

1G

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. a bag of bones
2. at death's door
3. come down with a cold
4. feeling on top of the world
5. back on her feet

B

- a. extremely thin
- b. to feel very healthy
- c. very near death
- d. physically healthy again
- e. to become sick with something, to catch an illness

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

came down with a cold	at death's door	back on her feet
feeling on top of the world	a bag of bones	

1. When he came home from the war he was _____.
2. The sales manager was _____ after his heart attack.
3. My mother is _____ after being sick for two weeks.
4. My niece _____ and was unable to visit me last week.
5. I have been _____ since I quit my job.

EXERCISE C: Make sentences using the learned idioms.

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

EXERCISE D: Answer your teacher's questions.

1. Do you do anything to stay healthy?
2. How often do you have a health check?
3. Do you ever worry about your own mental health?
4. What health problems do you worry about most?
5. What can you do to improve your health?
6. Do you read magazines or newspaper articles about health?
7. Who are the healthiest people in the world and why are they so healthy?
8. What are the best and worst jobs for your health?
9. What things do you do that might damage your health?
10. What do you think of wellness institutions and their programs?

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

A

1. stand a chance
2. not get one's hopes up
3. dash one's hopes
4. never say die
5. live in hope

B

- a. to hope that something you want to happen will happen one day
- b. [one] should not expect something to happen;
- c. to ruin someone's hopes
- d. stay optimistic
- e. to have a chance of doing something

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

dashed my hopes	not get your hopes up	live in hope
stand a chance	never say die	

1. Everyone _____ of catching the disease.
2. The rain could stop so we can go to the beach, but you should _____.
3. Mary _____ when she said she wouldn't marry me.
4. There are still a dozen of job vacancies that she hasn't tried. _____.
5. None of my poems have been published yet, but I _____.

EXERCISE C: Make sentences using the learned idioms.

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

EXERCISE D: Answer your teacher's questions.

1. What gives you hope? And what, if anything, makes you question hope?
2. What is your biggest goal in life?
3. What do you hope to have achieved by the time you're sixty?
4. Who do you talk to for encouragement and inspiration?
5. How can you make yourself believe more in yourself?
6. How can you motivate others to have hope when there seems like there's no hope?
7. What do you do when you feel depressed?
8. What would a hopeless world look like?
9. What is the nature of hope, and in what do we as human beings place our hope?
10. How could hope be shared to individuals that are seriously broken and probably incapable of functioning in, or gainfully contributing to society (i.e., the mentally ill, physically/intellectually disabled, terminally ill, chronically homeless, etc...)?

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

A

1. bite my tongue
2. cover one's track
3. dark horse
4. behind closed door
5. keep under wraps

B

- a. done privately or in secret, with no observers or intruders
- b. try not to say what you really think or feel
- c. it is held secret and not revealed to anyone
- d. secretive or that little is known about the person
- e. to conceal or destroy evidence of what you have been doing or where you have been

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

kept under wraps	behind closed doors	covered his tracks
dark horse	bite my tongue	

1. The matter was discussed _____.
2. It was difficult for me not to react; I had to _____.
3. Charlie was sorry he hadn't _____ better when his wife discovered he had been unfaithful.
4. I can't say I know my neighbor. He's a bit of a _____.
5. The plan was _____ until the contract was officially signed.

EXERCISE C: Make sentences using the learned idioms.

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

EXERCISE D: Answer your teacher's questions.

1. How many secrets do you have?
2. Have you ever revealed someone's secret when you weren't supposed to?
3. Do you keep secrets from your family?
4. Why do people have secrets?
5. Do different cultures have different kinds of secrecy?
6. Have you revealed a secret you shouldn't have told? Why did you do it?
7. What professions or organizations deal in secrets?
8. What kind of information should be kept secret?
9. If your friend did something dangerous or illegal would you tell someone about it?
10. Do you think it is ok for a married couple to keep secrets from each other?

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

A

1. make my blood run cold
2. heart in her mouth
3. butterflies in my stomach
4. afraid of her own shadow
5. ignorance is bliss

B

- a. very nervous or easily frightened
- b. shocks or scares you a lot
- c. feeling very nervous
- d. if you don't know about a problem or unpleasant fact, you won't worry about it
- e. feel extremely anxious or nervous faced with a dangerous or unpleasant situation

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

heart in her mouth	made my blood run cold	butterflies in my stomach
ignorance is bliss	afraid of her own shadow	

1. The look in the prisoner's eye _____!
2. Emma had her _____ when she saw her two-year-old son standing in front of the open window.
3. I didn't know our neighbor was an escaped prisoner until the police arrived - _____!
4. At the beginning of an exam, I always have _____.
5. I've never seen anyone so easily scared. She's _____!

EXERCISE C: Make sentences using the learned idioms.

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

EXERCISE D: Answer your teacher's questions.

1. What is your biggest fear for yourself?
2. What is your biggest fear for the world?
3. How do you react to fear?
4. What happens to you physically and emotionally when fear takes hold of you / overcomes you?
5. Do you think society lives in fear?
6. How often do you jump or start when something frightens you?
7. What do you think having a fear of the 21st century would be like?
8. Do you like putting yourself in situations where you can feel fear?
9. Do you ever have nightmares (bad dreams)?
10. Have you overcome any of your fears?

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

A

1. lose my train of thought
2. slip my mind
3. if my memory serves me well
4. refresh one's memory
5. bear in mind

B

- a. to remember it because it is important
- b. forget about something
- c. remember correctly or you have not forgotten any details
- d. to remind someone of facts he/she seems to have forgotten
- e. to forget what you were saying after a disturbance or interruption

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

refresh your memory	if my memory serves me well	slipped my mind
bear in mind	lost my train of thought	

1. You must _____ that the cost of living is higher in New York.
2. Now where was I? I'm afraid _____.
3. Let me _____ - you've already missed three classes this term.
4. Oh dear! It _____ that the shops were closed today!
5. You're Aya's daughter, _____.

EXERCISE C: Make sentences using the learned idioms.

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

EXERCISE D: Answer your teacher's questions.

1. Do you have a good memory or a bad memory?
2. What is the best memory you have?
3. What do you wish you were better at remembering?
4. Is the ability to memorize lots of things important? Why or why not?
5. What would life be like if you had a perfect memory?
6. What do you think would be the worst part about losing your memory, for example, in the case of dementia?
7. If you could edit your memories, which ones would you erase and why? Which ones would you make clearer and more vivid?
8. Do certain photographs bring back memories? Is there a special picture that reminds you of a good memory?
9. Do you think it would be easier to erase bad memories? Would you do it?
10. Would you like to have a perfect memory? Why or why not? How would it change your life?