

1F

IDIOMS

Look at the pictures. Can you guess what the topic idiom is about?



EXERCISE A: Match the idioms in column A with their meanings in column B.

A

1. bookworm
2. cut class
3. learn by heart
4. as easy as ABC
5. catch up to

B

- a. to move fast or work hard to reach someone or something that is ahead of you
- b. someone who reads a lot
- c. very easy
- d. to learn or memorize something without thinking about it
- e. to not go to class

EXERCISE B: Complete the following sentences by filling in the appropriate idioms.

bookworm	cut class	catch up to
learned by heart	as easy as ABC	

1. My sister is a _____ and is always reading a book.
2. I decided to _____ in order to study for my geography test.
3. The children _____ all of the songs _____ for the school play.
4. Learning how to use a computer is _____ for the children.
5. After my illness, I had to study very hard to _____ the rest of the class.

EXERCISE C: Make sentences using the learned idioms.

1. _____.
2. _____.
3. _____.
4. _____.
5. _____.

EXERCISE D: Answer your teacher's questions.

1. What is a good education?
2. What would you like to change about the education system of your country?
3. When does education begin?
4. What do you think of single-sex education?
5. Do you think the quality of education is slipping?
6. What would the world be like if everyone had access to a good education?
7. Does your government really care about education?
8. In which country do you think you can receive the best education?
9. How important do you think education is?
10. What do you think of the idea of lifelong education?

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EXERCISE A: Match the idioms in column A with their meanings in column B.

A

1. sweeten the deal
2. rock-bottom
3. putting our cards on the table
4. playing its ace
5. go for broke

B

- a. to risk everything in hopes of getting something
- b. to give an attractive offer to the other party during a negotiation process
- c. to use one's best resources – abilities, funds, connections, etc. – or everything
- d. to be transparent in negotiations
- e. the lowest price that a negotiating party is willing to give for something

EXERCISE B: Complete the following sentences by filling in the appropriate idioms.

went for broke rock-bottom	playing its ace sweetened the deal	putting cards on the table
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1. We're _____. We want to buy this company and put our own management team.
2. One of our competitors is _____ to stage a hostile takeover of our company.
3. The farmers _____ during the trial. Fortunately, the law sided with them and granted them absolute rights to their lands.
4. The negotiators _____ by adding a 10-year warranty on top of the 10% discount on the purchase.
5. The amount of \$13.5 million is our _____ offer for this mansion. Take it or leave it.

EXERCISE C: Make sentences using the learned idioms.

1. _____.
2. _____.
3. _____.
4. _____.
5. _____.

EXERCISE D: Answer your teacher's questions.

1. What are the advantages of negotiating via the Internet?
2. What is your negotiation style?
3. Have you been in a particularly frustrating negotiation?
4. All managers sometimes have to have difficult conversations with people working under them. What is the best way to give negative feedback?
5. Are you good at making deals in English, or do you always come out the loser?
6. Have you ever had to negotiate with someone to get what you want?
7. What's important to you? What could you live without having or getting?
8. Do you need to reach an agreement right away? Do you have time on your side or are you in a rush to make an agreement quickly?
9. What kind of agreement would you like to reach? What are you striving for?
10. What is your goal for the negotiation or the best case scenario?

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EXERCISE A: Match the idioms in column A with their meanings in column B.

A

1. null and void
2. legal age
3. last will and testament
4. grace period
5. guilty beyond reasonable doubt

B

- a. the period of time that immediately comes after a deadline for paying a bill
- b. a legal document that a person has made before dying
- c. people are expected to be fully responsible for their actions
- d. something has already been cancelled
- e. there are sufficient pieces of evidence to prove that he or she has done something wrong

EXERCISE B: Complete the following sentences by filling in the appropriate idioms.

grace period	last will and testament	legal age
null and void	guilty beyond reasonable	

1. The duchess did not leave any _____. Now her kids are fighting over her massive wealth.
2. The company was kind enough to give us a 30-day _____ to pay our credit card bill.
3. The court case against the company was _____. The company had settled the lawsuit out of court.
4. These kids cannot buy alcohol. They are obviously below _____.
5. The jury found the accused _____ of over 45 counts of sexual assault.

EXERCISE C: Make sentences using the learned idioms.

1. _____.
2. _____.
3. _____.
4. _____.
5. _____.

EXERCISE D: Answer your teacher's questions.

1. Why do we have laws?
2. What laws in your country do you hate?
3. Do you think all laws are good?
4. Have you ever been to see a lawyer?
5. Do you think there are laws for the rich and different laws for the poor?
6. Do you think the laws in your country are similar to those in other countries?
7. Have you ever broken any laws?
8. Are there any laws in your country that you think should be made tighter?
9. What new laws do you think we'll have fifty years from now?
10. What law would you like to make for your English class?

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EXERCISE A: Match the idioms in column A with their meanings in column B.

A

1. at all costs
2. beyond one's wildest dreams
3. eager beaver
4. buckle down
5. have one's heart set on

B

- a. to apply oneself with determination hard work and give it one's full attention
- b. determined to obtain something you want very much
- c. determined to obtain or achieve something regardless of the expense effort or sacrifice involved
- d. better than one imagined or hoped for
- e. a person who is hardworking and enthusiastic

EXERCISE B: Complete the following sentences by filling in the appropriate idioms.

at all costs had his heart set on eager beaver beyond their wildest dreams buckle down
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1. From an early age Tiger _____ becoming a professional golfer.
2. If you want to pass your exams, you'll have to _____ and do some serious work.
3. The new accountant works all the time - first to arrive and last to leave. He's a real _____!
4. The journalist was determined _____ to get a report from the war zone.
5. The research team received a grant from the government that was _____.

EXERCISE C: Make sentences using the learned idioms.

1. _____.
2. _____.
3. _____.
4. _____.
5. _____.

EXERCISE D: Answer your teacher's questions.

1. Is it important to have ambitions?
2. Who is the most ambitious person you know?
3. Why do we have ambitions?
4. What's the difference between an ambition and a dream?
5. What ambition have you held the longest?
6. What happens after you have fulfilled all of your ambitions?
7. Do you think really old people have ambitions?
8. Do you like ambitious people?
9. What ambitions do you have that you think you'll realize and what ambitions do you have that you won't realize?
10. Can ambitions be dangerous?

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EXERCISE A: Match the idioms in column A with their meanings in column B.

A

1. steer clear of
2. hit and run
3. down the road
4. lose track
5. travel light

B

- a. sometime in the future
- b. to no longer know what is happening, or not to remember something
- c. a road accident in which the driver who caused the accident drives away without helping the other people involved and without telling the police
- d. to go on a journey without taking a lot of things with you
- e. not go near it because it could harm you or cause you a problem

EXERCISE B: Complete the following sentences by filling in the appropriate idioms.

down the road	travel light	steer clear of
lost track	hit and run	

1. The police are hunting a _____ driver.
2. They've _____ of their original goal. I doubt they'll win the next election.
3. My doctor said I should _____ spicy foods until I feel better.
4. I always _____ when I go to England.
5. One day I will have video capability on the site, but that's a long way _____.

EXERCISE C: Make sentences using the learned idioms.

1. _____.
2. _____.
3. _____.
4. _____.
5. _____.

EXERCISE D: Answer your teacher's questions.

1. What was transportation like when you were a kid?
2. What transportation problems are there in your country?
3. How many different kinds of transportation have you been on?
4. What's your favorite means of transportation?
5. Are you happy with transportation services in your country?
6. Which transportation do you prefer – air, sea or road?
7. If you were a mode of transportation, what would you be?
8. What do you think will be the next big breakthrough in transportation?
9. What form of transport is worst for the environment?
10. What do you think is the most dangerous form of transportation and why?