

1. Read the profile. Pay attention to the idioms in color.



1. **Dean L. Kamen** was one of the
2. most important recent inventors;
3. he **was the cream of the crop** with
4. the newest ideas about transport.
5. Kamen went to college, but he
6. did not stay there for a long time.
7. He decided **to call it quits** to
8. starting working on his own ideas.

9. He eventually **learned the ropes**
10. of inventing with many amazing
11. creations. This inventor is famous for
12. "reinventing the wheel" as he created
13. a vehicle called Segway™. His creation
14. is a good example of Kamen's genius;
15. he used **to think out of the box** in
16. the search for new inventions. Kamen
17. was **a number cruncher** because of
18. his many talents in mathematics. His
19. calculations helped him to patent
20. many of his inventions.



2. Select the definition that best replaces each idiom in the profile.

a. was the cream of the crop in line 3 can be replaced with...

- 1. was the least important person
- 2. was the most famous person
- 3. was the richest person

b. to call it quits in line 7 is...

- 1. to call someone from home
- 2. to put an end to an activity
- 3. to begin an activity

c. learned the ropes of in line 9 is...

- 1. learned how to do something
- 2. learned how to do a job correctly
- 3. learned how to teach something

d. to think out of the box in line 15 is...

- 1. to think aloud
- 2. to think creatively
- 3. to think carefully

e. a number cruncher in line 17 is a person who...

- 1. works poorly in mathematics
- 2. has a hard time with numbers
- 3. is good at numbers and calculations