SILVER ENGLISH COACH



Idioms with BLACK

- **to be in the black** = have money in one's bank account. (The opposite is to be in the red)
  I'm still in the black, so I don't need your money.
- **to black out** = lose consciousness or memory temporarily.
  The plane dived suddenly, causing the pilot to black out.
- **a black day** = an unhappy day when something bad happens.
  9/11 was a black day in history.
- **a blacklist** = list of people who are considered undesirable.
  You are not on the blacklist yet, but be careful...
- **a black look** = a look of anger.
  When Sarah heard him talk like that, she gave him a black look.
- **black market** = ilegal trade.
- **black and blue** = covered with bruises.
- **in black and white** = in writing or in print.
  Do you understand? Or shall I put it in black and white?
- **not so black as somebody is painted** = not as bad as people believe.
  Peter is a nice person, he's not so black as he is painted.
- **the black sheep (of the family)** = person whose conduct is considered to be a disgrace to the family.
- **the pot calling the kettle black** = the accuser having the same fault as the person he is accusing.
  She accused us of being extravagant! Talk about the pot calling the kettle black!

Exercise

Choose the right answer.

1. If you do that again, I will beat you
   a. in the black
   b. in black and white
   c. black and blue

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2. Hah! You say I'm slow at work? And you? Talk about .....

a. the black sheep of the family

b. the pot calling the kettle black

c. in black and white

3. This has been a ..... for the car industry with more job losses announced.

a. black look

b. black market

c. black day

4. For a few seconds, he felt like he was going to .....

a. be in the black

b. black out

c. black and blue

5. For me, Denise is a friendly girl. She's not .....

a. in the black

b. the pot calling the kettle black

c. so black as she is painted

6. The government has created a ..... of environmentally damaging products.

a. black market

b. black list

c. black look.

7. Laura was so angry that she gave her husband a .....

a. black and blue

b. black day

c. black look

LIVEWORKSHEETS