



Week 1

English Mastery

Primary 2

The Write Tribe

IDIOMS

PART 1

IDIOMS

Don't cry over spilt milk

What has happened has happened. No point crying over it.



Kill two birds with one stone

Try to do two things at one time in order to save time.



It's better to be safe than sorry

It's better to prevent the mistake than regret once you have made that mistake.



Live and learn

Learn from your mistakes.



Bolt from the blue

Something that happened without warning



Milk wasn't available in shops in the past. People get it from a cow. Once, it's spilled, it's impossible to take it back. Also, people strongly believed in fairies back then. When a child spills milk, to calm him or her down, parents will console them that they are feeding the fairies their favourite drink so there's no need to cry.

Daedalus and Icarus wanted to escape from the Labyrinth. They needed enough feathers to make wings to fly away. However, they didn't have enough stones to kill birds. Therefore, they had to kill two birds with one stone, so that they wouldn't have to use too many stones and they would get enough feathers.

During the black plague, many people died thinking that they were being punished by god. Those who managed to live, learnt it was because the water was dirty. This phrase is said when you learn from your own experiences or others' failures. Only those who lived long enough was able to learn the true cause of the black plague.

I lived and learned

Kill two birds with one stone

Don't cry over spilt milk

This phrase originated from a 1800s novel. It is used to inform people to take necessary precautions when doing a task. For example, putting on a seatbelt when driving. Even though, the seatbelt can be annoying, at a time of an accident, it can save your life. A person with a seatbelt has a higher chance of surviving than a person without a seatbelt.

Bolt means lightning. Blue means clear blue sky. Clear blue sky indicates great weather. Therefore, if a lightning suddenly appears, it feels like a surprise and a sudden change of plans. If you have plans to go swimming, too bad!

Bolt from the blue

It's better to be safe than sorry



word/phrase	meaning
Bolt from the blue	
It's better to be safe than sorry	
Live and learn	
Kill two birds with one stone	
Don't cry over spilt milk	

Admit you made a mistake and learn from it	No point being upset over something that cannot be changed
Get two things done at once	Suddenly
Make sure you are careful before you do anything	

Fill in the blanks

ACCIDENT IN THE CANTEEN

over spilt milk	from the blue
learned	to be safe than sorry
killing two birds	

1. As I juggled the hot bowl of noodles with the cup of ice tea, I thought I was _____ with one stone. I wanted to carry them both to my table as quickly as possible.

2. However, like a bolt _____, I suddenly slipped on a puddle of water and fell.

3. Both my bowl of noodles and ice tea splashed onto the floor. Wanting to save time, I lost my lunch. I started crying. Then, my friend Jane said, "Don't cry _____. What is done is done!"

4. I lived and _____ to be more careful next time.

5. I learned it is always better _____.

Match the idioms

Don't cry over spilt milk

Accomplish two things with one action

Bolt from the blue

No use crying over something that can't be changed

It's better to be safe than sorry

Learn from your past mistakes

Live and learn

Better be careful now than regret later

Kill two birds with one stone

Out of nowhere

Fill in the blanks without referring

1. Better to be _____ than sorry.
2. Live and _____.
3. Kill two _____ with one _____.
4. _____ from the blue.
5. Don't _____ over spilt _____.