

**A**

Rewrite the sentences. Replace the underlined words with the words in the box. Make any changes needed.

fight tooth and nail    head and shoulders above  
a safe pair of hands    bite one's tongue  
have a nose for

- Our local beach volleyball team is brilliant – so much better than the other teams in the area.  
Our local beach volleyball team is brilliant – head and shoulders above the other teams in the area.
- She can be very rude – I have to stop myself from saying something to her, to avoid an argument.
- When I was a child, my mother tried very hard to get me the best education possible, and she succeeded!
- I love going shopping with my friend Sandra – she's really good at finding bargains!
- I recently employed an accountant to manage my money. I'm so glad I did – he's doing a great job.

**C** Rewrite the sentences. Replace the underlined words with the words in the box. Make any changes needed.

be swamped a drop in the ocean  
an uphill struggle be out of the woods

- I'm trying to save money to buy a car, but the amount I have so far is nowhere near enough.  
I'm trying to save money to buy a car, but the amount I have so far is a drop in the ocean.
- I found maths really difficult at school. I tried really hard, but I never seemed to make any progress.
- My cat has been really ill, but the vet has told us that her life is no longer in danger. The kids will be really pleased!
- My husband is really stressed – he's got so much work on at the moment.

**E** Complete the text with the words in the box.

assault community controlled convicted life  
possession psychiatric sentence served solitary

Our reactions to crime are very personal, depending on our social situation and our upbringing, according to a recent report from Swedish psychologists. Most people consider non-violent crimes, such as <sup>1</sup> possession of a <sup>2</sup> substance, to be minor compared with crimes which involve injury to people, such as violent <sup>3</sup> assault. Views on punishment are also changing, with the majority now seeing <sup>4</sup> psychiatric service as the most beneficial punishment for both the offender and the victims. Increasingly, it is felt that punishments like being held in <sup>5</sup> solitary confinement or being sentenced to <sup>6</sup> imprisonment are less appropriate, with <sup>7</sup> community help being seen as necessary to rehabilitate criminals. It was also felt that those <sup>8</sup> convicted of certain crimes should have it removed from their record when the <sup>9</sup> sentence has been <sup>10</sup> served, or at least soon after.

**B** Match the expressions in **bold** in 1–7 with the definitions a–g.

- c** She doesn't **come across** very well.
- She goes on and on** about her ex-boss.
- She cuts herself off** from some of us.
- She's always running down** her manager.
- She bombards** her team **with questions**.
- She doesn't really fit in** here.
- She never holds back** in meetings.

- stop oneself from saying something
- ask too many questions
- make a good impression
- ignore completely
- be different from everyone else
- be very critical
- not stop talking

**D** Complete the conversation with the words in the box. There may be more than one possible answer.

slipped cast hark back to a vivid  
memory vague

**A** If you \_\_\_\_\_ (1) your mind back to your early life as a child, what do you remember?  
**B** I find the smell of cut grass always **me** of my childhood.  
**A** Do you have of \_\_\_\_\_ (2) that time?  
**B** Well, to be honest many things are just \_\_\_\_\_ (3) memories now. Although I suppose one thing I often \_\_\_\_\_ (4) is the memory of family holidays by the sea.  
**A** Do you have any recollection at all of your school days?  
**B** Well, I have of the day I started school. One boy wouldn't stop crying. I still remember some of my teachers as well but other things have completely **slipped** (5) my mind.