

## 14b English in Use

- 12 Richard could **talk the hind legs off a donkey** with stories of his school days.
- 13 The inability to make a decision is David's **Achilles heel**.
- 14 My nephew was brought up near the sea and could **swim like a fish** from the age of four.
- 15 I'm so tired of Chris's persistent lies that I am **washing my hands of him**.
- 16 Being in the army was a real **dog's life**; up at 6 a.m. every day, no money and occasional leave.

### PREPOSITIONS

- 8 Look at Appendix 5 and fill in the blanks with the correct preposition, then make sentences using them.

- 0 to have no intention *of* helping sb
- 1 to fail ..... an attempt
- 2 to bestow gifts ..... someone
- 3 to result ..... an accident
- 4 a visitor ..... the city
- 5 to sigh ..... pleasure
- 6 a sequel ..... a film
- 7 to stay ..... good
- 8 fruits ..... season
- 9 to resign ..... your job
- 10 the matter ..... hand
- 11 death ..... drowning
- 12 to struggle ..... your rights
- 13 to feature ..... the cinema
- 14 to have a talent ..... acting
- 15 entry ..... the EU
- 16 to keep sth secret ..... a friend
- 17 to take a shot ..... the enemy
- 18 to buy sth ..... a discount
- 19 bags ..... shopping
- 20 to be satisfied ..... the results
- 21 a choice ..... dishes
- 22 to trip ..... a stone
- 23 a doctor ..... profession
- 24 freedom ..... speech
- 25 to be valid ..... five years
- 26 to fall in love ..... first sight
- 27 the bearer ..... good news
- 28 a decline ..... standards
- 29 a bus crowded ..... tourists
- 30 the bottom ..... the sea

- 31 to admit ..... a fault
- 32 to be full ..... life
- 33 to be ..... trouble with the law
- 34 to live ..... the suburbs
- 35 on top ..... the world
- 36 to fall ..... despair
- 37 a series ..... disasters
- 38 to dance ..... the dance floor
- 39 to sing ..... the top of one's voice
- 40 to have your heart ..... your mouth
- 41 to live ..... the outskirts
- 42 to stand ..... president

- 9 Look at Appendix 5 and fill in the blanks with the correct preposition.

- 0 Having always been good *at* maths, he decided to study it at university.
- 1 He doesn't seem to be very happy ..... his new job; he always looks rather worried and depressed these days.
- 2 As she handed over the gift, she said that she hoped we would be very happy ..... our new home.
- 3 It will be good ..... Thomas to have a strict teacher; he's never had any discipline at home.
- 4 The dispute occurred because the manager is so hopeless ..... people; he has absolutely no idea of how to handle his workforce.
- 5 We've just heard ..... his unexpected promotion.
- 6 Nervous about facing an interview panel, she hesitated ..... the door and took a deep breath before entering the room.
- 7 A strong draught blew into the room through the gap ..... the door.
- 8 Ruth was a genius ..... mathematics and was awarded a scholarship to Cambridge when she was only fourteen years old.
- 9 Have you heard ..... the lake "Loch Ness" in Scotland?
- 10 He's a genius ..... a pencil and can capture a likeness in a few deft strokes.
- 11 His new stereo system was expensive but it's guaranteed ..... fifteen years so it was worthwhile paying more.
- 12 My friend is worried because she hasn't heard ..... her sister for days.
- 13 She has a real genius ..... languages and has already mastered the rudiments of Greek!