

1

WARM UP

Answer and discuss these questions in pairs or as a class.

1. Do you have a job?
2. What are some reasons people get fired?
3. Do you know anyone who has been fired from a job?
4. What are some good qualities for a worker to have?
5. What are some good qualities for a boss to have?



2

MATCHING

Match these idioms to their correct definitions.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1. What's up? | _____ a. How are you? <i>or</i> How are things with you? |
| 2. Same old, same old. | _____ b. a new beginning |
| 3. How's it going? | _____ c. What's new? <i>or</i> What's happening? |
| 4. to be down | _____ d. to stay strong, to not give up |
| 5. to get something off one's chest | _____ e. Unbelievable! <i>or</i> I can't believe it! |
| 6. to get canned | _____ f. to become crazy |
| 7. to be out of one's head | _____ g. to talk about a personal problem |
| 8. to go off the deep end | _____ h. to be crazy |
| 9. a fresh start | _____ i. Same as usual. |
| 10. to keep one's chin up | _____ j. to get fired, to lose a job |
| 11. No way! | _____ k. to be sad |



3

DIALOGUE BUILDING

The dialogue below is not in the right order. Your teacher will provide you with **cut-up dialogue strips**. Work alone or with a partner to put the dialogue in the right order.

- _____ *Jon:* Not much. **Same old, same old.** How's it going?
- _____ *Andrew:* Yeah. **I got canned** today.
- _____ *Andrew:* I'm a little **down**.
- _____ *Jon:* He must be **out of his head**. Everybody knows you're a really hard worker.
- _____ *Andrew:* The boss said I wasn't working hard enough.
- _____ *Jon:* Do you want to **get it off your chest**?
- _____ *Andrew:* Hi, Jon. **What's up**?
- _____ *Jon:* You can get **a fresh start**.
- _____ *Jon:* **Keep your chin up**. Call me if you need anything.
- _____ *Andrew:* Totally serious.
- _____ *Andrew:* Thanks for listening, Jon.
- _____ *Jon:* Why? What happened?
- _____ *Andrew:* I know. I think my boss has **gone off the deep end**. It'll be okay. I never liked the job, anyway.
- _____ *Jon:* **No way!** Are you serious?
- _____ *Jon:* Why did they fire you?
- _____ *Andrew:* I got some bad news.



FILL IN THE BLANKS

Fill in the blanks with the correct idioms from page 1.

1. Hi, Kate. _____?
2. Ted is _____ because he got a low mark on his test.
3. I'm glad she _____. It helps to talk about it.
4. John's sister _____ yesterday, so she is not going to work today.
5. The boss is _____. He fired 14 people!
6. Sandy got fired, so I told her to _____ and look for a new job.
7. Karyn lost her job this month. I think she needs a _____.



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

Answer and discuss these questions in pairs or as a class.

1. Why is Andrew down?
2. Why did Andrew get fired?
3. Is Andrew a hard worker?
4. What does Jon suggest Andrew do?



6

DIALOGUE READING 

Read the dialogue with your partner a few times. Take turns being each character. Practice your intonation and pronunciation. Write down any new words or phrases in your notebook.



Andrew: Hi, Jon. **What's up?**

Jon: Not much. **Same old, same old.** How's it going?

Andrew: I'm a little **down.**

Jon: Why? What happened?

Andrew: I got some bad news.

Jon: Do you want to **get it off your chest?**

Andrew: Yeah. **I got canned** today.

Jon: **No way!** Are you serious?

Andrew: Totally serious.

Jon: Why did they fire you?

Andrew: The boss said **I wasn't working hard enough.**

Jon: He must be **out of his head!** Everybody knows you're a really hard worker.

Andrew: I know. I think my boss has **gone off the deep end.** It'll be okay. I never liked the job, anyway.

Jon: You can get **a fresh start.**

Andrew: Thanks for listening, Jon.

Jon: **Keep your chin up,** Andrew. Call me if you need anything.