

IDIOMS: Read these paragraphs and explain what is happening. Tell the meaning of the underlined idiom.

1-How's your dad? He's taken a turn for the worse, I'm afraid. He has severe kidney disease. He's living on borrowed time. We are in a race against time to get a new kidney for him before he dies.

2-It took a long time, but Jill finally got what's coming to her. She was always rude and uppity to her employees. Now she has a boss that barely acknowledges her. He puts her down at every meeting. It's good enough for her, I say.

3-I'm about to throw in the towel on this project. I thought it would be simple, but it has turned out to be difficult and time consuming. Next time I'll hire a professional.

4-Got a minute?

I'd love to visit with you, but I'm really pressed for time right now. Can we talk later?

It will only take a minute. I know this will be of interest to you. I've got the figures for the Baldwin Project. They're better than expected.

I'm glad to hear it, but I still think that over the long haul our money would do better invested in the market.

You have to admit, a 10% return on the dollar is a good result.

5-Carol was promoted to vice-president this afternoon. Who would have thought it?

It is amazing in this very male dominated industry that a woman was given an executive position.

She got a big raise with the promotion. I bet she is sitting on top of the world right now. Good for her. I hope she

makes the most of it. This could be a springboard to bigger and better things. I wish her the best.

That makes two of us.

6-I'm sorry. What were we talking about? I've lost my train of thought.

I was asking you how far it is to the university. I'd like to see it while I'm here.

Oh, it's just a stone's throw from here. We can easily walk over. Just let me finish up here and we can head over there.

7-What are you driving at?

Don't take this the wrong way, but I think you should butt out of your daughter and son-in-law's life.

That's easy for you to say. You don't have any kids.

I know it's easier said than done, but they are adults now and deserve a chance to make their own mistakes.

8- What in the world are you doing?

I'm just trying to catch a few z's before I have to give my presentation.

If the boss catches you napping, you'll be toast.

What can I say? I had a late night and I'm really tired.

It's your neck in the noose. This presentation can make or break you. If you do a good job, you'll be back in the manager's good graces. If you fall flat on your face, you're probably out of here.

That's why I'm taking a little snooze. After a short nap, I'll be fresh as a daisy.

9-I'm on pins and needles waiting to hear my score on the TOEFL. It's now or never for me. If I fail the exam again, I'll give up and get a job. But if I pass, I'll be off and running, a bachelor's degree first, than my medical degree. The sky's the limit.

10-I'll be glad to get this lawsuit over and done with. The lawyer says it's an open and shut case. I have a contract with the company and they broke it. It's plain and simple.

Discuss these questions.

1. If you had to spend the rest of your life in one place, where would it be? Would it bother you to spend your whole life in one place? Are you comfortable with the idea of moving frequently? Do you and your spouse feel the same about moving frequently? What is the worst part of moving?
2. What is the first thing you notice about someone when meeting for the first time? Do you always trust your first impressions? Do "clothes make the man"?
3. Name a book that almost everyone is required to read in school in your country. Tell about it. 4. What is your favorite thing about being sick?
5. What are your two favorite salad ingredients?
6. How often do you pretend not to see people that you know?
7. What is the worst thing about going to the beach?
8. If you could meet any person from history, who would it be?