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Learning about idioms

In this section the units deal with key aspects of what idioms are and how you can use them.

- 1 What are idioms?
- 2 When and how are idioms used?
- 3 Using reference resources
- 4 Common metaphors in idioms
- 5 Using idioms accurately
- 6 Playing with idioms
- 7 Idioms from other varieties of English
- 8 New idioms

Types of idiom

In this section the units deal with specific individual types of idiom.

- 9 Similes
- 10 Binomials
- 11 Proverbs
- 12 Euphemisms
- 13 Clichés and fixed statements
- 14 Other languages

Idioms from the topic area of ...

In this section the units are organised around the aspect of life from which the idioms have originated.

- 15 Sailing
- 16 War and conflict
- 17 Transport
- 18 Animals
- 19 Parts of the body
- 20 Games and sport
- 21 Ancient myths and history
- 22 Shakespeare
- 23 Literature
- 24 Science and technology

Idioms to talk about ...

In this section the units are organised around the topic or functional area where they are most likely to be used.

- 25 Films, plays and books
- 26 Relationships – friends and family
- 27 People – character and behaviour
- 28 People – appearance
- 29 Crime and punishment
- 30 Work

31 Business news	Business news
32 Business meetings	Business meetings
33 Money	Money
34 Society	Society
35 Daily life	Daily life
36 Positive feelings	Positive feelings
37 Negative feelings	Negative feelings
38 Problems	Problems

Idioms used in ...

This section focuses on some of the written contexts where idioms are frequently found.

39 Journalism	Journalism
40 Advertising	Advertising
41 Formal writing	Formal writing

Idioms used in conversation

This section focuses on ways in which idioms are typically used in spoken language.

42 Advising and warning	Advising and warning
43 Telling stories	Telling stories
44 Responding to what people say	Responding to what people say
45 Agreeing and disagreeing	Agreeing and disagreeing
46 Expressing success and failure	Expressing success and failure
47 Emphasising	Emphasising

Idioms using these keywords:

In this section each unit focuses on one keyword which has given rise to a particularly large number of English idioms.

48 Play and game	Play and game
49 Half	Half
50 Two	Two
51 All	All
52 No	No
53 Hand	Hand
54 Heart	Heart
55 Life and live	Life and live
56 Dead and death	Dead and death
57 Mind	Mind
58 Hard	Hard
59 Fall	Fall
60 Own	Own

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