



IDIOMS AND EXPRESSIONS

Elementary

Out of Control

- 1 If you don't tell the children the difference between right and wrong, they will soon be **out of control**.
 - (a) well behaved
 - (b) badly behaved
 - (c) suddenly behaved
 - (d) quickly behaved

- 2 If you think I'm going to parachute out of a plane for fun, you must be **out of your mind**.
 - (a) mad
 - (b) unsure
 - (c) unusual
 - (d) uncertain

- 3 Wait till they're **out of sight**, and then I'll show you what I'm buying them for Christmas.
 - (a) unable to show
 - (b) unable to find
 - (c) unable to follow
 - (d) unable to see

- 4 I'm very sorry but you're **out of luck** because we sold the last one about twenty minutes ago.
 - (a) unhappy
 - (b) unlucky
 - (c) unable
 - (d) undecided

- 5 Wait until they're **out of earshot**, then I tell you exactly what happened to them when they were on holiday.
 - (a) unable to tell
 - (b) unable to hear
 - (c) unable to say
 - (d) unable to speak

- 6 You have a limited number of minutes to answer the test and you've spent 3 minutes so **you're out of time**.
 - (a) you've used up your time
 - (b) you've used in your time
 - (c) you've used for your time
 - (d) you've used out your time

- 7 I'm afraid I'm not feeling too well at the moment because I've only walked a little way and **I'm out of breath** already.
 - (a) I can't breathe slowly



- (b) I can't breathe quickly
(c) I can't breathe fast
(d) I can't breathe easily
- 8 There's a big notice up there which unfortunately we didn't see because it said '**out of bounds**'.
(a) keep through
(b) keep out
(c) keep on
(d) keep in
- 9 I'm sorry to tell you that I can do nothing more for you because the situation is now **out of my hands**.
(a) outside my sense
(b) outside my feelings
(c) outside my control
(d) outside my belief
- 10 I'm awfully sorry but I'll have to ask you to pay because **I'm out of cash**.
(a) I have no cheque
(b) I have no money
(c) I have no card
(d) I have no bank

Source: <http://www.english-test.net/esl/learn/english/grammar/ee006/esl-test.php>

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Intermediate

Send the right message

- 1 This sort of behaviour **sends the wrong** message to young people.
(a) delivers the incorrect letter
(b) fails to communicate
(c) does not talk properly
(d) does not set a good example
- 2 The government **are unveiling** plans today for a new tax system.
(a) are covering up
(b) are revealing
(c) are opening
(d) are exposing
- 3 **I hear what you are saying** but I don't agree with you.
(a) I understand what you mean
(b) I believe your words



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- (c) I am able to catch your words
(d) I think you are right
- 4 You must admire the way **she sticks to her guns**.
(a) she holds on to her pistol
(b) she maintains her opinion
(c) she doesn't let her weapons go
(d) she refuses to shoot
- 5 I'm sorry I can't follow that, **run that past me again**.
(a) explain that once more
(b) hurry up
(c) try and catch me up
(d) come across
- 6 **Keep your spirits up**, it may not be as bad as you think.
(a) Don't get depressed
(b) Carry on drinking
(c) Don't let the levels drop
(d) Maintain the heights
- 7 I'm afraid **he shot himself in the foot** when he took that action.
(a) he hurt himself
(b) he injured himself
(c) he made a bad mistake for himself
(d) he damaged his body
- 8 Some people love **scoring points** when they are in an argument.
(a) winning the game
(b) taking advantage
(c) taking the initiative
(d) taking the trouble
- 9 There is absolutely **no mileage** in pursuing that sort of discussion.
(a) no future
(b) no interest
(c) no distance
(d) no time
- 10 He prefers **to buy some more time** by not deciding yet.
(a) to pay a little longer
(b) to get a better price
(c) to pay a little later
(d) to delay a little longer

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Advanced

Expressions with make

- 1 Their big ambition in life was to choose the right moment to sell their shares and then **make a killing**.
 - (a) take it easy
 - (b) make plans
 - (c) make a lot of money
 - (d) make schemes

- 2 They've tried hard to increase their profits in the business but so far are **making little headway**.
 - (a) not really progressing
 - (b) not really proceeding
 - (c) not really processing
 - (d) not really professing

- 3 The shock was so great it **made your hair stand up on end**.
 - (a) consoled you
 - (b) controlled you
 - (c) freed you
 - (d) frightened you

- 4 I reckon when they sold that lovely big house it must have **made them a mint**.
 - (a) provided them with a huge bucket of money
 - (b) provided them with a huge sum of money
 - (c) provided them with a huge box of money
 - (d) provided them with a huge tin of money

- 5 Ignore his comments it's not really that bad, he's simply **making a mountain out of a molehill**.
 - (a) exercising
 - (b) energizing
 - (c) exaggerating
 - (d) entertaining

- 6 We've lost a lot of money and have little income and so we're finding it difficult to **make ends meet**.
 - (a) examine
 - (b) contribute
 - (c) convene
 - (d) survive

- 7 I'll **make no bones about it** and tell you exactly what I think.
 - (a) come straight to the point
 - (b) come straight to the end
 - (c) come straight to the road
 - (d) come straight to the angle



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- 8 It seems a sound project with potential and so I advise you to **make a pitch for it**.
- (a) make a suggestion for it
 - (b) make an idea for it
 - (c) make an offer for it
 - (d) make a throw for it
- 9 If I were you, I would stop worrying about it and simply **make hay** while you can.
- (a) have humour
 - (b) have fun
 - (c) have comic
 - (d) have sense
- 10 Don't take too much notice of what he's saying, he's just **making waves**.
- (a) making a fuss
 - (b) making a noise
 - (c) making a sound
 - (d) making a story

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