

LESSON 6

SUSAN STAYS HOME AND BAKES COOKIES

Susan decides to cheer up her husband. Bob loves her homemade cookies. Nicole suggests she start a cookie business.

Susan: Bob, I baked cookies for you.

Bob: That was so nice of you, dear. You've got a **heart of gold!**

Susan: Go ahead and **pig out!**

Bob: These are delicious!

Susan: I thought they might **cheer you up**. You've been in a **bad mood** lately.

Bob: I guess I have been a little **on edge**. But these cookies are **just what the doctor ordered!**

Nicole: Do I smell cookies?

Susan: Yes, Nicole. **Help yourself.**

Nicole: Yum-yum.* These are **out of this world**. You could go **into business** selling these!

Bob: You could call them Susan's Scrumptious Cookies. You'd **make a bundle**.

Susan: **Good thinking!**

Nicole: Don't forget to **give me credit** for the idea after you're rich and famous!

Susan: You know I always **give credit where credit is due!**

* Yum-yum: this is said when something is delicious. You can also say "mmm, mmm" or "mmm-mmm, good."



IDIOMS – LESSON 6

(to) cheer someone up – to make someone happy

EXAMPLE 1: Susan called her friend in the hospital to **cheer her up**.

EXAMPLE 2: My father has been depressed for weeks now. I don't know what to do to **cheer him up**.

NOTE: You can tell somebody to "Cheer up!" if they are feeling sad.

(to) give (someone) credit – to acknowledge someone's contribution; to recognize a positive trait in someone

EXAMPLE 1: The scientist **gave his assistant credit** for the discovery.

EXAMPLE 2: I can't believe you asked your boss for a raise when your company is doing so poorly. I must **give you credit** for your courage!

(to) give credit where credit is due – to give thanks or acknowledgement to the person who deserves it

EXAMPLE: I will be sure to thank you when I give my speech. I always **give credit where credit is due**.

(to) go into business – to start a business

EXAMPLE 1: Jeff decided to **go into business** selling baseball cards.

EXAMPLE 2: Eva **went into business** selling her homemade muffins.

good thinking – good idea; smart planning

EXAMPLE 1: I'm glad you brought an umbrella — that was **good thinking!**

EXAMPLE 2: You reserved our movie tickets over the Internet? **Good thinking!**

(to) have a heart of gold – to be very kind and giving

EXAMPLE 1: Alexander **has a heart of gold** and always thinks of others before himself.

EXAMPLE 2: You adopted five children from a Romanian orphanage? You've got a **heart of gold!**

Help yourself – serve yourself

EXAMPLE 1: “**Help yourselves** to cookies and coffee,” said Maria before the meeting started.

EXAMPLE 2: You don’t need to wait for me to offer you something. Please just **help yourself** to whatever you want.

NOTE: Pay attention to the reflexive form: *Help yourself* in singular, *help yourselves* in plural.

(to be) in a bad mood – unhappy; depressed; irritable

EXAMPLE 1: After her boyfriend broke up with her, Nicole was **in a bad mood** for several days.

EXAMPLE 2: I don’t like to see you **in a bad mood**. How can I cheer you up?

just what the doctor ordered – exactly what was needed

EXAMPLE 1: Martin wanted a hot drink after spending the day skiing. A cup of hot cocoa was **just what the doctor ordered**.

EXAMPLE 2: Our trip to Florida was so relaxing. It was **just what the doctor ordered!**

(to) make a bundle – to make a lot of money

EXAMPLE 1: Bob’s friend Charles **made a bundle** in the stock market and retired at age 45.

EXAMPLE 2: Sara **made a bundle** selling her old fur coats on eBay, a website where you can buy and sell used things.

(to be) on edge – nervous; irritable

EXAMPLE 1: Whenever Susan feels **on edge**, she takes several deep breaths and starts to feel more relaxed.

EXAMPLE 2: Ever since his car accident, Neil has felt **on edge**.

out of this world – delicious

EXAMPLE 1: Mrs. Field’s oatmeal raisin cookies are **out of this world!**

EXAMPLE 2: Mmmm, I love your chicken soup. It’s **out of this world!**

(to) pig out [slang] – to eat greedily; to stuff oneself

EXAMPLE 1: Ted **pigged out** on hot dogs and hamburgers at the barbeque and then got a stomachache.

EXAMPLE 2: “Nicole, stop **pigging out** on cookies or you’ll never be able to eat your dinner!”

NOTE: Pay attention to the preposition “on” after the verb “to pig out.” One can **pig out on** hotdogs, **pig out on** candy, **pig out on** ice cream.

PRACTICE THE IDIOMS

Choose the best substitute for the phrase or sentence in bold:

- 1) Thanks for baking cookies for me. **You've got a heart of gold.**
 - a) You're a very nice person.
 - b) You're a reliable person.
 - c) You're very generous with your money.

- 2) I baked these cookies for you. **Why don't you pig out?**
 - a) Please take just one cookie.
 - b) Take as many cookies as you like.
 - c) Why don't you ever eat my cookies?

- 3) I know you'll like my cookies since **you've got a sweet tooth.**
 - a) your teeth are hurting
 - b) you don't like sweet things
 - c) you like sweet things

- 4) **You should go into business selling cookies.**
 - a) You should go to the store and buy some cookies.
 - b) You should try to get a job baking cookies.
 - c) You should start a company that sells cookies.

- 5) I baked these cookies. **Help yourself!**
 - a) Let me get you one!
 - b) Take some!
 - c) You need to get some help!

- 6) If you went into business selling these delicious cookies, **you'd make a bundle.**
 - a) you'd make many cookies
 - b) you'd make a lot of money
 - c) you'd make a few dollars

- 7) **Good thinking!**
- a) That's a good idea!
 - b) It's good that you're thinking!
 - c) Keep thinking good thoughts!
- 8) I was thirsty. This iced tea is **just what the doctor ordered.**
- a) exactly what I needed
 - b) very healthy for me
 - c) exactly what my doctor recommended

ANSWERS TO LESSON 6, p. 161

Are you
prepared to work
like a dog?

No, I'm going
to hire you to
work like a dog!

