

Lesson 24

t a r g e t

as for
deal in
dream up
find fault with
get out of

go wrong
in addition to
mess up
sell out
thanks to

❑ **as for** = concerning; in regard to

As for me, I would rather stay home tonight and watch television.

You can come in. As for the dog, he has to stay out.

A: I am going to the nightclub with Jim and Terry.

B: Do what you like. As for me, I am going to bed!



❑ **deal in** = focus on selling

This website deals in computer hardware, not software.
Our shop only deals in imported goods from China.

A: Do you have any large size hats?

B: Sorry, we don't. We mostly deal in children's clothes.



❑ **dream up** = think up; have an original or unique idea

It's amazing how he dreamed up the idea for the movie.
She dreamed up the idea of using stamps as wallpaper.

A: Did you hear that Will made a house out of an old train car?
B: Wow! He dreams up such interesting things!



❑ **find fault with** = criticize; find something to complain about

My friend always finds fault with my cooking.
His boss found fault with much of his work, so he got fired.

A: Why don't you like the new art teacher?
B: He's always trying to find fault with my paintings.



❑ **get out of** = avoid; escape from

She had a note from her doctor to get out of class.
I think there is going to be trouble. Let's get out of here!

A: I have a headache. I think I should lie down.
B: Liar! You're just trying to get out of mowing the lawn!



❑ **go wrong** = produce a bad result

Something went wrong with the computer, so the system crashed.

If anything goes wrong, give me a call and I'll be happy to come and help.

A: Why is this spaghetti blue?
B: Something went wrong with the recipe.



□ **in addition to** = along with; besides

In addition to flowers, I am also allergic to chicken.
She enjoys playing the piano in addition to singing.

A: In addition to getting fired, I had a flat tire on the way home.

B: Sounds like you had a terrible day!

He coaches basketball
in addition to his
office job.



□ **mess up** = make a mistake in

He messed up the recipe, so the food tasted terrible.
How could you mess up the plan? It was so easy!

A: I really messed up! I forgot my wife's birthday!

B: Don't worry. Just buy her some flowers and say you're sorry.

Why do you always
mess up everything?



□ **sell out** = sell all of; have no more because all are sold

The movie sold out the first weekend it was in theaters.
She needed to buy some fish, but the store was sold out.

A: Do you have any more DVD players?

B: Sorry, we are all sold out.

Sorry. We're all
sold out.



□ **thanks to** = because of

Thanks to faster data transfer, you can watch movies
on the Internet.

Thanks to a few bad students, the teacher canceled
the class picnic.

A: Wow! You got \$50 dollars from you grandmother?

B: Yes. Thanks to her, I can go to the concert.

Thanks to his new
shoes, he plays
soccer very well.



Practice

Choose the best answer.

1. _____ your quick thinking, the fire did not get too big.
 - a. In addition to
 - b. Thanks to
 - c. As for
2. I hope the store doesn't _____ of paper before we get there.
 - a. mess up
 - b. go wrong
 - c. sell out
3. It is difficult to _____ someone who is so nice.
 - a. deal in
 - b. dream up
 - c. find fault with
4. Others may choose to leave. _____ me, I am staying.
 - a. As for
 - b. In addition to
 - c. Thanks to
5. She didn't want to _____ anything, so she worked very slowly and carefully.
 - a. find fault with
 - b. mess up
 - c. sell out
6. That store _____ comic books, not magazines.
 - a. sells out
 - b. deals in
 - c. gets out of
7. They are investigating what _____ with the train.
 - a. went wrong
 - b. found fault with
 - c. got out of
8. They tried to _____ going to the party, but they had to go.
 - a. get out of
 - b. deal in
 - c. dream up
9. When did you _____ this plan to start your own business?
 - a. dream up
 - b. get out of
 - c. go wrong
10. _____ me, my friend also wants to join the tour.
 - a. Thanks to
 - b. As for
 - c. In addition to

Dialog

Fill in the blanks.

as for
go wrong

in addition to
messes up

deal in
sell out

In the market:

Customer: Did you _____ of oranges?

Worker: If there are none with the fruit, we must be out.

Customer: Really? Oh, well. _____ fruit, I also need some picnic supplies.

Worker: I'm sorry. We only _____ foods. Our store doesn't sell picnic supplies.

Customer: This really _____ my plans. I wanted to take my wife on a picnic today.

Worker: There is another food store down the road about two miles. _____ picnic supplies, I'm not sure if you can find them there either.

Customer: First, I can't find oranges, and now there are no picnic supplies.

What else can _____?

Worker: Is that thunder I hear?



Idioms in Context

Read the following story.

Many people send flowers for special occasions. Unfortunately, some people forget special days and they have to send flowers late. *As for* these kinds of customers, there is a way to *get out of* trouble with friends and loved ones *thanks to* a small flower shop in Chicago. This shop *deals in* flowers for all occasions, even late ones!

² The owner of the flower shop *dreamed up* a way to help his forgetful customers. The shop makes an excuse for late deliveries. If a customer has to send flowers late, the shop puts a note in with the delivery explaining what *went wrong*. For example, the note might say, "We apologize for these flowers being late. Our truck broke down." Or, "Our delivery man got sick." Or even, "Our shop *sold out* of roses, so we had to wait for more to be delivered." The person receiving the flowers might *find fault with* the shop, but not with the person who sent the flowers.

³ *In addition to* flowers, the shop also sells candy and small toys. So the next time you *mess up* and have to send a late gift, keep this shop in mind!

