

L e s s o n

14

Target Idioms

show up
side by side
slow down
so far
sooner or later
speak ill of
speak well of
spend on
stand for
stay up
stick to
such as
take advantage of
take after
take care of
take lessons
take off
take part in
take place
take pride in

□ **show up** = arrive at a place; turn up

She showed up three hours late.
The man didn't show up for work.

A: Is Nate coming to the party tonight?
B: Yes. He said he would show up around 7:00.



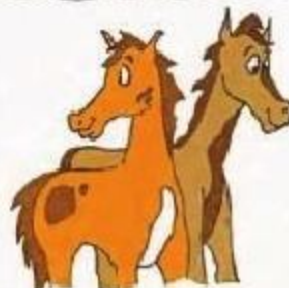
The owl showed up late at night.

□ **side by side** = next to each other

The trees grew side by side along the river.
They sat side by side on the bench.

A: Do you sit next to Amy at school?
B: Yes I do. We sit side by side at the same desk.

They walked side by side.



□ **slow down** = become slower; reduce speed

The train slowed down as it reached the station.
She slowed down when she drove by the children.

A: Please slow down! You're walking too fast.
B: Sorry. I'll walk more slowly.

He should slow down.



□ **so far** = thus far; up to now

The weather has been dry so far this year.
I have met three new people so far.

A: Are you almost finished with that book?
B: No. I've only read two chapters so far.

He's eaten seven hot dogs so far.



□ **sooner or later** = in the end; eventually; in time

The police will catch the thief sooner or later.
Don't worry. She'll be here sooner or later.

A: I love getting into movies for half-price.
B: Be careful. Sooner or later they are going to find out that you're not a college student!

Sooner or later, he's going to hurt himself.



□ **speak ill of** = say bad things about; speak badly of; condemn

The workers spoke ill of the factory owner.
She spoke ill of the man who had married her friend.

A: Why does everybody speak ill of Katie?
B: Because she is greedy and unkind.

He began to speak ill of his ex-girlfriend.



□ **speak well of** = say good things about; speak highly of; praise

The boss spoke well of the new worker.
The teacher speaks well of your son.

A: Do people speak well of her?
B: Yes they do. They say she's very patient and kind.



□ **spend on** = use money to pay for something

He spends all his money on gambling.
I spent too much money on that trip to Hawaii.

A: How much do you spend on food each week?
B: About \$50, I guess. How about you?

How much did you spend on your pants?



□ **stand for** = represent; mean; be a sign of

The heart stands for love.
In China the color red stands for good luck.



The dove stands for peace.

A: What does your middle initial stand for?
B: The S is for Simon. It was my grandfather's name

□ **stay up** = not go to bed; remain awake

The children were not allowed to stay up after 9:00.
He had to stay up late to study last night.

The boy stayed up late playing video games



A: I went to sleep at 3:00 am last night.
B: Wow! You stayed up late!

□ **stick to** = follow; adhere to

I tried playing the guitar, but I think I will just stick to piano.
Her doctor said that she should stick to her current diet plan.

The fish should stick to water.



A: I promised my parents I would study tonight, but I want to play computer games!
B: Don't play computer games. Stick to your promise!

□ **such as** = for example; like; say

The store sells electronic goods such as radios, computers, and cameras.
We visited many cities in Italy such as Rome, Venice, and Milan.

Animals such as monkeys and gorillas are primates.



A: What does your dad sell in his store?
B: He sells sporting goods, such as basketballs, bicycles, and shoes.

□ **take advantage of** = make use of; profit from

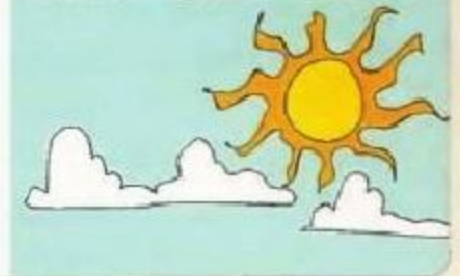
He took advantage of the low prices and bought a dozen pens.

The kids took advantage of the holiday and went to the zoo.

A: Bob works at a CD store. He can give us a discount!

B: We shouldn't take advantage of him.

We should take advantage of the nice weather and go to the beach.



□ **take after** = look like; resemble

She really takes after her mother.

You really take after your grandfather.

A: Joe is an excellent soccer player.

B: He takes after his father. He is very good at sports.

The boy takes after his father.



□ **take care of** = look after; keep an eye on; protect

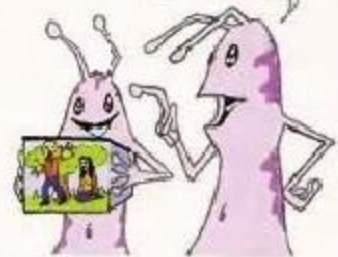
The nurse took care of the sick patient.

My mother takes good care of me.

A: I'll be gone for one week. Can you take care of my cat?

B: Yes. I'll give her food and water, and play with her every day.

You must promise to take care of them.



□ **take lessons** = learn

The children take piano lessons.

I took lessons in dancing.

A: How did she learn to play the guitar so well?

B: She took lessons for six years.

He is taking singing lessons.



□ **take off** = rise in flight; leave

She **took off** before I could say goodbye.
The plane will be **taking off** on time.

A: Let's go for a drive in the country.
B: Okay! After I finish eating we'll **take off**!

The helicopter is ready
to take off.



□ **take part in** = be involved in; join in; participate in

It is an honor to **take part in** the Olympics.
She wanted to **take part in** the meeting.

A: Are you going to **take part in** the science fair on Saturday?
B: I want to, but I can't. I'm going to my grandmother's house on Saturday.

I'm sorry, I don't think you
can take part in our game.



□ **take place** = occur; happen; come about

The 2000 Olympics **took place** in Sydney, Australia.
The conference will **take place** at the Hyatt Hotel.

A: Where will the school picnic be tomorrow?
B: It'll **take place** at Simon's Park.

An eclipse **takes place**
every few years.



□ **take pride in** = be proud of; pride oneself on

I **take pride in** my painting.
She **took pride in** her son's good grades.

A: Your mom always makes delicious food!
B: Yes, she **takes pride in** her cooking.

He **takes pride**
in his work.



Practice

A. Match each word with its meaning.

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. ___ side by side | a. to remain awake |
| 2. ___ so far | b. to supervise |
| 3. ___ sooner or later | c. beside each other |
| 4. ___ stay up | d. sometime in the future |
| 5. ___ take care of | e. from a certain time until the present |

B. Choose the best answer.

- He was about to close the store when some more customers arrived.
a. slowed down b. ran away
c. showed off d. showed up
- The new cars are nice, but I think I will keep driving my old one.
a. speak well of b. spend on
c. stick to d. take after
- She loves Italian food like lasagna, spaghetti, and ravioli.
a. stand for b. so far
c. such as d. take off
- They wanted to join in our tennis game.
a. put off b. take lessons
c. take advantage of d. take part in
- The marathon will be held at the City Park on Sunday.
a. take pride in b. take place in
c. run across d. run out of

The Wild Pigeon

Read the following story.

¹ In Japan, there are many stories *such as* this one that tell children how they should respect their parents.

² A long time ago, there was a little boy who didn't *take after* his brothers and sisters. He never listened to his mother. If the mother told the boy to do one thing, he would do just the opposite. If the mother told him to *speak well of* a guest in their house, the boy would only *speak ill of* the guest. If she asked him to *take part in* cleaning the house, he would make his room a mess. If the mother asked the boy to *slow down* so that they could walk *side by side*, the boy would *take off* running wildly. If she told him to go to bed, he would *stay up* all night. The mother loved him very much, but he was a difficult child to raise.

³ Then, one day the mother had an idea. She decided to *take advantage of* the fact that her son always did the opposite of what she asked. She wanted her son to *take piano lessons*, so she told him, "Son, please never learn to play the piano."

⁴ Of course, the boy wanted to do it. He studied very hard and his mother *took pride in* his wonderful playing.

⁵ *Sooner or later* we all get old. As she neared the end of her life, the mother worried about where her son would bury her. "*So far*," she thought, "my son has always done the opposite of what I wanted. I should *stick to* this same trick. I want to be buried on the hill. I will tell my son to bury me by the ocean. Then he will bury me on the hill."

⁶ When the mother's death finally *took place*, the son felt terribly sad. He said, "All of my life I always did the opposite of what my mother wanted. Now that she is dead, I will do exactly what she wanted."

⁷ So the son buried his mother by the ocean. He *spent a lot of money on* a nice grave. However, when he *showed up to take care of* her grave later, it was high tide and the ocean's water covered it. When he stopped by the grave in summer, he saw that the sun had burned the ground and many cracks were growing in the grave. The son felt so terrible about his poor mother's grave that he fell down dead. At the moment he died, he turned into a wild pigeon and made his home by the ocean.

⁸ Now, if you go to the ocean, you may hear the sad cries of a wild pigeon. These cries *stand for* the sadness that the son still feels for his mother.

