Exercise 3

Fill the gaps with parts of the body to complete the idioms in these sentences.

1 She knows there's a problem but she chooses to bury her *head* in the sand.
2 Sometimes you have to bite your _____ to avoid upsetting someone.
3 When it's someone in the family who is in trouble, you can't turn your _____ on them.
4 It broke his _____ when his wife died.
5 I don't see _____ to _____ with Michael on a lot of different subjects.
6 Your dad will drive you there if you twist his _____ .
7 Your boss has been treating you badly. It's time to put your _____ down!
8 Could you give me a _____ moving these chairs, please?

Exercise 4 50.2

Match the pictures on the right (a–h) with the idioms relating to food or eating below (1–8). Listen and check.

1 to bite off more than you can chew *b*
2 the icing on the cake _____
3 a couch potato _____
4 to cry over spilt milk _____
5 to eat like a horse _____
6 to spill the beans _____
7 to have a lot on your plate _____
8 to not be your cup of tea _____



Exercise 5

Now read these sentences containing the same idioms and try to match them (1–8) with their meanings (a–h).

1 I didn't want to tell anybody our news but then Ed **spilled the beans!**
2 Come and play soccer with me – don't be **a couch potato!**
3 My brother **eats like a horse!**
4 She wants me to do a salsa class with her, but dancing is really **not my cup of tea.**
5 With her job and her studies, Emma already has **a lot on her plate.**
6 I was happy just to be part of the team, but winning the game today, well, that was **the icing on the cake.**
7 I just don't think I can do this job. This time I've **bitten off more than I can chew.**
8 Yes, you made a mistake but now you have to get on with your life. It's no use **crying over spilt milk.**

a eats a lot
b not something that you like
c told people information that was a secret
d has a lot of things she must do
e tried to do too much or tried to do something that is too hard
f a lazy person who spends too much time sitting and watching television
g feeling sad about something bad that you cannot change
h an extra good thing in a situation that is already good

Use the words you've learned...

Use four or five of the idioms in this unit to describe people that you know or to describe something that happened to you.

LIVEWORKSHEETS