The Write Tribe

Read the stories and do the idioms exercise below.

STORY 1 : wrap your head around something

Vera's face was pale as sheet. "What happened!" Cecilia asked, concerned.
"Your brother, Liyuan, has his head stuck in a jar!" Vera shouted.
Cecilia looked perplexed. How is that even possible.
"Was it a big jar?" Cecilia asked, still feeling confused.
"No! A peanut butter jar!" Vera replied.
"What! Let me wrap my head around this. How is that even possible?" Cecilia bursted out.

To wrap your head around something means to try to understand something that's very difficult. So, you say, "Let me wrap my head around this. You mean to say 1 + 2 = 3?"

STORY 2 : You can say that again!

Charlene was feeling rather upset with her brother. Her brother always makes a mess. He never bothers to clean up after himself. Charlene complained to her Mother.
"Peter is such a couch potato! He never gets anything done!" Charlene complained.
"You can say that again!" Her mother agreed.

"You can say that again," is usually said when you agree with someone.
"John is a jerk!" Candice stated.
"You can say that again!" Vera replied.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

STORY 3 : Your guess is as good as mine

It was Christmas. Helen had arranged a plethora of presents underneath the tree. It was of all colours, shapes and sizes. Naturally, her children, Li Yuan and Cecilia were excited. Cecilia was looking forward to receiving a barbie doll. She picked up a bright yellow box and started shaking it.
“Could the doll be in this?” Cecilia asked her brother.
“Your guess is as good as mine, sister! I have no idea!” he replied.

You say, “Your guess is as good as mine” when both you and your friend have no idea. You are both guessing and cannot be sure of something.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

idiom	meaning
Beat around the bush	
It's not rocket science	
So far so good	
Break a leg	
Let someone off the hook	
Better late than never	
Speak of the devil	
Cut somebody some slack	
Easy does it	

avoid telling what you really want to say	**things are going well so far**	**The person we were just talking about shows up**
better to go late than not go at all	**not a difficult task**	**good luck**
Don't be so critical	**slow down**	**let someone go without punishment**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

idiom	meaning
Getting out of hand	
A dime a dozen	
Get something out of your system	
Bite the bullet	
Get your act together	
That's the last straw	
Give someone the benefit of the doubt	
Go back to the drawing board	
Hang in there	

getting out of control	**To believe or trust what someone tells you even though it may not be true**	**to not give up**
finally telling someone what's bothering you	**start planning something again because earlier attempts were unsuccessful**	**get things in order / buck up**
common, worthless, cheap. Easy to find	**tolerate the pain for a while so it will be over soon**	**My patience has run out**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

idiom	meaning
A blessing in disguise	
Call it a day	
Hit the sack	
No pain, no gain	
Make a long story short	
Miss the boat	
On the ball	
Pull someone's leg	
Pull yourself together	

Don't beat around the bush and come straight to the point	**To calm oneself down after something terrible**	**Lose a chance**
play a prank	**go to sleep**	**stop working on something and rest**
something bad that turned out to be good	**You have to work for what you want**	**be focused**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

idiom	meaning
Wrap your head around something	
Your guess is as good as mine	
You can say that again	
so far so good	
Speak of the devil	
That's the last straw	
to make matters worse	
feeling under the weather	
we will cross that bridge when it comes	

You agree with someone	**I have no idea**	**Try your best to understand something**
Things are going smoothly as of now	**The person you were talking about arrives**	**patience running out**
Let's not talk about that problem right now	**Feeling unwell**	**Make a problem worse**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

idiom	meaning
Time flies when you're having fun	
To get bent out of shape	
The best of both worlds	

You get both of what you want	**You don't notice how long something lasts when it's enjoyable**	**To get upset**

LIVEWORKSHEETS