

L e s s o n

6

Target Idioms

cut off

dash off

depend on

die out

differ from

dispose of

do badly in

do one's best

do one's homework

do well in

don't mention it

dream of

drop by

drop off

enjoy oneself

fall in love with

far from

feel like

figure out

fill (up) - with

□ **cut off** = remove; cut away

She cut off all her hair.
First, the cook cut off the fish's head.

A: I want to eat this apple, but it looks rotten.
B: Just cut off the rotten part and eat the rest.



□ **dash off** = leave very quickly; run off; hurry

He dashed off to deliver the message.
She dashed off because she was late.

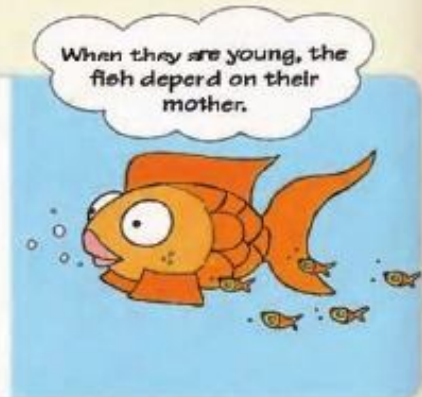
A: Will May be gone for a long time?
B: No, she just dashed off to the store to buy some milk.



□ **depend on** = trust; rely on; count on; be dependent on

The blind man depended on his dog.
The old woman depended on her son.

A: I'll drive you to the airport.
B: Please don't forget! I'm depending on you.



□ **die out** = stop existing; disappear completely; become extinct

Mammoths died out a long time ago.
I wish all the mosquitoes would die out.

A: Why did the dinosaurs die out?
B: Because the weather got very cold.



□ **differ from** = be not the same as; be different from

My opinion differs from hers.
The new house differs from the old one in many ways.

A: How does this bicycle differ from the other one?
B: This one has a more comfortable seat.

Red and green apples differ from each other in taste.



□ **dispose of** = get rid of; throw out

Bill disposed of the old bottles.
The murderer tried to dispose of his knife.

A: This fruit is almost rotten.
B: Let's dispose of it before it starts to smell bad.

It is dangerous to dispose of a lit cigarette in a garbage can.



□ **do badly in** = not be successful in; do poorly in

She did not study, so she did badly on her test.
The basketball player did badly in the game because of his injury.

A: Do you get good grades in school?
B: My grades are good except for history. I usually do badly in that class.

I always do badly in mathematics.

$$2 + 2 = 5.$$

□ **do one's best** = try hard; give one's best

He did his best to stop the water.
Although I didn't win, I was happy because I did my best.

A: I am not very good at math.
B: Don't worry. Just study hard and do your best and you will do alright.

The teacher told him, "Just do your best!"



□ **do one's homework** = do schoolwork outside of class (at home)

I usually do my homework at the library.
He always does his homework before watching TV.

A: What are you going to do after school?
B: I am going to do my homework.



□ **do well in** = be successful in; do a good job

My sister always does well in math.
Bonnie did well in the race.

A: How can I do well in science class?
B: You should review your notes every day and make sure you do all your homework.



□ **don't mention it** = There's no need for thanks

A: I appreciated the card you sent me.
B: Don't mention it.

A: Thanks a lot.
B: Don't mention it. I was glad to help.

A: Thanks for giving me a ride home.
B: Don't mention it. I'm happy I could give you a ride.



□ **dream of** = wish or hope for; dream about

The Wright brothers dreamed of making a flying machine.
Pinocchio dreamed of becoming a real boy.

A: In winter I like to dream of hot, sunny places.
B: Me too. I like hot weather more than cold weather.



❑ **drop by** = go to see; pay a short visit; stop by

My neighbor dropped by with an apple pie.
Eddie dropped by yesterday to say goodbye.

A: Can we go to the department store now?

B: Okay, but I have to drop by the bank first to get some money.



❑ **drop off** = deliver something or leave someone somewhere

My mother dropped me off at school on her way to work.
Laura dropped off the books at the library.

A: Where are you going?

B: I'm going to drop off my rollerblades at Sue's house.
She is going to use them tomorrow.



I have to drop off the package today.

❑ **enjoy oneself** = have a happy experience; have a good time; have fun

We enjoyed ourselves at Disney World.
He enjoyed himself at the picnic.

A: Enjoy yourself on your vacation!

B: Thank you. I think it will be great!



❑ **fall in love with** = develop strong romantic feelings (for)

The young girls fell in love with the rock star.
Anthony fell in love with Cleopatra.

A: Does Wally like Sue?

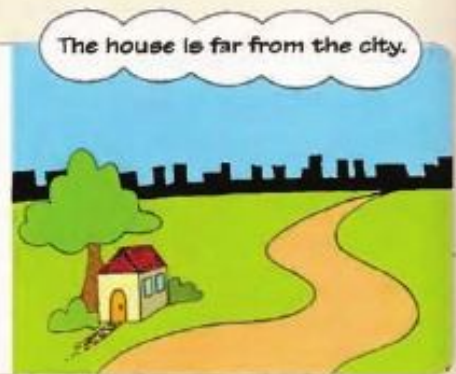
B: Yes, he really likes her. He has fallen in love with her, and he wants to marry her.



□ **far from** = be a long way from a place

He lives in a town, not far from his father.
The forest was not far from Athens.

A: Is your house far from the supermarket?
B: No it isn't. It takes five minutes to walk there.



□ **feel like** = be inclined to; desire; want

She feels like crying because she lost her job.
After the long walk, he felt like taking a shower.

A: Do you feel like watching a video tonight?
B: No, I feel like going bowling.



□ **figure out** = understand; solve; make out

I figured out how to save money on my electric bill.
Oedipus figured out the answer to the riddle.

A: I can't figure out where I put my glasses.
B: Look on your head!



You can use a calculator to figure out math problems.

□ **fill (up) ~ with** = make full; fill

I filled up the tank with gas.
We filled up the box with old pictures.

A: How much juice do you want?
B: I'm very thirsty. Please fill up my cup.



Practice

A. Match each word with its meaning.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. ___ died out | a. a great distance |
| 2. ___ don't mention it | b. to become strongly attracted to |
| 3. ___ fall in love with | c. to disappear completely |
| 4. ___ far from | d. to discover the answer to something |
| 5. ___ figure out | e. it was no trouble |

B. Choose the best answer.

1. He **used a saw to remove** a tree branch that was dead.
a. called off
b. coped with
c. cut off
d. depended on
2. The cook **discards** the extra fat from the steak.
a. brings in
b. dies out
c. dreams of
d. disposes of
3. Santa Claus **delivers** presents at my house every Christmas.
a. dashes off
b. differs from
c. drops off
d. does well in
4. She **had a wonderful vacation** in Australia.
a. did her best
b. enjoyed herself
c. cheered up
d. fell in love with
5. I **want to eat** some peanut butter.
a. am supposed to eat
b. fill up eating
c. figure out eating
d. feel like eating

Three Rabbits

Read the following story.

¹ Long ago in Turkey, three rabbit brothers lived with their father and mother in a hole. The two older brothers did not always behave well and *did badly in* school. However, the youngest brother always listened to his parents and *did his homework*.

² One day, their father said, "My sons, listen to me. You are all now old enough to care for yourselves. You must go out and dig your own holes. A rabbit's hole is very important! Without the protection of our holes, we would probably *die out*. *Do your best* to make the hole long and narrow. I hope that you will each *do well in* life and *fall in love with* nice girl rabbits. But don't move too *far from* us. We want you to *drop by* often."

³ The brothers tried to *figure out* where they should go. The first young rabbit said "I hate living in a hole! I *feel like* living in a little house near the field. I'll go there and eat and *enjoy myself*." He found a box that someone *disposed of*. He made a door and two windows. It was a lovely little house.

⁴ Suddenly, the rabbit saw a fox and went into his house. When the fox saw the little house, he laughed. In a few seconds, the fox destroyed the house, caught the young rabbit, and ate him. His little house could not keep out a fox.

⁵ The second young rabbit also *dreamed of* living in a house. He told his brother, "I am going to build a house next to a large tree. I can *depend on* the tree's roots to protect me." Then the young rab-

bit *dashed off* to build his house. He *cut off* a few branches from the tree to make the roof. He *filled up* the roots of the tree with leaves and grass. Soon he felt hungry, so he went to look for some food.

⁶ The same fox that ate his brother saw the young rabbit. The rabbit dashed off to his house. When he saw the house, the fox laughed. It was easy for him to catch the rabbit. The roots could not protect the rabbit.

⁷ The third young rabbit *differed from* his brothers. He listened to his father's words and dug a long, narrow hole. The rabbit was safe. Later, his mother and father came to *drop off* some carrots. The little rabbit thanked his parents. His father said, "*Don't mention it.*"

