

Lesson

1

Target Idioms

a couple of
a long time ago
a lot of
a pair of
above all (else)
according to
after all
again and again
agree with
all of a sudden
all over the world
all the time
all the way
and so on
arrive at/in
as a result
as well as
ask for
at a time
at any time

□ **a couple of** = two persons and things joined or related in some way

He arrived a couple of days ago.
Bobby has a couple of pens in his pocket.

A: Have you been to Europe?

B: Yes, a couple of times.

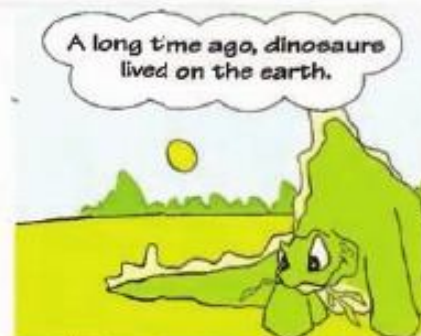


□ **a long time ago** = once upon a time; many years ago; ages ago; long ago

A long time ago, there were no airplanes.
My grandfather was a pilot a long time ago.

A: When did you go to Germany?

B: I went to Germany a long time ago, in 1963.



□ **a lot of** = a large amount or number of something; lots of; plenty of

The millionaire has a lot of money.
A lot of students were absent because of the flu.

A: Why aren't you feeling well?

B: I think it's because I ate a lot of chocolate today.



□ **a pair of** = two things of the same kind used together

She wants to buy a pair of beautiful gloves.
I need a pair of socks.

A: What are you going to buy when you go shopping?

B: I'm going to buy a pair of earrings.



□ **above all (else)** = most importantly; most of all

"Above all, you should obey your parents," said my grandfather.

Above all, a soldier must be brave.

A: What did you like about this book?

B: It was interesting and exciting, but above all, it was funny.

You must not smoke or drink.
Above all, you must exercise.



□ **according to** = as shown or said by

According to this book, elephants are endangered.

According to my mother, television is bad for you.

A: Where are we?

B: According to this map we're somewhere between Johnson Street and Second Avenue.



□ **after all** = in spite of what was expected; nevertheless; in the end

He went with them after all.

The small country won the battle after all.

A: Who were you just talking to?

B: I thought it was someone I know from college but it wasn't her after all.

The tortoise won the race after all.



□ **again and again** = often; repeatedly; over and over again

While babies learn to walk, they fall again and again.

The child wanted to hear the same story again and again.

A: This computer game is really fun!

B: I think so, too. I want to play it again and again.

I told you again and again not to touch the electric fence!



□ **agree with** = have the same opinion as; share one's view

The teacher agreed with the students.

Sharon agreed with her friend.

A: Some people didn't like the movie, but I thought it was interesting.

B: I agree with you. It was very interesting.



□ **all of a sudden** = all at once; suddenly; unexpectedly; without warning

All of a sudden, the dog began to bark loudly.

All of a sudden, the earth began to shake.

A: How did you break your leg?

B: I was riding my bicycle, when all of a sudden I hit a bump and fell off.



□ **all over the world** = throughout the world; worldwide; everywhere

English is spoken all over the world.

Mozart is famous all over the world.

A: I wish I could travel all over the world.

B: That would be a lot of fun!



□ **all the time** = constantly; always

Midori practices the violin all the time.

Mark chews gum all the time.

A: He looks very happy today.

B: He looks happy all the time.



□ **all the way** = the whole distance; the whole way

The car broke down and we had to walk all the way home.
Sue was late. She ran all the way to school.

A: Can you run all the way around the soccer field?

B: No I can't. I can only run halfway around it, then I'm too tired to keep running.

The road goes all the way across the field.



□ **and so on** = and so forth; and the like

Potatoes, onions, carrots and so on are vegetables.
There are many countries in Africa: Zambia, Kenya, Togo, and so on.

A: What do you feed your pet snake?

B: Small animals like mice, frogs, lizards, and so on.

They were always arguing.
"I'm the fastest." "No, I'm the fastest!" "No way!" and so on.



□ **arrive at/in** = get to; come to; reach

They arrived at the restaurant.
The train arrived at the station.

A: When will we get to the airport?

B: We should arrive at the airport in five minutes.

Make sure you arrive at the house before 6:00.



□ **as a result** = so; consequently

She studied hard. As a result, she got an A on the test.
Many roads were flooded, and, as a result, there were some delays.

A: Did you study for the test?

B: No, and, as a result, I got a bad grade.



He ate too much. As a result, he got fat.

❑ **as well as** = in addition to

I play tennis on weekdays as well as on Saturdays.
There were adults as well as children in the park.

A: Would you like a hamburger or some chicken?

B: I'm really hungry. I'd like both as well as some cola.



❑ **ask for** = request; wish for; demand

For his birthday, Don asked for a new toy truck.
The chef asked for a spoon.

A: I asked for some money but my father said no.

B: That's too bad. Now we can't go to see the movie tonight.



❑ **at a time** = at one time; at once; at the same time

The children went down the slide two at a time.
The elevator holds five people at a time.

A: Can you help me move these boxes?

B: Yes, but they're heavy, so let's move them one at a time.



❑ **at any time** = at any moment; any time

The library is open 24 hours a day. I can study there at any time.
People can call the police at any time.

A: Can I visit you at three o'clock on Saturday?

B: I'll be home all day. You can visit at any time.



Practice

A. Match each word with its meaning.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. ____ a couple of | a. and so |
| 2. ____ above all | b. including |
| 3. ____ as a result | c. the entire distance |
| 4. ____ all the way | d. two of something |
| 5. ____ as well as | e. most importantly |

B. Choose the best answer.

- The people got on the elevator seven **per time**.
a. at any time b. at a time
c. and so on d. all the time
- My sister likes to eat green vegetables like peas, beans, broccoli, **and other similar things**.
a. a lot of b. ask for
c. and so on d. all the time
- As shown by** this letter, the package will arrive next week.
a. Agree with b. As a result
c. According to d. After all
- Without warning**, the lights went out.
a. At any time b. All over the world
c. Again and again d. All of a sudden
- I tried to fix the TV myself, but took it to a repair shop **in the end**.
a. after all b. again and again
c. and so on d. a long time ago

The Sun, the Moon, and the Bat

Read the following story.

¹ **A**ccording to a story from Africa, a long time ago the sun and the bat were good friends. They were seen together *all the time*. They shared their dreams *as well as* their problems.

² One day, the moon and the sun began talking about who was stronger. The moon said she was stronger. The sun did not *agree with her*. They argued, "I am stronger," "No, I am stronger," "No, I am," *and so on*. Finally, they decided to have a contest.

³ After *a couple of* days, they planned to meet at the lake to see who could throw a rock the farthest across the lake. *A lot of* animals came from *all over the world* to the lake to watch the contest. They came early because they knew that the contest could start *at any time*.

⁴ The moon *arrived at* the lake first. She wanted to win, so she practiced before the sun arrived. She picked up rocks one *at a time* and threw them. Each time, the rocks went farther and farther. By the time the sun finally arrived at the lake, the moon was sure she could win.

⁵ The moon chose a rock and threw it. It landed near the other side of the lake. The sun chose a bigger rock and threw it. Near the middle of the lake, the sun's rock began to fall toward the water, but *all of a sudden* it began to go up again! The sun's rock went *all the way* to the other side of the lake. It seemed that the sun had won the contest *after all*. However, nobody knew that the bat was carrying the rock!

⁶ When the bat was sure that no one could see him, he stopped to rest between

a pair of banana trees. His wings were tired. It was difficult carrying the heavy rock, but he was happy to help the sun. "That's what friends are for," thought the bat.

⁷ Many years later, the bat's mother died. *Above all*, the bat wanted his mother to have a nice grave. The bat worked all day, but he was not finished by the time the sun began to go down. The bat *asked for* a favor from the sun. "Can you stay up until I finish my mother's grave?" The sun refused. *Again and again*, the bat begged, but the sun said it was time for him to go down. The bat was very angry. The sun did not help him even though he had helped the sun.

⁸ When the moon came up, she saw the bat still working hard on his mother's grave. The moon gave the bat enough light to finish his work. *As a result*, the bat and the moon became good friends. That's why today you will never see the bat near the sun. He is always with his friend, the moon.

