usual, he was talking about himself.

❑ **back up** = move backwards

My father had to back up because the car in front of him broke down.

Could you please back up? You are standing too close.

A: I would like to get the trees in the photo, too.

B: OK. I'll just back up a little.



❑ **be cut out for** = have the correct qualities for

I don't know if I'm cut out for graduate school.

Nobody thought she was cut out for the army, but she became an officer.

A: I didn't know that Dave is afraid of flying.

B: Yeah, I don't think he's cut out to be a pilot.



❑ **catch on** = realize; understand

It took him a few minutes to catch on to the joke.

Don't worry. Just follow me and you'll catch on in no time.

A: Wow. You learned how to juggle in one day?

B: Yes. I caught on to it quickly.



❑ **for ages** = for a long time

We haven't visited our grandparents for ages.

That actor hasn't made a movie for ages.

A: How's your cat?

B: I don't know. I haven't see it for ages.



❑ **hand over** = give to another

This is a robbery! Hand over all of your money!

The old man decided to hand over his business to his sons.

A: Alright! Hand over my keys!

B: I don't have them!

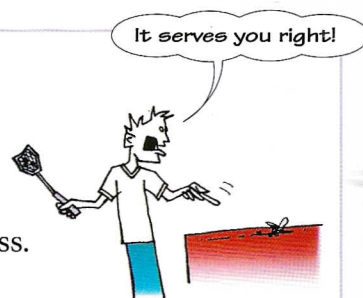


❑ **serve one right** = be the correct punishment for one

It would serve him right if she never spoke to him again.
Her talk show was cancelled. It serves her right for being so rude to her guests.

A: Billy had to do extra homework because he came late to class.

B: Serves him right!

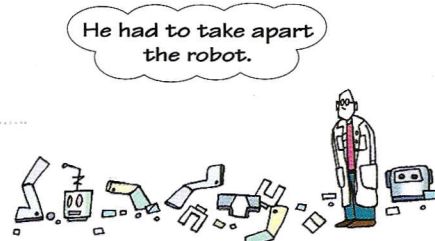


❑ **take apart** = separate something into pieces

I took apart the fan and put in a new motor.
He takes apart cars and sells the engines.

A: Why did you take apart the computer?

B: I was looking for a file.



❑ **turn down** = decline; say "no"

She asked him to go out with her, but he turned her down.
I invited her to join us, but she turned down my invitation.

A: I tried to join the band but they turned me down.

B: Maybe you should learn how to sing first.



❑ **work out** = exercise doing aerobics or weight lifting

How often do you work out each week?

I don't really like to work out, but I do like to play tennis and basketball.

A: Do you work out?

B: Yes. I run to the donut shop every morning.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. After she _____, he found someone else to go with him.
 - a. served him right
 - b. was cut out for
 - c. turned him down
2. Be careful when you _____. You might hit something.
 - a. catch on
 - b. as usual
 - c. back up
3. Do you think he _____ that job in the CIA?
 - a. for ages
 - b. is cut out for
 - c. catches on
4. She failed the test. It _____ for trying to look at my answers.
 - a. is cut out for
 - b. hands over
 - c. serves her right
5. The gym where I _____ has great equipment.
 - a. for ages
 - b. work out
 - c. hand over
6. He was embarrassed when he _____ to what they were talking about.
 - a. caught on
 - b. turned down
 - c. took apart
7. The old building was empty _____ until a computer company moved into it.
 - a. turn down
 - b. catch on
 - c. for ages
8. She _____ the radio, but could not fix it again.
 - a. handed over
 - b. backed up
 - c. took apart
9. The police officer demanded that the robber slowly _____ his gun.
 - a. took apart
 - b. hand over
 - c. work out
10. The morning traffic was bad _____.
 - a. as usual
 - b. back up
 - c. hand over

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

as usual
hand it over

catch on
turned me down

for ages
working out

At the apartment:

Pete: Hey Sam! Did you borrow my yellow tie?

Sam: Oh yeah. I've got it.

Pete: _____! I've got a hot date tonight.

Sam: Really? With whom?

Pete: Carol Morgan.

Sam: You're going out with Carol? I haven't seen her _____. How is she?

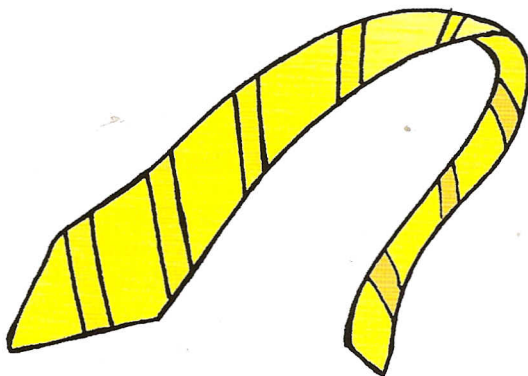
Pete: She is great! She has been _____ and looks better now than ever.

Sam: Wow! She looked incredible before. How did you get her to go out with you?

Pete: I asked her. OK, I had to ask her a few times. She _____ at first, but I kept asking.

Sam: _____, your annoying nature wins in the end.

Pete: I think you're starting to _____. Always remember, "If at first you don't succeed, try again."



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

Amy asked her husband to go shopping with her. **As usual**, her husband was too busy watching television to go with her. Amy tried to persuade her husband. She told him, "Come with me, honey. We haven't been shopping together **for ages**. I want you to take a look at some summer dresses with me. You can help me pick out the best one."

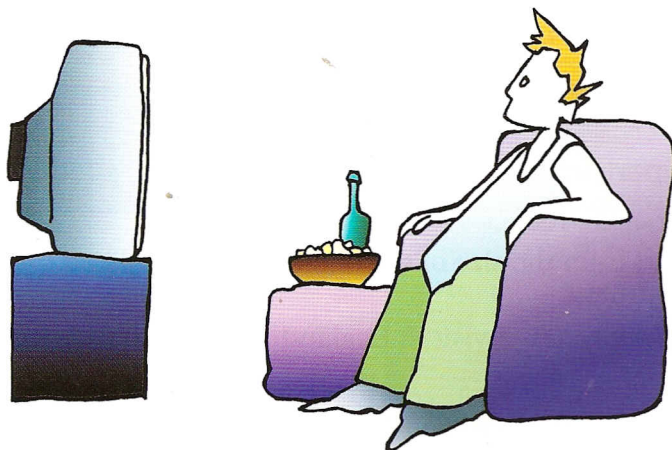
² Her husband **turned** her **down**, saying, "You always want to check every store, Amy. I'm just not **cut out for** all that walking around."

"Think of it as your chance to **work out**," Amy suggested. "You'll be getting your exercise for the day."

³ But her husband wasn't listening. He was concentrating on the football game on television. Amy was so upset that she wanted to **take apart** the TV and flush each piece down the toilet! She set out for the shopping mall alone. But as she was **backing up** the car in the driveway, she had an idea. She stopped the car and went back in the house. She told her husband, "I'm sorry for bothering you, honey. Have fun watching the game." Then she gave him a kiss and left.

⁴ At the mall, she found hundreds of dresses for sale and took her time looking through them all. She picked out two nice ones and went to pay for them. As she was **handing over** her credit card to the cashier, the remote control for her television fell out of her purse.

"My husband is home watching television," Amy explained to the confused cashier. "When he **catches on** that I stole the remote control, he'll go crazy! But it **serves him right** for not coming with me."



Lesson 10

abide by
apart from
as if
go for
go without saying

keep one's fingers crossed
make sure
run over
take up
tend to

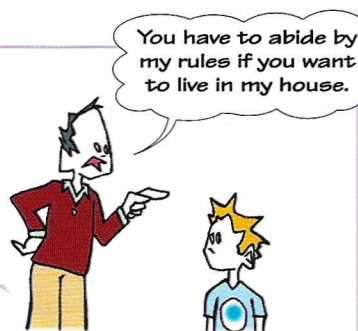
□ **abide by** = obey; follow

You have to abide by the rules or they will make you leave.

He refused to abide by the wishes of his parents.

A: Why didn't you abide by the speed limit?

B: I'm sorry, officer. I was late for my driving class.



□ **apart from** = except

Apart from the size of the bedroom, I really liked the apartment.

She enjoyed her visit to England, apart from the weather.

A: What do you think of my car?

B: Apart from the pink paint, I think it's great.



❑ **as if** = in the manner of

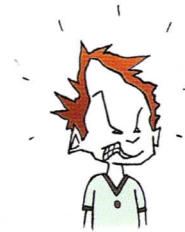
He acted as if nothing was wrong.

Dream as if you'll live forever. Live as if you'll die today.

A: You look as if you are nervous.

B: I am. This is my first time bungee-jumping!

He looked as if he was angry.



❑ **go for** = try to do

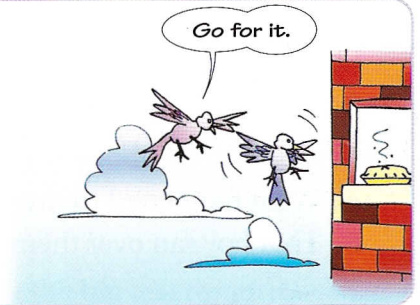
If you don't try, you will never know if you can do it. Go for it!

Their mother went for a university degree at the age of fifty-two.

A: Why is Tom trying to eat 30 donuts?

B: He's going for a world record.

Go for it.



❑ **go without saying** = obviously; everyone knows

"Will it snow this winter?" "That goes without saying."

It goes without saying that you have to attend class to get a good grade.

A: You should wear a seat belt when you drive.

B: That goes without saying.



It goes without saying that there will be beer at the party.

❑ **keep one's fingers crossed** = wish for good luck

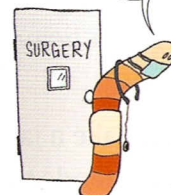
We kept our fingers crossed as they announced the results of the contest.

Good luck! I'll keep my fingers crossed.

A: Are you going to ask her for a date tomorrow?

B: Yeah. Keep your fingers crossed!

The operation is almost complete. He looks like he's going to be fine.



I'll keep my fingers crossed.

❑ **make sure** = check to be sure

He made sure to lock the door when he left.

Who makes sure that these computers are turned off at night?

A: I am going to Hawaii this summer.

B: Make sure to take lots of sun screen!



Make sure you blow out the candle before you go to bed.

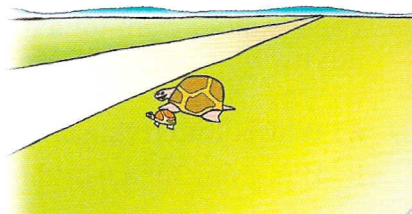
❑ **run over** = drive over something

I ran over a snake in the road this morning.

A bicyclist ran over her toe!

A: What happened to my flowers?

B: That boy ran over them on his bike.



You've got to be careful when you cross the road. You don't want to get run over!

❑ **take up** = use space or time

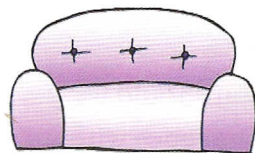
Painting a house takes up a lot of time.

That old sofa takes up a lot of space. Let's get rid of it.

A: I'm sorry to take up so much of your time, doctor.

B: No problem. I'm glad you are feeling better.

The sofa takes up a lot of space in the living room.



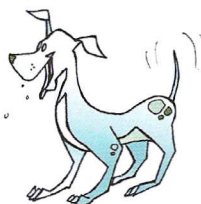
❑ **tend to** = usually do; have the habit of

His boss tends to worry about every little thing.

Traffic tends to get heavy around five in the evening.

A: I'm going to take a jacket to the movies.

B: Good idea. It tends to be cold in the theater.



Dogs tend to be friendly and loyal to their owners.

Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. _____ her, there was no one there that I knew.
 - a. Apart from
 - b. As if
 - c. Tend to
2. Anyone who does not _____ the rules will be asked to leave.
 - a. make sure
 - b. take up
 - c. abide by
3. Do you plan to _____ a master's degree in university?
 - a. abide by
 - b. keep your fingers crossed
 - c. go for
4. Everyone acted _____ nothing had happened.
 - a. as if
 - b. go without saying
 - c. apart from
5. Please move your car forward. It's _____ too much space.
 - a. running over
 - b. taking up
 - c. making sure
6. It _____ that you need a hat to protect yourself from the sun at the beach.
 - a. goes without saying
 - b. abides by
 - c. runs over
7. Please _____ that your name is spelled correctly on the phone list.
 - a. take up
 - b. make sure
 - c. go for
8. I'm taking the big test tomorrow. _____!
 - a. Run over
 - b. Make sure
 - c. Keep your fingers crossed
9. The students in that school _____ do better on tests than students from other schools.
 - a. tend to
 - b. go for
 - c. abide by
10. The tire went flat after he _____ a nail.
 - a. went for
 - b. ran over
 - c. tended to

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

apart from
make sure

go for
tend to

goes without saying
take up

At the gym:

Alice: Hi, Carol! I didn't know you started working out here.

Carol: I just started a few days ago.

Alice: Do you have a trainer? Lots of beginners _____ work out too much their first few days, and they end up quitting because it's too difficult.

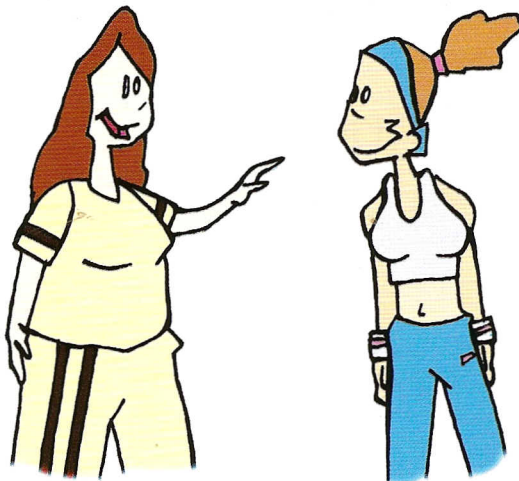
Carol: No, I don't have a trainer. I just decided I wanted to lose some weight and joined the gym.

Alice: Well, _____ you don't do too much until you've gotten used to it.

Carol: _____ lifting some weights, the only other exercise I do is swimming. You don't think that's too much, do you?

Alice: No, that sounds good. It's great that you found a good program and decided to _____ it! It _____ that I am proud of you!

Carol: Thanks, Alice! Well, I should go. I don't want to _____ too much time talking when I should be exercising!



Idioms in Context

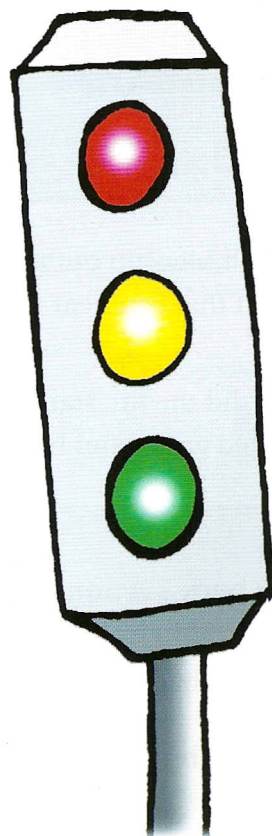
Read the following story.

When our son turned sixteen, he decided it was high time he got a driver's license. Once our son makes up his mind to do something, he **goes for** it. My wife and I had to go with him to practice his driving almost every night for two weeks! It **took up** a lot of our time. Over all, he was a pretty good driver. He did his best to **abide by** the traffic rules. **Apart from** the time he **ran over** the garbage can when he was backing up, I thought he did very well.

² My wife, on the other hand, was always nervous when our son got behind the steering wheel. It **goes without saying** that my wife **tended to** react more strongly when our son made a mistake. She always came back pale and exhausted after a trip in the car with our son.

³ Finally the day came for our son's driving test. I told him before the test, "**Make sure** you watch your speed, son. You tend to go around corners too fast. Well, good luck! I'll **keep my fingers crossed!**"

⁴ In just a few hours, my son came back with his driver's license! I asked him how his driving test went. He said the man giving him the test was very nice. The man even asked if he could do anything to make my son more relaxed during the test. My son told him, "When I come to a traffic light you can scream **as if** we're going to die. Then I'll feel like my mom is in the car."



Lesson 11

blow up

bring back

burn down

catch fire

come to

for the most part

make one's way

no matter

sort of

tear down

❑ **blow up** = explode

The bomb blew up but no one was hurt.
Don't put that can near the fire or it might blow up.

A: How did the fire start?

B: The old gas heater blew up.

I ate so much. I feel like
I'm going to blow up!



❑ **bring back** = return; cause to return

He brought back the video that he had borrowed from me.

The picture brought back memories of her childhood.

A: Can I borrow your car?

B: Sure. But bring it back before 5:00, please.



❑ **burn down** = completely destroy by fire

The school burned down in 1910.
Help! The church is burning down.

A: What happened to all the trees?
B: They burned down in the forest fire last year.



If you play with matches, you could burn down the house.

❑ **catch fire** = start to burn

The wood was wet, so it didn't catch fire very easily.
His clothes caught fire because he stood too close to the stove.

A: Let's move the candles away from the window.
B: You're right. The curtains might catch fire.

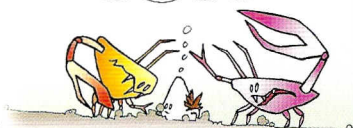


The log caught fire immediately.

❑ **come to** = reach

When you come to the end of this part of the test, stop.
If you come to a word you don't know, use a dictionary.

A: Excuse me. How can I get to Tom's Market?
B: Go straight. When you come to the intersection, turn right.

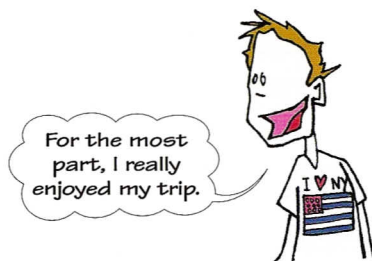


How did things come to this?

❑ **for the most part** = generally

For the most part, I enjoyed the time I spent in the country.
For the most part, she was satisfied with her performance.

A: How's your new job?
B: It's very interesting for the most part.



For the most part, I really enjoyed my trip.

❑ **make one's way** = go in the direction of (with purpose)

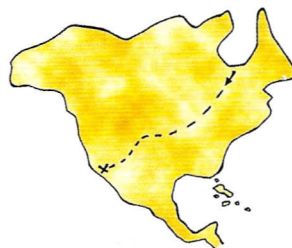
He made his way to the front of the line.

They made their way from California to Texas along Route 66.

A: I can't get a good look at the band.

B: Let's make our way to the front.

They made their way across the country.



❑ **no matter** = make no difference

I can't get an "A" in the class no matter how well I do on the final exam.

You don't have any money? No matter. You can pay me next time.

A: No matter what I try, I can't start my computer!

B: Is it plugged in?

No matter how much I comb my hair, it always looks messy!



❑ **sort of** = kind of; a little

This restaurant is sort of expensive. Do you want to go somewhere else?

I'm sort of tired. Can I meet you some other time?

A: Have you ever had shark?

B: Yes. It tastes sort of like chicken.

The juice tastes sort of strange.



❑ **tear down** = destroy something that was built

I heard they are going to tear down the old stadium.

The workers had to tear down everything and start again.

A: I'm glad they tore down the wall.

B: Me, too. The view is much better!

They want to tear down the old apartments to build new ones.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. _____, all the songs on her new album sound just like her old songs.
 - a. For the most part
 - b. No matter
 - c. Sort of
2. He said he will be there _____ what.
 - a. no matter
 - b. sort of
 - c. for the most part
3. The gas truck _____ when it hit the tree.
 - a. blew up
 - b. burned down
 - c. came to
4. If the grease in a pan _____, don't throw water on it!
 - a. tears down
 - b. has time off
 - c. catches fire
5. More than one hundred square acres of the forest _____.
 - a. sort of
 - b. burned down
 - c. came true
6. She _____ through the airport looking for the baggage claim area.
 - a. made her way
 - b. caught fire
 - c. blew up
7. Some people want to _____ the fashions of the 1970s.
 - a. bring back
 - b. burn down
 - c. catch fire
8. The milk tastes _____ strange. Maybe it went bad.
 - a. come to
 - b. sort of
 - c. tear down
9. He got a ticket because he didn't _____ a complete stop at the stop sign.
 - a. burn down
 - b. come to
 - c. blew up
10. They want to _____ that old bridge and build a new one.
 - a. catch fire
 - b. make their way
 - c. tear down

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

burned down
for the most part

caught fire
sort of

come to
tear down

On the street:

Betty: Wow! That was a huge fire last night.

Kim: It's hard to believe that there used to be a four-story office building right there. The whole thing _____ to the ground.

Betty: Does anyone know how it _____?

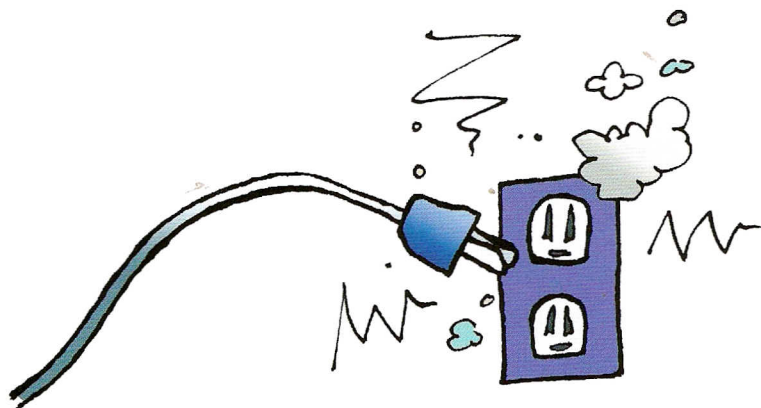
Kim: I heard someone say something about an electrical fire. Maybe it was bad wiring.

Betty: It's _____ scary to think that could happen in our building as well.

Kim: _____, I feel pretty safe in our building. It's much newer than the building that burned down.

Betty: I guess they're going to _____ the burned parts of the building that are still standing and build a new office building there.

Kim: I'm sure they will. Probably if we _____ this spot in a few months, we won't even recognize the place.



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

Last summer, I visited my hometown. I had not been there for ten years. I kept in touch with my parents while I was away, but **no matter** how much they tried to tell me about the changes in our town, I was still surprised at what I saw. As I **made my way** through the streets around my parent's house, many of the places I saw **brought back** memories of my childhood. First, I saw my elementary school playground. Then I saw my best friend's old house.

² Some of my favorite places were gone. For example, the old movie theater had **burned down** years ago. It **caught fire** when the heater in the basement **blew up**. The old store where I used to buy candy was **torn down**. Now a four-story office building stands in its place.

³ As I **came to** the corner by the old bank, I ran into Mr. Collins. My parents were friends with the Collins when I was young. I went up to Mr. Collins and said hello. He looked **sort of** confused.

I told him, "I'm John and Helen's daughter."

Mr. Collins said, "Oh! You're Helen's daughter. Such a beautiful lady." Then Mr. Collins called his wife over.

"Lucy! Come here! It's Helen's daughter. You remember Helen. Such a beautiful lady."

⁴ Mrs. Collins came over. She looked at me and said, "Oh, yes. Helen was so pretty." Then she said, "**For the most part**, you take after your father."



Lesson 12

t a i r d i e t

be free to

become of

die of

furnish A with B

keep track of

no way

on the other hand

stand to reason

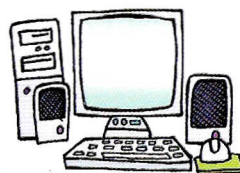
turn up

what if

❑ **be free to** = have the opportunity to

She was free to choose any dish on the menu.
You are free to leave as soon as you finish the test.

At my school, students
are free to use
computers after class.



A: Where would you like me to sit?

B: You're free to sit where you like.

❑ **become of** = happen to; occur

Do you know what became of that singer? I haven't heard about him for ages.

Many people wonder what's become of our sense of decency.

Don't give up
your dreams.
Just look at what
became of Mickey!



A: What will become of that old car?

B: I think they will sell it to a museum.

❑ **die of** = be the cause of death

I almost died of embarrassment when my swimming suit came off.

The trees died of poison in the soil from the nearby factory.

A: My parrot died of old age.

B: I'm sorry to hear that.



❑ **furnish A with B** = provide B to A

The school furnished the students with new desks.

The speaker furnished everyone at the presentation with a copy of his latest book.

A: How's your job going?

B: Great! My company furnished me with a new laptop computer.



❑ **keep track of** = watch or count

The teacher had a hard time keeping track of all the children.

Let's keep track of how much we spend on food during our vacation.

A: How many hamburgers did you eat?

B: I couldn't keep track of them all!



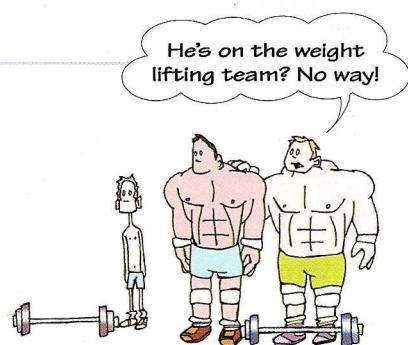
❑ **no way** = I don't believe it

You are forty years old? No way! You look so young!

You met Elizabeth Taylor? No way!

A: Did you hear that aliens have landed in L.A.?

B: No way!



❑ **on the other hand** = but; looking at the other side of the situation

New York is very romantic. On the other hand, it is very cold in the winter.

Restaurants have a nice atmosphere. On the other hand, eating out is expensive.

A: The new house is smaller than the old one.

B: But on the other hand, it is in a better neighborhood.



He likes eating cookies. On the other hand, he usually gets a rash from them.

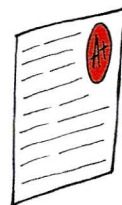
❑ **stand to reason** = be a logical conclusion; obviously follow

It stood to reason that the criminal should be punished.

It stands to reason that if you eat too much, you will gain weight.

A: It's starting to rain.

B: It stands to reason that we should close the window.



It stands to reason that if you study hard, you will do well in school.

❑ **turn up** = suddenly appear after being lost or missing

My wallet turned up in the lost-and-found office.

Please call me if my car keys turn up.

A: Did you find your missing dog?

B: Yeah. He turned up last night.



This turned up in the mail today.

❑ **what if** = in the event that; suppose that

What if you won the lottery?

What if I get sick?

A: What if I get sick? Who will take care of me?

B: Call your mother. She just lives across town.



What if no one comes to our party?

Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. _____ you got a free ticket to fly anywhere in the world? Where would you go?
 - a. No way
 - b. On the other hand
 - c. What if
2. He never knew what _____ his best friend from high school.
 - a. what if
 - b. became of
 - c. no way
3. I could start studying this weekend. _____, the test isn't until next Thursday.
 - a. On the other hand
 - b. Become of
 - c. What if
4. You _____ disagree with my opinion.
 - a. furnish me with
 - b. are free to
 - c. die of
5. My ring _____ in the bottom of the washing machine.
 - a. was free to
 - b. died of
 - c. turned up
6. It _____ that some people might have trouble living in a foreign country.
 - a. stands to reason
 - b. dies of
 - c. furnishes them with
7. They will _____ a name tag when you register at the conference.
 - a. turn up
 - b. furnish you with
 - c. be free to
8. Thousands of people _____ smoking related illnesses each year.
 - a. die of
 - b. stand to reason
 - c. keep track of
9. We need to find a better way to _____ all the orders we receive through e-mail.
 - a. keep track of
 - b. turn up
 - c. stand to reason
10. You won \$200 at the casino? _____!
 - a. Become of
 - b. No way
 - c. On the other hand

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

became of
on the other hand

died of
turn up

no way
what if

In the yard:

Max: Do you know what _____ the old man who lived on the corner, Sam? I saw that his house was up for sale.

Sam: I heard he _____ a sudden heart attack a few weeks ago.

Max: _____! He seemed so healthy.

Sam: I can't really believe it either. The police should look into his death. Some interesting things about that family might _____.

Max: What are you talking about?

Sam: That old man was a millionaire! _____ one of his children wanted that money?

Max: _____, maybe his family just has a history of bad hearts. You've been reading too many detective novels, Sam.

Sam: You never know, Max. Things like that don't only happen in novels.



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

Mark had a pet parrot named Billy. He liked to let Billy out of his cage so that he **was free to** walk around the house. Mark did not bother to **keep track of** Billy when he was out because the bird never got into trouble.

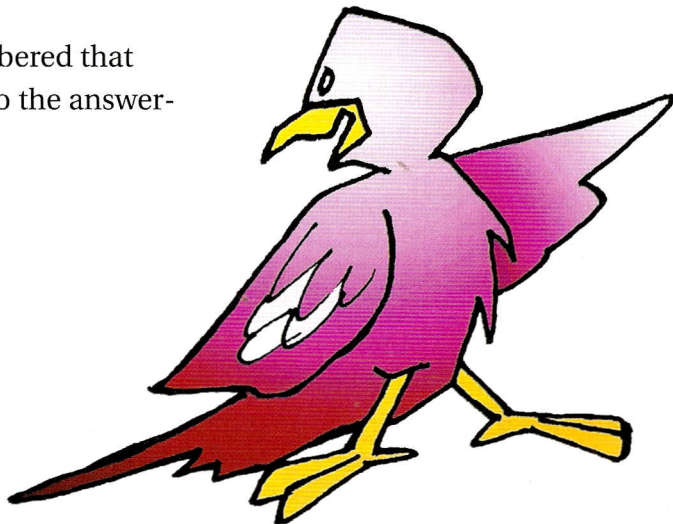
² One day, Mark let Billy out of his cage as usual. Suddenly, Billy flew out the window! At first, Mark didn't worry. "Billy will **turn up** when he gets hungry," Mark thought. "**On the other hand**, what if Billy gets caught and eaten by a dog or a cat! Or **what if** it gets too cold outside? What if he can't find any food? He might **die of** hunger!" Mark did his best to find Billy over the next two days, but he had no luck. He began to think that his parrot was gone for good. Mark knew something terrible must have **become of** Billy because he didn't come home.

³ Then a phone call took Mark by surprise. The person on the phone asked, "Is this Mark? I think I have your parrot."

"**No way!** Really?" Mark exclaimed in surprise. Then he asked, "How did you know my phone number?"

The caller said, "Your parrot **furnished me with** the number. It keeps saying 'Hello, you have called 243-7855. This is Mark. Please leave a message.' So it **stands to reason** that this is your bird."

⁴ Then Mark remembered that Billy's cage was next to the answering machine.



Lesson 13

at first glance
attend to
back and forth
be no use -ing
clear-cut

drive one crazy
fed up with
play a part in
take into account
turn into

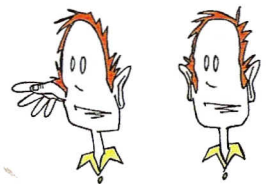
□ **at first glance** = after a quick look

The problem looked easy at first glance.
At first glance, she seemed to be very young.

A: What do you think of my drawing?

B: At first glance, it looks like a monkey in a suit.

At first glance,
he looked similar to his brother.
But now, I can see the difference.



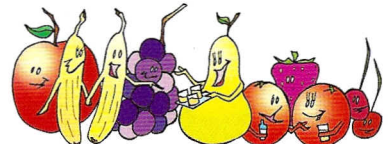
□ **attend to** = take care of

She had to attend to the guests in the other room.
The staff attended to our every need at the resort.

A: I'm sorry, but I'm afraid that I have to leave.

B: No problem. I have some things to attend to as well.

She attended to her guests.



❑ **back and forth** = go and come between two places

The dog ran back and forth across the yard.

The tennis players hit the ball back and forth for almost five minutes.

A: So you work in New York, but you live in Vermont?

B: Yes. I drive back and forth every weekend.



❑ **be no use -ing** = does not change the situation

It's no use getting upset over a broken glass.

I tried to cheer her up, but it was no use talking to her.

A: It's no use trying to fix that old TV again!

B: You're right. Let's buy a new one.



❑ **clear-cut** = easily seen; clear

That is the most clear-cut explanation of the theory I have ever heard.

There did not seem to be any clear-cut solution to the problem.

A: If you don't like your job, just quit!

B: It's not so clear-cut. My boss is also my father-in-law.



❑ **drive one crazy** = make angry; bother or annoy

These mosquitoes are driving me crazy!

He was trying to drive her crazy on purpose.

A: That noise is driving me crazy!

B: Sorry. I'll practice my violin somewhere else.



❑ **fed up with** = sick of; at the limit of one's endurance

She was fed up with living in such a small apartment.
Aren't you fed up with having to work so much overtime?

A: I am fed up with eating ham everyday!

B: OK. Tomorrow we'll have bacon.



❑ **play a part in** = have an effect on something; be involved with

The bad weather played a part in our decision to cancel the picnic.

Education plays an important part in success.

A: How did you put out the fire so quickly?

B: Volunteer fire fighters played a part in stopping the fire.



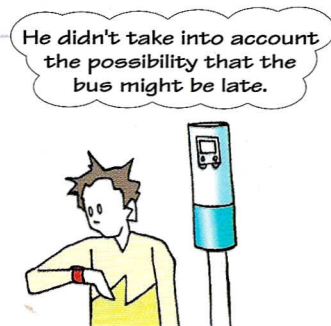
❑ **take into account** = consider

She didn't take into account the fact that the bank was closed on Saturdays.

Did you take into account the possibility that some people don't like seafood?

A: I made reservations at the Milton Hotel for dinner.

B: Did you take into account that we only have \$20!?



❑ **turn into** = become; change to

The conversation turned into an argument.

The frog turned into a handsome prince.

A: Your puppy really eats a lot!

B: Yes. He's going to turn into a big dog someday.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. Do you know the name of the doctor who was _____ you?
 - a. turning into
 - b. playing a part in
 - c. attending to
2. How often do you have to drive _____ between the two cities?
 - a. clear-cut
 - b. back and forth
 - c. at first glance
3. I am _____ having sandwiches for lunch every day.
 - a. back and forth
 - b. take into account
 - c. fed up with
4. No one _____ the possibility that the river would rise so high.
 - a. took into account
 - b. played a part in
 - c. drove crazy
5. One thing that really _____ is people who chew their gum loudly.
 - a. drives me crazy
 - b. turns into
 - c. takes into account
6. Let's buy a new oven. _____ trying to fix that old one!
 - a. Attend to
 - b. It's no use
 - c. At first glance
7. Very few problems in society have _____ solutions.
 - a. fed up with
 - b. turn into
 - c. clear-cut
8. This one looks better _____, but I'll have to make a closer inspection.
 - a. at first glance
 - b. back and forth
 - c. fed up with
9. The author had started to write a short story, but it _____ a novel.
 - a. drove him crazy
 - b. turned into
 - c. took into account
10. The politician's promise of no taxes _____ his getting elected.
 - a. attend to
 - b. played a part in
 - c. clear-cut

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

attend to
driving me crazy

back and forth
fed up with

clear-cut
plays a part in

At home:

Linda: Honey, I'm home!

Dan: How was your day, dear?

Linda: Terrible! I had to _____ a problem at our branch office all the way across town.

Dan: Was traffic a problem or something?

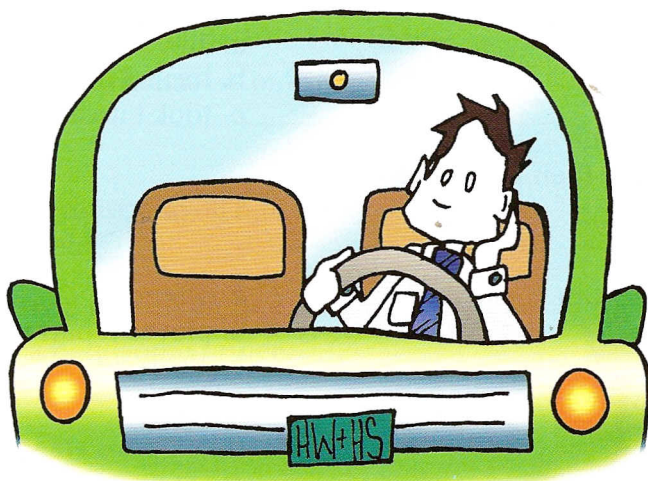
Linda: No, the situation at the branch office is the problem. There doesn't seem to be a _____ solution at the moment, so I will have to keep going over there.

Dan: Then you won't be working in the head office for a while?

Linda: Oh, I still have my work there, too. So now I have to drive _____ between the offices. This job is _____!

Dan: Well, you've been complaining about this job for a while. If you are so _____ it, why don't you try to find a new one?

Linda: You're right. This job _____ making my life too stressful. I'm going to quit!



Idioms in Context

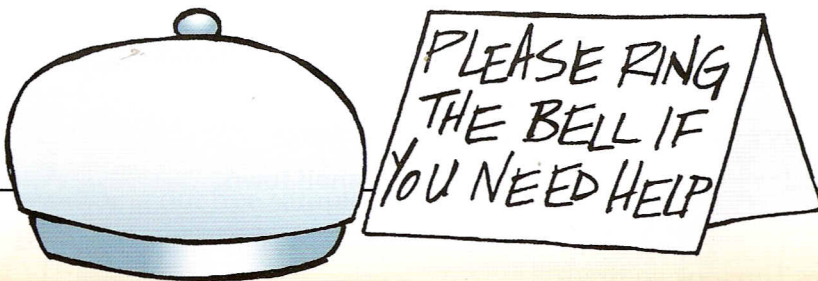
Read the following story.

Sometimes at my job I have to **attend to** work in the back of the store, like unpacking boxes or checking inventory. When someone comes in the store and they don't see anyone **at first glance**, they think the store is closed. Just to make it clear that I am in the store and ready to help, I put a bell on the counter. I also put a sign next to the bell that says, "Please ring the bell if you need help."

² I thought the bell was a **clear-cut** solution to my problem, and it worked great at first. I could always hear it even if I had on headphones and was listening to music. For the first week, I never missed a customer. Unfortunately, however, my great idea didn't last long. I didn't **take into account** the fact that some people might enjoy ringing the bell for fun.

³ The bell started **driving me crazy** after a while. Children **played a big part in** this problem. They would come into the store, ring the bell, and run outside again. I had to keep running **back and forth** from the back of the store to the front. One day a little boy took the bell and ran around the store ringing it over and over again! I knew it **was no use getting** angry with the boy. He was just a child. However, I was really **fed up with** the bell! I threw it in a box and hid it under the counter. However, I forgot to take down the sign when I got rid of the bell. This **turned into** the real solution to my problem.

⁴ Now, when someone comes into the store, I know that they need help when I hear them yell, "Hey! Where is the bell?"



Lesson 14

be bound to
day in and day out
for sale
give birth to
give in

hand out
in one's way
make a difference
tell A from B
upside down

❑ **be bound to** = be certainly going to

My parents are bound to disagree with my decision to join the circus.

The table was bound to break from all the weight put on it.

A: What do you think Dad will say about the broken window?

B: He's bound to be angry.



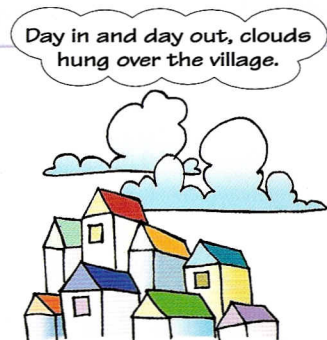
❑ **day in and day out** = every day; all the time

Day in and day out, our next door neighbors argued.

The rain fell day in and day out, flooding the small town.

A: Why does Tim look so tired?

B: He's been studying day in and day out for the big test.



❑ **for sale** = able to be bought; selling

The car that I saw for sale yesterday has already been sold.
You can find good fruits and vegetables for sale on the street during the summer.

They put their house up for sale.



A: Why is your new boat for sale?
B: My wife gets seasick!

❑ **give birth (to)** = have (a child)

Sally gave birth to twins last week.
How many puppies does a dog usually give birth to at one time?

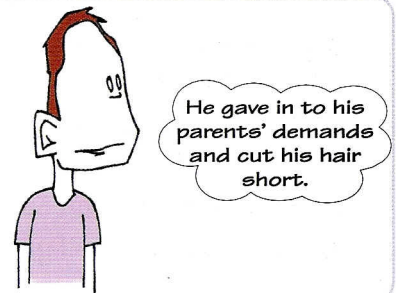
A: I want to have my baby in a hospital.
B: I would rather give birth in my own home.



❑ **give in** = surrender; agree to someone's persuasion

He kept asking until I finally gave in and invited him to join us.
The protesters said they would not give in until all of their demands were met.

A: That big guy keeps telling me to do his homework.
B: Don't give in!



❑ **hand out** = give to many people

Our teacher will hand out the final grades for the class on Friday.
The store was handing out free samples of cake to the customers.

A: Hey! Where did you get that donut?
B: They are handing out free food at the store.



❑ **in one's way** = blocking; hindering

The box was in my way, so I had to move it.

She could not see the moon because the trees were in her way.

A: Excuse me. Your chair is in my way.

B: Sorry!



❑ **make a difference** = be important to; affect

The new paint makes a big difference. Your house looks great now!

It won't make much difference if we take the other road.

A: I don't like black and white movies.

B: Me neither. I think the color makes a difference.



❑ **tell A from B** = know the difference between

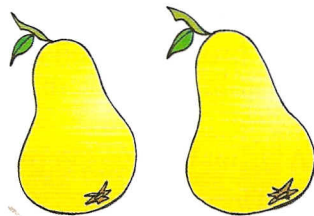
It was impossible to tell the real painting from the fake one.

When they are wearing the same clothes, I can't tell one twin from the other.

A: Did you know that Sally is color blind?

B: Yeah. She can't tell green from blue.

I can't tell the real fruit from the plastic one.



❑ **upside down** = the top toward the ground

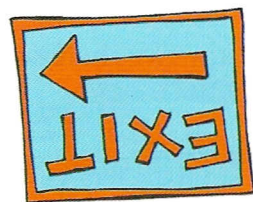
Somebody hung the picture upside down.

The plane flew upside down for a few seconds.

A: What are you going to do with those roses?

B: I am going to hang them upside down to dry.

The sign was upside down.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. _____, the weather station watches the horizon for coming storms.
 - a. Upside down
 - b. Day in and day out
 - c. In my way
2. Even if your child cries, you should not _____ and buy him candy or cookies.
 - a. for sale
 - b. give in
 - c. hand out
3. He would stand on the street corner and _____ advertisements to people.
 - a. day in and day out
 - b. hand out
 - c. for sale
4. The car turned _____ after it drove off of the highway.
 - a. for sale
 - b. in his way
 - c. upside down
5. How can you _____ the bad ones?
 - a. give birth to
 - b. tell the good ones from
 - c. upside down
6. It _____ rain tonight, so we should close all of the windows.
 - a. is bound to
 - b. give in
 - c. upside down
7. Watching American TV really _____ in my ability to speak and understand English.
 - a. for sale
 - b. gave birth to
 - c. made a difference
8. My grandmother _____ six children before she was thirty years old.
 - a. gave birth to
 - b. gave in
 - c. made a difference
9. Nothing stood _____ as she advanced in her career.
 - a. was bound to
 - b. for sale
 - c. in her way
10. I saw a used sail boat _____ in the newspaper.
 - a. give in
 - b. hand out
 - c. for sale

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

are bound to
in the way

for sale
make a difference

upside down
tell the real ones from

At the store:

Joe: There are some socks _____ over there. Let's go look at them.

Lisa: They _____ be more expensive here than at Quick Mart.

Joe: The sign says they are only a dollar per pair. How much are they at Quick Mart?

Lisa: Ninety cents per pair.

Joe: Ten cents does not really _____ to me. I'll just buy them here.

Lisa: This must be a good sale! There are so many people _____ that you can hardly get to the socks.

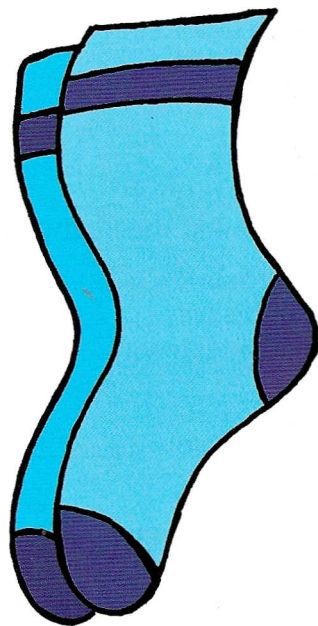
Joe: Let's go to the other side. There are fewer people over there.

Lisa: Wow! These are designer socks, but they are so cheap!

Joe: They're not real designer socks.
They're fake ones.

Lisa: How can you _____ the fake ones?

Joe: Look at the designer symbol. It should go this way, but they put it _____!



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

Our neighbor's cat ***gave birth to*** kittens. Of course, as soon as my son saw the "Kittens ***For Sale***" sign in our neighbor's yard, he wanted to go take a look at them. My husband and I knew that if our son saw the kittens, he ***was bound to*** want one for a pet. So we tried to avoid seeing them. ***Day in and day out***, our son kept asking when we could go see the kittens. I kept telling my son he couldn't have a cat, but it didn't ***make a difference***. He wanted to see them anyway. Finally, we ***gave in*** and we all went to see them.

² There were several other people at my neighbor's house looking at the kittens. Our neighbor was standing next to the box ***handing out*** kittens left and right for people to look at. There were plenty of kittens to go around. My husband and son went to see the kittens, but I wanted nothing to do with them. I stayed near the door and tried not to be ***in anyone's way***.

³ After looking at the kittens, my son ran over to me. "Come and see, Mom!" he said. "There are three boy kittens and two girl kittens."

I asked my son, "How can you ***tell*** the boys ***from*** the girls?"

⁴ My son said, "Dad told me. He turns them ***upside down*** and looks under them. I think it's written on the bottom."



Lesson 15

as soon as
attribute A to B
be apt to
cut down on
end up

get over
get used to
in comparison with
in no time
used to

❑ **as soon as** = right after; when

As soon as you delete a worthless file, you'll need it.
As soon as the sun rises in the morning, the farmer starts working.

A: Are you coming to lunch?

B: I'll be there as soon as I finish this.



❑ **attribute A to B** = say A is a result of B

Scientists attribute the warm weather to pollution.
Many of the deaths in the earthquake were attributed to poor construction.

A: Why are your shoes in my yard?

B: I attribute that to your dog!



❑ **be apt to** = be likely to; will probably

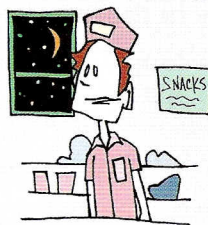
Without a map, you are apt to get lost on the small, confusing streets.

He is apt to fail the test because he didn't study.

A: Let's go shopping!

B: It's a holiday. Stores are apt to be closed.

He is apt to be late for class because he has a night job.



❑ **cut down on** = reduce; do/have less

We cut down on driving because the price of gasoline is too high.

She cut down on eating snacks between meals.

A: Why don't you want some cake?

B: My dentist told me to cut down on sugar.

After that night, he decided to cut down on alcohol.



❑ **end up** = finally be; be in the end

They ended up working on the project all night because of the deadline.

The extra food at the party ended up in the garbage.

A: Let's climb over the fence and touch the tiger!

B: No thanks. I don't want to end up as lunch.

The ice-cream ended up on the floor.



❑ **get over** = recover from; overcome

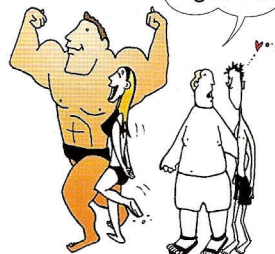
It took her almost a week to get over her jet lag from the long flight.

She got over her old boyfriend very quickly and started dating a new boy.

A: How did you get over your cold so fast?

B: I ate 30 oranges a day for 3 days.

Buddy, get over it.



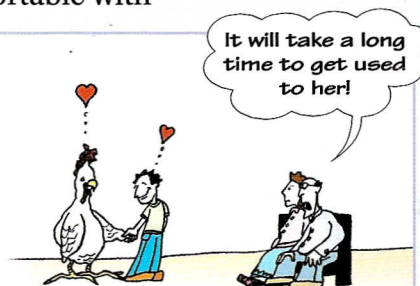
❑ **get used to** = be accustomed to; be familiar and comfortable with

After I got used to waking up early, I enjoyed my extra time in the morning.

How long did it take you to get used to living in your new apartment?

A: It's almost midnight. Aren't you tired?

B: No. I'm used to going to bed late.



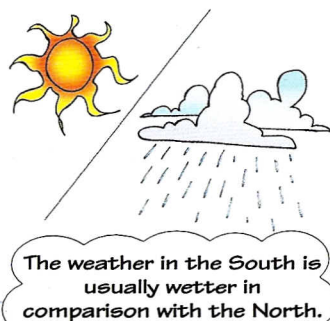
❑ **in comparison with** = looking at in order to see the difference

In comparison with her first book, the author's second book was not very good.

This rock is heavy in comparison with its size.

A: Your house is so small.

B: Yes, but in comparison with my old house, it's a palace!



❑ **in no time** = very quickly

If you make a few American friends, you can improve your English in no time.

In no time, the firefighters arrived at the fire.

A: Are we almost there? I am so hungry!

B: Don't worry. We'll be there in no time.



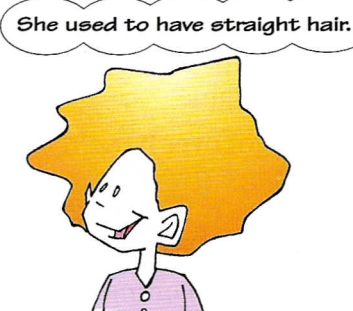
❑ **used to** = occurring or existing in the past

My family used to eat dinner together, but now we are too busy.

The excuse for missing homework used to be "the dog ate it." Now it's "the disk was erased."

A: What is your favorite sport?

B: I used to like squash, but now I like racquetball.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. He is trying to _____ his smoking, but he doesn't plan to quit completely.
 - a. be apt to
 - b. cut down on
 - c. get used to
2. I will never _____ the way people drive in this city!
 - a. attribute to
 - b. cut down on
 - c. get used to
3. She _____ the fact that she failed the exam and began studying for the next one.
 - a. is apt to
 - b. got over
 - c. in no time
4. She called her parents _____ she heard the good news.
 - a. as soon as
 - b. in no time
 - c. used to
5. The food is much better at this restaurant _____ the restaurant where we usually eat.
 - a. attribute to
 - b. end up
 - c. in comparison with
6. My father _____ work in a large company, but he started his own business.
 - a. got used to
 - b. ended up
 - c. used to
7. The movie _____ selling out before we got to the theater, so we couldn't see it.
 - a. as soon as
 - b. ended up
 - c. got over
8. The lower number of people flying overseas this year was _____ the slowing economy.
 - a. attributed to
 - b. in comparison
 - c. used to
9. This picture frame _____ break if we try to mail it, so we should find another gift to send.
 - a. is apt to
 - b. cuts down on
 - c. gets over
10. We could finish this job _____ if we had the right tools.
 - a. attribute to
 - b. in no time
 - c. in comparison with

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

as soon as
in comparison with

end up
in no time

get used to
used to

At school:

Mary: How do you like our new teacher, Tom?

Tom: I don't like her. She doesn't teach very well _____ Ms. Smith.

Mary: Why do you say that?

Tom: Ms. Smith _____ take her time and explain the lessons with lots of interesting examples, but our new teacher goes too fast.

Mary: Maybe you just need some time to _____ our new teacher's style of teaching.

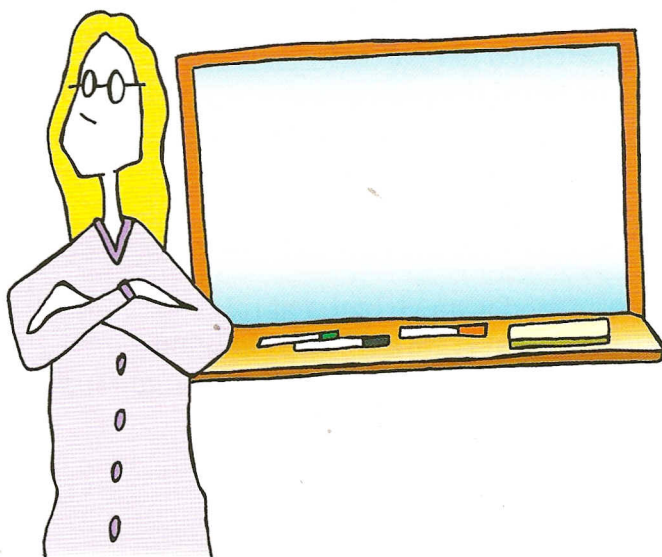
Tom: I'll probably _____ failing this class. I can't even do the homework for Monday.

Mary: I can help you. I'm sure I can explain the homework to you _____. It probably won't even take an hour.

Tom: That would be great, Mary! Can we meet on Saturday?

Mary: I'm going to see a movie with a friend Saturday afternoon, but I can call you _____ I get back from the movie.

Tom: Thanks! See you on Saturday, Mary.



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

Research has found that **as soon as** a man and a woman get married, they start putting on weight. Men usually gain about four pounds. Women gain about five.

Researchers **attribute** the weight gain **to** changes in the exercise habits of newly married couples. A newly married man who **used to** spend several hours each week exercising **is apt to** stop exercising in order to spend more time with his new wife.

² After the couple **gets used to** their new life together, they may begin to exercise again. However, usually the couple **ends up** exercising for a shorter time together **in comparison with** the time they exercised separately before marriage. One way a husband and wife can **get over** this problem is to begin to exercise together soon after the wedding.

³ The food a couple eats can also help the couple control their weight. In general, most people need to **cut down on** the foods which are high in fat. Couples who are used to eating a lot of beef, fried food, and deserts should try to eat more vegetables, chicken, and fish.

⁴ Couples who start putting on weight after marriage can get back to their old healthy weight **in no time** with the proper diet and exercise.



Lesson 16

beats me

date back to

have access to

lead the way

let down

might as well

not at all

put out

stand out

think over

❑ **beats me** = I don't know.

"Do you know who this book belongs to?" "Beats me."

It beats me why anyone would want to live in Antarctica.

A: Where is Jim today?

B: Beats me.



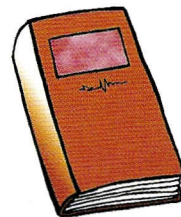
❑ **date back to** = come from the past time

This painting dates back to the first century.

Some buildings in Europe date back several hundred years.

A: Professor, how old is that Viking ship?

B: It dates back to the 14th century.

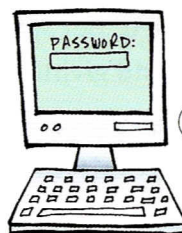


The book dates back to the 19th century.

❑ **have access to** = have the ability to get; have permission to enter

Only employees have access to this part of the factory.

You need his password to have access to his e-mail account.



You need to type in your password to have access to the file.

A: This hotel room is very nice.

B: We also have access to the fitness center.

❑ **lead the way** = walk first to show the way

She led the way to the mansion's dining room.

If you follow me, I will lead the way to a brighter future!



A: I am afraid to go into that dark building!

B: Don't worry. I'll lead the way.

❑ **let down** = sad; disappointed

I was let down by the second movie in the series. The first one was so good!

Please don't let me down. I am counting on you.



A: I can't believe that your girlfriend forgot your birthday!

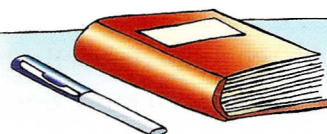
B: Yeah. I feel really let down.

❑ **might as well** = may as well; why not?

I might as well go with you. I have nothing else to do.

Nobody is going to eat the rest of the cake. You might as well throw it out.

My next class doesn't begin for 45 minutes. I might as well do some studying.



A: The movie doesn't start for another 10 minutes.

B: We might as well get some popcorn while we're waiting.

❑ **not at all** = not in any way

The peppers were not spicy at all.

"Would you mind giving me a ride home?" "Not at all."

A: Do you think this dress is ugly?

B: Not at all!



❑ **put out** = extinguish a flame or fire

The fire fighters put out the fire before it spread to other houses.

Be sure to put out the candles before you leave.

A: Sir, please put out your cigarette.

B: Sorry. I didn't know this was a non-smoking area.



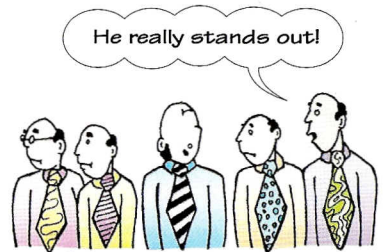
❑ **stand out** = be very noticeable

With that green hair, she really stands out in the crowd.

The white puppy stands out among the black ones.

A: Was it easy to find the house?

B: Yeah. The pink paint really makes it stand out!



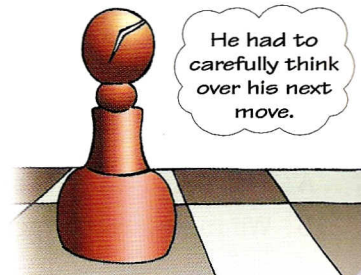
❑ **think over** = consider before deciding

Take some time to think over my suggestions.

She thought over the offer from her boss for several days.

A: Have you decided what to order?

B: No. I need more time to think it over.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. "Are you hungry?" "_____. I ate an hour ago."
a. Lead the way
b. Beats me
c. Not at all
2. Archeologists believe that this ancient weapon _____ to 500 B.C.
a. not at all
b. stands out
c. dates back
3. He _____ the whole team when he missed the final point on purpose.
a. let down
b. led the way
c. stood out
4. If you would like some time to _____ my offer, you can let me know tomorrow.
a. have access to
b. put out
c. think over
5. It _____ why the boss doesn't just fire him.
a. beats me
b. dates back
c. has access to
6. You must _____ the fire before you leave the camp.
a. put out
b. let down
c. think over
7. Only employees _____ the office where the manager keeps the money.
a. think over
b. have access to
c. might as well
8. I didn't want to _____ in Asia, so I died my hair black.
a. stand out
b. date back
c. have access to
9. The guide _____ through the jungle.
a. dated back
b. led the way
c. let down
10. Well, it's almost 6:00. We _____ start cooking dinner.
a. might as well
b. not at all
c. beats me

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

beats me
let us down

have access to
not at all

might as well
dates back

In the elevator:

Man: Hey! Why did the elevator stop?

Woman: _____. Push the button for the first floor again.

Man: It's not working! Stupid elevator! It probably _____ to the time of the dinosaurs!

Woman: Calm down, sir. I'm sure the problem is _____ serious. Someone will fix it soon. we _____ just try to relax. There's nothing we can do.

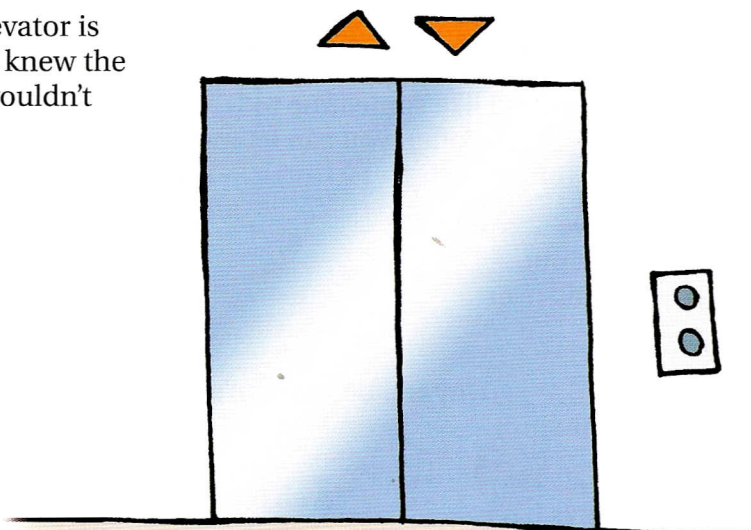
Man: How can I relax? We're probably running out of air! I'm going to try and open that little door on the ceiling and climb out of here. Once I'm on top of the elevator, I'll _____ the cable and I can climb up to safety. I saw that in a movie.

Woman: I'm not going to lift you up there. Are you crazy?

Man: We can't just wait here to die!

Woman: Oh! See. The elevator is moving again. I knew the repair people wouldn't _____.

Man: We're saved!



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

A man and his wife were on a short business trip to China. They had some free time one afternoon and thought they **might as well** see some sights. They signed up for a tour of a local temple. When they arrived, a monk came up to greet them. He told them that they would **have access to** special places in the temple. The couple hoped they would see some beautiful things and they were not **let down**.

² The monk **led the way** to a small building. It was very dark inside. Then the monk lit a candle. Inside there were many rare paintings and sculptures. The gold statues really **stood out**. The monk said that many of them **dated back to** the twelfth century. The monk **put out** the candle and they went outside again. After he shut the door, the monk asked, "Would you do us a favor? Would you write something in English for our future visitors?"

³ Of course, the couple did not have to **think over** the monk's request.

"**Not at all**," the diplomat's wife said. "It will be our pleasure."

The monk quickly ran off to find something for the couple to write on.

"Any idea what he wants us to write?" asked the wife.

"**Beats me**," her husband said.

⁴ Finally the monk came back with two pieces of wood.

The monk said, "Could you write the word 'ladies' on this piece of wood and 'gentlemen' on the other piece?"



Lesson 17

a far cry from

be better off

be out of the question

get through

ill at ease

in charge of

look into

think nothing of it

think up

what's up

❑ **a far cry from** = very different from

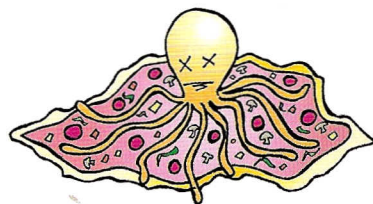
This hotel is a far cry from the last place we stayed. It's much nicer here!

The food here is a far cry from real Chinese food.

A: This beach is so dirty!

B: Yeah. It's a far cry from the picture in the magazine.

It's a far cry from the kind of pizza I usually eat.



❑ **be better off** = have more opportunity, be in a nicer position

You would be better off living with your parents while you are in college.

Women are better off now than they were one hundred years ago.

A: It's raining very heavily.

B: You'd be better off staying here until it stops.

You're better off without him.



❑ **be out of the question** = impossible; forbidden

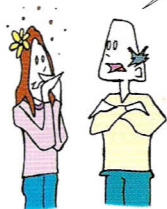
Don't ask me if you can go. It is out of the question.

She knew that leaving work early was out of the question.

A: Dad, can I quit school and become a professional wrestler?

B: That's out of the question!

Forget it! It's out of the question.



❑ **get through** = be able to communicate with someone

She was on hold for fifteen minutes before she finally got through to the operator.

The storm damaged the phone line so I can't get through to my parents' house.

A: Have you gotten through to Kim yet?

B: No. The line is still busy.

I tried to call but I couldn't get through.



❑ **ill at ease** = not comfortable

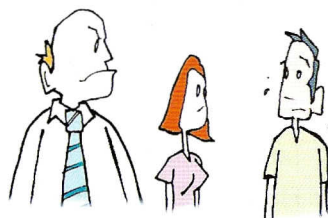
He always felt a little ill at ease in crowded elevators.

The hostess tried to make sure none of her guests felt ill at ease at the party.

A: I feel ill at ease with you driving a motorcycle.

B: Don't worry, Mom. I'll be careful.

Her father made him feel ill at ease.



❑ **in charge of** = leading; controlling

Can you tell me who is in charge of cleaning the office at night?

No one was in charge of the project, so it was never completed.

A: What do you do at your job?

B: I'm in charge of sales and marketing.

You'll be in charge of the ceiling.



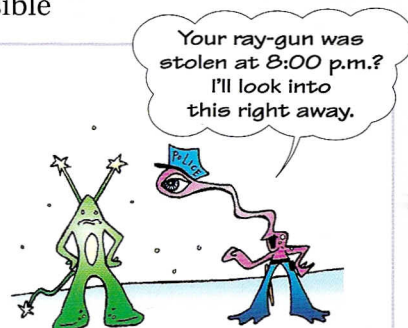
❑ **look into** = investigate; check to see if something is possible

He was looking into going to medical school.

I don't know much about that subject, but I'll look into it when I have time.

A: Why don't we see if we can stay an extra day?

B: Good idea. I'll look into it.



❑ **think nothing of it** = It is/was no trouble. (You're welcome.)

"Thank you for helping me." "Think nothing of it."

"I appreciate what you did." "Think nothing of it."

A: Thanks for saving me from that hungry bear!

B: Think nothing of it.



❑ **think up** = imagine; have an idea quickly

She was always thinking up new ways to make extra money.

He had to think up an excuse for being late.

A: Let's think up a way to surprise Dan on his birthday.

B: How about inviting all his old girlfriends?



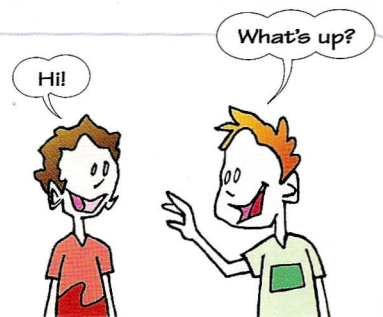
❑ **what's up** = How are you?

"Jim, how is it going?" "What's up, Bob?"

"What's up, Sam?" "Not much, Mark. What's up with you?"

A: Hi Sarah! What's up?

B: Oh, nothing much. Just waiting for the bus.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. "Hi, Al! _____?" "Not much, Tom. How are you?"
 - a. Out of the question
 - b. What's up
 - c. Who is in charge
2. Having a pet in this apartment is _____.
 - a. out of the question
 - b. think up
 - c. get through
3. He felt a little _____ when she started asking very personal questions.
 - a. better off
 - b. ill at ease
 - c. in charge of
4. If no one answers the phone at work, you can always _____ to me on my cell phone.
 - a. ill at ease
 - b. a far cry from
 - c. get through
5. It was my pleasure to assist you. Please _____.
 - a. get through
 - b. look into
 - c. think nothing of it
6. Our new house is _____ where we used to live. This house is much nicer.
 - a. a far cry from
 - b. better off
 - c. out of the question
7. The new commercials are so funny! Whoever _____ the idea of a dog selling hamburgers was very clever.
 - a. looked into
 - b. got through
 - c. thought up
8. I need someone to research how much our profits have dropped. Could you _____?
 - a. get though
 - b. look into it
 - c. think nothing of it
9. The person _____ hiring new people won't be in until ten o'clock.
 - a. in charge of
 - b. think up
 - c. better off
10. These animals would be _____ in the wild than in the zoo.
 - a. out of the question
 - b. look into
 - c. better off

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

a far cry from
in charge of

be better off
Think nothing of it

out of the question
what's up

At the office:

Sue: Mark, I haven't seen you around the office for a while. _____?

Mark: I had to take some time off after my accident and stay at home.

Sue: Who was _____ the office while you were gone?

Mark: Lisa. I would _____ at home resting, but my staying at home any longer was _____.

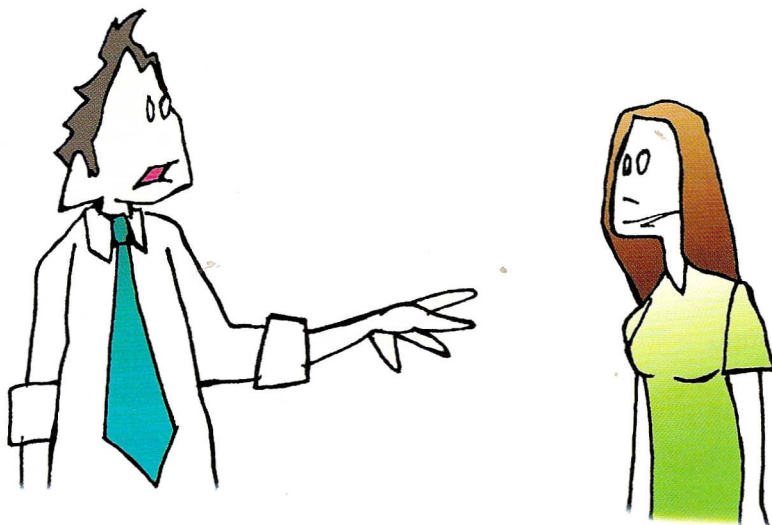
Sue: You look OK to me. Aren't you fully recovered?

Mark: No, I can't move my left arm very much. And my typing speed is _____ what it used to be. My fingers aren't as flexible as they were.

Sue: Hey, if you need anything typed, just send it to me.

Mark: Thanks, Sue. That would be a great help.

Sue: _____. I'm happy to help.



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

My sister called me last week. She tried to **get through** to me on the phone for over an hour. I was on the Internet at the time, so my phone was busy.

² I apologized, "I'm sorry, Kim. I didn't plan to use the computer for so long. I guess I wasn't keeping track of time. So, **what's up?**"

³ Kim sounded a little **ill at ease** when she answered, "I need your help. You know that we have moved. I wanted to have a party to meet our neighbors, but I think I invited too many people. Now I am **in charge of** cooking dinner for twelve people tomorrow night!"

⁴ I told Kim, "Maybe you should **look into** getting pizza delivered or something."

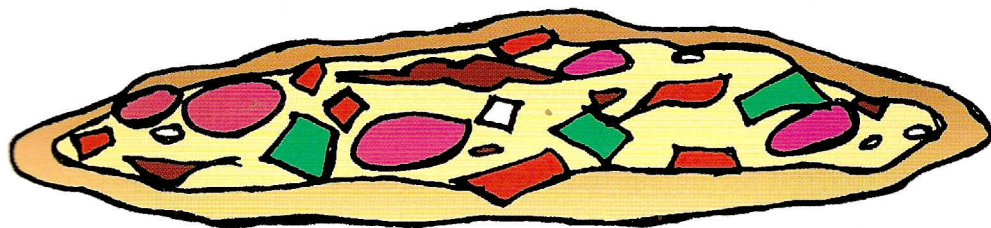
"No," Kim said. "Pizza **is out of the question**. Everyone is expecting a home cooked meal. Can you **think up** any good recipes I can try?"

⁵ I'm **a far cry from** a chef or anything, but I know how to make a few simple things that are good for parties. I told my sister how to make them.

Kim said, "Your ideas sound great, Alice! Thanks."

"**Think nothing of it,**" I said. "But wouldn't you have **been better off** calling Mom for recipes?"

⁶ Kim replied, "Mom is good at cooking. Her recipes might be too hard for me. I know that if you can cook something, I can cook it."



Lesson 18

catch a cold

close call

do without

dry out

fool around

get nowhere with

hold back

in time

pay off

succeed in

❑ **catch a cold** = get a cold; come down with a cold

My mother told me to always wear a hat so I wouldn't catch a cold.

He walked home in the rain without an umbrella and caught a cold.

A: What's wrong with you?

B: I caught a cold. Achoo!!

He caught a cold last weekend.



❑ **close call** = almost be in danger; almost get hurt

It was a close call, but we managed to keep the cat alive.

I had a close call crossing the street today. A car almost hit me!

A: The firefighters saved me just before the house blew up!

B: Wow! That was a close call!

That was a close call!



❑ **do without** = manage while lacking

She didn't have money for a drink, so she did without one.

He couldn't do without his cell phone, so he had to go home and get it.

A: I forgot to bring my hair dryer!

B: Don't worry. I think you can do without it.



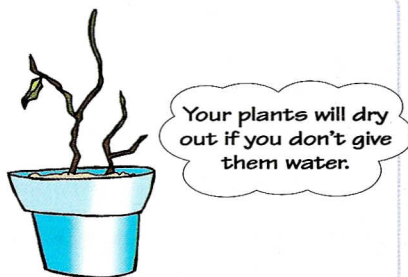
❑ **dry out** = become dry after some time

The ground in the desert dries out very quickly after a heavy rain.

Hang that wet towel on the back of the chair so it will dry out.

A: What should we do with all these grapes?

B: Let's dry them out and make raisins.



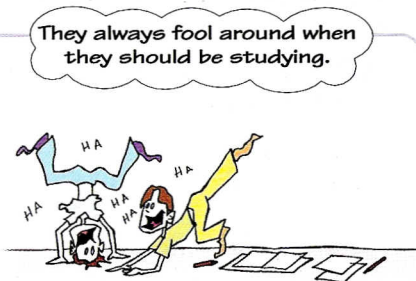
❑ **fool around** = play; have fun

"What are you kids doing out there?" "We're just fooling around."

Don't fool around with matches. You could start a fire.

A: Why did Jimmy have to stay after school?

B: He was fooling around in class.



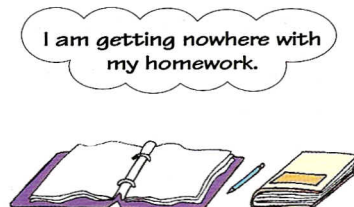
❑ **get nowhere with** = not progress or succeed using something

I was getting nowhere with my project, so I took a break.

She got nowhere with the problem until a friend gave her an idea.

A: Do you need some help?

B: Yes, thanks! I am getting nowhere with this math problem!



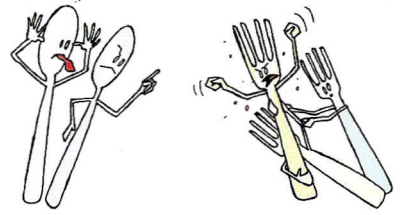
❑ **hold back** = make something stay in the same place

We tried to hold back the flood, but there was too much water.

When she passed other people with dogs, she had to hold back her dog.

A: Did you shake hands with the president?

B: No. His body guards held back the crowd.



They had to hold him back.

❑ **in time** = before the limit of some time

We got to the theater in time to see the previews.

He ran, but he didn't arrive in time to catch the train.

A: Did Amy miss her flight?

B: No, she got there just in time!



He didn't arrive in time to catch the bus.

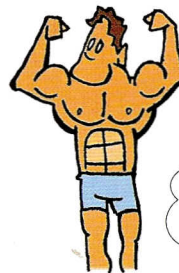
❑ **pay off** = bring a good result

I passed the test! All that extra studying paid off!

Private piano lessons are expensive. Do you think they will pay off?

A: Wow! You look great!

B: Thanks. Joining that health club really paid off.



All that time at the gym really paid off!

❑ **succeed in** = achieve the result one hopes for

The only way to succeed in medical school is to study day and night.

He succeeded in building a very successful company before he reached the age of thirty.

A: I don't think I can succeed in math class.

B: Don't worry. I'll help you study!



He succeeded in getting the promotion.

Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. All the time that she was in university, she _____ seeing a single movie.
a. caught a cold
b. did without
c. dried out
2. Hang your socks over the heater to _____.
a. get nowhere with them
b. dry them out
c. fool around with them
3. The police tried to _____ the protesters.
a. fool around
b. dry out
c. hold back
4. I feel like I am _____ my career. I have been doing the same thing for three years.
a. doing without
b. paying off
c. getting nowhere with
5. If you _____, drink lots of orange juice and try to rest.
a. dry out
b. succeed in
c. catch a cold
6. It is not safe to _____ in the street. Go play in the park.
a. succeed in
b. fool around
c. do without
7. She _____ making friends with everyone in the office.
a. fooled around
b. did without
c. succeeded in
8. Putting that stop sign there _____. There haven't been any more accidents.
a. paid off
b. a close call
c. in time
9. We had _____ at work today when a cabinet fell over. It almost hit a secretary.
a. in time
b. a close call
c. pay off
10. Will you be home _____ for dinner tonight or will you be late again?
a. hold back
b. do without
c. in time

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

held her back
fooling around

caught a cold
in time

close call
succeeded in

In the park:

Amy: Where are your two little girls, Kim?

Kim: They're over there _____ in the sandbox.

Kim: That's so nice that they can play together.

Amy: Oh, they're not always nice when they play together. Last time we came to the park, I caught Linda trying to make Mary jump in the fountain! It was quite cold that day, so I'm sure Mary would have _____ if she had gone in.

Kim: So you got there _____ to stop her?

Amy: It was a _____. Linda _____ getting Mary to put her feet in the fountain. I _____ from going all the way in the water.

Kim: Sisters can be mean sometimes.

Amy: But they can be great friends, too.

Kim: I agree, little sister!



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

One Halloween a pumpkin truck had an accident on a bridge. It was a **close call**, but the driver was not hurt. However, all the pumpkins fell into the river. That afternoon, my friend and I were down by the river **fooling around**. Suddenly we saw a pumpkin floating by. Then another one floated by. Then lots of them floated by! The pumpkins from the truck were floating down the river.

² My friend and I tried to catch a pumpkin before they all floated away. My friend leaned out over the water while I **held** him **back** by his belt. We tried many times but the pumpkins were too far out from the shore.

"We are **getting nowhere with** this plan! Let's go in the water and get them," I said.

"Not me!" my friend said. "That water looks really cold!"

³ There were only a few more pumpkins coming down the river. I didn't want to **do without** one of those pumpkins. Then I had an idea. I would trick my friend!

"Why don't we try again with a stick!" I said. My friend took a stick and leaned out over the water again as I held him. At that moment, I let go of his belt and he fell into the river.

"I'm sorry! My hand slipped!" I shouted. My friend started to swim back to shore. "Hold onto some pumpkins," I suggested. "It will be easier to swim." My friend put two pumpkins under his arms and kicked back to shore. My plan **paid off**! We finally **succeeded in** getting some pumpkins!

⁴ We took the pumpkins back to his house. My friend changed clothes so he wouldn't **catch a cold** and hung up his wet clothes to **dry out** before his mother got home. Then we planned how to carve our beautiful pumpkins **in time** for Halloween!



Lesson 19

t a r g i e t

all in all

burst out

change one's mind

criticize A for B

cross out

get the better of

in regard to

look over

name A after B

stick around

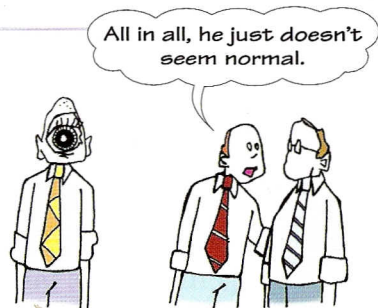
❑ **all in all** = looking at everything

All in all, I think the meeting went very well.

All in all, she just doesn't seem like the right person for the job.

A: How was your trip to China?

B: All in all, it was a great experience!



❑ **burst out** = suddenly do (usually with a loud noise)

He burst out laughing when his friend walked in the room.

My mother burst out crying when she met me at the airport.

A: Why is your girlfriend mad at you?

B: I burst out laughing when I saw her new hairstyle.



❑ **change one's mind** = switch one's opinion about something

She changed her mind and bought the dress that was on sale.

If you read this book, it will change your mind about eating eggs.

A: Have you changed your mind about going to dinner?

B: Yes, sorry! I just don't have time tonight.



I changed my mind and decided on green instead of blonde.

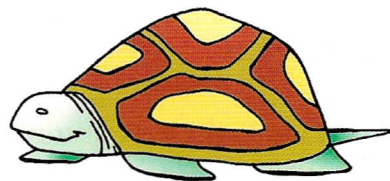
❑ **criticize A for B** = indicate the bad point B about A

His coworkers criticized him for being arrogant.

Many people criticized the president for not standing by his principles.

A: The old manager never did any work.

B: Yeah. Lots of people criticized him for being lazy.



They always criticized him for being slow.

❑ **cross out** = cancel by drawing lines across

She crossed out her ex-boyfriend's name in her diary.

He crossed out the mistake in the essay.

A: Why did you cross out Kelly's number in your book?

B: That's her old phone number.

He crossed out "like" and wrote "love."

I ~~like~~ you.
love

❑ **get the better of** = have power to force one to do

His conscience got the better of him, so he called her to apologize.

I had to open the package. My curiosity got the better of me.

A: That guy at work is driving me crazy!

B: Don't let him get the better of you!

My curiosity got the better of me, and I opened the letter.



❑ **in regard to** = concerning

In regard to your request, we are sending you information about our new product.

She called in regard to the job opening in the advertising department.

A: In regard to your last test, I think you could have done better.

B: I know. I will study harder next time.

In regard to your question, the answer is yes.



❑ **look over** = read or see quickly to check

Did you look over that report I left on your desk?

The teacher said he would look over our essay to give us suggestions.

A: Let's look over our travel plans again.

B: Why? We're just going to the store.

He had to look over some papers before leaving work today.



❑ **name A after B** = give A the same name as B

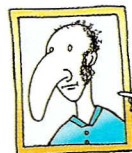
My parents named me after my grandfather.

She named her cat after a cartoon character.

A: Why is your town called Bismarck?

B: It's named after a kind of donut.

This is your great-uncle Jim. You were named after him.



❑ **stick around** = wait

Stick around! We'll be right back!

He stuck around until his friend got off work.

A: Hey, look! Those policemen just ran into that store.

B: Let's stick around and see what happens.

Why don't you stick around?



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. _____, it was a pretty good day.
 - a. All in all
 - b. In regard to
 - c. Looking over
2. My uncle was _____ the hospital he was born in.
 - a. burst out
 - b. criticize you for
 - c. named after
3. He _____ at the last minute and decided to go with her.
 - a. changed his mind
 - b. looked over
 - c. got the better of
4. How many people have called _____ the kittens we are giving away?
 - a. in regard to
 - b. stick around
 - c. all in all
5. I found the list and _____ my name.
 - a. stuck around
 - b. burst out
 - c. crossed out
6. If you _____ after the concert, you might be able to get his autograph.
 - a. criticize him for
 - b. stick around
 - c. looked over
7. My teachers in school used to _____ my bad writing.
 - a. get the better of
 - b. criticize me for
 - c. name me after
8. She _____ in the meeting, "I hate this job!"
 - a. crossed out
 - b. burst out
 - c. changed her mind
9. I _____ the memo but I didn't find any mistakes.
 - a. stuck around
 - b. looked over
 - c. burst out
10. I'm not going to let this situation _____ me.
 - a. change my mind
 - b. get the better of
 - c. stick around

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

all in all

criticized her for

burst out

name the school after

changed my mind

stick around

At the dinner table:

Mother: How was school today?

Son: Not bad. The principal announced that he wants to _____ his favorite baseball player. And one girl in my English class _____ crying today.

Father: What happened?

Son: The girl sitting next to her _____ wearing too much makeup.

Mother: How rude!

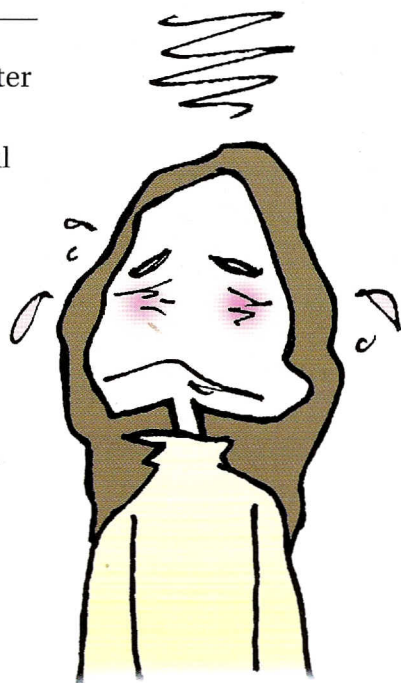
Son: Then the girl's friend said she wanted to fight the rude girl after school!

Father: Did anyone stop the fight?

Son: I don't know. I was going to _____ after school to watch, but then I _____ and came home right after school.

Father: _____ it sounds like an eventful day.

Son: Yeah, it wasn't bad.



Idioms in Context

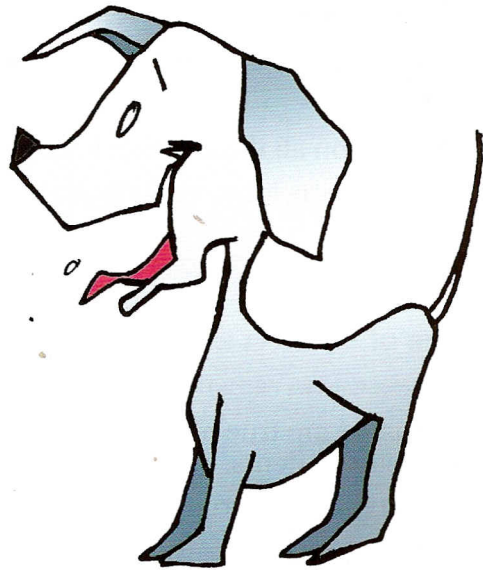
Read the following story.

One Sunday morning, a puppy showed up in our yard. It **stuck around** all day, so in the evening I tried to get it to come inside the house. **All in all** it seemed like a healthy puppy. It was just a little dirty. The puppy was not wearing a collar so we had no idea who it belonged to. It stayed with us for a few days. I even **named** it “Brando” **after** my favorite movie star. But my wife **criticized** me **for** being selfish. She said, “That puppy belongs to someone and they probably want it back. You have to try and find the owner.” Eventually, my conscience **got the better of** me, and I **changed my mind** about keeping the puppy. I made a sign describing the puppy and planned to put it up around the neighborhood. My wife **looked over** the sign.

“Someone who is not the owner may want the puppy. I suggest you **cross out** the description. Then you’ll know the real owners because they will be able to describe the dog.”

² I changed the sign to read, “Found: One puppy.” Then I put our phone number at the bottom of the sign. That evening, we got a call. A young woman was on the phone. She said, “I’m calling **in regard to** the puppy you found.” She described the puppy exactly, so we knew it was hers.

³ The young woman came to our house in less than an hour. When she saw the puppy, she smiled and **burst out**, “Oh, Lucy! It’s so good to see you again!”



Lesson 20

target

all along

be true of

cut out

every so often

on account of

pass away

speak up

stay put

suffer from

under the weather

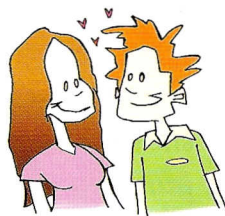
❑ **all along** = the whole time

He knew about the surprise party all along.
The machine was not plugged in all along.

A: Who sent you all those secret love notes?

B: I thought it was John, but it really was Jim all along.

She knew all along that they would get together.



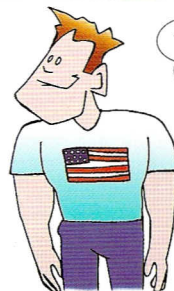
❑ **be true of** = correct when talking about

These statistics are true of high school students, but not university students.

That stereotype is not true of all women.

A: I hate dogs! They are always so noisy.

B: But that's not true of all dogs. Mine is very quiet.



This stereotype is not true of all Americans.

❑ **cut out** = stop

I am trying to cut out drinking during the week.
Cut it out!

A: What do you think of my new dance moves?

B: Cut it out! I'm trying to study!

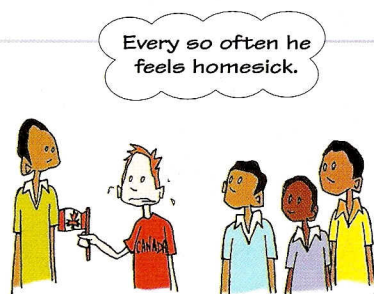


❑ **every so often** = sometimes

Every so often he goes to a movie by himself.
We hear from our friends in Canada every so often.

A: Do you like sports?

B: No, but every so often I go hiking.



❑ **on account of** = because of

She didn't call us on account of the fact she was busy.
On account of the hot weather, we stayed indoors.

A: On account of you, there's no pizza left for me!

B: Sorry. I was really hungry!

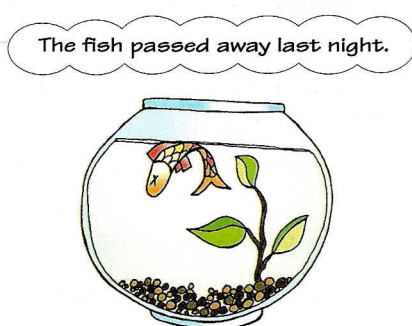


❑ **pass away** = die

My grandmother passed away last year.
When did he pass away?

A: Why is the shoe store closed today?

B: The owner passed away this morning.



□ **speak up** = say aloud

I can't hear you. Speak up.

No one spoke up in class, so the teacher asked the question again.

A: Sorry, I didn't hear you. Could you speak up, please?

B: I said your stereo is turned up too loud!



□ **stay put** = not move

I will go and look for him, but you stay put.

He stayed put in his company even though many of his co-workers quit.

A: Jake is on the phone. He just arrived at the airport.

B: Tell him to stay put. I'll go pick him up.



□ **suffer from** = be ill with or bothered by

My mother suffers from depression.

People who use computers all the time often suffer from back problems.

A: Why are you wearing a hat today?

B: I am suffering from bad hair.



□ **under the weather** = a little sick

I'm feeling a bit under the weather.

Are you feeling under the weather?

A: Why are you going home early?

B: I feel a bit under the weather.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. He had been fooling everyone _____.
a. all along
b. on account of
c. every so often
2. The police told the protesters to move, but they all _____.
a. stayed put
b. were true of it
c. cut out
3. If you _____ allergies, there are medicines available these days to help you.
a. pass away
b. stay put
c. suffer from
4. He is incredibly tall, which also _____ all the members of his family.
a. speaks up
b. is true of
c. stays put
5. If you _____ walking to school in the morning, you won't get any exercise.
a. cut out
b. pass away
c. stay put
6. _____ she thinks about quitting her job and moving to the country.
a. On account of
b. Every so often
c. All along
7. Would you mind _____? It's very noisy in here.
a. speaking up
b. thinking over
c. cutting out
8. You should buy a house now _____ the low interest rate.
a. every so often
b. all along
c. on account of
9. What's the matter? You look a bit _____.
a. suffer from
b. under the weather
c. all along
10. Our mother _____ years ago. We don't need to keep her old clothes.
a. cut out
b. spoke up
c. passed away

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

cut out
is true of

every so often
on account of

speak up
suffered from

At the beach:

Bob: Isn't this a great beach, Carol?

Carol: Could you _____, please? The waves are so loud!

Bob: What do you think of the beach?

Carol: Oh, it's beautiful! It's my first time by the ocean!

Bob: So you never swam in the ocean as a kid?

Carol: Nope. _____ the fact that I grew up in Colorado, I never got to see the ocean when I was young. I never even learned how to swim.

Bob: Me, neither. I _____ swimmer's ear as a child, so my parents made me _____ swimming when I was six or seven years old.

Carol: So why do you like to come to the beach if you don't swim?

Bob: I like to come to lay in the sun. That _____ most people here I think. But _____ I walk down and stick my feet in the water!



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

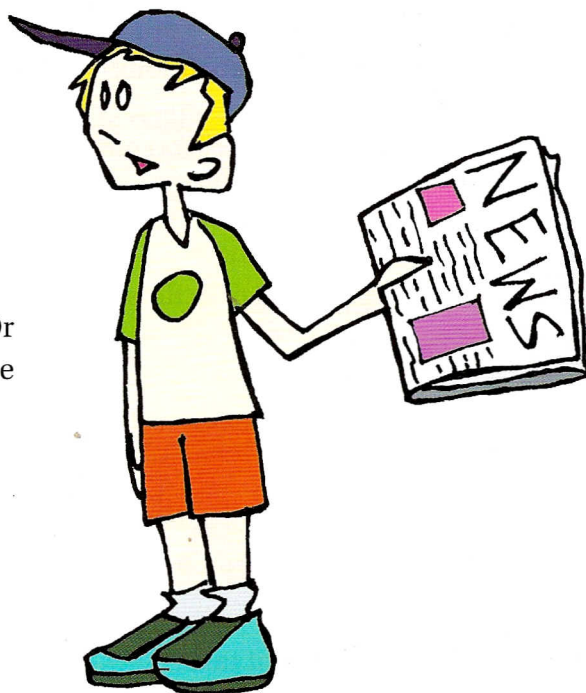
Some people are afraid to be alone. That **is true of** my wife. We live in a nice neighborhood, but she is still afraid when she is alone at night. I think she **suffers from** a slight case of paranoia. I don't like to leave her alone, but **every so often**, I have to go out of town.

² One time I had to travel to attend the funeral of an aunt who had **passed away**. My wife was feeling **under the weather** and decided to stay home. That evening, someone knocked on the door. My wife was in the living room at the time. The person knocked again. My wife just **stayed put** in the living room. She didn't answer the door **on account of** the fact that she was a little scared.

³ The person at the door kept knocking and then **spoke up**. "Hello? Hello?" My wife was becoming more and more anxious. She wished the person would **cut out** the knocking and go away. Then my wife had an idea. She started barking like a dog! The person at the door stopped knocking and went away.

⁴ The next evening, I was home when the boy who delivers our newspaper came to collect money from us. He told me, "I came here last night, but your wife started barking at me. So I left."

⁵ I guess our paperboy can tell a dog's bark from a human's bark. Or maybe he knew my wife was home **all along**.



Lesson 21



amount to
at (the) most
be broke
come to an end
deal with

either A or B
fall short of
in need (of)
or so
pay back

□ amount to = total

All of the money we collected amounts to two hundred dollars.

Sales during the Christmas season amount to half of the store's yearly profits.

A: All our work today doesn't seem to amount to much.

B: Yeah. I don't think we'll ever finish painting this house!

The list amounts to twelve dollars.



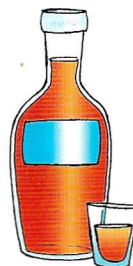
□ at (the) most = a certain amount and no more

I plan to study for two hours at the most.

At most, the boat can hold ten people.

A: How long will this flight take?

B: Four hours at the most.



I can only drink, at most, 4 or 5 shots of whiskey before I get sick.

❑ **be broke** = not have any money

He was broke, so he borrowed money from his roommate.
How can you be broke already? You just got paid!

A: Hey, let's go out to eat tonight.
B: I can't. I'm broke.



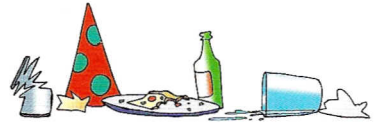
He couldn't go to the movies because he was broke.

❑ **come to an end** = end; finish

We left before the movie came to an end.
The war came to an end soon after the bomb was dropped.

A: It's been raining for a week! I'm going crazy!
B: Don't worry. It will come to an end tomorrow.

When the party came to an end, there was a big mess to clean up.



❑ **deal with** = handle; interact with

How do you deal with all the stress at work?
She is avoiding him because she doesn't want to deal with him.

A: I can't deal with all this noise!
B: Maybe you should get a different job.

I don't think I can deal with this every day!

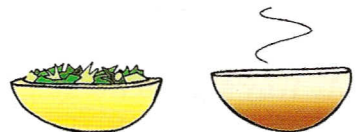


❑ **either A or B** = one of; not both

I will go to either Mexico or Canada for my vacation.
You can have either cheese or sour cream on your baked potato.

A: You can either ride with me or with your mother.
B: I'll go with Mom. She's a better driver!

With any main dish, you can choose either soup or salad on the side.



❑ **fall short of** = not achieve a result or meet an expectation

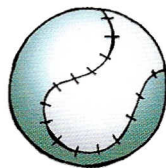
The movie really fell short of my expectations.

Although the runner's time was good, it fell short of the world record.

A: Business is not as good this year.

B: Yes. We fell short of our goal of selling 1000 pizzas.

The team fell short of their dream of winning the championship.



❑ **in need (of)** = needing; suffering without

This apartment is in need of a good cleaning.

Our club is in need of a new president because the old one quit.

A: Hey, I can see your toes!

B: I am in need of some new socks.

After trying that spicy dish, he was in need of some water.



❑ **or so** = approximately

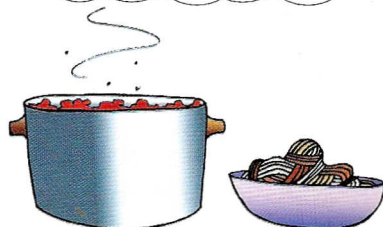
There were fifty or so people at the wedding.

Cook the chicken for twenty minutes or so.

A: When will Bob arrive?

B: He'll be here in about an hour or so.

Remember to stir the spaghetti sauce every 15 minutes or so until it is ready.



❑ **pay back** = return borrowed money

He still hasn't paid back the money he owes me.

Thanks for the money! I'll pay you back as soon as I can.

A: Why are you working three jobs?

B: I have to pay back the money I borrowed from the bank.

Now I can pay back my loan!



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. All of the rain we have had this month only _____ two inches.
 - a. amounts to
 - b. is broke
 - c. comes to an end
2. They are still _____ of a few more actors for the play.
 - a. deal with
 - b. fall short of
 - c. in need
3. I am working hard to _____ my college loans.
 - a. amount to
 - b. pay back
 - c. be broke
4. That house has been abandoned for thirty years _____.
 - a. in need
 - b. or so
 - c. been broke
5. My brother _____, so I sent him some money.
 - a. is broke
 - b. at most
 - c. pays back
6. I thought that boring movie would never _____.
 - a. come to an end
 - b. amount to
 - c. in need
7. She wanted an A on the test, but she _____ by 5 points.
 - a. fell short
 - b. paid back
 - c. amounted to
8. They plan to have _____ two children.
 - a. either or
 - b. at most
 - c. deal with
9. Why does it have to be _____ the other? Why can't we get both?
 - a. or so
 - b. come to an end
 - c. either one or
10. You need to _____ the problem now before it becomes worse.
 - a. amount to
 - b. be broke
 - c. deal with

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

at most
amount to

deal with
in need

either their money or
or so

At the orphanage:

Reporter: Hi! I'm from the newspaper. Do you mind if I ask you some questions about the orphanage? It will only take a minute _____.

Volunteer: I'm just a volunteer here, but I'll try to answer your questions.

Reporter: Great! First, how many kids do you have here?

Volunteer: I think we have about forty-five kids here now, but the orphanage can hold sixty kids _____.

Reporter: Wow! That's a lot of kids to take care of. How do you _____ them all?

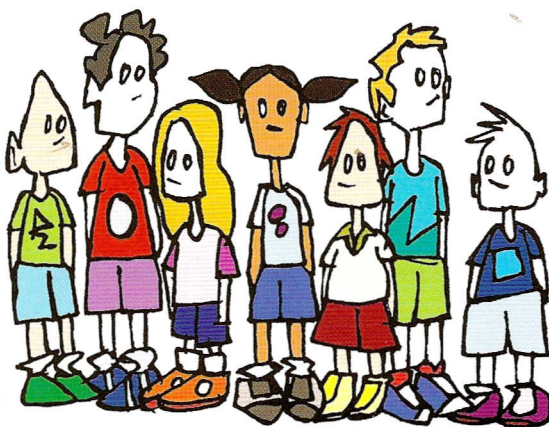
Volunteer: One by one.

Reporter: Is the orphanage _____ of anything? I can put that in the article I'm writing.

Volunteer: The kids can always use extra clothes.

Reporter: Anything else?

Volunteer: Well, we would be grateful to anyone who can give _____ their time through donations and volunteer work. Even a little work can _____ a big help.



Idioms in Context

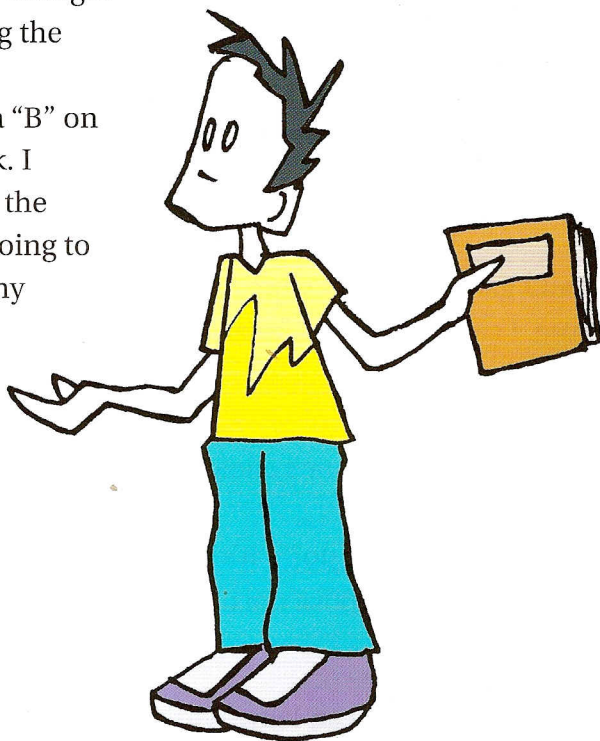
Read the following story.

My parents give me money each semester for my expenses at college. I try to live for a whole semester on what my parents give me, but I usually **fall short of** my goal. Before the end of the last semester, I **was broke**! I'm sure my parents would have been happy to send more money if they had known I was **in need**. However, I didn't want to have more to **pay back**. Besides, I wanted to **deal with** the situation myself.

² First, I tried to go without lunch every day, but I was too hungry to study after that. There was only a week **or so** left before the semester **came to an end**. I thought about selling my books to make a little money. I knew my books would not **amount to** much. **At most**, I could only get twenty dollars per book, but it was better than nothing. I could **either** sell my books **or** starve. I chose to sell my books.

³ When I went to take my final exam in history, the professor said, "This test is especially difficult. If you brought your book, you can use it during the test."

⁴ Somehow I managed to get a "B" on the final exam without the book. I guess everything worked out in the end, but from now on I'm not going to sell back my books until all of my classes are over.



Lesson 22

t a i r d i e t m s

as far as
be up to one
carry out
follow up on
get even with

in light of
no wonder
now that
up to now
use up

❑ **as far as** = to the limit of something

As far as I know, she was not planning to come to the meeting.

From the top floor you can see as far as the river.

A: Can I get a ride from you?

B: Sure. I can take you as far as Chicago.



❑ **be up to one** = be one's choice

“What do you want to do?” “It’s up to you.”

It was up to me to choose the university I wanted to attend.

A: Do you think you can leave work early?

B: It’s up to my boss.



❑ **carry out** = take something out of a place

I saw him carrying out the trash this morning.
She helped him carry out the boxes.

A: The taxi will be here in a few minutes.

B: Let's carry out your luggage.

He carried out the sofa.



❑ **follow up on** = get more information about; take additional action

He decided not to follow up on the job offer.

Did you follow up on that complaint about the leaky water pipe?

A: Did you call that person who wanted to buy the house?

B: Sorry. I didn't have time to follow up on it.

Remember to follow up on the reports.



❑ **get even with** = have revenge

He wanted to get even with her for making him look foolish.

There is no point in trying to get even with anyone.
Revenge is an endless cycle.

A: What are you doing with that water balloon?

B: I'm going to get even with my sister for scratching my CD.



He wanted to get even with the fisherman.

❑ **in light of** = because of

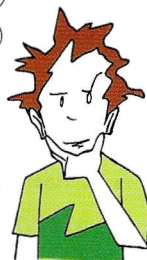
In light of the new evidence, the judge dismissed the court case.

In light of the recent thefts, the company is increasing security.

A: Why don't you want to go out dancing?

B: In light of my recent test grade, I'd better stay home and study.

In light of the new information, he had to re-think the situation.



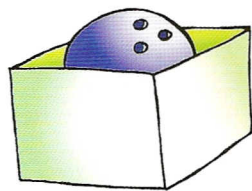
❑ **no wonder** = now I understand why

She was sick. No wonder she looked so bad yesterday.
No wonder the TV doesn't work! It's not plugged in.

A: Kristin just got back from her trip to Hawaii.

B: No wonder she's so tan!

There's a bowling ball in the box.
No wonder it's so heavy!



❑ **now that** = because now

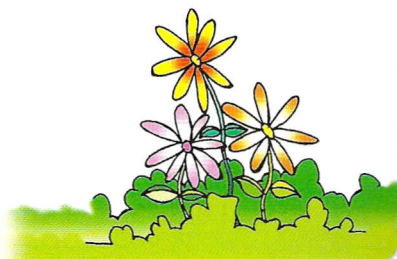
Now that I have some free time, I plan to do a lot more reading.

He is going to start buying stock now that the market is low.

A: Now that I have been exercising, I feel great!

B: Really? I feel more tired.

Now that she has free time,
she can work in her garden.



❑ **up to now** = until now

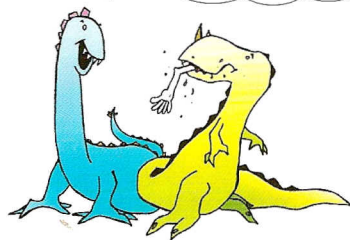
Up to now, the weather has been very warm for this time of year.

The writer has published five books up to now.

A: I made pigs foot soup! Are you hungry?

B: I was up to now.

Up to now, I always
thought you were a
vegetarian!



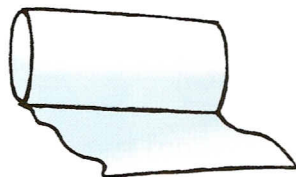
❑ **use up** = use completely; drain

If you use up the milk, please buy some more.
Who used up all the toothpaste!

A: I use up three tubes of gel every month!

B: Maybe you should get a haircut.

Who used up all of the
toilet paper?



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. He wanted to drive _____ possible before he stopped for the night.
 - a. as far as
 - b. in light of
 - c. no wonder
2. How do you plan to spend your free time _____ you are retired?
 - a. now that
 - b. as far as
 - c. in light of
3. I don't know where we are going for vacation. It _____ my wife.
 - a. carries out
 - b. is up to
 - c. up to now
4. Once I _____ my sister by locking her in the closet for an hour.
 - a. was up to
 - b. followed up on
 - c. got even with
5. She _____ all the ink in the printer when she printed her thesis.
 - a. followed up
 - b. was up to
 - c. used up
6. The reporter went to the beach to _____ a rumor that there was a shark attack.
 - a. use up
 - b. follow up on
 - c. be up to
7. They decided to sell their dogs _____ the fact they would be moving to a big city.
 - a. in light of
 - b. now that
 - c. as far as
8. _____, my son has not had any problems at school.
 - a. Up to now
 - b. Now that
 - c. Follow up on
9. You played soccer for four hours yesterday? _____ your muscles are sore today!
 - a. No wonder
 - b. In light of
 - c. Now that
10. Could you help me _____ these bags to the car?
 - a. get even with
 - b. clue in
 - c. carry out

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

up to now
get even with

is up to you
in light of

followed up on
no wonder

In the police station:

Sergeant: Any news on the Jones Case, detective?

Detective: I _____ an idea that one of the neighbors gave me. He told me that Mr. Jones had recently lost a lot of money in a business deal. But the money he lost was actually borrowed from a friend. Maybe this friend wanted to _____ Mr. Jones.

Sergeant: Any idea who the friend was?

Detective: _____, we have found more than eight letters from a woman named Martha Dixon. And several of the letters mention an "investment" of \$10,000.

Sergeant: Jones lost \$10,000 of Dixon's money? _____ she was mad at him!

Detective: _____ what I have learned, I think we should ask Martha Dixon some questions.

Sergeant: At her home or here in the station? It _____.

Detective: Let's visit her at home.



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

One day a man was preparing to leave on a trip. He often traveled on business back and forth between New York and his home in Boston. His wife was **carrying out** his suitcase to the car when it suddenly opened. Inside were shorts, shirts, sandals, and a swimming suit. **In light of** the fact that her husband had packed all of his casual clothes, she started to doubt that he was going on a business trip.

² The next day, she **followed up on** her suspicion by calling the airline that her husband traveled on. She asked the man at the airline, "Can you tell me how many frequent flyer miles my husband and I have?"

³ The man looked up their account and told the woman, "**Up to now**, you have almost 100,000 miles if I include your husband's most recent flight."

The woman was surprised. She said, "That doesn't make sense. How did my husband collect so many miles flying to New York?"

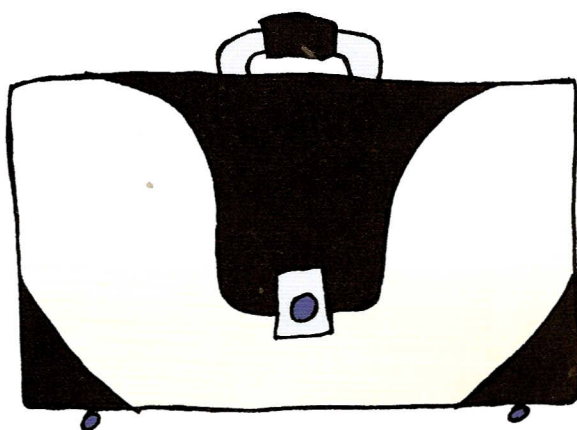
⁴ The man at the airline told her, "Those miles include his flights to New York and his flight to the Bahamas."

"The Bahamas!" the woman thought. "**No wonder** I can't find the sunscreen!" The woman knew just how to **get even with** her husband. **Now that** she knew her husband was having fun without her, she would also go on vacation! She wanted to **use up** all of the frequent flyer miles by going **as far as** she could.

⁵ "I'd like to reserve a ticket for myself, please" she said, "When is your next flight?"

⁶ "There are two flights leaving this afternoon: one to Chicago and one to Paris. **It's up to you.**"

"Paris would be perfect!" the woman smiled.



Lesson 23

t a i r g i e t

be concerned about

break down

get stuck

have nothing to do with

look on A as B

put away

relieve A of B

take for granted

to say nothing of

trade in

❑ **be concerned about** = be worried about

He was concerned about his hair because a lot of it fell out.

Aren't you concerned about the world population?

A: I am concerned about Jenny.

B: Me, too. She hasn't come to work for three days.



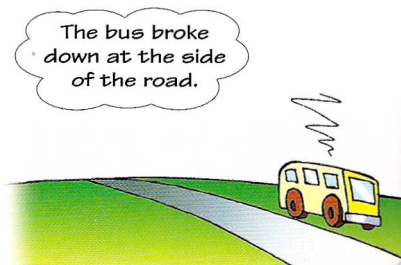
❑ **break down** = stop working (for a machine)

When the car broke down, they had to get out and walk.

I'm sure our refrigerator is going to break down. It's over twenty years old.

A: What's wrong with the copy machine?

B: It broke down yesterday.



❑ **get stuck** = be unable to move

Her boot got stuck in the mud while she was hiking.
I got stuck on the third problem, so I couldn't finish the homework.

A: This ring got stuck on my finger!

B: Try putting some butter on it.

He got stuck in the mud.



❑ **have nothing to do with** = not be related to; have no connection to

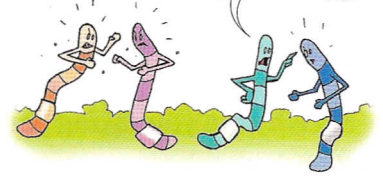
The hot weather this summer has nothing to do with global warming.

Our professor's lectures have nothing to do with the topics in our textbook.

A: I think you are sick because you ate all that cheese.

B: That has nothing to do with it!

Stay out of it.
This has nothing to do with you!



❑ **look on A as B** = think A as B

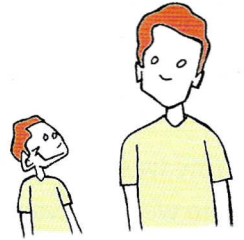
Do you look on your career as being fulfilling?

The class looks on the teacher as a friend.

A: Can you join us for a game of golf?

B: No. My wife looks on golf as a waste of time and money.

He looks on his brother as a role model.



❑ **put away** = put in a safe place; hide or store

I put my skis away for the summer.

She put away her jewelry in a box in the back of her closet.

A: Are those the gifts for Matt's party?

B: Yeah. I have to put them away before he gets home.



Where did you
put away my old
comic books?

❑ **relieve A of B** = take B from A

The teacher relieved him of his pocket knife.

Those books look heavy. Let me relieve you of some of them.

A: Why are you home so early?

B: I am feeling sick, so my boss relieved me of my duties tonight.

She relieved her friend of his keys because he was drunk.



❑ **take for granted** = assume; expect

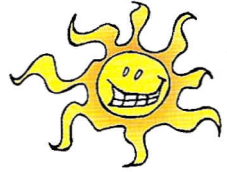
I took it for granted that my alarm clock would wake me up.

Many people took it for granted that the economy would continue to do well.

A: Why are you taking your umbrella?

B: I don't take it for granted that it will stay sunny.

Don't take the nice weather for granted.



❑ **to say nothing of** = not to mention; need not describe because it is obvious

The soups there are delicious, to say nothing of the desserts.

The library at our university is beautiful, to say nothing of the music hall.

A: How was your trip?

B: The weather was wonderful, to say nothing of the food!

Their coffee is delicious, to say nothing of their cakes!



❑ **trade in** = exchange for another (usually for a better or newer one)

The car dealer only gave her \$1000 when she traded in her car.

I want to trade in my motorcycle for a faster one.

A: Do you think I could trade in my bike for a new one?

B: I think you should just give it away.

It is almost impossible to trade in an old computer.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. Can you help me _____ these dishes after I finish washing them?
 - a. put away
 - b. say nothing of
 - c. be concerned about
2. Do you think he can get very much money if he _____ his old car?
 - a. takes for granted
 - b. relieves them of
 - c. trades in
3. Everyone _____ that the company's product would always sell well.
 - a. got stuck
 - b. relieved it of
 - c. took it for granted
4. The child's grades in school _____ his intelligence. They are due to his behavior.
 - a. have nothing to do with
 - b. trade in
 - c. break down
5. He _____ not passing the class, so he is going to study all night.
 - a. is concerned about
 - b. breaks down
 - c. has nothing to do with
6. I can _____ some of your work. I have finished everything I needed to do.
 - a. relieve you of
 - b. look on you as
 - c. trade in
7. My bicycle _____ in the mud after the heavy rain.
 - a. put away
 - b. got stuck
 - c. has nothing to do with
8. Nobody _____ a professional because she is so young.
 - a. breaks down
 - b. looks on her as
 - c. puts her away
9. The car _____ on the highway miles away from any city.
 - a. said nothing of
 - b. broke down
 - c. looked on it as
10. The weather on the island is beautiful all year, to _____ the wonderful beaches.
 - a. look on it as
 - b. be concerned about
 - c. say nothing of

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

am concerned about
look on the drive as

break down
relieve you of

get stuck
to say nothing of

On an old dirt road:

Sally: Are you sure this is the right direction, honey? I _____ our safety.

Roger: Relax, honey. What could happen?

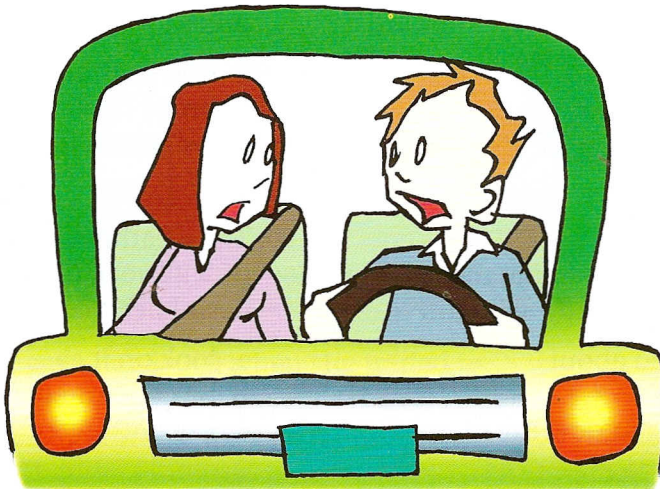
Sally: The car could _____ for one thing. The tires are terrible, _____ the engine. What if we _____ in a hole or something?

Roger: The car is fine. And this road is not that bad. Why don't you _____ an adventure rather than a nightmare.

Sally: Watch out for that animal! Stop!

Roger: Wow! That was a close call. Are you all right?

Sally: I'm fine. But since we are stopped, let me _____ the keys. I'm going to drive from now on.



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

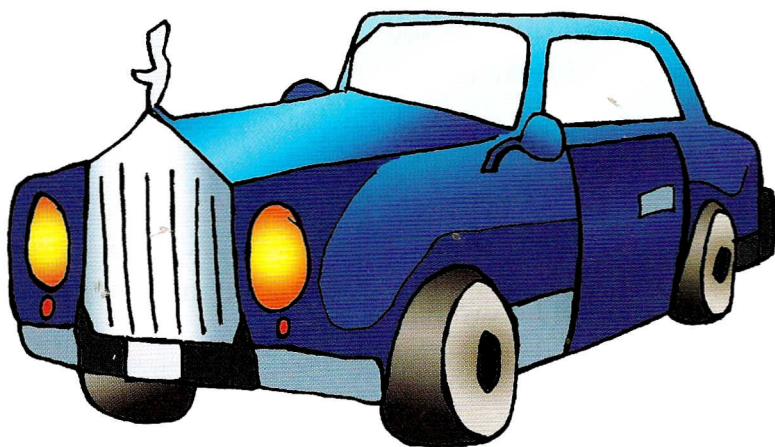
In college, I still lived with my parents, but I had a job. I could pay for a lot of my own expenses. Because of this, my parents were able to **put away** some of their own money in the bank. After a little while, they had enough to buy a new car.

² My parents **traded in** their old car and got a new luxury car! The new car had a beautiful interior, **to say nothing of** its sound system! My parents loved that car.

³ I had my own car, but it was old and often **broke down**. Sometimes I had to borrow my parents' car.

⁴ One time I borrowed the car and brought it back late. I **got stuck** in a traffic jam because of an accident between a car and a truck. I didn't get home until almost midnight. I **took it for granted** that my parents would be asleep. However, my mother was waiting for me when I got home! She **relieved** me **of** the car keys with a serious look on her face. I told her, "Mom, you have to **look on** me **as** an adult now. You don't have to wait up for me."

⁵ My mother told me that her waiting up **had nothing to do with** me. She **was concerned about** the car and couldn't sleep!



Lesson 24

t a i r d i g i e t m s

as for
deal in
dream up
find fault with
get out of

go wrong
in addition to
mess up
sell out
thanks to

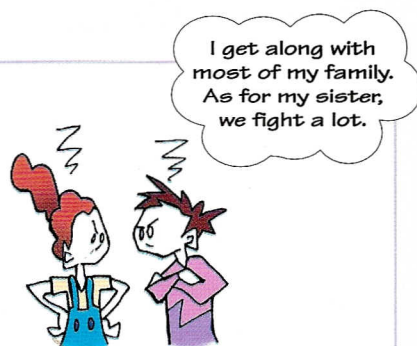
❑ **as for** = concerning; in regard to

As for me, I would rather stay home tonight and watch television.

You can come in. As for the dog, he has to stay out.

A: I am going to the nightclub with Jim and Terry.

B: Do what you like. As for me, I am going to bed!



❑ **deal in** = focus on selling

This website deals in computer hardware, not software.
Our shop only deals in imported goods from China.

A: Do you have any large size hats?

B: Sorry, we don't. We mostly deal in children's clothes.



❑ **dream up** = think up; have an original or unique idea

It's amazing how he dreamed up the idea for the movie.
She dreamed up the idea of using stamps as wallpaper.

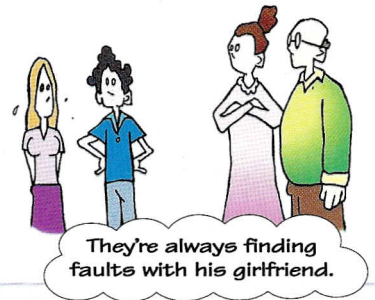
A: Did you hear that Will made a house out of an old train car?
B: Wow! He dreams up such interesting things!



❑ **find fault with** = criticize; find something to complain about

My friend always finds fault with my cooking.
His boss found fault with much of his work, so he got fired.

A: Why don't you like the new art teacher?
B: He's always trying to find fault with my paintings.



❑ **get out of** = avoid; escape from

She had a note from her doctor to get out of class.
I think there is going to be trouble. Let's get out of here!

A: I have a headache. I think I should lie down.
B: Liar! You're just trying to get out of mowing the lawn!



❑ **go wrong** = produce a bad result

Something went wrong with the computer, so the system crashed.

If anything goes wrong, give me a call and I'll be happy to come and help.

A: Why is this spaghetti blue?
B: Something went wrong with the recipe.



❑ **in addition to** = along with; besides

In addition to flowers, I am also allergic to chicken.
She enjoys playing the piano in addition to singing.

A: In addition to getting fired, I had a flat tire on the way home.
B: Sounds like you had a terrible day!

He coaches basketball
in addition to his
office job.



❑ **mess up** = make a mistake in

He messed up the recipe, so the food tasted terrible.
How could you mess up the plan? It was so easy!

A: I really messed up! I forgot my wife's birthday!
B: Don't worry. Just buy her some flowers and say you're sorry.

Why do you always
mess up everything?



❑ **sell out** = sell all of; have no more because all are sold

The movie sold out the first weekend it was in theaters.
She needed to buy some fish, but the store was sold out.

A: Do you have any more DVD players?
B: Sorry, we are all sold out.

Sorry. We're all
sold out.



❑ **thanks to** = because of

Thanks to faster data transfer, you can watch movies
on the Internet.

Thanks to a few bad students, the teacher canceled
the class picnic.

A: Wow! You got \$50 dollars from you grandmother?
B: Yes. Thanks to her, I can go to the concert.

Thanks to his new
shoes, he plays
soccer very well.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. _____ your quick thinking, the fire did not get too big.
 - a. In addition to
 - b. Thanks to
 - c. As for
2. I hope the store doesn't _____ of paper before we get there.
 - a. mess up
 - b. go wrong
 - c. sell out
3. It is difficult to _____ someone who is so nice.
 - a. deal in
 - b. dream up
 - c. find fault with
4. Others may choose to leave. _____ me, I am staying.
 - a. As for
 - b. In addition to
 - c. Thanks to
5. She didn't want to _____ anything, so she worked very slowly and carefully.
 - a. find fault with
 - b. mess up
 - c. sell out
6. That store _____ comic books, not magazines.
 - a. sells out
 - b. deals in
 - c. gets out of
7. They are investigating what _____ with the train.
 - a. went wrong
 - b. found fault with
 - c. got out of
8. They tried to _____ going to the party, but they had to go.
 - a. get out of
 - b. deal in
 - c. dream up
9. When did you _____ this plan to start your own business?
 - a. dream up
 - b. get out of
 - c. go wrong
10. _____ me, my friend also wants to join the tour.
 - a. Thanks to
 - b. As for
 - c. In addition to

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

as for
go wrong

in addition to
messes up

deal in
sell out

In the market:

Customer: Did you _____ of oranges?

Worker: If there are none with the fruit, we must be out.

Customer: Really? Oh, well. _____ fruit, I also need some picnic supplies.

Worker: I'm sorry. We only _____ foods. Our store doesn't sell picnic supplies.

Customer: This really _____ my plans. I wanted to take my wife on a picnic today.

Worker: There is another food store down the road about two miles. _____ picnic supplies, I'm not sure if you can find them there either.

Customer: First, I can't find oranges, and now there are no picnic supplies.

What else can _____?

Worker: Is that thunder I hear?



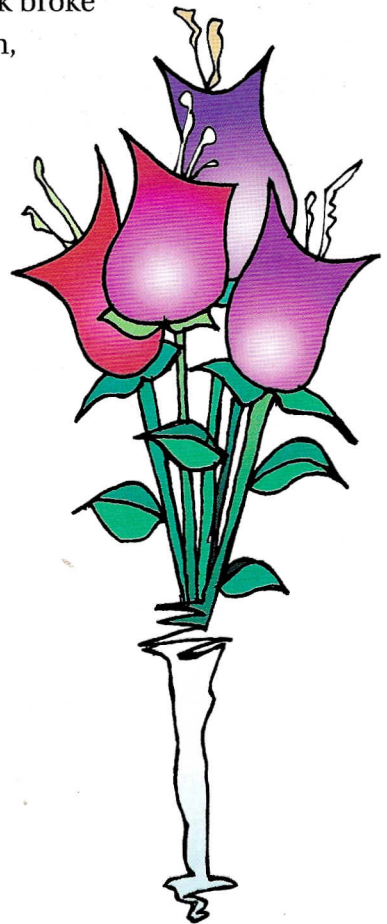
Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

Many people send flowers for special occasions. Unfortunately, some people forget special days and they have to send flowers late. **As for** these kinds of customers, there is a way to **get out of** trouble with friends and loved ones **thanks to** a small flower shop in Chicago. This shop **deals in** flowers for all occasions, even late ones!

² The owner of the flower shop **dreamed up** a way to help his forgetful customers. The shop makes an excuse for late deliveries. If a customer has to send flowers late, the shop puts a note in with the delivery explaining what **went wrong**. For example, the note might say, "We apologize for these flowers being late. Our truck broke down." Or, "Our delivery man got sick." Or even, "Our shop **sold out** of roses, so we had to wait for more to be delivered." The person receiving the flowers might **find fault with** the shop, but not with the person who sent the flowers.

³ **In addition to** flowers, the shop also sells candy and small toys. So the next time you **mess up** and have to send a late gift, keep this shop in mind!



Lesson 25

t a r g i e t

anything but

go Dutch

hang out

in accordance with

in terms of

keep one's word

lay off

live up to

see eye to eye

settle down

□ **anything but** = all others except

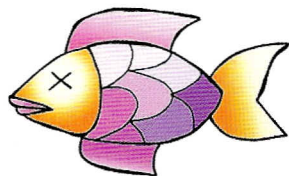
I can watch anything but horror movies.

He said he would do anything but go out dancing tonight.

A: What do you want to listen to?

B: Anything but jazz.

I can eat anything
but fish.



□ **go Dutch** = each pay for himself/herself

We went out to dinner last night, but it wasn't a date.
We went Dutch.

I hate to go Dutch. I'll pay this time. You pay next time.

A: Thanks for dinner. Let my pay.

B: How about we go Dutch?

They decided to go
Dutch on their date.



❑ **hang out** = spend time some place

Teenagers like to hang out at the park.

I usually hang out at my friend's house after school.

A: Hey Joe, what are you doing tonight?

B: I'm just going to hang out at Kevin's house.

They always hung out at the mall.



❑ **in accordance with** = following; matching

The new laws are not in accordance with the old laws.

The company completed all work in accordance with its contract.

A: Why is your hair so short?

B: I had to cut it in accordance with army rules.



In accordance with law, young children not allowed to sm

❑ **in terms of** = comparing with; by the standard of

In terms of cheap vacations, this is one of the best deals you will find.

The book was not very useful in terms of teaching grammar.

A: Which car is better?

B: In terms of speed, the BMW is much better than the Ford.

The manual was not helpful in terms of finding the problem.



❑ **keep one's word** = fulfill one's promise

She promised to call me, but she did not keep her word.

It drives me crazy when people don't keep their word.

A: Remember, you promised to wash the car.

B: Don't worry. I'll keep my word.



He always keeps his word.

❑ **lay off** = quit; stop

Lay off those drums! I'm trying to sleep!
When are you going to lay off smoking? It's bad for you.

A: Oh, no! I've gained six pounds!

B: Why don't you lay off snacks for a while?



❑ **live up to** = meet one's expectations

The movie did not live up to all the good reviews.
The hotel really lives up to its reputation. It's excellent.

A: Why did you change universities?

B: Clown College really didn't live up to my expectations.



❑ **see eye to eye** = agree; from the same point of view

They saw eye to eye on almost every part of the project,
so it was approved.

She doesn't always see eye to eye with her husband
about money.

A: I guess we don't see eye to eye on the price.

B: No, we don't. You're asking too much.



❑ **settle down** = become still or relaxed

The children did not settle down and go to sleep until
after midnight.

Settle down! It's just a little spider!

A: I can't get to sleep. Why don't those dogs settle down?

B: Maybe they are barking at a burglar!



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. I'll do _____ wash the dishes.
Let me cook instead.
a. anything but
b. eye to eye
c. in accordance with
2. The money will be given to charity
_____ his wishes before he
died.
a. in terms of
b. anything but
c. in accordance with
3. The president's son had a lot to
_____.
a. live up to
b. go Dutch
c. settle down
4. Do you mind if we _____ when
we go to the movie tonight?
a. go Dutch
b. lay off
c. live up to
5. I have to _____ jogging for a
while. My knee is bothering me.
a. lay off
b. go Dutch
c. keep my word
6. She _____ and paid the full
cost of the damage just like she
promised.
a. hung out
b. went Dutch
c. kept her word
7. The movie was not bad _____
special effects.
a. eye to eye
b. in terms of
c. anything but
8. Her parents told her not to
_____ with those bad kids.
a. live up to
b. hang out
c. go Dutch
9. We don't really see _____ on
this problem.
a. in accordance with
b. eye to eye
c. in terms of
10. What is wrong with the dog? It
won't _____ and go to sleep
like it usually does.
a. keep its word
b. settle down
c. give in

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

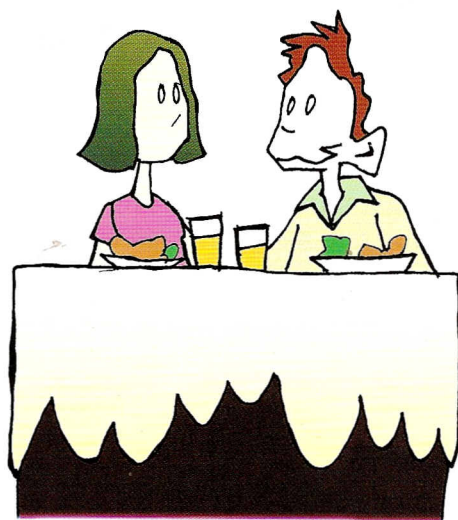
in accordance with
keeping my word

go Dutch
lay off

in terms of
lives up to

In a restaurant:

- Bob: This place really _____ its reputation. Everything was delicious!
- Lisa: It sure was. And _____ the price, it's not that expensive either.
- Bob: How much is the bill?
- Lisa: Never mind. I'm paying.
- Bob: Oh no! You're not paying. I'm paying. Give me the bill.
- Lisa: I've got it. Don't worry.
- Bob: Give it to me!
- Lisa: _____, Bob. I'm paying. I was the one who promised to take you out for your birthday, so I'm just _____.
- Bob: OK. I'll let you pay this time _____ the following condition.
- Lisa: What condition?
- Bob: Next time I get to pay.
- Lisa: Next time we can _____ so there won't be any argument over the bill.



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

My friend and I don't really **see eye to eye** with regard to music. He thinks that rock and punk music are great, and most other kinds of popular music are OK. In fact, he listens to **anything but** classical music. On the other hand, I love classical music.

² A while ago, we were **hanging out** at a music store when my friend saw a poster. His favorite punk band was coming for a concert. He said that we should go together. At first I told him, "No way!" But he wouldn't **lay off** begging me to go with him. Finally, I gave in and said I would go if he promised me one thing. He had to promise to go to an orchestra concert with me.

³ We saw the punk band first. I must admit that, **in terms of** musical talent, the band we saw wasn't bad.

⁴ Then it was his turn to see the orchestra. I was a little worried that my friend would not **keep his word**. But he did. Usually my friend and I **go Dutch** when we go out together. However, I knew he would never pay to see an orchestra so I bought his ticket. **In accordance with** our deal, I took my friend to see the symphony orchestra perform a night of Mozart.

⁵ I had heard this orchestra was superb, and they certainly **lived up to** my high expectations. They were great! At first my friend seemed restless. It was dark in the concert hall, but I could feel him moving around in his seat. Soon, however, he **settled down** and was very still.

⁶ After the concert was over and the lights came back on, I asked my friend what he thought. He said, "I heard Mozart speaking to me in the music."

⁷ I was surprised and said, "Really?"

"Yeah," my friend said. "He kept saying, 'Go to sleep. Go to sleep.' So I did."



Lesson 26

drop someone a line

how come

in brief

keep off

let go of

lie down

on behalf of

owing to

rule out

yield to

❑ **drop someone a line** = write a letter to someone

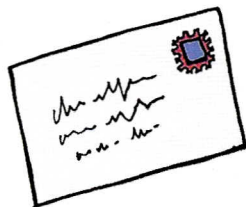
When you get to Rome, drop me a line.

She dropped him a line explaining why she hadn't called him.

A: Drop me a line sometime.

B: Yes. Let's keep in touch.

He decided to drop her a line.



❑ **how come** = why

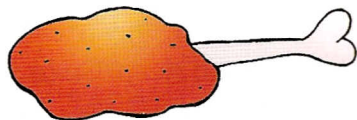
How come this report is late?

You're not coming to the party? How come?

A: I heard you weren't coming to the game. How come?

B: I hurt my knee making toast this morning.

How come you don't eat chicken?



❑ **in brief** = in short; in summary

In brief, this is the singer's best album.
In brief, you must find my client not guilty.

A: What was the result of the meeting?
B: In brief, we are going to move to Mexico.

Dogs are happy,
loyal, and friendly.
In brief, they
make great pets.



❑ **keep off** = not go on; stay off

Please keep off the carpet with your dirty shoes.
We have to keep off the bench until the paint is dry.

A: Please tell your kids to keep off the furniture.
B: I will. Sorry, Mr. President.

KEEP OFF
THE GRASS

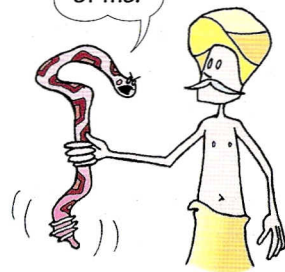


❑ **let go of** = release

He slowly let go of her hand, and she walked away.
Don't let go of the rope! I'll fall!

A: Let go of my purse!
B: Sorry! I thought it was mine.

Let go
of me!



❑ **lie down** = lie; recline

I am just going to lie down and rest for a few minutes.
The doctor told him to lie down on the examining table.

He decided to lie down
for a few minutes.

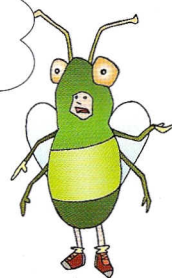
A: Where's Bill?
B: He's lying down on the couch.



❑ **on behalf of** = for; in someone's place (instead of)

She is collecting money on behalf of children in Africa.
I am calling on behalf of Congressman Jones to ask for your support.

On behalf of
flies everywhere,
I want to thank
you!

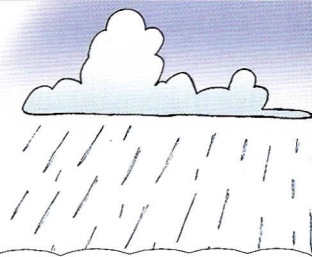


A: Why are you going to New York?

B: I'm going there on behalf of the manager. He's too sick to go.

❑ **owing to** = because of

Owing to the rough water today, we can't go sailing.
He had to go home early owing to a severe headache.



Owing to the bad weather,
the picnic was cancelled.

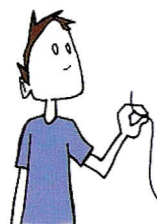
A: Why aren't you in Atlanta?

B: My plane can't leave, owing to bad weather.

❑ **rule out** = decide that something is not possible

I can rule out that the gift is a stereo because the box is too small.

She ruled out going to Alaska because she didn't like cold weather.



He ruled out
cooking spaghetti
because he didn't
have enough
pasta.

A: Who left the door unlocked last night?

B: Well, we can rule out Mike. He's out of town.

❑ **yield to** = allow something to happen

I yielded to my girlfriend's demands for a ring.

The president yielded to pressure from the people to cut taxes.

She yielded to his
demands for a cookie.



A: How were the negotiations?

B: Great! They yielded to our demand for a lower price!

Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. He asked her _____ she couldn't meet him on Friday.
 - a. in brief
 - b. owing to
 - c. how come
2. Please _____ when you have time. I'd like to hear from you.
 - a. drop me a line
 - b. keep me off
 - c. let go of me
3. The conclusion, _____, is that more research needs to be done in this area.
 - a. how come
 - b. in brief
 - c. on behalf of
4. He is filling out the form _____ his sister because she can't read English very well.
 - a. owing to
 - b. how come
 - c. on behalf of
5. I think I should _____. I feel a little dizzy.
 - a. lie down
 - b. keep off
 - c. yield to
6. My father _____ my mother's request for a new car.
 - a. let go of
 - b. yielded to
 - c. dropped a line
7. Once you _____ her friend as a suspect, the only remaining suspect is her brother!
 - a. yield to
 - b. drop a line
 - c. rule out
8. The traffic is heavy at this time _____ the baseball game that just finished.
 - a. on behalf of
 - b. in brief
 - c. owing to
9. My dog was chewing my shoe and he would not _____.
 - a. rule it out
 - b. let go of it
 - c. lie down
10. You can look around the house, but _____ the stairs because they are being repaired.
 - a. keep off
 - b. lie down
 - c. rule out

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

drop her a line
on behalf of

how come
owing to

let go of
rule it out

At the office:

Tina: _____ Alice's desk is empty?

Laura: Didn't you hear? They _____ Alice a week ago. Of course they made some excuse like, "The company had to cut expenses." But everyone knows they really fired her _____ her recent pregnancy.

Tina: What! They can't do that!

Laura: Everyone thinks things like that don't happen anymore, but I wouldn't _____ in this case. She told them she was pregnant on Monday, and on Friday they fired her.

Tina: I won't stand for this. I'm going to _____ and see if I can help.

Laura: What can you do?

Tina: At least I can put her in touch with a friend of mine who is a lawyer. Then the lawyer can talk to the company _____ Alice and try to get her job back.



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

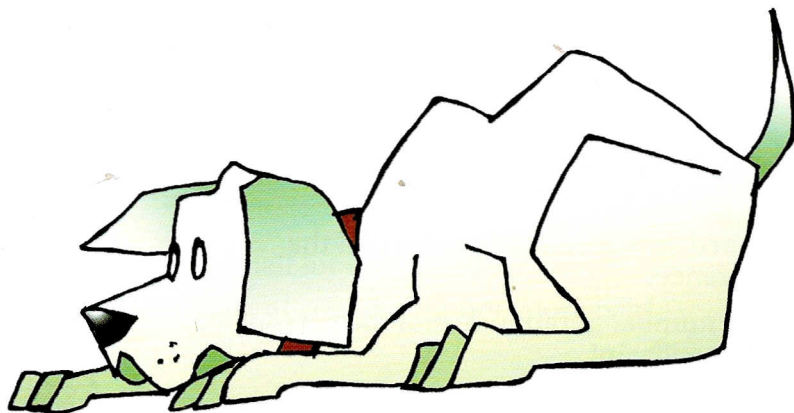
One day when I was out working in my yard, a dog came up to me. I **ruled out** the idea that it was a wild dog because it looked well fed and was wearing a collar. The dog sat by my door and watched me. I ignored the dog and finished my work. Then, when I went into the house, the dog wanted to follow me inside! I finally **yielded to** him and let him in the door.

² The dog walked slowly around my living room looking around. It was a very good dog. I didn't even have to tell it to **keep off** the furniture. Finally the dog went to the corner to **lie down**. Then it fell asleep.

³ When the dog woke up, it wanted to go out so I opened the door and it walked away. The next day, the same thing happened. Over the next week, the dog kept coming back to sleep in the corner of my living room!

⁴ Finally, I decided to **drop the owner a line**. I wrote a note that asked, "**How come** your dog comes over to my house to sleep every afternoon?" Then I put the note under the dog's collar. I **let go of** the dog and it walked away as usual.

⁵ The next day, the dog returned with another note. This note said, "**On behalf of** my dog, thanks for letting him sleep there. **Owing to** the fact that we have six young children, he can't get much rest at our house." **In brief**, the dog just needed to get away for a little while. Six kids! No wonder the dog was tired!



Lesson 27

t a i r d i e t

as a matter of fact

at random

in favor of

keep up

make a point of

make room for

on the spot

sum up

waste one's breath

you bet

❑ **as a matter of fact** = actually; in fact

I know the man in the picture very well. As a matter of fact, he is my father.

I like animals. As a matter of fact, I own a pet store.

A: Have you seen Rachel?

B: Yes, I have. As a matter of fact, she's waiting in your office.



Everything was going wrong that day. As a matter of fact, the day was about to get worse.

❑ **at random** = not in any order; without plan

The police stopped cars at random to check if the drivers had insurance.

We will choose a number at random, and the person with that number will win!

A: How did you get to be the captain of the team?

B: They just picked at random.

The lottery numbers were picked at random.



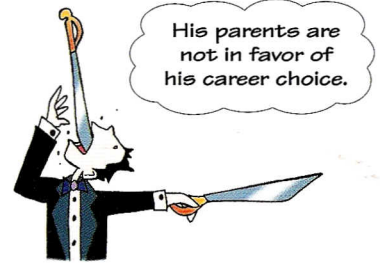
❑ **in favor of** = support or approve of something

Although I want to join the army, my parents are not in favor of it.

After the big test, we were all in favor of going out for a drink.

A: Why didn't you vote for him?

B: Because he is in favor of raising taxes.



❑ **keep up** = continue

You're doing a great job! Keep up the good work.

She wanted to keep up swimming every day, but she was too busy.

A: I am really nervous about the test.

B: Just keep up a positive attitude and you will do fine!



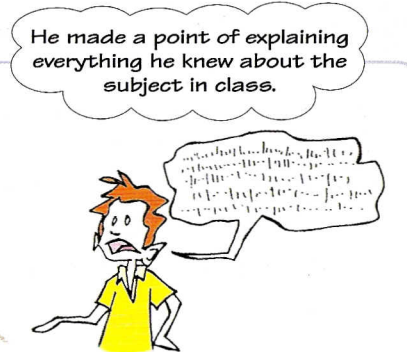
❑ **make a point of** = do something deliberately

He made a point of telling everyone he studied at Harvard.

We should make a point of bringing this problem up at the next meeting.

A: I think that Harry is mad at us.

B: Yeah. He made a point of not talking to us at lunch.



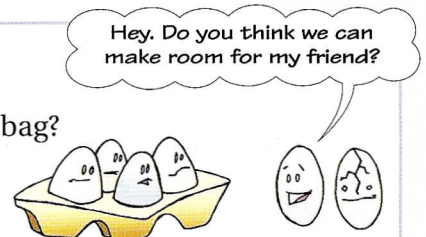
❑ **make room for** = provide space for

We need to make room on the shelf for these books.

Can you make room in the trunk of your car for one more bag?

A: Can I ride with you?

B: Maybe we can make room if one person sits on someone's lap.



❑ **on the spot** = right there; immediately

He got the job on the spot.

She had to think of an answer on the spot.

A: Where's your dog?

B: A man offered me \$500 for it, so I sold it to him on the spot!

He got caught with the stolen money, so he had to think of an excuse on the spot.



❑ **sum up** = in summary; finish in short

He will sum up his speech with a joke.

To sum up, I would just like to congratulate the bride and groom and wish them many happy years together.

A: How was your trip to the desert?

B: I would sum up the experience by saying it was very hot!

The last page of the report sums up all of the research.



❑ **waste one's breath** = say something of no use

She won't go out with you. Don't waste your breath asking her.

He explained the grammar rule over and over, but he was wasting his breath. They didn't understand it.

A: I'm going to ask Dad if I can go to Rome with my girlfriend.

B: Don't waste your breath.

Don't waste your breath. I'll never take you back!



❑ **you bet** = Sure; Yes

"Are you free tonight?" "You bet!"

"Would you like some more pizza?" "You bet!"

A: Do you want to see a movie?

B: You bet!

Call me!

You bet!



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. I love cats! _____, I have seven cats at home.
 - a. Keep up
 - b. In favor of
 - c. As a matter of fact
2. A good conclusion will _____ the ideas presented in the essay.
 - a. you bet
 - b. sum up
 - c. keep it up
3. He asked her to marry him _____.
 - a. in favor of
 - b. on the spot
 - c. make a point of
4. He complained in the meeting for more than ten minutes, but he was _____. No one was listening.
 - a. wasting his breath
 - b. keeping up
 - c. making room for
5. She _____ drinking one glass of water each morning because she heard it was good for her skin.
 - a. made a point of
 - b. at random
 - c. summed up
6. I was not _____ giving away our old car.
 - a. on the spot
 - b. in favor of
 - c. waste my breath
7. We can _____ one more person in our tent.
 - a. make room for
 - b. keep up
 - c. on the spot
8. The computer dialed telephone numbers _____, and if anyone answered, a salesperson would pick up the line.
 - a. at random
 - b. keep up
 - c. make a point of
9. "Will this camera take good pictures outdoors?" "_____."
 - a. Sum up
 - b. At random
 - c. You bet
10. You have to _____ the pressure on the wound until the bleeding stops.
 - a. keep up
 - b. make room for
 - c. waste your breath

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

on the spot
make room for

in favor of
wasting your breath

keep up
you bet

On a bus:

Man: You don't have to stand, Miss. I can _____ you here. I'll just put my briefcase on the floor.

Woman: That's very kind of you.

Man: It's not every day a beautiful woman sits next to me on the bus!

Woman: Thank you, but I'm not usually _____ talking to strangers on the bus.

Man: Yes, this is a special day! I want to make a poem about you. What do you think?

Woman: You don't have to _____ the conversation for my sake. I prefer to ride in silence.

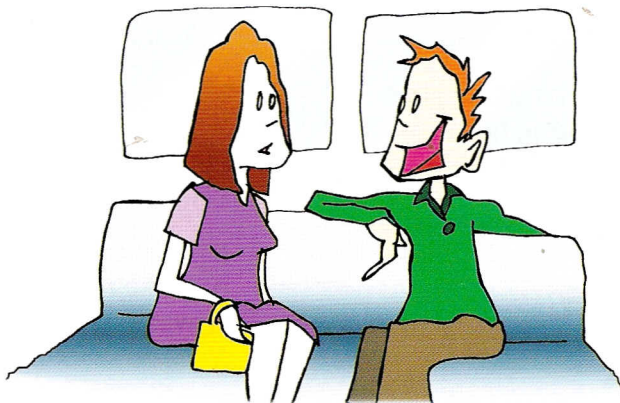
Man: It's no trouble. I can create a poem _____.

Woman: Well you're _____ on me. I don't want to hear your poem!

Man: You certainly tell it like it is, Miss. You're a very straightforward person.

Woman: _____ I am! Excuse me, but I see an open seat up front. I'm moving.

Man: Nice talking to you!



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

I had a hard time dating my wife when I was in high school. In fact, she didn't want to have anything to do with me at first. She sat behind me in history class. The first time I saw her, I asked her out **on the spot**. But she turned me down.

² I wasn't discouraged, though. The next time I asked her to go out with me, she told me, "Get lost." But I asked her the next day too. Then she said, "You're **wasting your breath**. I'm not going to go out with you." I even asked her friends to fix us up, but they all told me, "Forget it. She doesn't want to date you."

³ Although my friends were **in favor of** me quitting, I **kept up** my pursuit of her. At lunch, I **made a point of** trying to sit at the same table with her. If none of her friends **made room for** me, I tried to sit at the table behind her. Still, I had no luck.

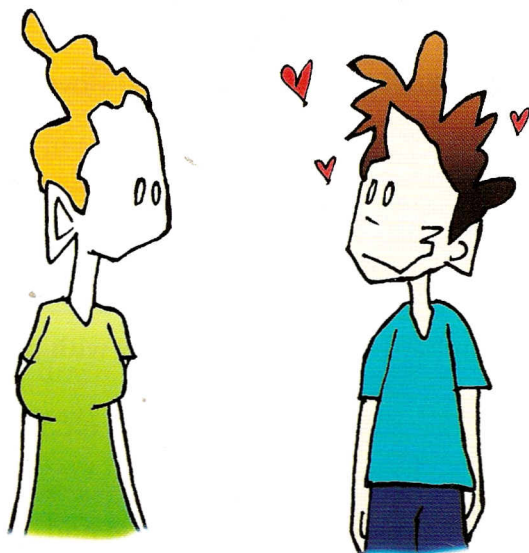
⁴ Then one day, I fell asleep in class. The teacher was calling on students **at random** to answer questions, and he called on me while I was sleeping. My future wife noticed I was sleeping and tried to wake me up by shaking my shoulder. I must have jumped when she touched my shoulder because I fell out of my chair. Of course everyone laughed at me. I guess she must have felt a little sorry for me because after class, she told me, "I'm sorry I pushed you so hard. I guess I didn't know my own strength!"

⁵ "No problem," I replied. "**As a matter of fact**, I like strong women."

She laughed and asked, "Do you want to go to the dance this weekend with me?"

⁶ Of course I said, "**You bet!**"

And, to **sum up**, we have been together ever since.



Lesson 28

come about
do away with
in advance
from scratch
in the long run

on average
set aside
settle for
so far, so good
take over

❑ **come about** = happen

A chance like this doesn't come about every day.
I hope a solution to the problem will come about soon.

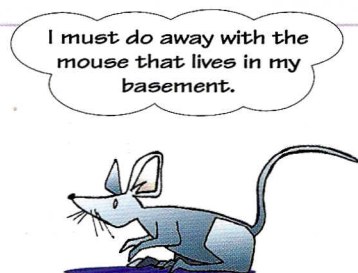
A: How did the problem with the stove come about?
B: I was trying to melt my jewelry.



❑ **do away with** = end; get rid of

The company is going to do away with paid overtime hours.
I am going to do away with all this old furniture and buy new things.

A: Why don't we sell the old piano and get a new one?
B: I could never do away with it! My grandmother gave it to me.



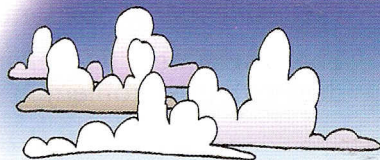
❑ **in advance** = before; ahead of time

You should make reservations in advance.

His girlfriend was coming, so he cleaned the house in advance.

A: It's a very popular hotel. Are you sure you can get in?

B: Don't worry. I booked a room three months in advance.



It looked like a storm was coming, so I wanted to close the windows in advance.

❑ **from scratch** = from nothing; from basic or simple ingredients

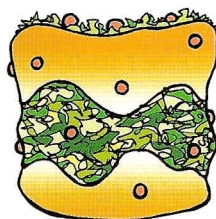
This bread was made from scratch, not from a prepared mix.

We had to start from scratch when the computer disk failed.

A: These cookies are great!

B: Thanks. I made them myself from scratch.

She made the pastry from scratch.



❑ **in the long run** = after a long time

In the long run, too much beef can cause serious health problems.

You will make more money in the long run if you go to university now.

A: Let's fix that leaky pipe right away.

B: Yes. If we do it now, we'll have less trouble in the long run.

You will have problems in the long run if you keep drinking so much.



❑ **on average** = looking at the average case

On average, the price of computers has gone down.
Most people eat fast food twice a week on average.

A: How much sleep do you get on average?

B: About seven hours a night.

On average, the cost of living in the city is higher than in the country.



❑ **set aside** = put apart; place out of the way

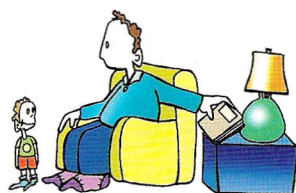
I set aside half of the donut to eat later.

The government has set aside money especially to deal with this problem.

A: Our trip is coming up fast.

B: You're right. Let's set aside some time to plan tomorrow night.

He set aside his book and paid attention to his son.



❑ **settle for** = accept instead of something better

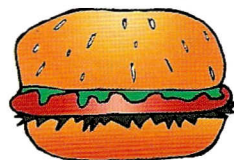
There was no soda, so he settled for water.

We had to settle for the smaller apartment because it was closer to my office.

A: Sorry, we don't have any red caps.

B: That's OK. I'll settle for a green one instead.

Would you settle for a hamburger instead of a steak?



❑ **so far, so good** = everything is fine up to this time

"How is your project going?" "So far, so good."

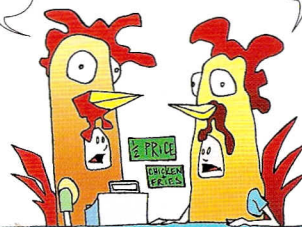
"How is your son doing in college?" "So far, so good."

A: How's life with the new baby?

B: So far, so good.

How do you like the new job?

So far so good.



❑ **take over** = take control; take responsibility

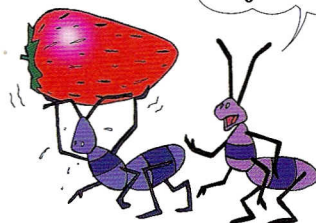
A national bank took over the local bank last month.

If you are tired from driving, I can take over for a while.

A: I am getting tired of mowing the lawn.

B: I'll take over this week so you can have a break.

I can take over if you are tired.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. I wanted to make sure my friends would be home when I arrived, so I called _____.
 - a. in the long run
 - b. in advance
 - c. on average
2. It's been 2 weeks since I changed the water pipes. _____.
 - a. On average
 - b. So far, so good
 - c. From scratch
3. Every month we _____ one weekend to do something special together.
 - a. do away with
 - b. set aside
 - c. take over
4. He knew that _____, he would have to do something about his leaking roof.
 - a. come about
 - b. from scratch
 - c. in the long run
5. It would be better to _____ the old design and start again.
 - a. take over
 - b. come about
 - c. do away with
6. She wanted to find someone to _____ her position as treasurer of the club.
 - a. set aside
 - b. come about
 - c. take over
7. Some people make the sauce _____, but I prefer to buy it from the store.
 - a. from scratch
 - b. on average
 - c. so far, so good
8. This celebration could only _____ through the hard work of my wife.
 - a. come about
 - b. do away with
 - c. settle for
9. _____ we spend three hours cleaning our apartment each week.
 - a. On average
 - b. From scratch
 - c. In the long run
10. We can't afford real crab meat, so I had to _____ imitation crab made from fish.
 - a. settle for
 - b. do away with
 - c. set aside

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

in advance
settle for

from scratch
so far, so good

set aside
take over

In the kitchen:

Pat: What are you making?

Larry: I'm trying to make bread. We are all supposed to bring something to the party on Saturday. I'll be too busy on Friday, so I'm making it _____.

Pat: So how is it going?

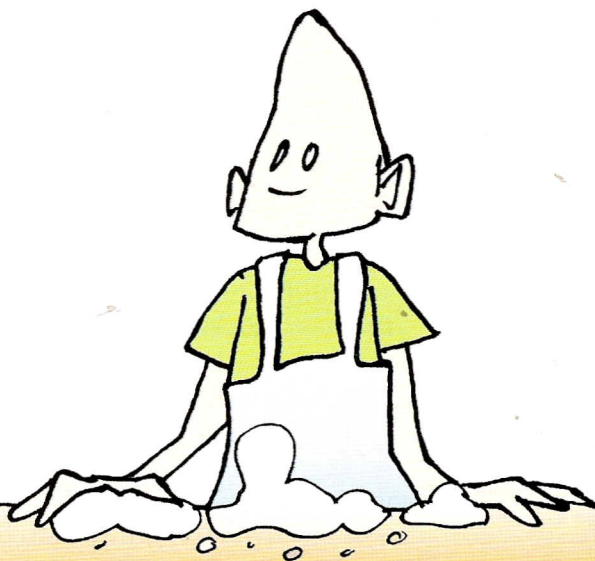
Larry: _____. I made the dough and _____ half of it to rise. But now I have to knead this half of the dough. That's a lot of work!

Pat: If you're tired, I can _____ for a while. I have some free time for an hour or two.

Larry: It's a messy job.

Pat: I don't mind. Let me try... This is hard work! Are you sure you don't want to _____ some bread from the bakery?

Larry: No way! I only eat bread made _____!



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

My husband and I just had our first baby. For the first three months, I was breast feeding the baby. Then we decided we would **do away with** breast-feeding and give the baby formula and solid food. Part of the reason for this change was that I needed sleep. I had been feeding the baby when she woke up at night. That meant I was getting up two or three times each night **on average**. We knew the change to the new food would not **come about** easily, but we had to try. Even if it was hard at first, **in the long run** it was for the best.

² My husband likes to eat all natural food, so he wanted the baby to eat home-made food. I told him that unless he was willing to **set aside** the time to make the food himself **in advance**, he would have to **settle for** regular baby food from the store. There was no way I was going to make baby food **from scratch**!

³ After we had tried giving formula to our baby for a few nights, a friend of mine asked, "How is the new feeding schedule going?"

"**So far, so good**," I told her. "I'm getting more sleep now that my husband **took over** some of the feedings at night. But sometimes I have to push my husband out of bed because he is a heavy sleeper. Last night when the baby started to cry, I woke my husband up and said, 'She's hungry.' He looked confused and asked, 'Who?'"



Lesson 29

as to

by and large

due to

fall behind

lose track of

make believe

on no account

originate from

pull one's leg

throw up

❑ **as to** = about; related to

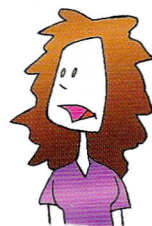
She was given no explanation as to why her electricity was cut off.

We have information as to the location of the missing boy.

A: What were you and that man talking about?

B: He gave me some tips as to where I could find a good used car.

I was given no explanation
as to why my hair is
turning brown.



❑ **by and large** = overall; on the whole

By and large, the public transportation in New York City is very reliable.

It was a good performance by and large.

A: How was business last year?

B: By and large it was successful.

By and large, the food is very
good at that restaurant.



❑ **due to** = because of

Due to the strike, the subway is not running today.
The game was canceled due to the storm.

A: Why aren't you at the picnic?

B: It was cancelled due to high winds.



❑ **fall behind** = be late; be behind

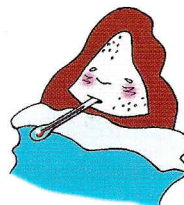
They fell behind schedule and could not meet the deadline.

She fell behind at work because her computer crashed.

A: How did your team do?

B: They fell behind in the second half and lost the game.

She fell behind in school because she was sick for a few weeks.



❑ **lose track of** = not be aware of; not pay attention to

I always lose track of how much I spend on clothes.

He lost track of his dog in the crowded park.

A: This vacation is so relaxing!

B: Yes. I've lost track of the days!



It's easy to lose track of time when you're reading a good book.

❑ **make believe** = pretend to be true

I used to make believe I could walk on water.

She made believe she was sick so that her mom would not make her go to school.

A: Why is your son wearing a pot on his head?

B: He's making believe that he's a robot.



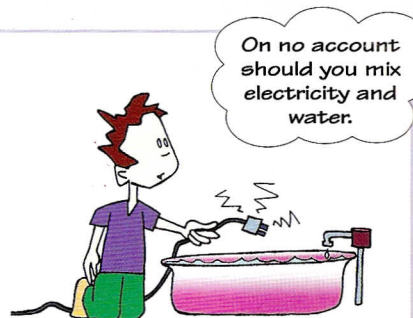
❑ **on no account** = never; in no instance

On no account should you open the door if you don't know who is there.

On no account should you give your credit card number to strangers.

A: I can't believe there was a worm in your hamburger!

B: On no account am I going to eat at that place again!



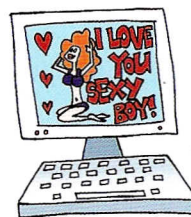
❑ **originate from** = come from; start from

The legend originated from the Native American tribes in the southwest.

The letter originated from Paris.

A: My grandparents were from Germany.

B: My ancestors originated from Norway.



He was sure that the e-mail message originated from someone in the office.

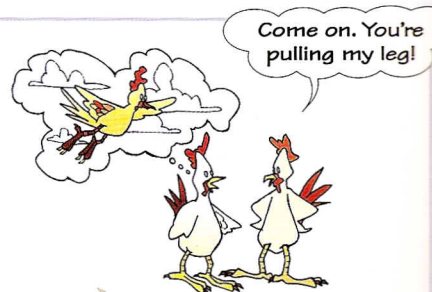
❑ **pull one's leg** = trick or fool one

You're not a spy. You're pulling my leg!

He told her he was French, but he was pulling her leg.

A: Stop pulling my leg!

B: I'm serious! There is a snake in my house!



❑ **throw up** = vomit

If you drink too much, you will throw up.

The baby threw up on her grandfather's suit.

A: Did you see Bill and Monica kissing at the party last night?

B: Yes. It made me want to throw up!



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. _____, Florida has a pleasant climate year round.
 - a. By and large
 - b. Due to
 - c. On no account
2. He was just _____ when he told her the boss was angry with her.
 - a. losing track of
 - b. pulling her leg
 - c. throwing up
3. The rumor about our relationship _____ your sister.
 - a. fell behind
 - b. made believe
 - c. originated from
4. If you _____ in your work for this class, you will have problems.
 - a. make believe
 - b. fall behind
 - c. lose track of
5. Young boys like to _____ that they are cowboys or astronauts.
 - a. make believe
 - b. throw up
 - c. fall behind
6. None of the cars on the highway were moving _____ an accident further up the road.
 - a. due to
 - b. on no account
 - c. by and large
7. She can't eat watermelon. It makes her _____.
 - a. pull its leg
 - b. originate from
 - c. throw up
8. _____ should you try to repair the computer's memory yourself.
 - a. On no account
 - b. By and large
 - c. Due to
9. We _____ time and ended up talking until two in the morning.
 - a. originated from
 - b. lost track of
 - c. made believe
10. The police could find no clues _____ the disappearance of the two girls.
 - a. make believe
 - b. as to
 - c. on no account

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

pulling my leg
make believe

due to
on no account

lost track of
throw up

In class:

Ed: Did you finish the essay we have to turn in today, May?

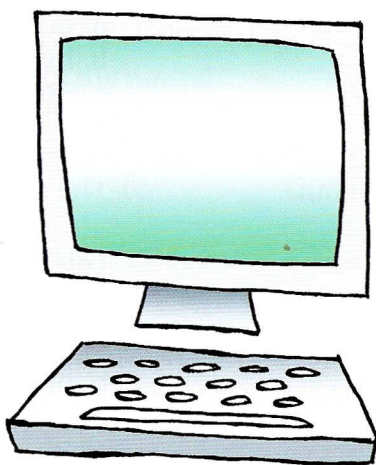
May: No. I didn't write my paper _____ this awesome website I found last night while I was surfing. While I was on the site chatting, I _____ time. Then I looked at the clock and it was one in the morning!

Ed: What? I hope you're just _____. You know the teacher told us that _____ should we miss an essay deadline. She doesn't accept any late papers!

May: Don't worry! I'm going to _____ I'm sick.

Ed: Unless you _____ in class, I don't think she is going to believe you.

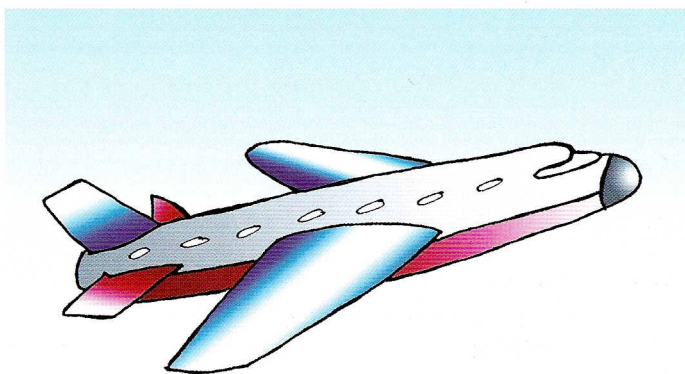
May: Hey! That's a great idea!



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

I hate to fly, but I recently had to take a plane to a conference. One reason I hate to fly is that I get airsick. Before this flight, I took some medicine so I wouldn't **throw up** on the plane.



² Another reason I hate to fly is that I don't like to talk to strangers. On this flight, I **made believe** I was asleep so the person next to me wouldn't bother me.

³ **By and large**, the flight itself wasn't too bad when we were in the air. But there were always problems on the ground. For example, we had to stop in St. Louis and change planes. But the flight I had to change to was delayed. The flight I needed to catch **originated from** Washington, D.C., but it **fell behind** schedule **due to** bad weather. I had to wait in the airport for two hours!

⁴ Then, when we finally got to Los Angeles, the pilot had trouble finding the gate. We landed but the plane kept driving around. I knew that **on no account** should you get out of your seat while the plane is moving, so I started looking through one of the magazines on the plane. I came across an interesting article, so I **lost track of** time. But we must have been driving around for ten minutes at least. I asked a flight attendant for an explanation **as to** the delay. She said, "I think we're lost."

⁵ I wasn't sure if he was serious, so I said, "You're **pulling my leg**."

At that moment the pilot came on the intercom and asked, "Does anyone know where Gate 12 is?"

Lesson 30



be well off
for good
let alone
look back on
lose one's head

make faces
regardless of
result in
stand up to
what for

□ be well off = rich

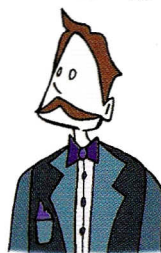
They aren't very well off, but they're happy.

He was well off until he lost all of his money in a bad investment.

A: I heard that Carol's folks are well off.

B: Yes. Her mother is a fashion designer.

Mr. Sanchez is well off.



□ for good = finally; forever

He plans to move to New York for good.

They closed their store downtown for good.

A: Good news! I quit smoking for good!

B: Congratulations! Now, what about your gambling?

Our relationship is over for good.

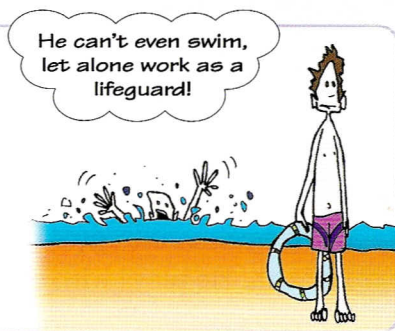


❑ **let alone** = never mind; even less

I can barely afford this apartment, let alone a house.
She won't do any typing, let alone organize the filing.

A: Would you like to be on our baseball team?

B: Me? Hah! I can barely throw a ball, let alone hit one.



❑ **look back on** = remember

There are many good memories I can look back on from high school.

She doesn't like to look back on her life in Arizona.

A: When you look back on your life, do you have any regrets?

B: Yeah. I wish I hadn't invested all that money in stocks.



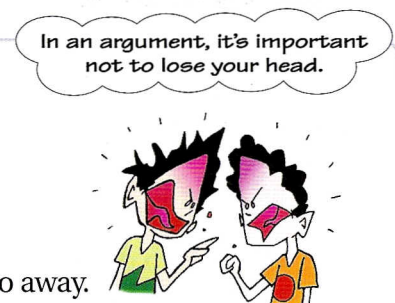
❑ **lose one's head** = act irrationally (from anger or worry)

He lost his head when she told him she was leaving.

In an emergency, it is important not to lose your head.

A: Ted, that bear is coming right at us!

B: Don't lose your head! Just pretend to be asleep and it will go away.



❑ **make faces** = move one's eyes and mouth to create a silly or funny appearance

The baby laughed when I made faces at him.

Don't make faces! Just eat your broccoli. I don't care if you don't like it.

A: Why were you arrested?

B: I made faces at the queen.



❑ **regardless of** = no matter; without considering

She plans to go to Spain regardless of the cost.

Regardless of what other people thought, he quit his job and joined the circus.

A: Steve is a crazy guy!

B: Yeah. He plays with crocodiles regardless of the danger.



He decided to wear his favorite outfit regardless of what the others thought.

❑ **result in** = lead to; cause

The earthquake resulted in the deaths of thirty people.
Smoking often results in health problems.

A: Speeding could result in a traffic fine.

B: I know, but we're late for the wedding!



Coming to work late again will result in him losing his job.

❑ **stand up to** = fight; be against (usually someone stronger)

You can't let them push you around like that. Stand up to them!

She finally stood up to her mother and told her she was old enough to get married.

A: I want to be a dancer, but my father says I have to join the army.

B: I think you should stand up to him and tell him what you really want.



I just can't stand up to my father.

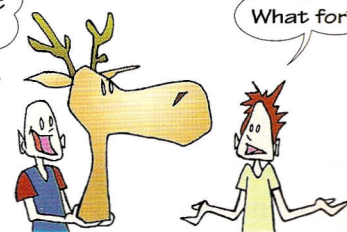
❑ **what for** = why

"She gave me five dollars." "What for?"

"I have to go back to the office." "What for?"

A: Let's give Jimmy some money for his birthday.

B: What for? He'll just waste it on video games.



Here. I got you this!

What for?

Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. "I think Mr. Jones wants to see you." " _____?"
 - a. What for
 - b. Stand up to him
 - c. Let it alone
2. He _____ at her to try and make her smile.
 - a. looked back on
 - b. lost his head
 - c. made faces
3. He was afraid to _____ his older brother because he was so strong.
 - a. make faces
 - b. look back on
 - c. stand up to
4. I'm sorry I yelled at you. I _____.
 - a. lost my head
 - b. resulted in
 - c. stood up to you
5. If you don't use the correct parts, it could _____ a poor final product.
 - a. result in
 - b. let alone
 - c. regardless of
6. We have to try and rescue the children _____ the danger!
 - a. well off
 - b. regardless of
 - c. for good
7. When he turned eighteen, he moved out of his parents' house _____.
 - a. regardless of
 - b. for good
 - c. well off
8. She has a hard time speaking English, _____ writing it.
 - a. for good
 - b. let alone
 - c. regardless of
9. When you _____ your career, what do you see as your greatest achievement?
 - a. stand up to
 - b. what for
 - c. look back on
10. Although their house is not big, the family is actually very _____.
 - a. let alone
 - b. well off
 - c. what for

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

let alone
making faces

Looking back on
result in

lost his head
what for

In the park:

Alice: What happened to you?

Ted: That big guy over there hit me!

Alice: _____?

Ted: I'm not sure. _____ what happened, it doesn't make any sense.

Alice: You must have done something to _____ his hitting you.

Ted: I was playing with some kid. I guess it was his son.

Alice: How were you playing?

Ted: We were just _____ at each other. Then I must have made a scary face because the kid started crying. But I didn't touch the kid, _____ hurt him.

Alice: So the kid's father hit you?

Ted: Yeah, I guess when he heard his son crying, he _____ and attacked me!

Alice: Let's go get some ice for your eye. It looks terrible.



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

I used to deliver the mail in a very rich neighborhood. When I **look back on** that time, I have to laugh. Most people in that neighborhood **were** very **well off** and had big houses, but they all tended to prefer small dogs. Those dogs were little, but they were also mean! In fact, I quit that job **for good** after one of those little dogs bit me.

² One thing I learned about dealing with dogs is that you have to **stand up to** them when they start barking at you. Don't **make faces** at them. If you show them your teeth, it will just **result in** making them angry. And, as a rule, it's best not to move, **let alone** turn your back on them. **Regardless of** how much a dog barks, just stand there and wait for it to get bored. Don't **lose your head** and panic. They usually won't bite unless you do something aggressive.

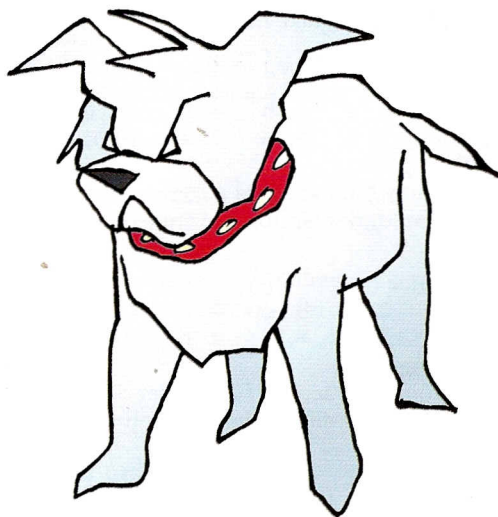
³ Once a little dog was barking at me when one of the people from the neighborhood passed by on the other side of the street. He yelled, "Ask the dog if he wants a bath!"

I asked him, "**What for?**"

The man yelled back, "If you ask him, he'll run away."

⁴ So I tried it. I asked the dog, "Do you want a bath?" And it stopped barking, looked at me, and then ran away! I told the man across the street, "Wow! That dog must really hate baths."

He said, "No, he loves them. He's running home now to get one."



Answer Key

LESSON 1

■ Practice

1. c 2. a 3. c 4. c 5. b
6. b 7. a 8. a 9. b 10. c

■ Dialog

wait on / clean off / came across /
is composed of / on the whole / dress up

LESSON 2

■ Practice

1. c 2. b 3. c 4. a 5. c
6. b 7. a 8. b 9. c 10. b

■ Dialog

turn out / got along with / am not crazy
about / have a point / take a look at / never
mind

LESSON 3

■ Practice

1. a 2. a 3. c 4. b 5. c
6. b 7. a 8. b 9. c 10. a

■ Dialog

pull over / By all means / high time / by
chance / got lost / Carry on

LESSON 4

■ Practice

1. a 2. a 3. a 4. b 5. b
6. c 7. c 8. b 9. c 10. b

■ Dialog

getting better / thinks highly of / refer to him
as / take your time / on my own / more or
less

LESSON 5

■ Practice

1. a 2. c 3. b 4. c 5. b
6. a 7. b 8. b 9. a 10. a

■ Dialog

as of yet / at my fingertips / learned by heart
/ mixed up / take time off / get hold of

LESSON 6

■ Practice

1. a 2. a 3. b 4. b 5. c
6. a 7. b 8. b 9. a 10. c

■ Dialog

ran into / am at a loss / coming up with /
neither dark hair nor / in spite of / for short

LESSON 7

■ Practice

1. b 2. a 3. c 4. c 5. a
6. a 7. c 8. c 9. b 10. a

■ Dialog

of your own accord / Day after day / have to
once and for all / resign yourselves to / add to

LESSON 8

■ Practice

1. a 2. b 3. c 4. b 5. b
6. a 7. c 8. a 9. b 10. a

■ Dialog

came from / is opposed to / stand a chance /
At times / is likely to / Without question

LESSON 9

■ Practice

1. c 2. c 3. b 4. c 5. b
6. a 7. c 8. c 9. b 10. a

■ Dialog

Hand it over / for ages / working out /
turned me down / As usual / catch on

LESSON 10

■ Practice

1. a 2. c 3. c 4. a 5. b
6. a 7. b 8. c 9. a 10. b

■ Dialog

tend to / make sure / Apart from / go for /
goes without saying / take up

LESSON 11

■ Practice

1. a 2. a 3. a 4. c 5. b
6. a 7. a 8. b 9. b 10. c

■ Dialog

burned down / caught fire / sort of / For the
most part / tear down / come to

LESSON 12

■ Practice

1. c 2. b 3. a 4. b 5. c
6. a 7. b 8. a 9. a 10. b

■ Dialog

became of / died of / No way / turn up /
What if / On the other hand

LESSON 13

■ Practice

1. c 2. b 3. c 4. a 5. a
6. b 7. c 8. a 9. b 10. b

■ Dialog

attend to / clear-cut / back and forth / driv-
ing me crazy / fed up with / plays a party in

LESSON 14

■ Practice

1. b 2. b 3. b 4. c 5. b
6. a 7. c 8. a 9. c 10. c

■ Dialog

for sale / are bound to / make a difference /
in the way / tell the real ones from / upside
down

LESSON 15

■ Practice

1. b 2. c 3. b 4. a 5. c
6. c 7. b 8. a 9. a 10. b

■ Dialog

in comparison with / used to / get used to /
end up / in no time / as soon as

LESSON 16

■ Practice

1. c 2. c 3. a 4. c 5. a
6. a 7. b 8. a 9. b 10. a

■ Dialog

Beats me / dates back / not at all / might as well / have access to / let us down

LESSON 17

■ Practice

1. b 2. a 3. b 4. c 5. c
6. a 7. c 8. b 9. a 10. c

■ Dialog

What's up / in charge of / be better off / out of the question / a far cry from / Think nothing of it

LESSON 18

■ Practice

1. b 2. b 3. c 4. c 5. c
6. b 7. c 8. a 9. b 10. c

■ Dialog

fooling around / caught a cold / in time / close call / succeeded in / held her back

LESSON 19

■ Practice

1. a 2. c 3. a 4. a 5. c
6. b 7. b 8. b 9. b 10. b

■ Dialog

name the school after / burst out / criticized her for / stick around / changed my mind / All in all

LESSON 20

■ Practice

1. a 2. a 3. c 4. b 5. a
6. b 7. a 8. c 9. b 10. c

■ Dialog

speak up / On account of / suffered from / cut out / is true of / every so often

LESSON 21

■ Practice

1. a 2. c 3. b 4. b 5. a
6. a 7. a 8. b 9. c 10. c

■ Dialog

or so / at most / deal with / in need / either their money or / amount to

LESSON 22

■ Practice

1. a 2. a 3. b 4. c 5. c
6. b 7. a 8. a 9. a 10. c

■ Dialog

followed up on / get even with / Up to now / No wonder / In light of / is up to you

LESSON 23

■ Practice

1. a 2. c 3. c 4. a 5. a
6. a 7. b 8. b 9. b 10. c

■ Dialog

am concerned about / break down / to say nothing of / get stuck / look on the drive as / relieve you of

LESSON 24

■ Practice

1. b 2. c 3. c 4. a 5. b
6. b 7. a 8. a 9. a 10. c

■ Dialog

sell out / In addition to / deal in / messes up / As for / go wrong

LESSON 25

■ Practice

1. a 2. c 3. a 4. a 5. a
6. c 7. b 8. b 9. b 10. b

■ Dialog

lives up to / in terms of / Lay off / keeping my word / in accordance with / go Dutch

LESSON 26

■ Practice

1. c 2. a 3. b 4. c 5. a
6. b 7. c 8. c 9. b 10. a

■ Dialog

How come / let go of / owing to / rule it out / drop her a line / on behalf of

LESSON 27

■ Practice

1. c 2. b 3. b 4. a 5. a
6. b 7. a 8. a 9. c 10. a

■ Dialog

make room for / in favor of / keep up / on the spot / wasting your breath / You bet

LESSON 28

■ Practice

1. b 2. b 3. b 4. c 5. c
6. c 7. a 8. a 9. a 10. a

■ Dialog

in advance / So far, so good / set aside / take over / settle for / from scratch

LESSON 29

■ Practice

1. a 2. b 3. c 4. b 5. a
6. a 7. c 8. a 9. b 10. b

■ Dialog

due to / lost track of / pulling my leg / on no account / make believe / throw up

LESSON 30

■ Practice

1. a 2. c 3. c 4. a 5. a
6. b 7. b 8. b 9. c 10. b

■ Dialog

What for / Looking back on / result in / making faces / let alone / lost his head

I n d e x

A

□ a far cry from	104
□ a steal	26
□ abide by	62
□ add to	44
□ all along	122
□ all in all	116
□ all the time	86R
□ along with	148R
□ amount to	128
□ anything but	152
□ apart from	62
□ as a matter of fact	164
□ as a rule	38
□ as far as	134
□ as for	146
□ as if	63
□ as of yet	32
□ as soon as	92
□ as to	176
□ as usual	56
□ at (the) most	128
□ at first glance	80
□ at hand	26, 32R
□ at one's fingertips	32
□ at random	164
□ at times	50
□ attend to	80
□ attribute A to B	92

B

□ back and forth	81
□ back up	56
□ be accustomed to	94R
□ be apt to	93
□ be at a loss	38
□ be aware of	177
□ be better off	104
□ be bound to	86
□ be broke	129
□ be composed of	8
□ be concerned about	140
□ be crazy about	14
□ be cut out for	57

□ be familiar with	94R
□ be free to	74
□ be friendly with	15R
□ be ill with	124R
□ be involved with	82R
□ be likely to	50, 93R
□ be made of	8R
□ be no use -ing	81
□ be opposed to	51
□ be out of the question	105
□ be true of	122
□ be up to one	134
□ be well off	182
□ beats me	98
□ become of	74
□ blow up	68
□ both A and B	40R
□ brand-new	33
□ break down	140
□ bring back	68
□ bring up	20
□ burn down	69
□ burst out	116
□ by accident	51
□ by all means	20
□ by and large	176
□ by chance	9R, 21

C

□ call it a day	14
□ carry on	21
□ carry out	135
□ catch a cold	110
□ catch fire	69
□ catch on	57
□ change one's mind	117
□ clean off	8
□ clear-cut	81
□ close call	110
□ come about	170
□ come across	9
□ come down with	110R
□ come from	51, 178
□ come to an end	129
□ come to	69

□ come up with	39
□ concentrate on	15
□ criticize A for B	117
□ cross out	117
□ cut down on	93
□ cut in	33
□ cut out	123

D

□ date back to	98
□ day after day	44
□ day in and day out	86
□ deal in	146
□ deal with	129
□ die of	75
□ do away with	170
□ do without	111
□ draw the line at	21
□ dream up	147
□ dress up	9
□ drive someone crazy	81
□ drop someone a line	158
□ dry out	111
□ due to	177
□ dwell on	33

E

□ either A or B	129
□ end up	93
□ every so often	123

F

□ fall asleep	9
□ fall behind	177
□ fall short of	130
□ fed up with	82
□ feel for	51
□ fill out	9
□ find fault with	147
□ fix up	21
□ follow up on	135
□ fool around	111

<input type="checkbox"/> for ages	57	<input type="checkbox"/> hold back	112	<input type="checkbox"/> look into	106
<input type="checkbox"/> for good	182	<input type="checkbox"/> how come	158	<input type="checkbox"/> look on A as B	141
<input type="checkbox"/> for sale	87			<input type="checkbox"/> look over	118
<input type="checkbox"/> for short	39			<input type="checkbox"/> look to A for B	39
<input type="checkbox"/> for the most part	69	I		<input type="checkbox"/> lose one's head	183
<input type="checkbox"/> for the sake of	52	<input type="checkbox"/> ill at ease	105	<input type="checkbox"/> lose one's temper	22
<input type="checkbox"/> from scratch	171	<input type="checkbox"/> in accordance with	153	<input type="checkbox"/> lose track of	177
<input type="checkbox"/> furnish A with B	75	<input type="checkbox"/> in addition to	148		
		<input type="checkbox"/> in advance	171	M	
G		<input type="checkbox"/> in brief	159	<input type="checkbox"/> make a difference	88
<input type="checkbox"/> get (a) hold of	33	<input type="checkbox"/> in charge of	105	<input type="checkbox"/> make a point of	165
<input type="checkbox"/> get along with	15	<input type="checkbox"/> in comparison with	94	<input type="checkbox"/> make angry	81R
<input type="checkbox"/> get away with	52	<input type="checkbox"/> in fact	164R	<input type="checkbox"/> make believe	177
<input type="checkbox"/> get better	27	<input type="checkbox"/> in favor of	165	<input type="checkbox"/> make faces	183
<input type="checkbox"/> get even with	135	<input type="checkbox"/> in general	10R	<input type="checkbox"/> make one's way	70
<input type="checkbox"/> get lost	22	<input type="checkbox"/> in light of	135	<input type="checkbox"/> make room for	165
<input type="checkbox"/> get nowhere with	111	<input type="checkbox"/> in need (of)	130	<input type="checkbox"/> make sure	64
<input type="checkbox"/> get out of	147	<input type="checkbox"/> in no time	94	<input type="checkbox"/> meet by chance	40R
<input type="checkbox"/> get over	93	<input type="checkbox"/> in one's way	88	<input type="checkbox"/> mess up	148
<input type="checkbox"/> get rid of	170R	<input type="checkbox"/> in regard to	118, 146R	<input type="checkbox"/> might as well	99
<input type="checkbox"/> get stuck	141	<input type="checkbox"/> in retrospect	10	<input type="checkbox"/> mix up	34
<input type="checkbox"/> get the better of	117	<input type="checkbox"/> in short	45, 159R	<input type="checkbox"/> more often than not	15
<input type="checkbox"/> get through	105	<input type="checkbox"/> in spite of	39	<input type="checkbox"/> more or less	27
<input type="checkbox"/> get used to	94	<input type="checkbox"/> in terms of	153		
<input type="checkbox"/> give birth (to)	87	<input type="checkbox"/> in the long run	171	N	
<input type="checkbox"/> give in	87	<input type="checkbox"/> in the manner of	63R	<input type="checkbox"/> name A after B	118
<input type="checkbox"/> give rise to	46	<input type="checkbox"/> in time	112	<input type="checkbox"/> neither A nor B	40
<input type="checkbox"/> go Dutch	152	<input type="checkbox"/> instead of	160	<input type="checkbox"/> never mind	16
<input type="checkbox"/> go for	63	K		<input type="checkbox"/> no matter	70
<input type="checkbox"/> go through	45	<input type="checkbox"/> keep off	159	<input type="checkbox"/> no way	75
<input type="checkbox"/> go without saying	63	<input type="checkbox"/> keep one's word	153	<input type="checkbox"/> no wonder	136
<input type="checkbox"/> go wrong	147	<input type="checkbox"/> keep one's fingers crossed	63	<input type="checkbox"/> not at all	100
		<input type="checkbox"/> keep track of	75	<input type="checkbox"/> now that	136
H		<input type="checkbox"/> keep up	165	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> hand out	87	<input type="checkbox"/> lay off	154	<input type="checkbox"/> of one's own accord	46
<input type="checkbox"/> hand over	57	<input type="checkbox"/> lead the way	99	<input type="checkbox"/> on account of	123
<input type="checkbox"/> hang out	153	<input type="checkbox"/> lead to	184R	<input type="checkbox"/> on average	171
<input type="checkbox"/> happen to	74R	<input type="checkbox"/> learn (something) by heart	34	<input type="checkbox"/> on behalf of	160
<input type="checkbox"/> have a point	15			<input type="checkbox"/> on hand	27
<input type="checkbox"/> have access to	99	<input type="checkbox"/> let alone	183	<input type="checkbox"/> on no account	178
<input type="checkbox"/> have an effect on	82R	<input type="checkbox"/> let down	99	<input type="checkbox"/> on one's own	27
<input type="checkbox"/> have fun	111R	<input type="checkbox"/> let go of	159	<input type="checkbox"/> on the other hand	76
<input type="checkbox"/> have nothing to do with	141	<input type="checkbox"/> lie down	159	<input type="checkbox"/> on the spot	166
<input type="checkbox"/> have to	45	<input type="checkbox"/> live up to	154	<input type="checkbox"/> on the whole	10, 76
<input type="checkbox"/> high time	22	<input type="checkbox"/> look back on	183		
<input type="checkbox"/> hit upon	45				

□ once and for all	46
□ or so	130
□ originate from	178
□ owing to	160

P

□ pass away	123
□ pay back	130
□ pay off	112
□ play a part in	82
□ point out	40
□ pull one's leg	178
□ pull over	22
□ put away	141
□ put out	100

R

□ refer to A as B	28
□ regardless of	39R, 184
□ relieve A of B	142
□ resign oneself to	46
□ result in	184
□ rule out	160
□ run into	40
□ run over	64

S

□ see eye to eye	154
□ sell out	148
□ serve one right	58
□ set aside	172
□ set out	10
□ settle down	154
□ settle for	172
□ so far, so good	172
□ sort of	70
□ speak up	124
□ stand a chance	52
□ stand out	100
□ stand to reason	76
□ stand up to	184
□ stay put	124
□ stick around	118
□ succeed in	112

□ suffer from	124
□ sum up	166

T

□ take a look at	16
□ take apart	58
□ take by surprise	34
□ take care of	80R
□ take for granted	142
□ take into account	82
□ take one's time	28
□ take over	172
□ take time off	34
□ take up	64
□ tear down	70
□ tell A from B	88
□ tend to	64
□ thanks to	148
□ think A as B	141
□ think highly of	28
□ think nothing of	106
□ think over	100
□ think up	45R, 106, 147
□ throw up	178
□ to say nothing of	142
□ trade in	142
□ try out	28
□ turn down	58
□ turn into	82
□ turn out	16
□ turn up	76

U

□ under the weather	124
□ up to now	136
□ upside down	88
□ use up	136
□ used to	94

W

□ wait on	10
□ waste one's breath	166
□ what for	184
□ what if	76
□ what's up	106

□ when it comes to	40
□ without question	52
□ work out	58
□ wrap up	16

Y

□ yield to	160
□ you bet	166

*R (Related idiom)

The ***Illustrated Everyday Expressions with stories*** series makes learning common English idioms fun. Together, the two books in the series provide easy-to-read examples of 600 common idioms in English.

Lessons in ***Illustrated Everyday Expressions with stories*** include:

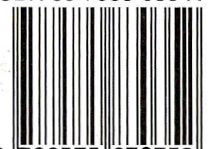
- quick reference list of target idioms
- short definitions for each idiom
- sample sentences and dialogs using the idioms in context
- humorous illustrations depicting each idiom
- exercises to review idioms studied
- readings using all of the Lesson's idioms together in a story

Put away those other books with nothing but long lists of idioms and let ***Illustrated Everyday Expressions with stories*** show you the fun and funny way to learn English idioms!

Book 1

Book 2

ISBN 85-7583-035-X



9 788575 830352