

# Vocabulary

## IDIOMS

A. Look at the following extracts from the dialogue.

What do you think the phrases in bold mean?

*You look a bit **down in the dumps**.*

*Don't worry; it will be a **piece of cake**.*

*I know these slim-quick diet pills are **all the rage**...*

B. Read the sentences and match the idioms in bold with their meanings a-f.

1. I know chocolate is bad for me but I can't stop eating it. I guess I **have a sweet tooth**.
2. The teacher told the students to **learn** the poem **by heart**.
3. When I found out that I had passed all my exams, I **was on cloud nine**.
4. If I **were in your shoes**, I would inform the police.
5. 'How did you find out about the party?' 'John **spilled the beans**.'
6. Stop **beating about the bush** and tell me what you want.

- a. to tell a secret
- b. to be very happy
- c. to be in someone's place
- d. to memorise
- e. to not speak directly about something
- f. to like food with a lot of sugar in it

# Vocabulary

A. Complete the following sentences with a suitable phrase from the box. Make any necessary changes.

have a sweet tooth    look down in the dumps    beat about the bush    be all the rage  
spill the beans    be on cloud nine    be in somebody's shoes    be a piece of cake

1. The exam \_\_\_\_\_; I'm confident I've passed it.
2. Angela seems to \_\_\_\_\_ and can't stop eating chocolate bars.
3. Ever since she got accepted by the university she applied to, she \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Who \_\_\_\_\_ about the surprise party to Erica?
5. If I \_\_\_\_\_, I would apologise to Mark for not telling him the truth.
6. You \_\_\_\_\_! What's wrong?
7. State-of-the-art mobile phones \_\_\_\_\_ nowadays.
8. What are you trying to tell me? Stop \_\_\_\_\_ and get to the point.

B. Match the two columns. Then use the words to complete sentences 1-8. Make any necessary changes.

- |              |                          |   |
|--------------|--------------------------|---|
| 1. process   | <input type="checkbox"/> | a. to get more of   |
| 2. starve    | <input type="checkbox"/> | b. in addition  |
| 3. mope      | <input type="checkbox"/> | c. sad, unhappy   |
| 4. gain      | <input type="checkbox"/> | d. to tell somebody what you think they should do about something |
| 5. advise    | <input type="checkbox"/> | e. to feel unhappy and not interested in anything                 |
| 6. miserable | <input type="checkbox"/> | f. to make something go faster                                    |
| 7. plus      | <input type="checkbox"/> | g. a series of actions that lead to a result                      |
| 8. speed up  | <input type="checkbox"/> | h. suffer from lack of food                                       |

1. My doctor \_\_\_\_\_ me to rest my leg until it gets better.
2. I am \_\_\_\_\_! What's for dinner?
3. He has been sitting in his room and \_\_\_\_\_ because he failed his exams.
4. A technician gave me some advice on how I can \_\_\_\_\_ my computer.
5. Changing the educational system will be a long and difficult \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Ever since I stopped going to the gym, I have \_\_\_\_\_ ten pounds.
7. Using public means of transport is environmentally friendly. \_\_\_\_\_, it's more economical than using your own car.
8. Jack's dog disappeared and he feels \_\_\_\_\_.