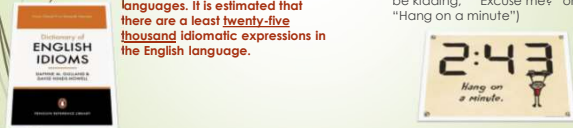


Lesson 01

What does id.i.om (id' e em) mean?

- An **idiom** "special property", "special feature", "special phrasing", a phrase or a fixed expression that has a **figurative**, or sometimes **literal**, meaning. An idiom's **figurative** meaning is different from the **literal** meaning.
- There are **thousands of idioms**, and they occur frequently in all languages. It is estimated that there are **at least twenty-five thousand idiomatic expressions** in the English language.
- Idioms fall into the category of **native language** (often non-literary in meaning with attitudinal nuances). [nuance: a very small difference]
- Standard language** includes pause fillers (e.g. "Like," "Er" or "Uhm") and conversational speech formulas ("You've got to be kidding," "Excuse me?" or "Hang on a minute")



Bio



Sherry Padgett's Bio

Sherry has been involved in Deaf Ministry in her local church since 1981 as a church interpreter. She began attending the National Deaf Conferences in 2000. In 2006 - 2013, she was the National Media Coordinator for UPCI Deaf Evangelism. Sherry began community interpreting in 2007, and has become a Licensed Interpreter for the state of Missouri in 2009. She holds a Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing BASIC Certification with a RCED (General) PSE Endorsement. She was employed as a public school educational interpreter, K-12 for 9 years. Sherry's position in Deaf ministry is to provide resources for interpreters to use to reach the Deaf with the gospel. She also has created several websites to make resources easy and accessible.

www.lerpltime.com (CEUs online workshops)
www.aslfordummies.com
www.aslbiestudies.com
www.aslfile.com
www.livbasl.com

Lesson 01

A Figurative Or Literal Meaning

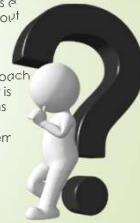
- When one says **"The devil is in the details"**, one is not expressing a belief in demons, but rather one means that things may look good on the surface, but upon scrutiny, undesirable aspects are revealed.
- Similarly, when one says **"The early bird gets the worm"**, one is not suggesting that there is only one worm, rather one means there are plenty of worms, but for the sake of the idiom one plays along, and imagines that there is only one worm; alternatively, the **figurative translation** of this phrase is that the most attentive and astute individual, or perhaps the hardest working (or simply the first one) gets the desired outcome to a situation or the better product, depending on the context.
- On the other hand, **"Waste not, want not"** is completely **devoid of a figurative meaning**. It counts as an idiom, however, because it has a **literal meaning** and people keep saying it.



Lesson 01

Why do we need this workshop?


- It was made to help you improve your knowledge of idioms in English and ASL. Idioms are fixed expressions whose meaning is not immediately obvious from looking at the individual words in the idiom. You will come across a great many idioms while interpreting. It is important that you learn about the meanings of idioms and about how they are used.
- We want to encourage language learners to have a balanced approach to idioms in English and ASL. Idioms are in such widespread use that it is inappropriate to ignore them. This workshop focuses just on those idioms which the modern student needs to know and it aims to provide the information and practice which will help you understand and use them correctly.



Lesson 01

The Origin of Idiomatic Expressions

- Many idiomatic expressions, in their original use were **not figurative but had literal meaning**. For instance:
- spill the beans** meaning to let out a secret probably originates in a physical spilling of beans which are either being eaten or measured out. The point is that the spiller **certainly does not want to lose any beans**. Or, alternatively, it may be that a person wants to share a secret, and finally, perhaps after prodding, does so, and when that happens it would be like spilling beans into a bowl or other appropriate container.
- let the cat out of the bag**: has a meaning similar to the former, but the secret revealed in this case will likely cause some problems. A **cat was sometimes put in a bag to keep it under control or to pretend that it was a more saleable animal, such as a pig or a rabbit**. So, to let the cat out of the bag suggests either that the deception is revealed or that the situation is out of control. Or alternatively, it may be that the way a cat, once set free, will wander off was a good description of a secret that is revealed.
- break a leg**: meaning good luck in a performance/presentation etc. This common idiom comes from belief in superstitions. The term "break a leg" appears to come from the belief that one ought not to utter the words "good luck" to an actor. By wishing someone bad luck, it is supposed that the opposite will occur.



Lesson 01

Confessions of an Idiom

Lesson 01

What Idioms Are NOT...

- When two or three words are often used together in a particular sequence, the words are said to be Siamese twins. Usage will prevent the words from being displaced or rearranged. For example, a person may be left "high and dry" but never "dry and high". This idiom in turn means that the person is left in their former conditions rather than being assisted so that their condition improves.
- A literal translation (**word-by-word**) of idioms will most likely not convey the same meaning in ASL.
- Idioms are also not to be confused with **proverbs**, which are simple sayings that express a truth based on common sense or practical experience.

Lesson 01

Compositionality or Non-compositional

- How is it possible for us to understand potentially limitless new utterances? The most common solution in philosophy and linguistics is to maintain that the meanings of complex expressions depend on—and depend only on—the meanings of their simple parts and the ways that those parts are organized (put together by the grammar). This is called compositionality.
- How does this solution work? Since there are only finitely (limited in magnitude) many simple expressions (words/ morphemes) in English (or any other language), each language user only has to learn finitely (limited in magnitude) many meaning facts: **what all the simple expressions mean.**
- Then when that user encounters a unique utterance she just uses the already-learned meaning facts about words and the grammar of the utterance to work out its meaning. **Compositionality says that's all she needs!**
- "The meaning of the whole depends on (and only on) the meanings of the parts and the way they are combined."

Lesson 01

Characteristics of Idioms

- We cannot normally change the words, their order, or the grammatical forms in the same way as changing non-idiomatic expression. In other words, **idioms are basically fixed expressions.**
- The **meaning of an idiom is metaphorical** rather than literal. It is not a result of the compositional function of their parts.
 - pull someone's leg
 - kick the bucket
 - leave someone high and dry
 - go to the dogs
 - she's all thumbs
 - knock his socks off
 - she's a wet blanket
 - horse around
 - jump the gun
 - play it by ear
 - string him along
 - stok out one's neck
 - let the cat out of the bag
 - money talks
 - smell a rat
 - cat got your tongue?
 - bite the dust
 - drive someone up a wall
- The **grammatical form of an idiom is invariable and fixed.** The process of substitution in not allowed and passive constructions can not be formed.

Lesson 01

Compositionality or Non-compositional

- In linguistics, **idioms** are usually presumed to be **figures of speech** contradicting the principle of **compositionality**.
- This principle states that the meaning of a whole should be constructed from the meanings of the parts that make up the whole. In other words, one should be in a position to understand the whole if one understands the meanings of each of the parts that make up the whole. The following example is to illustrate the point:
Fred **kicked the bucket**.
- Understood compositionally, Fred has literally kicked an actual, physical bucket. The much more likely natural reading, however, is **non-compositional**: Fred is understood to have died.

Lesson 01

Idioms – A Closer Look

Lesson 1

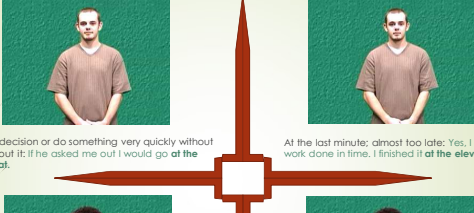
Across the board

Lesson 01

Part A

- Across the board
- Against the clock
- All ears
- Antsy
- At cross purposes
- At each other's throats
- At large [1]
- At large [2]
- At the drop of a hat
- At the eleventh hour
- At wit's end
- Back down
- Back to square one
- Bank on it
- Be up and running

Lesson 01 - A



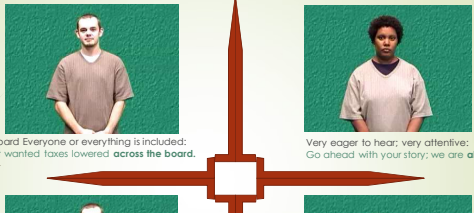
Top-left: To make a decision or do something very quickly without thinking about it; if he asked me out I would go **at the drop of a hat**.

Top-right: At the last minute; almost too late: Yes, I got the work done in time, I finished it **at the eleventh hour**.

Bottom-left: Having no idea how to meet a difficulty or solve a problem: He had approached every friend and acquaintance for help in vain, and now he was **at his wit's end**.

Bottom-right: To give up a claim: Bill said he could beat Antonio, but when Antonio put up his fists Bill **backed down**.

Lesson 01 - A



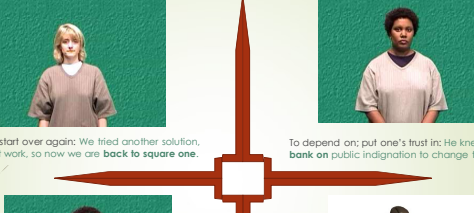
Top-left: Across the board Everyone or everything is included: The President wanted taxes lowered **across the board**.

Top-right: Very eager to hear; very attentive: Go ahead with your story; we are **all ears**.

Bottom-left: A test of speed or time: John was running **against the clock** to finish his paper on time.

Bottom-right: To be restless or incapable of sitting still: Please don't be so **antsy**; sit still and be quiet!


Lesson 01 - A



Top-left: To have to start over again: We tried another solution, but it didn't work, so now we are **back to square one**.

Top-right: To depend on; put one's trust in: He knew he could **bank on** public indignation to change things.

Bottom-left: (For a technological process) be operational; be ready to use: The web site has **been up and running** since December 1995.

Bottom-right:  **SQUARE 1**

Lesson 01 - A



Top-left: With opposing meanings or aims: Juan's parents acted **at cross purposes** in advising him; his father wanted him to become a doctor, but his mother wanted him to become a minister.

Top-right: Bickering Ian and Alfonso have never been very friendly towards each other: For as long as anyone can remember, they've been **at each other's throats**.

Bottom-left: Not contained within walls, fences, or boundaries; free: The killer remained **at large** for weeks.

Bottom-right: Not contained within walls, fences, or boundaries; free: The killer remained **at large** for weeks.

Lesson 01 - A


Idiom Overview

- DVD: Idioms incorporated into ASL and English
- 13 distinctive handshapes
- 8 idioms for each handshape
- Total of 104 idioms



Lesson 01 - A

The Family Setting



B-thumb-extended (BTE)-handshape

BTE Handshape

Don't Have

Lesson 01 - A

The Social Setting



Y-handshape

Y Handshape

Holy Cow...

Lesson 01 - A

The Professional Setting



I handshape

I Handshape

The Point Is...

Lesson 01 - A

Idiom Intro



Idioms incorporated into ASL and English. There are examples given in 4 settings:

- 1) The Family
- 2) The Professional
- 3) Educational Setting
- 4) Social Setting

Example Idiom:

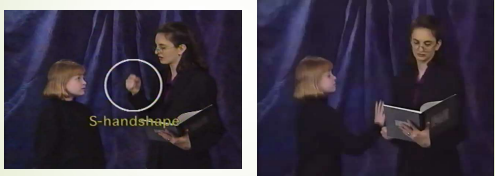
English: It's raining cats and dogs!
ASL: It is raining heavily!

- Facial Expressions; body movements; and ASL structure order are all involved in becoming proficient in the interpreting process.

Lesson 01 - A

The Educational System



S-handshape

S Handshape

Only If...

Lesson 01 - A

S - Handshape


- 1) Only if/when; but
- 2) Love (fond of)
- 3) To live and learn; learn/roll with the punches
- 4) To talk on and on; to go on and on
- 5) Strong; heavy; frequent (adj.)
- 6) Hot damn!; Yes! All right!
- 7) Skilled in signing; sing like a natural
- 8) To lose the point; idea/concept goes right by someone




Lesson 01B **Part B**

- Beats me
- Behind the scenes
- Below the belt
- Bend over backwards
- Bent out of shape
- Bird in the hand is worth two in the bush
- Birds and the bees
- Birthday suit
- Bite off more than I can chew (1)
- Bite off more than I can chew (2)
- Blabbermouth (1)
- Blabbermouth (2)
- Blabbermouth (3)
- Black market
- Blood is thicker than water


Lesson 01 - B




Take responsibility for more than one can manage: Overwhelmed
I'm really behind with my project. Can you help me? I'm afraid I **bite off more than I could chew**.



Take responsibility for more than one can manage: Above
I'm really behind with my project. Can you help me? I'm afraid I **bite off more than I could chew**.




A very talkative person—especially one who says things that should be kept secret: Tattle Tail
Don't say anything to him unless you want the whole office to know. He's quite a **blabbermouth**.




A very talkative person—especially one who says things that should be kept secret: Gossip
Don't say anything to him unless you want the whole office to know. He's quite a **blabbermouth**.


Lesson 01 - B




To have no idea:
A: What time is the party? B: **Beats me**.



Out of sight; unknown to most people:
Much of the banquet committee's work was done **behind the scenes**.




To do something in an unfair or cowardly way:
I think it was a **bit below the belt** when he lied to her.




To try very hard:
They both **bend over backwards** to please their boss.


Lesson 01 - B




A very talkative person—especially one who says things that should be kept secret: Tattle teler
Don't say anything to him unless you want the whole office to know. He's quite a **blabbermouth**.




Source of illicit goods (which should be rationed or unobtainable):
Good quality jeans are only available in the **black market** in Paris.




Persons of the same family are closer to one another than to others; relatives are favored or chosen over outsiders
Mr. Jones always sides with his brother when we have an argument. I guess **blood is thicker than water**.




Lesson 01 - B



Needlessly worried about something:
I know you're worried about your job interview, but don't get **bent out of shape**. You'll do just fine.



Don't go after something if it means losing what you have:
Johnny has a job as a paparazzo, but he wants a job in a gas station. His father says that a **bird in the hand is worth two in the bush**.




About sex, relationships, and the birth process:
At various ages, in response to questions, a child can be told about the **birds and the bees**.




To be completely naked:
When I looked in the crib, he was just laying there in his **birthday suit**.

Lesson 02



Look

Idioms – A Closer
Lesson 2
(The) Bomb



Lesson 02 Part A

- (The) Bomb
- Bone of contention
- Born yesterday
- Bottom line
- Break a leg
- Buckle down
- Bug
- Burn a hole in my pocket
- Burn the midnight oil (1)
- Burn the midnight oil (2)
- Burn the midnight oil (3)
- Bursting at the seams (1)
- Bursting at the seams (2)
- By the skin of my teeth
- Call it a day

Lesson 02 - A

Study/work all night or until very, very late at night
I'm not ready for the test tomorrow. I guess I'll have to **burn the midnight oil**.

Study/work all night or until very, very late at night
I'm not ready for the test tomorrow. I guess I'll have to **burn the midnight oil**.

Study/work all night or until very, very late at night
I'm not ready for the test tomorrow. I guess I'll have to **burn the midnight oil**.

To be very busy or overcrowded
The airport was so busy it was **bursting at the seams**.

Lesson 02 - A

An expression used to identify a really neat/cool person:
Whoa, you play guitar and sing??? **YOU'RE THE BOMB!**

Something to fight over; reason for quarrels:
The boundary line between the farms was a **bone of contention** between the two farmers.

Inexperienced, and easily fooled:
I won't give you the money till I see the bicycle you want to sell me. Do you think I was **born yesterday?**

The most essential information:
The discussion lasted many hours. The **bottom line** was that the XYZ Company isn't for sale.

Lesson 02 - A

To be very excited
I was **bursting at the seams** to tell my news!

Barely succeed in doing something
I'll have to start earlier the next time. This time I only finished **by the skin of my teeth**.

To stop for the day; quit
Su Linn studied hard until 10 P.M., and then decided to **call it a day** and went to bed.

Lesson 02 - A

To wish good luck
I understand you have a job interview tomorrow. **Break a leg!**

To give complete attention (to an effort or job); attend
The group knew they were going to have to **buckle down** to get the project finished.

Annoy; bother
I'm trying to concentrate! Don't **bug** me!

To have money that you just want to spend
I was never able to save any money, it always **burned a hole in my pocket**.

Lesson 02 - A

Animal Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
ants in one's pants	unable to sit still or remain calm out of nervousness or excitement
(the) birds and the bees	sex education
cat nap	a short sleep
chicken out	to decide not to do something out of fear (usually just before)
copy cat	a person who does the same thing as someone else

Lesson 02 - A

Animal Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
eager beaver	a person who is excited about doing certain work
cash cow	a good way to make money
kangaroo court	a self-appointed group that decides what to do to someone who is supposed to have done wrong
bull in a china shop	a person with no tact who upsets others or upsets plans
hold your horses	wait and be patient

Lesson 02 - A

Animal Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
to have a bee in your bonnet.	to be blessed about something.
the early bird catches the worm.	if you do something in a timely manner you will succeed.
kill two birds with one stone	get two things done at once
a bird's eye view.	the appearance of something seen from above.
get the lion's share	get the greatest percentage

Lesson 02 - A


Animal Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
like a fish out of water.	to be uncomfortable in a particular situation
to eat like a horse.	to eat a lot.
mutton dressed (up) as lamb.	to describe a woman who is dressed in a style that is more suitable for a much younger woman.
to pull a rabbit out of the hat.	to surprise everyone by suddenly doing something clever.
a wolf in sheep's clothing.	someone who is dangerous, but pretends to be harmless.

Lesson 02 - A

X - Handshape

- Mental scar; something I'm not likely to forget
- Hooked on; addicted
- To be fresh
- Perceptive; quick to notice
- To give in: All right, alright
- Right on time
- To pry into one's business to steal a look
- Apit to



Lesson 02 - A

Animal Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
monkey see, monkey do	silly/unintelligent people tend to copy each other's actions
raining cats and dogs	raining heavily
rat race	fierce, competitive struggle for power, position etc
straight from the horse's mouth	directly from the original source
to be dog tired.	to be exhausted.

Lesson 02 - A

ASL Idioms



- American Sign Language has its own idioms that are not found in English.
- Many ASL idioms are expressions of emotions and appropriate facial expressions accompany the signs.
- ASL idioms consists of single signs, compounds, or phrases of ASL signs.

Lesson 02 - A "ANGRY, ME"

- I am so mad about that!
- I was never so angry in all my life!
- (Use "angry" sign in the sense of being mad enough to pull off your shirt and start fighting)



Lesson 02 - A "BIG-HEADED, YOU!"

- You are big-headed!
- (Use double-L handshape, fingers curved each side of the temple; move out briskly, add YOU)



Lesson 02 - A "ARGUE WORTHLESS"

- It's no use arguing!
- Arguing with you is no good!
- You'll get nowhere by arguing!



Lesson 02 Part B

- Can't make heads or tails of
- Cash cow
- Catch some Z's
- Catch someone's eye
- Change your tune
- Charley horse
- Cheap skate
- Chip on your shoulder
- Cinch (1)
- Cinch (2)
- Clear the air
- Cold feet
- Cold shoulder
- Cool it
- Cost an arm and leg

Lesson 02 - A "BEAT YOU, ME!"

- (Use "shoot-H" sign for "beat-you")
- I'm better than you are!



Lesson 02 - B

Unable to see the "why" of; unable to find a meaning in; unable to understand
She could not make heads or tails of the directions on the dress pattern.

Someone who is wealthy and supports someone/something
Our university is supported in large part by a cash cow millionaire.

Sleep for a while; take a nap
You look tired, Harrison. Why don't you catch some Z's?

To attract your attention
Rob caught Joanne's eye when he waved to her from the crowd.

Lesson 02 - B

To make a change in your story, statement or claim
The man said he was innocent, but when they found the stolen watch in his pocket he **changed his tune**.

A muscular cramp (especially in the thigh or calf) following vigorous exercise
Courtney couldn't go aerobics due to a **charleyhorse**.

Selfish or stingy person; a person not willing to spend much
No one wants to hang around a **cheap skate** because they grin when the bill comes.

A quarrelsome nature; readiness to be angered
Chase often gets into fights because he goes around with a **chip on his shoulder**.

Lesson 02 - B

IDIOMS DESCRIBING PEOPLE

DAREDEVIL
Someone who takes unnecessary risks.

CRYBABY
Someone who cries a lot and for no good reason - not a real baby.

CHEAPSKATE
Someone who hates to spend money.

BARREL OF LAUGHS
Someone who is very funny.

OLD AS THE HILLS
Someone who is very old.

TROUBLEMAKER/CLASSCLOWN
The first causes trouble and the second makes everyone laugh.

NUTTY AS A FRUIT CAKE
Someone who is a bit crazy.

Lesson 02 - B

Something that's very easy to do
The test was a **cinch**. I finished it quickly and I know that all my answers were correct.

Something that's very easy to do
The test was a **cinch**. I finished it quickly and I know that all my answers were correct.

To remove angry feelings, misunderstanding, or confusion
The President's statement that he would run for office again **cleared the air** of rumors and guessing.

A loss of courage or nerve
Ben was going to ask Sharon to dance with him but he got **cold feet** and didn't.

Lesson 03

Idioms – A Closer Look

Lesson 3

Couch potato

Lesson 02 - B

Unfriendly treatment of a person; looking down at a person
The membership committee gave Jim the **cold shoulder** when he requested to join the club.

Calm down
There's no need to be so upset. Just **cool it!**

Cost a lot; be very expensive
Your new car is really nice. I bet it **cost an arm and a leg!**

Lesson 03

Part A

- Couch potato
- Crack a book
- Cream of the crop
- Crocodile tears
- Cry wolf
- Curry favor
- Dawn on
- Days are numbered
- Dead to the world (1)
- Dead to the world (2)
- Deep water
- Devil to pay
- Dicey
- Didn't bat an eye
- Ditch class

Lesson 03 - A

Someone who spends too much time watching TV. You're a real **couch potato**. You need to get more exercise!

To open a book in order to study. Sharquica did not **crack a book** until the night before the exam.

The best of a group; top choice. The students had drawn many good pictures, and the teacher chose the **cream of the crop** to hang up when the parents came to visit.

Fake tears. When his rich uncle died, leaving him with his money, Lester shed **crocodile tears**.

Lesson 03 - A

Uncertain; taking too much of a chance. A friend of mine says I can make a lot of money if I buy stock in his company, but I think it's too **dicey**.

To not show surprise. When Larry's wife first told him she was pregnant, he **didn't bat an eye**.

Missing class without permission. She was warned not to **ditch class** any more this year, or she will be expelled.

Lesson 03 - A

To give a false alarm. The general said that the candidate was just **crying wolf** when he said that the army was too weak to defend the country.

To flatter or serve someone to get his help or friendship. He tried to **curry favor** with his new boss by trying to anticipate her every whim.

To become clear. It **dawned on** Fred that he would fail the course if he did not study harder.

Does not have long to live or stay. The **days are numbered** for the old school building.

Lesson 03 - A

Body Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
keep an eye on	take care of, watch in order to protect
learn by heart, know by heart	memorize
let one's hair down	relax, have fun
(my) lips are sealed	promise to keep a secret
to powder your nose.	going to the toilet.

Lesson 03 - A

Fast asleep. Tim went to bed very late and was still **dead to the world** at 10 o'clock this morning.

Fast asleep. Tim went to bed very late and was still **dead to the world** at 10 o'clock this morning.

Serious trouble or difficulty. When Dad tried to take Mom's place for a day, he found himself in **deep water**.

Great trouble. There'll be the **devil to pay** when the teacher finds out who broke the window.

Lesson 03 - A

Body Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
all ears	tully listening
to point the finger.	to accuse someone of being responsible for something bad that has happened.
cold feet	nervous just before a big event
cost an arm and a leg	be very expensive
skeleton in the closet / cupboard.	you have are hiding a shocking secret about yourself.

Lesson 03 - A

Body Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
(an) old hand	an experienced person
toe the line	to conform to certain rules or standards.
pat on the back	recognition or a thank-you
pull one's leg	joke or tease someone
see eye to eye	agree

Lesson 03 - A

A - Handshape

1. To turn down
2. None of one's business
3. Firm, won't change one's mind; won't budge
4. Unskilled; no expertise
5. Back up
6. To worsen; deteriorate
7. To fall behind
8. To burn out

HANDSHAPE

Lesson 03 - A

Body Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
(my) flesh and blood	relative
turn a blind eye.	to ignore something that you know is wrong
to jump down someone's throat.	to react angrily to something that someone says or does.
a slip of the tongue.	when you say something which you did not mean to say.
head over heels	deeply in love

Lesson 03 - A

"BLAME-ME, ALWAYS, THEY"

- They're always blaming me!
- They're always finding fault with me!
- They're always accusing me of something.

Lesson 03 - A

Body Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
stick your neck out	help someone a lot, with possible bad consequences for oneself
sweet tooth	a love of sugar or sweet things
to break your back.	to work extremely hard
to scratch someone's back.	to offer to help someone if they help you.
to be all brawn and no brain.	to be physically strong but not very intelligent.


Lesson 03 - A

"BLOOD-FILL-FACE"

- (Use curved handshape to show a blushing face)
- Your face is as red as a beet!

Lesson 03 - A "CUT IT!"

- ▶ (Scissors in front of mouth)
- ▶ Stop talking!
- ▶ That's enough talking!




Lesson 03 Part B


- ▶ Do-or-die
- ▶ Dog and pony show
- ▶ Dog days of summer
- ▶ Don't count your chickens before they hatch
- ▶ Don't lay a finger on
- ▶ Down in the dumps
- ▶ Down your alley
- ▶ Down-to-earth
- ▶ Dressed to kill
- ▶ Ears burn
- ▶ Eat my words
- ▶ Eat your heart out
- ▶ Eke out
- ▶ Elbow grease

Lesson 03 - A "DISGUSTED, ME"

- ▶ I am completely disgusted!
- ▶ (Use rough "C" handshape, fingers on chest, moving in circles with varying degrees to show how disgusted you are)



Lesson 03 - B



Strongly decided; very eager and determined
With a real **do-or-die** spirit, the team scored two touchdowns in the last five minutes of the game.

Put on a good performance to impress someone
The actress put on a **dog and pony show** to obtain a part in the play.

Very hot days in July and August
The roofers were forced to work in the blistering heat of the **dog days of summer**.

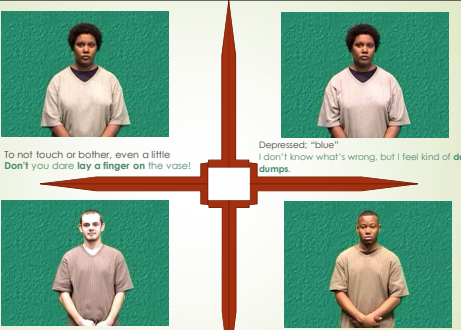
Don't assume you have something until you really have it
Janene insisted she didn't have to do homework to pass the class. But her mother wanted her **not to count her chickens before they hatched**.

Lesson 03 - A "DON'T CARE, ME"

- ▶ It's OK, but I don't really care for it.
- ▶ I'm not crazy about that.
- ▶ (Anything near the nose is often a derogatory gesture)



Lesson 03 - B



To not touch or bother, even a little
Don't you dare **lay a finger** on the vase!

Depressed; "blue"
I don't know what's wrong, but I feel kind of **down in the dumps**.

Suited to one's tastes and abilities
Baseball is right **down your alley**.

Practical; showing good sense
The committee's first plan for the party was too fancy, but the second was more **down-to-earth**.

Lesson 03 - B

To make yourself look really good by wearing your best clothes. She had bought a new outfit and was **dressed to kill**.

To be the subject of conversation. No, we were not talking about you. Why? Were your **ears burning**?

To take back something you have said: admit something is not true. I had called Enrique a coward, but the boys made me **eat my words** after he bravely fought a big bully.

Make one envy. You will **eat your heart out** when you see my new BMW.

Lesson 04

Idioms – A Closer Look

Lesson 4

Eyes are bigger than your stomach

WE CAN'T eat a whole pie, we just CAN'T!

WE CAN, AND WE WILL!

Lesson 03 - B

To do with difficulty; to get little by hard work. Sara worked for five weeks on the report and **eked out** a C.

Hard work; effort. Yes, the car is pretty dirty, but it'll look nice again with a little **elbow grease**.

The end of trying or imagining; the end of ability, or ideas of how to do more. You lost your job and your girlfriend on the same day? You just be at the **end of your rope**.

At The END of My ROPE

Lesson 04

Part A

- Eyes are bigger than your stomach (1)
- Eyes are bigger than your stomach (2)
- Eyes in the back of your head
- Face the music
- Fair and square
- Far-fetched
- Fast and furious
- Fat cat
- Fat chance
- Feast or famine
- Feather in your cap
- Fender-bender
- Food for thought
- Frog in your throat

Lesson 03 - B

Body Part's Idioms

To have your head in the clouds

Zip your lip! – Zip it!

Cat got your tongue?

To put your foot in your mouth

Lesson 04 - A

Wanting more food than you can eat. Look at all that food left on your plate! Your **eyes were bigger than your stomach**.

Wanting more food than you can eat. Look at all that food left on your plate! Your **eyes were bigger than your stomach**.

Ability to know what happens when your back is turned. You must have **eyes in the back of your head**, because you always knows when I do something wrong.

Accept a punishment; to go through trouble or danger. The boy was caught cheating in an exam and had to **face the music**.

Lesson 04 - A

Honest; without cheating
He won the game **fair and square**.

Difficult to accept; difficult to believe
That story's pretty **far-fetched**. Nobody's going to believe it.

Very fast; with much speed and energy
He was mowing the grass at a **fast and furious** rate.

A person high up in the business world with a lot of money
The **fat cat** of our company has a corner office suite.

Lesson 04 - A

Food Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
souped up	made more powerful or stylish
sell like hot cakes	bought by many people
spill the beans	reveal the truth
take something with a pinch (grain) of salt	don't consider something 100% accurate
use your noodle	use your brain

Lesson 04 - A

Little or no possibility
Will I go fishing with you on Saturday? **Fat chance**, my son's tournament is that day.

Plenty or very little; big success or bad failure
In this business it's either **feast or famine**.

Something to be proud of; an honor
It was a **feather in his cap** to win first prize.

Minor automobile accident
Traffic was really slow on the freeway this morning because of a **fender-bender** in one of the westbound lanes.

Lesson 04 - A

Food Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
apple of one's eye	a person that is adored by someone
(have a) bun in the oven	be pregnant
bad egg	a person who is often in trouble
big cheese	very important person (VIP)
bread and butter	necessities, the main thing

Lesson 04 - A

Something to think about or worth thinking about; something that makes you think
The teacher told Anita that she wanted to talk to her parents, and that gave her **food for thought**.

Scratchy voice
Having a cough for two weeks left Anita sounding like she had a **frog in her throat**.

DON'T FORGET, YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT. I NEED TO EAT A SKINNY PERSON.

She has a frog in her throat!

Lesson 04 - A


Food Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
butter someone up	be extra nice to someone (usually for selfish reasons)
cheesy	silly
cool as a cucumber	very relaxed
cream of the crop	the best
(don't) cry over spilled milk	get upset over something that has happened and cannot be changed

Lesson 04 - A

Food Idioms


Idiom	Meaning
handed to someone on a silver platter	receive without working for something
Hard nut to crack	difficult to understand (often a person)
a couch potato	someone who just sits on the couch watching TV.
one smart cookie	a very intelligent person
piece of cake	very easy



Lesson 04 - A

"FACE-EXPRESSIONS, WHY?"


- Why are you making faces?



Lesson 04 - A

Bent Handshape


1. My guts tell me
2. Gullible
3. Beat you completely; blow you away
4. Low-class
5. Go on; go ahead; proceed
6. To much; overboard
7. Flip; total disaster
8. Overwhelmed



Lesson 04 - A

"FALL-IN-LOVE ME"


- (Use "I" handshape on R-hand; hold L-hand out; palm facing upward; place back tip of R-hand index finger at the tip of nose; move down to palm quickly; add "ME"),
- I fell in love with it!
- It was love at first sight!



Lesson 04 - A

"EMBARRASSED, ME"


- I was extremely embarrassed!
- (Use double-5 handshape to quickly cover your face when embarrassed)
- I've never been so embarrassed in all my life!



Lesson 04 - A


"FEEL DEFLATED, ME"

- Broad C handshape on the chest flattens to an flat O handshape,
- An expression of embarrassment.
- Self-esteem is low as a result

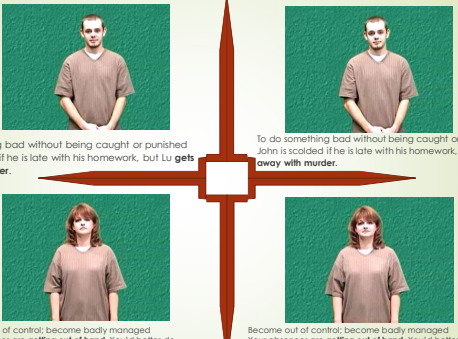


Lesson 04 - A "FEEL INFLATED, ME!"

- Flat O handshape opens up to a broad C handshape on the chest
- An expression of sudden pride in yourself.
- Self-esteem is restored



Lesson 04 - B



To do something bad without being caught or punished
John is scolded if he is late with his homework, but Lu **gets away with murder**.

Get away with murder

Become out of control; become badly managed
Your absences are **getting out of hand**. You'd better do something quickly to improve the situation if you want to keep your job.

Get out of hand

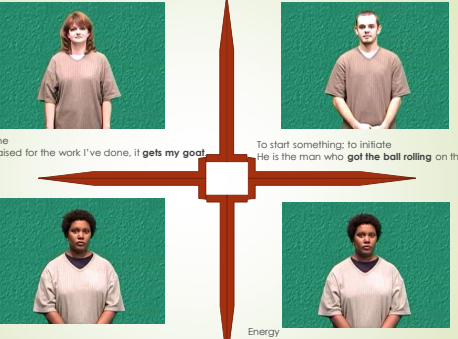
Become out of control; become badly managed
Your absences are **getting out of hand**. You'd better do something quickly to improve the situation if you want to keep your job.

Get out of hand

Lesson 04 Part B

- Full of it (1)
- Full of it (2)
- Full of it (3)
- Get a kick out of something
- Get away with murder (1)
- Get away with murder (2)
- Get out of hand (1)
- Get out of hand (2)
- Get someone's goat
- Get the ball rolling
- Get up and go (1)
- Get up and go (2)
- Get up on the wrong side of the bed
- Get your foot in the door
- Get your wires crossed

Lesson 04 - B



To imitate someone
When he gets praised for the work I've done, it **gets my goal**.

Get my goal

To start something; to initiate
He is the man who **got the ball rolling** on the project.

Get the ball rolling


Energy
I'm really tired. I don't have any **get up and go**.

Get up and go

Energy
I'm really tired. I don't have any **get up and go**.

Get up and go

Lesson 04 - B



Attitude of one seeming to think he/she knows more than anyone else
He's so **full of it** when you talk to him about technical materials.

Full of it

Attitude of one seeming to think he/she knows more than anyone else
He's so **full of it** when you talk to him about technical materials.

Full of it


Making up the information
She's **full of it** because that never happened.

Full of it

Find something amusing
I really **get a kick out of** listening to children talk. They say some very funny things.

Get a kick out of

Lesson 04 - B




To wake up in a bad mood
Stay away from the boss this morning. I think he **got up on the wrong side of the bed**.

Got up on the wrong side of the bed

Gain acceptance/admission to an organization, etc.
Once you **get a foot in the door** by persuading them to order in small amounts, it's often possible to go on and sell them large quantities.

Get a foot in the door



Be confused or mistaken about something
You thought the meeting was this morning? I guess you **got your wires crossed**.

Got your wires crossed

They got their wires crossed. (They misunderstood each other.)

Lesson 04 - B

English Idioms

To sit on the fence

To burn the candle at both ends

The Icing on the Cake

Couch Potato

Lesson 05 - A

Skill in talking; ability to make interesting talk that makes people believe you
Many candidates get elected because of their **gift of gab**.

To die; stop going
After a long illness, the old woman **gave up the ghost**.

To help or support someone
If you are in trouble, our company will **go to bat for you**.

Be self-evident; need not be mentioned
And, of course, I will help to pay for it. That **goes without saying**.

Lesson 05

Idioms – A Closer Look

Lesson 5

Gift of gab

Lesson 05 - A

A very ambitious, hard-working person
I'm not surprised that Jean finished before anyone else. She's a real **go-getter**.

Get something to eat
I'm really hungry. Would you like to **grab a bite** with me?

Inexperienced
I don't think you can depend on Jack to do that job by himself. He's too **green**.

Approval/permission to start a go-ahead
The bank has given us the money. Now we have the **green light** to start the project.

Lesson 05

Part A

- Gift of gab
- Give up the ghost
- Go to bat for someone
- Goes without saying
- Go-getter
- Grab a bite
- Green
- Green light
- Grin and bear it
- Half a mind
- Half-baked
- Handwriting on the wall
- Hard feelings
- Have egg on my face
- Have something down pat

Lesson 05 - A

To be as cheerful as possible in pain or trouble; do something without complaining
When his boss asked him to get coffee every morning, he would just **grin and bear it**.

An inclination
It's such a nice day I've **half a mind** to take the afternoon off work.

Not thought out or studied thoroughly; not worth considering or accepting
We wish Byron would not take our time at meetings to offer his **half-baked** ideas.

A sign that something bad will happen
Babin's employer had less and less work for him; he could read the **handwriting on the wall** and looked for another job.

Lesson 05 - A

Anger, animosity; bitter feelings
A: I'm sorry that Jim got the job instead of you. B: I have no **had feelings** toward him; I know that he had stronger qualifications.

To be embarrassed or humiliated
I was struggling with a puzzle when my seven-year-old son came along and did it immediately—did I **have egg on my face**!

Know/understand something completely and thoroughly
I know I did well on the test. I **had all the material down pat**.

Lesson 05 - A

Number Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
nine-to-five job	a routine job in an office that involves standard office hours (usually 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM)
six feet under	dead and buried
stand on one's own two feet	to be independent and self-sufficient
a stitch in time saves nine	any damage or mistake should be corrected immediately in order to prevent it from becoming worse.
take five	to take one brief (about five minutes) rest period

Lesson 05 - A

Number Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
never in a million years	"absolutely never"
be on cloud nine	very happy because something wonderful has happened.
dressed up to the nines	someone is wearing very smart or glamorous clothes.
be in seventh heaven	extremely happy
at sixes and sevens	someone is in a state of confusion or not very well organized.

Lesson 05 - A

Number Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
catch twenty two	a frustrating situation where you need to do one thing before doing a second, and you cannot do the second before doing the first.
two's company (three's a crowd)	lovers, who would prefer to be alone together than to have someone else with them.
two peas in a pod	two people who are very similar in appearance.
two left feet	you are clumsy or awkward in your movements.
it takes two to tango	you say this when you think that a difficult situation or argument cannot be the fault of one person alone.

Lesson 05 - A

Number Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
back to square one	back to where one started
cast the first stone	to be the first to criticize or attack someone
get the third degree	to be questioned in great detail about something
in two minds about (something)	to be undecided about something
nine times out of ten	almost always

Lesson 05 - A

Number Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
have one over the eight	a person is slightly drunk.
at the eleventh hour	it happens when it is almost too late.
have (or get) forty winks	you have a short sleep or rest, generally during the day.
on all fours	you are down on your hands and knees.
feel like a million dollars	to feel great, to feel well and healthy.

Lesson 05 - A

Y - Handshape

1. Without warning; suddenly; whoops
2. What's the matter? What happened?
3. Whoa! Holy Cow
4. Practice: what you preach
5. Big word: jargon
6. Not my type; not my cup of tea
7. Taking it easy; chilling out
8. Same old thing; over and over



Lesson 05 - A

"FOR-FOR?"

- ▀ What for?
- ▀ What's that for?
- ▀ What did you do that for?
- ▀ Why are you doing that?



Lesson 05 - A

"FINE, YOU!"

- ▀ (Thumb on chest, wiggle fingers),
- ▀ (Often used as a reaction to something clever, witty or humorous),
- ▀ Fine, Neat, Great!



Lesson 05 - A

"FUNNY ZERO"

- ▀ That isn't funny
- ▀ It's no laughing matter.



Lesson 05 - A

"FLATTER, YOU"

- ▀ You are a brownnoser!
- ▀ You're really buttering him/her up!



Lesson 05 - A

"GONE (ZOOM), FINISH!"


- ▀ I'm way ahead of you now!




Lesson 05 **Part B**

- Have the courage of one's convictions
- Head honcho
- Heads up
- Hit the spot
- Hold your horse
- Holier-than-thou
- Horsing around
- Hunt and peck
- If I had my druthers
- In a nutshell
- In black and white
- In the black
- In the doghouse
- In the red


Lesson 05 - B




If I could do what I wanted/preferred
If I had my druthers, I'd stay home from work today.



In a few words; briefly
We are in a hurry, so I'll give you the story **in a nutshell**.




Print or writing; words on paper, not spoken; exact written or printed form.
He insisted on having the agreement down **in black and white**.




Profitable; not showing a financial loss
What did you do to increase profit and eliminate losses?
You've been **in the black** for two months now.


Lesson 05 - B




To be brave enough to act according to your beliefs
Felko showed that he **had the courage of his convictions** by refusing to help another student cheat on the exam.



Person in charge; top boss
Myra's the **head honcho** of the Interpreter Education Program.




Keep your head up and be careful or ready
Heads up, boys! A train is coming.





To refresh; lull or satisfy you
A cup of tea always **hits the spot** when you are tired.

Lesson 05 - B




In disgrace or disfavor
The students were **in the doghouse** with their professor because they showed up to class without their homework.







Unprofitable; showing financial loss
We have to do something to increase profit and decrease losses. We've been **in the red** for two months now.




Lesson 05 - B




Just wait a second
Hold your horses, I'm coming!



Acting as if you are better than others in goodness, character or reverence for God
Most people find **holier-than-thou** actions in others hard to accept.



Joking around
Horsing around is what my brothers love to do when they all get together.



Picking out typewriter keys by sight, usually with one or two fingers
Many newspaper reporters do their typing using the **hunt and peck** method.

Lesson 05 - B

1. 🐈🐕🐈🐕🐈🐕
2. 🍰
3. 💰✖️🌱🌳
4. ✖️🕒🕒🕒🐣 before 🐣
5. ✖️🔥🐣 with 🐣
6. Let's 🐣 it a 🇪🇸
7. 🍏 of 👁️👁️
8. 🐣🌕🐣
9. 🐣🐣 with 🐣
10. 🗣️ of the 🐈


Guess the Idioms

1. Raining cats and dogs
2. Piece of cake
3. Money don't grow on trees
4. Don't count your chickens before the hatch
5. Don't play with fire
6. Let's call it a day
7. Apple of my eye
8. My blue moon
9. Kill two birds with one stone
10. Speaking of the Devil

Idioms – A Closer
Lesson 6
In Toto



Lesson 06 - A



Something you are doing; job
Tom had a number of **irons in the fire**, and he managed to keep up with everything.

Ruthless competition
In some early frontier towns it was a **dog-eat-dog world**.

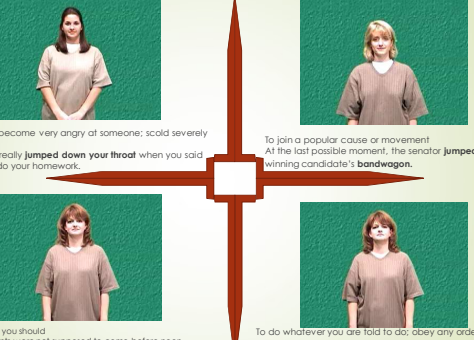
No fooling; without exaggerating; seriously
Joking aside, although the conditions were not very comfortable, we had a wonderful time.

Severely criticize or find fault with someone
A: What's wrong with Joe? B: He's feeling bad because his boss **jumped all over him** this morning.

Lesson 06 Part A

- In toto (1)
- In toto (2)
- In your shoes
- Iron out
- Irons in the fire
- It's a dog-eat-dog world
- Joking aside
- Jump all over someone
- Jump down your throat
- Jump on the bandwagon
- Jump the gun
- Jump through hoops
- Junk mail
- Just what the doctor ordered
- Keep an eye on

Lesson 06 - A




To suddenly become very angry at someone; scold severely or angrily
The teacher really **jumped down your throat** when you said you did not do your homework.

To join a popular cause or movement
At the last possible moment, the senator **jumped on the** winning candidate's **bandwagon**.

To start before you should
The new students weren't supposed to come before noon, but one boy **jumped the gun** and came to school at eight in the morning.

To do whatever you are told to do; obey any order
I had to **jump through hoops** to get all of this work done for the principal just so he could get off of work early.

Lesson 06 - A



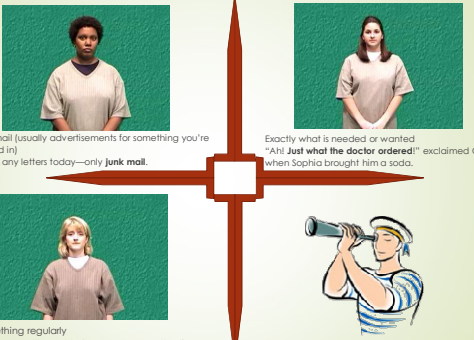
As a whole; in its entirety; totally; altogether
The store refused the advertising agency's suggestion **in toto**.

As a whole; in its entirety; totally; altogether
The store refused the advertising agency's suggestion **in toto**.

To be in someone else's place or position
I heard you're very ill. I would hate to be **in your shoes**.

The company and its workers **ironed out** their differences over hours and pay.
To discuss and reach an agreement about; find a solution for a problem.

Lesson 06 - A



Unsolicited mail (usually advertisements for something you're not interested in)
I didn't have any letters today—only **junk mail**.

Exactly what is needed or wanted
"Ah! **Just what the doctor ordered!**" exclaimed Christian when Sophia brought him a soda.

Check something regularly
You're busy, so you'll need to **keep an eye on** the time. Remember that we have to leave at 4:30.

Lesson 06 - A

Color Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
catch red handed	catch someone in the act of doing something wrong or illegal
golden opportunity	the perfect chance
grass is always greener on the other side	you always want what you don't have
grey area	something without a clear rule or answer
the green light	permission

Lesson 06 - A

"GULP!"

- Oops!
- (Use "open-C" handshape towards chest grasping slowly to a close as you bring hand down to indicate the holding back of emotions)
- Holding back laughter/anger

Lesson 06 - A

Color Idioms

Idiom	Meaning
(have a) green thumb	be skillful in the garden
have the blues	be sad or depressed
in the dark	unaware
once in a blue moon	very rare
red tape	official or bureaucratic tasks

Lesson 06 - A

"HEAFIE"

- Sign for "HEARING-PERSON" done at the forehead
- No English equivalent, but it is a derogatory sign that denotes a deaf person that thinks like a hearing person

Lesson 06 - A

1 - Handshape

- No wonder; "That's understandable"
- What did you say?
- It's not in there; it's unlisted
- A piece of cake
- Think wonderful, think of oneself as Mr./Mrs. Perfect
- Take a risk
- The point is...; the main idea
- Will, it's about time! At last.

Lesson 06 - A

"INSULT-ME HIM"

- The concept is to jab someone with the index finger.
- He insulted me.
- He hurt my feelings.

Lesson 06 - A "IT-RAN-OUT, FINISH!"

- It's all gone.
- There's none left.
- Ran dry.
- Ran out.



Lesson 06 - B



To keep something you are told or know in strictest of confidence
You can trust me, I'll **keep anything** you tell me **under my hat**.



Remain brave and confident in a difficult situation
I know that things have been difficult for you recently, but **keep your chin up**. Everything will be better soon.



Remain calm/not lose one's temper
Keep your shirt on! There's no need to get so upset.



Accomplishing two things at the same time
If we've got to go to Swester to see your father, we could **kill two birds with one stone** and visit the Ship Museum as well.

Lesson 06 - A "LAUGH-AT-ME FINISH!"

- Stop making fun of me!
- Stop laughing at me!



Lesson 06 - B



Know/understand something thoroughly
If you have a question about grammar, ask Dr. Martin. She **knows grammar inside out**.



A small trouble that follows other troubles and makes one lose patience and be unable to bear them
Bill had a bad day in school yesterday. He lost his knife on the way home, then he fell down, and when he broke a shoelace, that was the **last straw** and he began to cry.



Do not make (someone) angry and cause trouble or danger;
do not make trouble if you do not have to
Don't tell your father you broke the window. **Let sleeping dogs lie**.



Do not make (someone) angry and cause trouble or danger;
do not make trouble if you do not have to
Don't tell your father you broke the window. **Let sleeping dogs lie**.

Lesson 06 Part B

- Keep something under one's hat
- Keep your chin up
- Keep your shirt on
- Killing two birds with one stone
- Know something inside out
- Last straw
- Let sleeping dogs lie (1)
- Let sleeping dog lie (2)
- Let the cat out of the bag
- Like a bat out of hell
- Like a bull in a china shop
- Like a fish out of water
- Like father, like son
- Like herding cats
- Like water off a duck's back

Lesson 06 - B



Telling something which has been a secret
We wanted to surprise Mary with a birthday gift, but Rohini **let the cat out of the bag** by asking her what she would like.



Fast
When Nancy checked her watch and realized she was late for work, she sped out of the driveway **like a bat out of hell**.



Someone heedless of physical damage or the personal feelings of anyone
My brother ran into my room **like a bull in a china shop** and took back all of his belongings.



Out of one's element
She was the only girl at the party not in formal dress, and she felt **like a fish out of water**.

Lesson 06 - B

A Tom is usually like his father in the way he acts. Frank's father has been on the city council, he is now the mayor, and is running for governor. Frank is on the student council and is likely to be class president. **Like father, like son**

Fullie
An attempt to get stubborn Esal to change her mind is like herding cats.

Without having any effect
Advice and correction roll off him like water off a duck's back

Lesson 07

Idioms – A Closer Look
Lesson 7
Little bird told me

Lesson 06 - B

Weather Idioms

Storm in a Teacup Cold Shoulder Snowed Under Fast As Lightning

Under The Weather Face Like Thunder Chasing Rainbows Head In The Clouds

Lesson 07

Part A

- Little bird told me
- Look like the cat that swallowed the canary
- Look at what the cat dragged in
- Make a dent in
- Man after my own heart (1)
- Man after my own heart (2)
- Mind like a steel trap
- Money talks
- Month of Sundays
- More than one way to skin a cat
- My hands are tied
- Name is mud
- Neck and neck
- Neither here nor there (1)
- Neither here nor there (2)

Lesson 06 - B

Weather Idioms

When it rains it pours

Cool as a cucumber

Rain or Shine

Rain check

Fair weather friend

Save for a rainy day

Lesson 07 - A

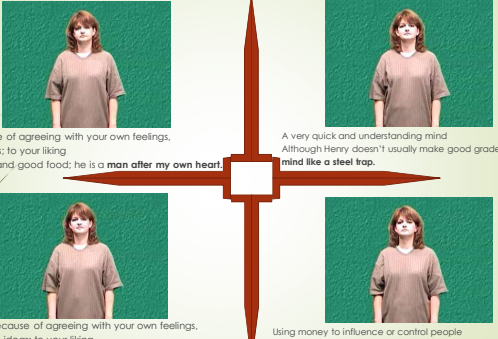
I won't tell you who told me
A: Who told you I was dating Percy?
B: Oh, a little bird told me.

To look proud of one's self
When she won the prize, she went home looking like the cat that swallowed the canary

A humorously derogatory comment on someone's arrival
When Tom entered the room, his brother Kyle said, "Look at what the cat dragged in."

To make less by a very small amount; reduce slightly
Amrit studied all afternoon and only made a dent in her homework.

Lesson 07 - A



Well liked because of agreeing with your own feelings, interest, and ideas; to your liking
He likes baseball and good food; he is a **man after my own heart**.

A very quick and understanding mind
Although Henry doesn't usually make good grades, he has a **mind like a steel trap**.


Well liked because of agreeing with your own feelings, interest, and ideas; to your liking
He likes baseball and good food; he is a **man after my own heart**.

Using money to influence or control people
You can ask the man, but **money talks**. He will let you in the door for a tip.


Lesson 07 - A

Bent V Handshape

- Way too much (taxed money, salt, etc)
- You've got a lot of nerve
- Nab; go after
- To be immersed; to become fully involved with
- Restless; ants in one's pants
- Shortage; lack of something
- Hardly
- Dumb founded; at a loss for words



Lesson 07 - A



A very long time I have not had devil's food cake in a **month of Sundays**.

More than one way to do something There's **more than one way to skin a cat** when it comes to composing an essay.


Unable to do something one would like to do **My hands are tied**; there is nothing more I can do for you. You will have to answer to the district manager for your unacceptable behavior.

A person is in trouble; a person is blamed or no longer liked if you tell your parents I spilled ink on their rug, my **name will be mud**.

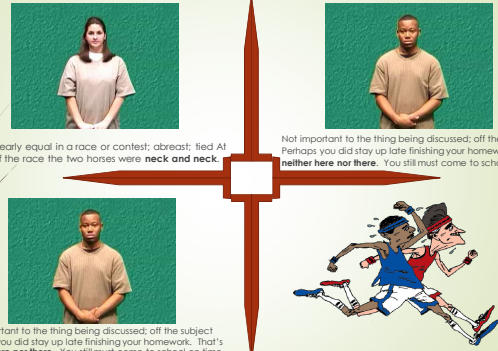
Lesson 07 - A

"LAUGH-AT-YOU, ME"

- "Ha ha ha"
- I don't take you seriously.
- Also used in making fun of another person having to work hard when you're not working



Lesson 07 - A



Equal or nearly equal in a race or contest; abreast; tied At the end of the race the two horses were **neck and neck**.


Not important to the thing being discussed; off the subject Perhaps you did stay up late finishing your homework. That's **neither here nor there**. You still must come to school on time.

Not important to the thing being discussed; off the subject Perhaps you did stay up late finishing your homework. That's **neither here nor there**. You still must come to school on time.

Lesson 07 - A

"ME SICK THAT"

- I'm sick of that!
- I hate that!



Lesson 07 - A "ME, ME, ME, YOU!"

► You are an egotist!



Lesson 07 Part B

- Nest egg
- Nip it in the bud
- No holds barred
- No spring chicken
- Not know which way to turn
- Off-the-cuff
- Off the wagon
- Old hat
- On the cutting edge
- On the Q.T
- Once in a blue moon (1)
- Once in a blue moon (2)
- One's bark is worse than one's bite
- Out of character
- Out of stock

Lesson 07 - A "MONEY COMFORTABLE, YOU!"

► You're well-off!



Lesson 07 - B



A fund of money kept in reserve; savings The interest on that investment should provide a substantial **nest egg** for when we retire.



Forestall/frustrate a scheme/plan (before it can be implemented) Any ill-feeling has to be **nipped in the bud** before it develops into open revolt.



Acting very forcefully or enthusiastically without paying attention to any restraints, limits or restrictions that may exist! We are in a state of war. It is a war with **no holds barred**, and we must prepare to resist.



Old Bernice was **no spring chicken** when she finally decided to get married at age 55.

Lesson 07 - A "NERVY, YOU!"

► You have some nerve!



Lesson 07 - B



To be puzzled about getting out of a difficulty When Oscar missed the last bus home, he didn't **know which way to turn**.



Without preparation He made a stupid **off-the-cuff** remark.

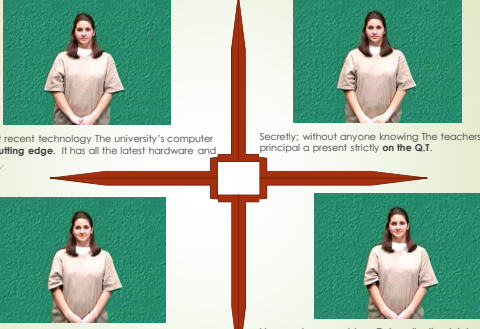


No longer refusing to drink whiskey or other alcoholic beverages When a heavy drinker quits, he must really quit. One little drink of whiskey is enough to drive him **off the wagon**.



Not new or different! I've been doing this job for so long, it's all **old hat now**.

Lesson 07 - B



Using the most recent technology the university's computer lab is **on the cutting edge**. It has all the latest hardware and software.

Secretly, without anyone knowing the teachers got the principal a present strictly **on the Q.T.**

Very rarely; very seldom Coin collecting is interesting, but you find a valuable coin only **once in a blue moon**.


Very rarely; very seldom Coin collecting is interesting, but you find a valuable coin only **once in a blue moon**.

Lesson 08

Part A


- Out of the blue
- Out of whack
- Par for the course
- Pay the piper
- Pay through the nose
- Play possum
- Play with fire
- Play your cards right
- Pop the question
- Pull my leg
- Pull the wool over someone's eyes
- Put two and two together
- Put your foot down
- Put your money where your mouth is
- Quick on the uptake

Lesson 07 - B



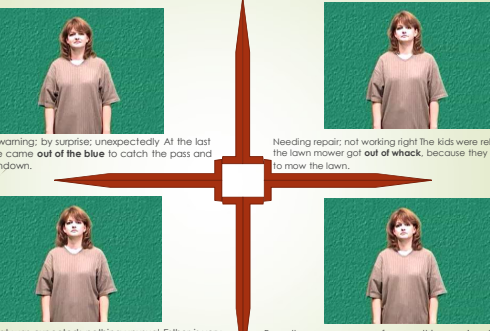
Someone comes across as being very mean and nasty, but doesn't necessarily act on their threats. She was always scolding her children, but they knew that her **bark was worse than her bite**.

Not in agreement with a person's character or personality; not usual Lin is a nice girl. Her fit of temper was **out of character**.



Having none for sale or use; no longer in supply; sold out When Father tried to get tires for an old car, the man in the store said the size was **out of stock** and were not sold anymore.

Lesson 08 - A



Without any warning; by surprise; unexpectedly At the last minute Boyce came **out of the blue** to catch the pass and score a touchdown.

Needing repair; not working right The kids were relieved that the lawn mower got **out of whack**, because they didn't have to mow the lawn.

Just what was expected; nothing unusual Esther is very clumsy so it was **par for the course** when she bumped into the table and broke the vase.


Face the consequences for something you've done I stayed up too late tonight. Tomorrow I'll have to **pay the piper**.

Lesson 08

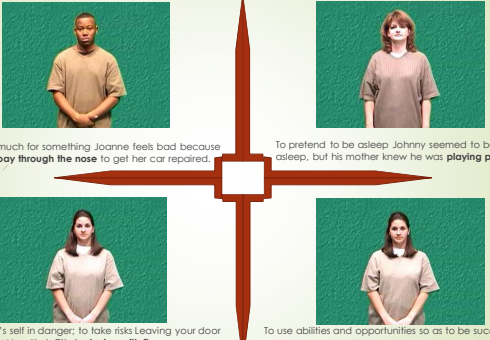
Idioms – A Closer Look

Lesson 8

Out of the blue




Lesson 08 - A



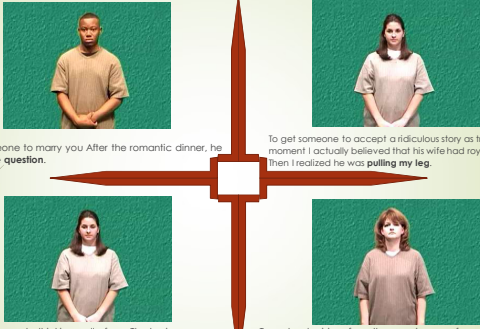
To pay too much for something Joanne feels bad because she had to **pay through the nose** to get her car repaired.

To pretend to be asleep Johnny seemed to be fully asleep, but his mother knew he was **playing possum**.

To put one's self in danger; to take risks Leaving your door unlocked in New York City is **playing with fire**.

To use abilities and opportunities so as to be successful; act cleverly That millionaire started with very little but showed a skill in **playing his cards right**.

Lesson 08 - A



To ask someone to marry you After the romantic dinner, he **popped the question**.

To get someone to accept a ridiculous story as true For a moment I actually believed that his wife had royal blood, then I realized he was **pulling my leg**.

To fool someone to thinking well of you The business man had **pulled the wool over his partner's eyes** about their financial situation.

To make decisions from the seeming proofs; reason from the known facts He had put **two and two together** and decided where they had probably gone.

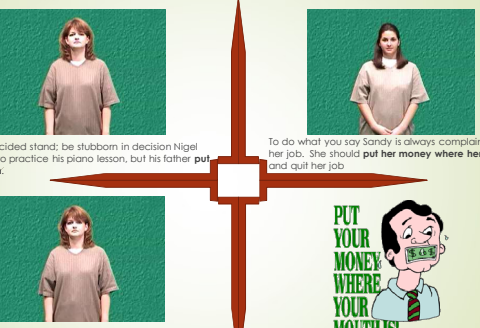
Lesson 08 - A

8 Finger Handshape

1. I have a feeling; I'd say
2. To be touched/moved by
3. Sick of it
4. Tend to
5. To feel good; total relief
6. Desperate, grasping at straws, to make do
7. Never again
8. Over and done with




Lesson 08 - A



To take a decided stand; be stubborn in decision Nigel didn't want to practice his piano lesson, but his father **put his foot down**.

To do what you say Sandy is always complaining about her job. She should **put her money where her mouth is** and quit her job.



Quick to learn Tautong is so **quick on the uptake** that you only have to tell her something once and she remembers it forever.

Lesson 08 - A

"NG"


- No Good!
- Lousy
- Worthless



Lesson 08 - A

F - Handshape

1. My school is close by
2. Expert, skilled; to have, a knack for
3. Close call
4. An aware; without knowing
5. Absolutely correct, absolutely perfect
6. Noting to it
7. To take the liberty; to do without one's asking
8. Useless, no use; pointless



Lesson 08 - A

"POP-UP, NOT EXPECTED!"

- He showed up unexpectedly!



Lesson 08 - A "PEA-BRAIN"

► He's a pea-brain!



Lesson 08 Part B

- Quick study
- Rattle off
- Red herring
- Red tape
- Rings a bell
- Rob the cradle
- Roll up your sleeves
- Runs in the family
- Sacred cow
- Save your breath
- Say the word
- Scratch the surface
- Seeing is believing
- Shake a leg
- Shoot the breeze

Lesson 08 - A "PITY-YOU, ME"

► I pity you.



Lesson 08 - B



Someone who learns new things quickly and easily
A: Annie seems to be doing well at her new job.
B: I'm not surprised. She's a **quick study**.



Official regulators (that annoy/delay)
Every time you want to get a new passport, you have to go through a lot of **red tape**. It's not easy and it takes a lot of time.



To say quickly without having to stop or think; recite easily and rapidly When Takesha was seven she could **rattle off** the names of all the states in alphabetical order.



Deliberately misleading factor The information about increased development costs was merely **red herring** to divert attention from the fact that the initial budget was wrongly estimated.

Lesson 08 - A "RESPECT ZERO, ME"

► I have no respect for that at all.



Lesson 08 - B



To make you remember something; sound familiar Not even the cat's meowing seemed to **ring a bell** with her. She forgot to feed him.



To have dates with or marry a person much younger than yourself When the old woman married a young man, everyone said she was **robbing the cradle**.



Prepare to work hard You'll get the job finished if you **roll up your sleeves**.



To be a common family characteristic A great interest in gardening **runs in his family**.

Lesson 08 - B

A person or thing that is never criticized, laughed at, or insulted even if deserving of such action. Motherhood is a **sacred cow** to most politicians.

To keep silent because talking will not help. **Save your breath**: the boss will never give you the day off.

To say or show that you want something or agree to something; show a wish, willingness or readiness; give a sign. Just **say the word** and I will lend you the money.

To learn or understand very little about something. We thought we understood Africa, but when we made a trip there we found we had only **scratched the surface**.

Lesson 09

Part A

- Show your colors
- Sight for sore eyes
- Sitting duck
- Skeleton in the closet
- Sleep on it
- Song and dance
- Speak of the devil
- Spitting image
- Split hairs
- Square peg in a round hole
- Steal one's thunder (1)
- Steal one's thunder (2)
- Sticky fingers
- Stomping ground
- Stool-pigeon

Lesson 08 - B

Seeing something is good proof. Dr. Trung told Marvin he had passed his test, but Joe said, "**seeing is believing**."

To hurry. Please **shake a leg** or we will be late.

Make relaxed, casual conversation. No, we weren't talking about anything important. We were just **shooting the breeze**.

Shake a Leg

Lesson 09 - A

To show what you are really like. We thought Toby was timid, but he **showed his colors** when he rescued the ponies from the burning barn.

A welcome sight; a relief. After our long, dusty hike, the pond was a **sight for sore eyes**.

An easy mark. The overweight little boy with glasses was a **sitting duck** for the merciless bully.

A shameful secret; someone or something kept hidden. The **skeleton in our family closet** was Uncle Willie. No one mentioned him because he drank too much.

Lesson 09

Idioms – A Closer Look

Lesson 9

Show your colors

Lesson 09 - A


To give serious thought before making a decision. Before we buy a pool, I had first better **sleep on it** and then I'll decide.

Foolish or uninteresting talk; dull nonsense. I met Nancy today and she gave me a long **song and dance** about her family.


A person comes just when you are talking about him. We were just talking about Bill when he came in the door. **Speak of the devil**, and he appears.

An exact likeness; a duplicate. Kaz is the **spitting image** of his grandfather.


Lesson 09 - A




To find and argue about unimportant differences as if the differences are important
Emilio is always **spilling holes**; he often starts an argument about something small and unimportant.



A person who does not fit into a job or position; someone who does not belong where he is
He is a **square peg in a round hole** when he is playing ball.



Rob somebody of the chance to receive credit/praise
I did all the hard work, but my boss **stole my thunder** by announcing the discovery as his own.




Rob somebody of the chance to receive credit/praise
I did all the hard work, but my boss **stole my thunder** by announcing the discovery as his own.


Lesson 09 - A

The Claw Handshape


1. Light-headed
2. To hold back; repress a feeling
3. Gross!
4. To catch what someone said or did
5. To work something out
6. To foul up; a total mess
7. Mismatch; don't go together
8. To try to muddle through (to an understanding)




Lesson 09 - A




The habit of stealing things you see and want
Don't leave money in your locker; some students have **sticky fingers**.



A place where a person spends much of his time
Pete's soda fountain is an after-school **stomping ground** for the high school kids.




An informer
The teacher's pet is a classic **stool-pigeon**, as he will tattletale on anyone.



Lesson 09 - A

"SICK-YOU!"


- You are sick and disgusting!



Lesson 09 - A

B - Handshape


1. Brown nose, kiss up to
2. To be fed up
3. Ready to burst; blow a fuse
4. A slap in the face
5. Straightforward
6. To frequent (place or person) often go to
7. A booming success
8. Convince completely; to talk someone into



Lesson 09 - A

"STINK YOU!"

- You were lousy!
- You were terrible!
- You did a bad job!



Lesson 09 - A "STOMACH TURNOVER, ME"

- That makes me sick to my stomach!
- I can't stomach that!
- I'm upset!



Lesson 09 Part B

- Straight face
- Struck out
- Stuck-up
- Swallow it hook, line and sinker
- Take a back seat
- Take issue with
- Take the bull by the horns
- Talk to the hand
- Tan your hide
- Tell a white lie
- Think on your feet
- Tight-fisted
- Time on your hands
- Tip off
- To a t

Lesson 09 - A "SWALLOW FISH!"

- He's a sucker.
- He's gullible and naïve.
- He fell for that hook, line, and sinker!



Lesson 09 - B



A face that is not laughing or smiling
Marta told all the funny stories she knew to try to make Juanita laugh, but Juanita kept a **straight face**.



To fail at something
Dolores **struck out** when she tried to get her job back. She should not have quit in the first place.



Acting as if other people are not as good as you are; conceited; snobbish
Sue is very **stuck-up**, and will not speak to the poor children in her class.



Believing something (usually a falsity)
The girl at the party really believed me when I said I worked as a secret agent. She **swallowed the story hook, line and sinker**.

Lesson 09 - A "THINK EASY, YOU?"

- (Used as a challenge when someone is physically threatened)



Lesson 09 - B



To accept a poorer or lower position
During the war, all manufacturing had to **take a back seat** to military needs.



To openly go against; speak against; disagree with
He thought his boss was wrong but was afraid to **take issue with** him on the matter.

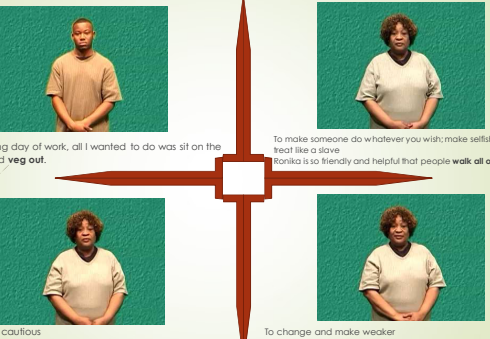


To face and tackle a difficulty without shirking
He decided to **take the bull by the horns** and demand a raise in salary even though it might cost him his job.



A sarcastic expression used to inform someone that they are not listening
What? I don't want to hear you yell at me... **talk to the hand!**

Lesson 10 - A



Relax.
After a long day of work, all I wanted to do was sit on the couch and **veg out**.

To make someone do whatever you wish; make selfish use of; treat like a slave.
Ronika is so friendly and helpful that people **walk all over** her.


To be very cautious.
The children were **walking on eggshells** as they snuck through the vacant shack.

To change and make weaker.
The Senator argued that the House should **water down** the bill before passing it.

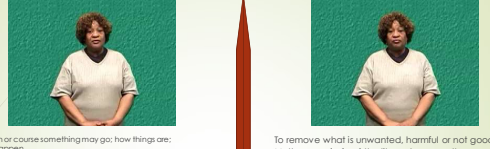
Lesson 10 - A

5 Handshape


1. A veteran of something, to know all about something, old hat
2. To loathe; makes me want to puke
3. Cut it out; knock it off!
4. Not my problem; none of my concern
5. Cover up
6. You're in trouble; it's all over for you; I'm done for
7. To be thrown unexpectedly into a situation; out of it
8. To have a ball/blat




Lesson 10 - A



The direction or course something may go; how things are; what may happen.
Most senators find out **which way the wind blows** in the home state before voting on bills in Congress.




To remove what is unwanted, harmful, or not good enough.
Mother **weeded out** the library because there were so many books.



Lesson 10 - A "THINK FUNNY, YOU?"

- Do you think that is funny?
- Used in the sense of ridiculing something that is not funny but very serious



Lesson 10 - A


Open B Handshape

1. Sweet-natured; nice of you
2. To blow away; don't have (emphatic)
3. To overlook to be unobservant
4. Satisfactory
5. To butter up
6. Face to face
7. Top-notch, top of the line, the best
8. To leave in a hurry; gotta run! To book



Lesson 10 - A "THINK WHAT, YOU?"

- Whaddya think?"



Lesson 10 - A "THINK-YOURSELF!"

- It's up to you.
- Do as you please.
- Suit yourself!
- Usually in response to a question such as "May I join you?"



Lesson 10 Part B

- Wet behind the ears (1)
- Wet behind the ears (2)
- When hell freezes over
- Wing it
- Wishy-washy
- With bells on
- Wolf down
- Write home about
- Yellow-bellied
- Yes-mam
- Year in, year out
- You rock

Lesson 10 - A "THUMB-UP"

- Use an "A" handshape with the thumb up, then move hand forward with a brisk motion and smile,
- May be from the Irish expression, "Top of the morning to you!"
- So long until later!
- See you later!
- Good luck!



Lesson 10 - B

Inexperienced and naive
Don't include Fred as part of the bargaining team. He's just started working here and is still too **wet behind the ears**.

Inexperienced and naive
Don't include Fred as part of the bargaining team. He's just started working here and is still too **wet behind the ears**.

Never
I will believe you **when hell freezes over**.

To accomplish or perform something without full preparation or knowledge; improvise
Not having the instructions to assembling the bicycle, Dad decided to **wing it**.

Lesson 10 - A "TIME FINISH!"

- Time's up!



Lesson 10 - B

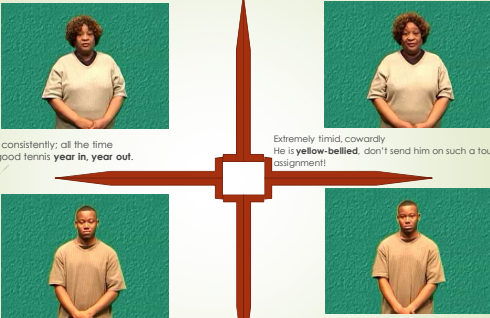
Uncommitted; without an opinion of one's own
Don't be so **wishy-washy**. Tell us how you really feel.

Very eager; with the feeling that one will have a very good time
A: Are you going to Sandra's party? B: I'll be there **with bells on!**

To gulp
Ahmed **wolfed down** the pizza as if he hadn't eaten in a week!

To become especially enthusiastic or excited about; boast about
That was a dinner worth **writing home about!**

Lesson 10 - B



Regularly; consistently; all the time
He plays good tennis **year in, year out**.


Extremely timid; cowardly
He is **yellow-bellied**; don't send him on such a tough assignment!

Someone who tries to get approval by agreeing with everyone
A: Why does the boss think Arnold is so intelligent?
B: Because Arnold is a **yes-man**. He agrees with everything we boss says!

An expression used to identify a really neat/cool person
Whoa, you play guitar and sing??? **YOU ROCK!**

Lesson 10 - B "TRAIN GONE (ZOOM), SORRY!"

- Use "L" handshape on R-hand; rest right thumb on L-index finger, bringing R-thumb & index finger together in a zooming motion
- Sorry, you missed the boat!
- I don't want to repeat this, sorry!




Lesson 10 - B

Conclusion


This has been quite a task to learn all these idioms, but if you think that is all there are plenty more yet to learn.

It is important to understand the true meaning of each idiom, both in ASL and English in order to translate best.




Lesson 10 - B "VOMIT, ME!"

- I hate that!
- This may seem vulgar, but is used to show intense repulsiveness to something



Lesson 10 - B "TOUGH, HIM!"

- He is tough!
- (brash, hard-hearted)



Lesson 10 - B "WORTHLESS!"

- It's no use at all!
- It looks completely hopeless!
- ASL compound
- Signs like "IMPORTANT NOTHING!"
- gives a feeling of hopelessness or dismay

