

3 Tick the pairs of idioms that have a similar meaning.

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|--|--------------------------|
| 1 live hand to mouth / be well off | ☐ |
| 2 be rolling in it / live in the lap of luxury | ☐ |
| 3 be hard up / be a rip-off | ☐ |
| 4 make a killing / make a fortune | ☐ |
| 5 be broke / be in the red | ☐ |
| 6 make ends meet / pay through the nose | ☐ |
| 7 be dirt cheap / tighten one's belt | ☐ |

4 Complete the text with idioms from exercise 3.

Many common idioms have interesting origins which can help to explain their meanings. For instance, ¹ _____ apparently replaced the former 'be dog cheap' to indicate something of very little value. ² _____ comes from the accounting practice of using that colour ink for debts and black for credit. ³ _____ may also come from accounting, when the 'ends' or bottoms of the columns for the incomes and expenses were the same amount, or 'met', showing that more wasn't being spent than was earned. ⁴ _____ comes from prison slang, in which 'rip' means 'steal', so someone who does this to others is a thief. ⁵ _____ apparently dates back to a 16th century famine when people were so poor that any food they got was eaten immediately so that no one else could have it. ⁶ _____ is thought to date from the Great Depression of the 1930s, when hungry Americans lost so much weight that their clothes became loose.

Complete the second sentence with emphasis.

- I'd love to visit Hong Kong.
One place _____ Hong Kong.
- I can't stand queuing in the supermarket.
The thing _____ queuing in the supermarket.
- You must go to Harrods.
One shop _____ Harrods.
- I spoke to the manager.
The person _____ the manager.
- I feel sorry for sales staff who have to work on Sundays.
The people _____ sales staff who have to work on Sundays.
- I avoid buying any product that is tested on animals.
One thing _____ any product that is tested on animals.

Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first. Use the words below and the correct participle forms. Write four words in each gap.

although before on since

- I tried the jeans on and then I bought them.
_____, I tried them on.
- I'm getting loads of information about courses now that I've applied for university.
_____, I'm getting loads of information about courses.
- The product didn't take off despite the fact that it had been predicted to succeed.
_____, the product didn't take off.
- I noticed we hadn't been charged for our drinks when I checked the bill.
_____, I noticed we hadn't been charged for our drinks.