

Lesson 08

Idioms – A Closer  
Lesson 8  
Out of the blue



## 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

An idiom may be listed multiple times due to multiple definitions and signs that may be possible.

Out of the blue

Out of whack

Par for the course

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Put your foot down

Put your money where your mouth is

Quick on the uptake

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**.

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

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. (Broke)

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. (Natural)

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

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**.

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

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

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

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**. (Think Smart)

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.

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

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**. (Tease)

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

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. (Figure Out)

Lesson 08 - A



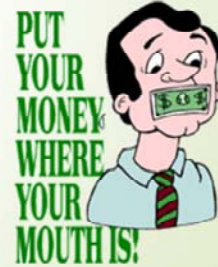
To take a decided stand; be stubborn in decision Nigel didn't want to practice his piano lesson, but his father **put his foot down**.



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



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



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**. (Think Decide)

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. (Proof)

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

### 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



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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



### 8 Finger Handshape

1. I have a feeling; I'd Say
2. To be touched/moved by
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Lesson 08 - A

"NG"

- No Good!
- Lousy
- Worthless



**"NG"**

No Good!  
Lousy  
Worthless

Lesson 08 - A

"POP-UP,  
NOT EXPECTED!"

► He showed up  
unexpectedly!



**"POP-UP, NOT EXPECTED!"**

He showed up unexpectedly!

Lesson 08 - A

"PEA-BRAIN"

➤ He's a pea-brain!



**"PEA-BRAIN"**

He's a pea-brain!

Lesson 08 - A

"PITY-YOU, ME"

▀ I pity you.



"PITY-YOU, ME"

I pity you.

Lesson 08 - A

"RESPECT ZERO, ME"

- ▶ I have no respect for that at all.



"RESPECT ZERO, ME"

I have no respect for that at all.

## 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

An idiom may be listed multiple times due to multiple definitions and signs that may be possible.

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

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 regulations (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 a **red herring** to divert attention from the fact that the initial budget was wrongly estimated.

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**.  
(Learn Quick)

Official regulations (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. (Work Rule List)

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. (Speak List)

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

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**.

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.

(Remember)

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**.

(Married Person Themselves Young)

Prepare to work hard

You'll get the job finished if you **roll up your sleeves**. (Push Up Sleeves – Ready Work)

To be a common family characteristic

A great interest in gardening **runs in his family**. (Family Tend/Since)

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**.

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. (Precious)

To keep silent because talking will not help

**Save your breath**; the boss will never give you the day off. (Quiet on lips to Stop/Hold It)

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. (Inform Me)

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**. (Understand Tiny)

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



Seeing something is good proof  
Dr. Trung told Marvin he had passed his test, but Joe said,  
“**Seeing is believing.**” (See First – Believe Will)

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

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