

Level 3 Idioms – For the Midterm

Note: If an idiom includes a verb, remember to put it in the proper tense in your sentence. Idioms marked with an (*) are inseparable. Remember if you use a pronoun, it must go between the two words. It cannot go at the end.

1. ***to grow up** – to become an adult, to spend one's youth
 - She is **growing up** to be a beautiful woman.
 - He **grew up** in a small town in Michigan.
2. **to throw away** – to discard, to dispose of
 - Don't **throw away** those magazines. I haven't read them yet.
 - That milk is old and might be spoiled. You should **throw** it **away**.
3. **to turn off** or **to turn on** – to begin or stop a machine, light, or faucet
 - Please **turn on** the radio. I'd like to listen to some music.
 - **Turn** the light **on!** I can't see anything!
 - The faucet is running. Please **turn** it **off**.
4. ***to hold on** – 1. to wait 2. to keep a tight hold on something
 - **Hold on** a minute! Let me finish speaking.
 - (while on the telephone) Please **hold on** while I get a pencil and paper.
 - As he began to fall off the ladder, Jane shouted, "**Hold on!**"
 - She **held on** to my coat sleeve and refused to let go.
5. **to check out** – to take a book out of the library or a video from a rental store
 - I **checked out** three videos from Blockbuster last night.
 - She wanted to **check** some books **out** from the library, but she didn't have a library card.
6. **to bring about** – to cause
 - The accident was brought about by John's carelessness.
 - What brought about Jill and Harry's divorce?
 - Heavy rains often bring about a flood.
7. ***to show up** – to appear unexpectedly, to come
 - He promised to come on Tuesday, but he never **showed up**.
 - Not one student **showed up** for the scheduled meeting.
8. **to get back from** – 1. to return from a place 2. to receive again
 - Mr. Harris **got back from** Toronto last night.
 - When do you expect **to get back from** your trip_
 - Please **get** my sweater **back from** your sister so I can wear it tonight.
 - I lent Joe my tennis racquet so I have **to get** it **back from** him before I play tennis again.
9. ***to run out of** – to finish a supply of something
 - The soldiers **ran out of** ammunition and had to withdraw.
 - We **are running out of** milk. Please buy some more.
10. **To shut off** – to stop something which runs, such as water, gas, electrical current, etc.
 - Please **shut off** your stereo. We're leaving now.
 - I forgot to **shut** the hose **off**. There is water everywhere!

Level 3 Idioms – For the Final

11. ***to drop in on or to drop by** – to visit informally or unexpectedly
 - If you're ever in the neighborhood, be sure **to drop in on** us.
 - **Drop by** tonight after work if you can.
12. ***to look out for** – to be careful, cautious or aware of something that could cause harm
 - **Look out for** that car! It's coming towards you!
 - **"Look out!"** The ladder is falling!
13. **to put out** – to extinguish a fire, cigarette or cigar
 - The firefighters worked hard but were unable **to put out** the fire.
 - You should **put out** your cigarette **out** in an ashtray.
14. **to call (someone) up** – to call on the telephone
 - I forgot **to call up** Sam yesterday although I promised to call him at exactly 3 p.m.
 - Please **call up** Mary **up** and tell her we're leaving.
15. **to tear out** – to remove paper roughly by hand
 - Please don't **tear out** pages from your grammar book.
 - He **tore out** an article **out** of the magazine.
16. **to give back** – to return an item to someone
 - Joey, **give back** the toy **back** to your brother.
 - Please **give back** my jacket by Friday.
17. **to fill out** – to complete a questionnaire or form
 - When she applied for her passport, she had **to fill out** five different forms.
 - Please take a seat and **fill out** these forms **out**.
18. ***to catch up with** – 1. to bring up to date so as to finish or not be behind 2. to reach the same place or level as
 - I couldn't **catch up with** Steve. He ran too fast.
 - Hey, why don't you go ahead, and I'll **catch up with** you later at the mall?
 - I hadn't seen Sue in over a month, so we met for coffee and **caught up with** each other.
19. **to have (something) on** – to be wearing
 - Do you like the scarf Erin **has on**? Yesterday, she **had** another pretty scarf **on**.
 - Yesterday, Harry **had on** an outfit that made him look like a cowboy.
20. **to stand (someone) up** – to fail to appear, to intentionally leave someone waiting at meeting
 - After waiting at the restaurant for an hour, Jim realized that Helen had **stood** him **up**.
 - I didn't know whether he had forgotten about our date or whether he was **standing** me **up**.