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| **idiom** | **meaning** | **example sentence** |
| **all ears** | fully listening | Give me a minute to finish my work and then I'll be **all ears** to hear about your project. |
| **break a leg** | good-luck | Today's the big game, eh? **Break a leg!** |
| **cold feet** | nervous just before a big event | My sister didn't get **cold feet** until she put her wedding gown on. |
| **cost an arm and a leg** | be very expensive | These cakes are delicious, but they **cost an arm and a leg**. |
| **cry your heart out** | cry very hard | I **cried my heart out** when my best friend moved away. |
| **face the music** | meet, stand up to unpleasant conseqences, for example criticism or punishment | I stayed out all night. When I eventually got home I had to **face the music** from my wife. |
| **(my) flesh and blood** | relative | I have to hire Mia. She's my own **flesh and blood**. |
| **get something off one's chest** | tell someone your problems | Thanks for listening to me complain about my boss. I just needed to **get this off my chest**. |
| **give a hand, lend a hand** | help (someone) do something | I can **give you a hand** when you move if you like. |
| **have one's head in the clouds** | be unaware or unrealistic about something | Amy **has her head in the clouds** if she thinks she's going to pass her exams without studying. |
| **head over heels** | deeply in love | My brother is **head over heels** for his new girlfriend. |
| **head start** | an earlier start | The kids gave Anthony a **head start** in the bicycle race because he was the youngest. |
| **in over one's head** | taking on a task that you can't handle | I was **in over my head** when I agreed to babysit the triplets and the dogs. |
| **keep an eye on** | take care of, watch in order to protect | I'll **keep an eye on** the dinner while you're on the phone. |
| **keep one's chin up** | try to be cheerful | **Keep your chin up**. I'm sure you'll make some friends soon. |
| **learn by heart, know by heart** | memorize | I learned my multiplication tables **by heart**in the fourth grade. |
| **let one's hair down** | relax, have fun | Go to the cottage and **let your hair down** this weekend. |
| **(my) lips are sealed** | promise to keep a secret | Don't worry, I won't tell your mother how much you spent. **My lips are sealed**. |
| **makes my blood boil** | makes me very angry | It **makes my blood boil** when people don't tie up their dogs. |
| **neck of the woods** | nearby location or region | I heard that they might be opening a post office in our **neck of the woods** soon. |
| **(an) old hand** | an experienced person | My uncle's **an old hand** at car repair. He'll know what the problem is. |
| **over my dead body** | not unless I'm dead and can't stop you | My daughter wants a tatoo. I told her she'd get one **over my dead body**. |
| **pat on the back** | recognition or a thank-you | The party organizers deserve a **pat on the back** for a job well done. |
| **play something by ear** | do something without a plan | We don't know if the weather will be good enough for camping. We'll have to **play it by ear**. |
| **pull one's leg** | joke or tease someone | I was just **pulling your leg**. I'm not really a police officer. |
| **rule of thumb** | basic rule (not always followed) | The **rule of thumb** is that the students wear black pants and white shirts. |
| **see eye to eye** | agree | The couple don't **see eye to eye** on how to train their pets. |
| **(by the) skin of one's teeth** | just barely | I passed my exam **by the skin of my teeth**. |
| **stick your neck out** | help someone a lot, with possible bad consequences for oneself | I **stuck my neck out** for Bessie when she was thrown out of her house. |
| **sweet tooth** | a love of sugar or sweet things | I need three spoonfuls of sugar in my tea. I have a **sweet tooth**. |
| **thick in the head** | not very intelligent | I'm a bit **thick in the head** when it comes to reading a map. |
| **wash one's hands of something** | stop dealing with an issue or problem | I'm **washing my hands of** Mary's addiction. She is going to have to get some professional help. |

I. Match the idioms to their definition.

1. over my dead body a/ not very intelligent

2. stick your neck out b/ relax

3. wash one’s hands of sth c/ recognition or a thank you

4. by the skin of one’s teeth d/ basic rule

5. the rule of thumb e/ not unless I am dead and I can’t stop you

6. pat on the back f/ help sb in spite of the bad consequences

7. thick in the head g/ stop dealing with a problem

8. neck of the woods h/ just barely

9. in over one’s head i/ nearby location

10. let one’s hair down j/ taking on a task you can’t handle

1. Read the sentences and explain the meaning of the idioms in bold.
2. Give me a minute to finish my work and then I'll be **all ears** to hear about your project.
3. I was just **pulling your leg**. I'm not really a police officer.
4. I need three spoonfuls of sugar in my tea. I have a **sweet tooth**.
5. The couple don't **see eye to eye** on how to train their pets.
6. We don't know if the weather will be good enough for camping. We'll have to **play it by ear**.
7. My uncle's **an old hand** at car repair. He'll know what the problem is.
8. It **makes my blood boil** when people don't tie up their dogs.
9. Don't worry, I won't tell your mother how much you spent. **My lips are sealed**.
10. **Keep your chin up**. I'm sure you'll make some friends soon.

10. The kids gave Anthony a **head start** in the bicycle race because he was the youngest.

11. My brother is **head over heels** for his new girlfriend.

12. I'll **keep an eye on** the dinner while you're on the phone.

13. I can **give you a hand** when you move if you like.

14. Amy **has her head in the clouds** if she thinks she's going to pass her exams without studying.

15. I learned my multiplication tables **by heart** in the fourth grade.

16. I have to hire Mia. She's my own **flesh and blood**.

17. Thanks for listening to me complain about my boss. I just needed to **get this off my chest**.

18. I **cried my heart out** when my best friend moved away.

19. Today's the big game, eh? **Break a leg!**

1. Fill in the gaps with an idiom.
2. It was such a bad movie that I …………………………………throughout.
3. I cut my own hair because the hairdresser costs……………………….
4. ………………………………….I’m sure someone will find your kitten.
5. I love cotton candy. I have a …………………………………………………….
6. I’m just ……………………………………………. I didn’t really dye my hair blue.
7. I like to drink wine and ……………………………….. at the weekend.
8. Let’s get together in my ………………………………..for once.
9. We’re going away for the weekend. Can you…………………………

on our house?

1. It makes ……………………………………………………when people don’t clear their snowy sidewalks.
2. I should know his phone number ……………………………….after all this time.