

IDIOMS LESSON 9 Dealing with problems



Exercises

9.1 Match each idiom on the left with its definition on the right.

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|----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 1 tie up loose ends | ☐ | a understand and deal with something |
| 2 come to light | ☐ | b try something |
| 3 give something a shot | ☐ | c find an easy solution |
| 4 get to grips with something | ☐ | d just in case |
| 5 make do | ☐ | e finish off final little tasks |
| 6 to be on the safe side | ☐ | f uncover the truth |
| 7 wave a magic wand | ☐ | g manage with something of worse quality-- |
| 8 get to the bottom of something | ☐ | h be discovered |

9.2 Complete each of these idioms with one word.

1 I've been busy at work, but I can see the light at the end of the

now.

2 Sarah wanted to a magic wand and make her son happy again.

3 Just wait while I tie up these ends, then I'll go to the match with you.

4 When her parents gave her some money, it was like the answer to her

5 I've never tried yoga before, but I'd be happy to give a shot.

6 The job isn't in the till you've had an offer in writing.

7 This research may shed fresh on the causes of asthma in children.

8 As I listened to the evidence, everything began to into place.





9.3 Complete each sentence with an idiom from the box. Make any other necessary changes.

bring to light come to light fall into place get to grips with get to the bottom of
give it a whirl pick up the pieces shed light on

1 I'd like to try that new bowling alley. Let's this evening.

2 I'm finding it quite hard my new role at work.

3 When the business failed, Paul vanished, leaving his partner

4 Some important new evidence..... in the last few days.

5 I hope that we'll be able what's been going on.

6 New medical research the causes of heart attacks.

7 As soon as I met Joshua's family, everything

8 In the investigation into their accounts, a number of errors

9.4 Match each statement on the left with the most likely response on the right.

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|----------------------------------|--|
| 1 I'll wash your car for you! | ☐ a OK, just to be on the safe side. |
| 2 Let's go home now. | ☐ b If only I could wave a magic wand! |
| 3 The job's in the bag! | ☐ c You're the answer to my prayers! |
| 4 We'd better take umbrellas. | ☐ d Soon. I've still got some loose ends to tie up. |
| 5 Can you make do with a pencil? | ☐ e I hope you're right! |
| 6 We just don't know what to do! | ☐ f Sure, that'll do fine. |



-9.5 Which idioms do these pictures make you think of?

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