

Idioms: Describing Physical Actions



1 They're **shaking hands**.



2 His **arms are folded**.



3 He's **shaking his head** (= 'No'). OPP **nod your head** (= 'Yes').



4 She's standing **on tiptoe**.



5 She's **throwing the carton away**.



6 She's **got her legs crossed**.



7 They're walking **hand in hand** (also they're holding hands).



8 He's **blowing his nose**.



9 He's **doing his jacket up**.



10 He's **hanging his jacket up**.



11 She's put her jumper **on inside out**.



12 He's put his jumper **on back to front**.



13 He's just **fallen over**.



14 She's **tripped him up**.



15 The cyclist **knocked her over**.



16 He's **knocked him out**.

1 Match 1–8 with a–h.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Don't cross | a over on the grass. |
| 2 He sat with his arms | b down. |
| 3 Do your | c folded. |
| 4 They've knocked the building | d your nose. |
| 5 My top was inside | e up behind the door. |
| 6 I fell | f your legs. |
| 7 Blow | g coat up. |
| 8 Hang it | h out. |

2 Correct the mistake in each sentence.

- ▶ She sat down and crossed her arms. legs
- 1 I think he's nodding his hand.
 - 2 He's wearing his T-shirt front to back.
 - 3 They're shaking hand.
 - 4 The little boy can't do out the buttons on his shirt.
 - 5 The drugs completely knocked me over.
 - 6 She told the children to fold their hands.
 - 7 That stupid boy tripped me down.
 - 8 She felt over on the ice.

3 Complete the sentences.

- 1 I didn't fall over – she pushed me and _____ me over!
- 2 He _____ me up when I was running for the ball, and I fell on my face.
- 3 I saw your sister and her boyfriend in the park, and they were walking hand in _____.
- 4 I think you've got your skirt on back to _____.
- 5 Where can I _____ up my coat? ~ There's a hook behind that door.
- 6 You'll be able to see through that window if you stand on _____.
- 7 The children sat on the floor with their legs _____, waiting for the teacher.
- 8 Please don't throw the newspaper _____; I haven't read it yet.

4 Use an idiom or phrasal verb to explain what the people are doing, or have done, in these situations.

- ▶ I think he's saying 'yes'. He's nodding his head.
- 1 They're meeting for the first time.
 - 2 She doesn't want those old magazines.
 - 3 I think he might have a cold.
 - 4 The label is showing on his T-shirt.
 - 5 I think she's saying 'no'.
 - 6 He hit me and I was unconscious for a minute.
 - 7 He can only just see over the wall.
 - 8 Maybe they're boyfriend and girlfriend.

5 ABOUT YOU AND YOUR COUNTRY Write your answers in your notebook, or talk to another student.

- 1 Do people usually shake hands when they meet?
- 2 Do people nod their head to mean 'yes'?
- 3 Is it rude to blow your nose in public?
- 4 Do young people often hold hands in public places?
- 5 Do women ever walk hand in hand in your country?
- 6 Have you ever been knocked out by anyone?
- 7 Have you ever been knocked over by a bicycle or motorbike?
- 8 What was the last thing you threw away?