

## 110 face, finger (EI 219-21)

Substitute for the phrase in *italics* an idiom from the list with the same meaning.

*put a brave face on it*

*lose face*

*face the music*

*let's face it*

*be staring someone in the face*

*all fingers and thumbs*

*keep one's fingers crossed*

*put one's finger on something*

*have got a finger in every pie*

If you really don't want to *be humiliated* in the office, admit your mistake and apologize to the rest of the staff.

**lose face**

- 1 Rob is very worried about his wife's condition, but for the sake of the children, he's *pretending nothing is seriously wrong*.
- 2 I know that selling the house will be a hard blow to us all, but *let's be truthful*, we need the money.
- 3 Surely you can see what he wants. *It's very obvious*. He's going to ask you to marry him!
- 4 Well, Paul, it was your fault and you'll have to *meet the criticism and unpleasantness* some time. So why not now?
- 5 I'm going for an important interview this afternoon at three, so *wish me luck*!
- 6 Brewer is *involved in many activities*. He's on every local committee you can mention.
- 7 Oh, I'm so sorry. I've dropped all your books. I'm *clumsy with my hands* today, I'm afraid.
- 8 There's something about the way Jason looks at me that makes me feel uneasy, but I can't *identify it*.

## 111 foot, feet, hair (EI 221-2)

Complete the sentences with the correct idiom in the correct form.

*fall on one's feet*

*get off on the wrong foot*

*put one's best foot forward*

*put one's foot in it*

*get back on one's feet*

*put one's foot down*

*let one's hair down*

*not turn a hair*

*keep your hair on!*

Would you believe it! The day after Dave resigned, he had a phone call from Tokyo offering him a job at twice his present salary! Dave always \_\_\_\_\_.  
**falls on his feet**

- 1 Father's easygoing and tolerant, but he \_\_\_\_\_ when Mike asked him if twelve of his friends could camp in the living-room after the party. That was simply too much to ask.
- 2 I didn't know that Joan and Barry had separated. I'm afraid I \_\_\_\_\_ when I asked Joan why Barry was away from home so often.
- 3 If you intend to finish the decorating by this evening, you'll have to \_\_\_\_\_. The kitchen will take longer than you think.

- 4 Jackie and I have never really liked each other. For some reason we \_\_\_\_\_ because of a misunderstanding, and we never really became friends.
- 5 When Helen had to close her restaurant she lost quite a lot of money, but it didn't take her long to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 Thorpe was unmoved by the verdict. When the jury pronounced him guilty, he \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7 All right! \_\_\_\_\_. If it makes you angry I won't do it!
- 8 When the formalities are over we shall all be able to \_\_\_\_\_ and have a really good time.

## 112 hand (EI 222-5)

Complete the sentences by choosing the correct idiom.

- 1 Bob would repair your car for you. He used to work as a car mechanic and he likes to \_\_\_\_\_ by doing small repair jobs.  
*strengthen his hand* *keep his hand in* *show his hand*
- 2 'Can you tell me Joe's new telephone number?' 'No, not \_\_\_\_\_. But I've got it written down somewhere.'  
*at hand* *to hand* *off hand* *hands off*
- 3 'Who told you that Jane and Patrick are moving to Exeter?' 'I found out \_\_\_\_\_. Jane told me herself.'  
*at hand* *at first hand* *offhand* *in hand*
- 4 I asked Mary if she had time to help with the exhibition, but she says she \_\_\_\_\_ already.  
*is putting her hand to the plough* *has her hands full*  
*is forcing her hand*
- 5 I need some help with these boxes. Could you possibly \_\_\_\_\_?  
*give me a big hand* *give me a free hand* *give me a hand*
- 6 The new product was a failure and the firm lost orders \_\_\_\_\_.  
*cap in hand* *hand over fist* *out of hand*

## 113 head (EI 225-6)

Explain the meaning of the idioms in *italics*.

I was so upset when the accident happened. I don't know how I managed to *keep my head*.  
*stay calm*

- 1 Janet has *got it into her head* that she's not as physically fit as she ought to be, so she's joined a health club.