



## **The Write Tribe**

Read the stories and do the idioms exercise below.

### **STORY 1 : Getting out of hand**

Adriana loves bringing her cat out for a walk. She uses a leash to bring her cat for nice long strolls in the park. One day, she decided to let her cat Padma to walk without the leash to see if he will be obedient. Padma took the opportunity and started running around like a crazy animal. "Stop!" Adriana hollered. However, it fell on deaf ears. Adriana was panting so hard. "Padma! You are getting out of hand!" Adriana shouted and finally got hold of him. Adriana learnt it is always better to use a leash or her cat Padma will get out of control!

### **STORY 2 : Get something out of your system**

Megan is my best friend. She has a unique way of greeting me. Every time, she sees me, she likes to jump on my feet and say, "Hi". Megan thinks she's funny. However, it was really hurting me. Even though, Megan is a nice girl and is my best friend, I didn't want to tell her that as I was afraid to hurt her feelings. One day, I had sprained my foot. My foot was already hurting badly. Then, Megan came over and jumped on my feet. "Hi JOVINA!" she squealed in delight. Unable to tolerate the pain, I finally had to get it out of my system. "Megan, it hurts when you jump on my feet. I really wish you would stop doing that!" I exclaimed. "Why didn't you say that earlier? I thought you liked it?" Megan said, puzzled. Megan was right, I should have got it out of my system earlier.

### **STORY 3 : Get your act together**

Steven loves playing video games. His obsession with video games has been the reason for his falling grades. It was getting closer to his examinations. Unable to tolerate it anymore, his mother storms in. "Steven! You better get your act together or you will fail your exams!" Steven realized his mother was right. If he doesn't make an improvement, he will surely fail his examinations! That would be horrible! He might have to repeat the entire year. He finally decided to get his act together and study hard.

| idiom                   | meaning |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Beat around the bush    |         |
| A dime a dozen          |         |
| A blessing in disguise  |         |
| Break a leg             |         |
| Bite the bullet         |         |
| Better late than never  |         |
| Call it a day           |         |
| Cut somebody some slack |         |
| Easy does it            |         |

|                                                  |                                                              |                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>avoid telling what you really want to say</b> | <b>common, worthless, cheap. Easy to find</b>                | <b>something bad that turned out to be good</b> |
| <b>better to go late than not go at all</b>      | <b>tolerate the pain for a while so it will be over soon</b> | <b>good luck</b>                                |
| <b>Don't be so critical</b>                      | <b>slow down</b>                                             | <b>stop working on something and rest</b>       |

| idiom                            | meaning |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Getting out of hand              |         |
| Get something out of your system |         |
| Get your act together            |         |

|                                  |                        |                                                 |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| get things in order /<br>buck up | getting out of control | finally telling someone<br>what's bothering you |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|