

116 nose, shoulder (EI 229)

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

keep one's nose to the grindstone
lead someone by the nose
pay through the nose
turn one's nose up at something
give someone the cold shoulder
rub shoulders with someone
put one's shoulder to the wheel

You obviously don't think the quality of the material is good enough. I can see that you're _____.

turning your nose up at it

- 1 I can't believe that this painting is so valuable. I hope we haven't _____ for it.
- 2 The workers were very angry because they felt that the union leaders were _____.
- 3 You have obviously been working very hard. If you _____ you should have the report finished by this afternoon.
- 4 You can't expect to pass the exam without doing any work. It's time you _____, before it's too late.
- 5 Why didn't Hilary speak to me? Didn't she see me or was she deliberately _____?
- 6 When John was in the diplomatic service, he often used to _____ members of the royal family.

117 skin, toe (EI 230)

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

drenched to the skin
get under someone's skin
by the skin of one's teeth
tread on someone's toes
toe the line
be on one's toes
be no skin off someone's nose

If I were you, I wouldn't worry about Clive. It *won't affect you adversely* whether he makes a success of his new business or not.
will be no skin off your nose

- 1 The diver said that sharks had been following him and that he had only escaped *very narrowly*.
- 2 I picked Marjorie up at the bus-stop. Poor thing, she was *thoroughly wet*.
- 3 Mike is always criticizing without reason. He really *annoys me*.
- 4 You have to *be alert and attentive* when you're driving through the city centre in the rush-hour.
- 5 Parker always expects us to *do what he wants*. He forgets that we have opinions and ideas of our own.
- 6 I didn't know that Sarah had baked the cake herself. I'm afraid I *hurt her feelings* when I said that cream cakes are bad for you.

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

have something on the tip of one's tongue

hold one's tongue

bite one's tongue off

have got a sweet tooth

fight tooth and nail

cut one's teeth on something

get one's teeth into something

118 tongue, tooth, teeth (EI 230-1)

He asked me the name of the shop. I _____ but I didn't remember it until he'd gone.

had it on the tip of my tongue

- 1 There are times when it's wiser to _____ than to say what one thinks.
- 2 'How do you manage to keep so slim?' 'Well, I (not) _____, so it isn't really difficult.'
- 3 I thought Paul knew that Sarah had gone to Glasgow with Mark. I could have _____ when I realized that he didn't. How tactless of me to mention it!
- 4 Bill would like me to give him an easy computer program to write. He did well on the programming course, so now he needs something to _____.
- 5 We're all against the plans for the new motorway and local politicians are prepared to _____ to get them stopped.
- 6 The job seemed difficult at first, but as soon as I _____ it, I realized that it wasn't so bad after all.

Time

119 day (EI 231-3)

Complete the sentences by choosing the correct idiom.

- 1 It's late. We ought to _____ and continue with the work tomorrow.
make a day of it make our day call it a day
- 2 It's twenty years _____ that we came to live here.
the other day to the day this day week
- 3 Mother had a telephone call from my brother in Australia this morning. She was very pleased, of course. It really _____.
made her day was her day won the day
- 4 We visited Sheila this morning and she suggested _____ and staying for lunch and afternoon tea. So we did.
having a field day calling it a day making a day of it
- 5 The language course was excellent. I found that my English improved _____.
day in day out to a day day by day