

# Lesson 3

t a r g e t

bring up

by all means

by chance

carry on

draw the line at

fix up

get lost

high time

lose one's temper

pull over

□ **bring up** = start to talk about something

I hate to bring this up, but you have some food between your teeth.

When my mother is mad at me she always brings up the time I forgot her birthday.

A: I really don't like the new coffee machine.

B: You should bring it up at the next staff meeting.



□ **by all means** = said to encourage a person do to something

"May I have some more chicken?" "By all means!"

By all means, take your time and look around the store.

A: Could I borrow your pen?

B: By all means!



□ **by chance** = not planned; luckily

By chance, the first birthday card she read was from her brother.

They met by chance while they were both vacationing in Hawaii.

A: Where did you get your cat?

B: I found him by chance in the park.



They met, by chance,  
at the supermarket.

□ **carry on** = continue

After the storm passed, we carried on painting the house.

When the announcement was finished, the class carried on with the lesson.

A: Is everyone back from lunch?

B: Yes. Let's carry on with the meeting.

OK, now there's  
nothing to see here.  
Please carry on with  
your day.



□ **draw the line at** = say some point is the limit

My parents let me use the car, but they draw the line at allowing me to take long trips.

I don't mind sharing a room, but I draw the line at sleeping in the same bed.

A: Let's go to a nightclub.

B: OK, but I draw the line at doing disco!



Son, isn't there  
somewhere we should  
draw the line?

□ **fix up** = repair; make nice or good again

They fixed up the office by putting in new carpet and painting the walls.

It would cost more to fix up this old boat than to buy a new one.

A: Is John going to buy a new house?

B: No, he's going to fix up his old one.



It's a good car,  
but you may need  
to fix it up a bit.



❑ **get lost** = become confused about one's location

We got lost on the way to the theater.  
The directions were not clear, so we got lost.

A: Why are you late?  
B: I got lost on the way.



❑ **high time** = time for some action that has been postponed too long

I think it's high time we fix the heater. I'm freezing!  
My mother said it was high time that I got my hair cut and found a job.

A: It's high time you cleaned your room!  
B: Yes, Mom. I'll do it right away.



❑ **lose one's temper** = become angry

He lost his temper and hit the table with his fist.  
It is dangerous to lose your temper while driving.

A: What happened to your hand?  
B: I lost my temper and punched the wall!



❑ **pull over** = move one's vehicle to the side of the road and stop

She pulled over to take a picture of the beautiful scenery by the highway.  
The police officer yelled at the driver, "Pull over!"

A: I think we're lost.  
B: Let's pull over and look at the map again.



## Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. After a short coffee break we \_\_\_\_\_ with the meeting.  
a. carried on  
b. fixed up  
c. pulled over
2. I hate to \_\_\_\_\_ this subject now, but do you have the money you owe me?  
a. bring up  
b. carry on  
c. get lost
3. If you are tired, \_\_\_\_\_ take a nap on my bed.  
a. by chance  
b. high time  
c. by all means
4. My uncle is generous, but he \_\_\_\_\_ lending money to relatives.  
a. by all means  
b. draws the line at  
c. high time
5. She can be very scary when she \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. gets lost  
b. carries on  
c. loses her temper
6. \_\_\_\_\_, I found ten dollars under the table at the restaurant.  
a. Draw the line at  
b. By chance  
c. High time
7. The bus driver \_\_\_\_\_ because one of the passengers got sick.  
a. pulled over  
b. fixed up  
c. got lost
8. They wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ the old apartment, but they did not have enough money.  
a. lose his temper  
b. fix up  
c. carry on
9. We \_\_\_\_\_ in London and drove around for hours in the fog.  
a. fixed up  
b. brought up  
c. got lost
10. He was surprised when his boss told him, "I think it's \_\_\_\_\_ you got a raise."  
a. high time  
b. draw the line at  
c. by chance

## Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

by all means  
got lost

by chance  
high time

carry on  
pull over

### On the highway:

Tom: Yes, Officer?

Policeman: I asked you to \_\_\_\_\_ because your brake light is broken.  
May I see your license and car registration?

Tom: \_\_\_\_\_! Here they are.

Policeman: Well, I think it's \_\_\_\_\_ you had that fixed. It's not safe to  
drive around with a broken brake light.

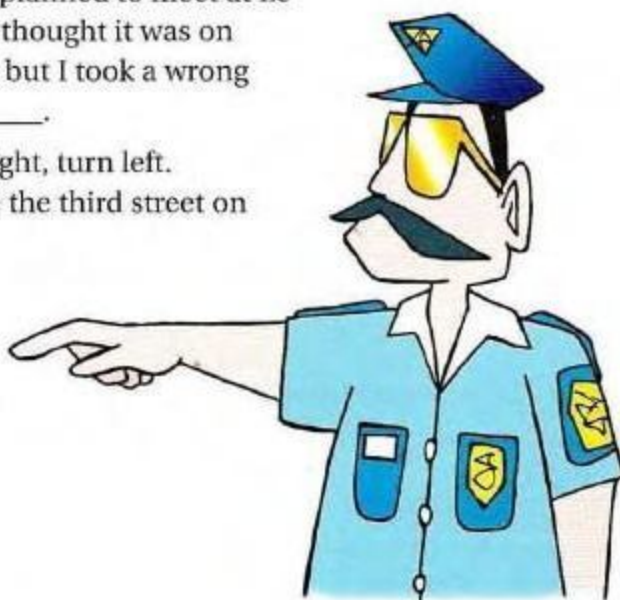
Tom: Yes, sir.

Policeman: I won't give you a ticket this time. Get that light fixed.

Tom: I will, Officer. Um, I wonder if you could help. I met my  
friend \_\_\_\_\_ at the post office this  
morning and we planned to meet at Le  
Chez for lunch. I thought it was on  
Lexington Street, but I took a wrong  
turn and \_\_\_\_\_.

Policeman: At the next stoplight, turn left.  
Lexington will be the third street on  
the right.

Tom: Thank you,  
officer!  
\_\_\_\_\_ the  
good work you  
are doing!





## Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

Everybody knows that men hate to stop and ask for directions. My husband is no different. Every time we **get lost**, we drive around for hours before he finally **pulls over** and asks for help.

<sup>2</sup> One Saturday we saw an ad in the newspaper for a country dance and picnic at a farm outside of town. We **fixed up** our old cowboy hats, cut out the map from the newspaper and started driving. After a few hours, I **brought up** the fact that we were lost. Of course my husband **lost his temper** when I suggested we ask someone for directions.

"I can find it!" he yelled.

I didn't see any point in fighting about it, so I just told him, "**By all means, carry on.**"

<sup>3</sup> After another hour of driving, I decided it was **high time** to ask for help. **By chance** we passed a little gas station with an old man sitting out by the pumps. My husband agreed to stop because we needed gas, but he **drew the line at** asking for directions. I got out of the car and walked over to the old man. Before I asked him anything he smiled and said,

"The map is wrong. It's Highway 23, not 32."

"How did you know?" I asked in surprise.

"You're the fifth woman whose husband has gotten lost in the last hour!"

