

# SUSAN STAYS HOME AND BAKES COOKIES

Susan decides to cheer up her husband. Bob loves her homemade cookies. Nicole suggests she start a cookie business.

Susan: Bob, I baked cookies for you.

Bob: That was so nice of you, dear. You've got a heart of gold!

Susan: Go ahead and pig out!

Bob: These are delicious!

Susan: I thought they might cheer you up. You've been in a bad mood lately.

Bob: I guess I have been a little on edge. But these cookies are just what the doctor ordered!

Nicole: Do I smell cookies?

Susan: Yes, Nicole. Help yourself.

Nicole: Yum-yum.\* These are out of this world. You could go into business selling these!

Bob: You could call them Susan's Scrumptious Cookies.
You'd make a bundle.

Susan: Good thinking!

Nicole: Don't forget to give me credit for the idea after you're

rich and famous!

Susan: You know I always give credit where credit is due!

\* Yum-yum: this is said when something is delicious. You can also say "mmm, mmm" or "mmm-mmm, good."



# IDIOMS - LESSON 6

## (to) cheer someone up – to make someone happy

Example 1: Susan called her friend in the hospital to cheer her up.

Example 2: My father has been depressed for weeks now. I don't know

what to do to cheer him up.

Note: You can tell somebody to "Cheer up!" if they are feeling sad.

(to) give (someone) credit – to acknowledge someone's contribution; to recognize a positive trait in someone

Example 1: The scientist gave his assistant credit for the discovery.

Example 2: I can't believe you asked your boss for a raise when your

company is doing so poorly. I must give you credit for your courage!

(to) give credit where credit is due – to give thanks or acknowledgement to the person who deserves it

EXAMPLE: I will be sure to thank you when I give my speech. I always give credit where credit is due.

### (to) go into business – to start a business

Example 1: Jeff decided to go into business selling baseball cards.

Example 2: Eva went into business selling her homemade muffins.

#### good thinking - good idea; smart planning

Example 1: I'm glad you brought an umbrella — that was good thinking!

Example 2: You reserved our movie tickets over the Internet? Good

thinking!

# (to) have a heart of gold - to be very kind and giving

Example 1: Alexander has a heart of gold and always thinks of others before himself.

EXAMPLE 2: You adopted five children from a Romanian orphanage?

You've got a heart of gold!

### Help yourself - serve yourself

EXAMPLE 1: "Help yourselves to cookies and coffee," said Maria before the meeting started.

EXAMPLE 2: You don't need to wait for me to offer you something. Please just help yourself to whatever you want.

Note: Pay attention to the reflexive form: Help *yourself* in singular, help *yourselves* in plural.

### (to be) in a bad mood - unhappy; depressed; irritable

Example 1: After her boyfriend broke up with her, Nicole was in a bad mood for several days.

Example 2: I don't like to see you in a bad mood. How can I cheer you up?

## just what the doctor ordered - exactly what was needed

EXAMPLE 1: Martin wanted a hot drink after spending the day skiing. A cup of hot cocoa was just what the doctor ordered.

EXAMPLE 2: Our trip to Florida was so relaxing. It was just what the doctor ordered!

#### (to) make a bundle – to make a lot of money

EXAMPLE 1: Bob's friend Charles **made a bundle** in the stock market and retired at age 45.

EXAMPLE 2: Sara made a bundle selling her old fur coats on eBay, a website where you can buy and sell used things.

## (to be) on edge - nervous; irritable

EXAMPLE 1: Whenever Susan feels on edge, she takes several deep breaths and starts to feel more relaxed.

Example 2: Ever since his car accident, Neil has felt on edge.

#### out of this world - delicious

EXAMPLE 1: Mrs. Field's oatmeal raisin cookies are out of this world!

EXAMPLE 2: Mmmm, I love your chicken soup. It's out of this world!

### (to) pig out [slang] - to eat greedily; to stuff oneself

Example 1: Ted **pigged out** on hot dogs and hamburgers at the barbeque and then got a stomachache.

Example 2: "Nicole, stop pigging out on cookies or you'll never be able to eat your dinner!"

Note: Pay attention to the preposition "on" after the verb "to pig out." One can pig out on hotdogs, pig out on candy, pig out on ice cream.

#### RACTICE THE IDIOMS

# Choose the best substitute for the phrase or sentence in bold:

- Thanks for baking cookies for me. You've got a heart of gold.
  - a) You're a very nice person.
  - b) You're a reliable person.
  - c) You're very generous with your money.
- 2) I baked these cookies for you. Why don't you pig out?
  - a) Please take just one cookie.
  - Take as many cookies as you like.
  - c) Why don't you ever eat my cookies?
- I know you'll like my cookies since you've got a sweet tooth.
  - a) your teeth are hurting
  - b) you don't like sweet things
  - c) you like sweet things
- 4) You should go into business selling cookies.
  - a) You should go to the store and buy some cookies.
  - You should try to get a job baking cookies.
  - You should start a company that sells cookies.
- 5) I baked these cookies. Help yourself!
  - a) Let me get you one!
  - b) Take some!
  - c) You need to get some help!
- If you went into business selling these delicious cookies, you'd make a bundle.
  - a) you'd make many cookies
  - b) you'd make a lot of money
  - c) you'd make a few dollars

# 7) Good thinking!

- a) That's a good idea!
- b) It's good that you're thinking!
- c) Keep thinking good thoughts!
- I was thirsty. This iced tea is just what the doctor ordered.
  - a) exactly what I needed
  - b) very healthy for me
  - c) exactly what my doctor recommended

ANSWERS TO LESSON 6, p. 161