

## LESSON 10

# BOB VISITS THE VILLAGE MARKET

*Bob goes to the Village Market, a supermarket in town. He asks Carol, the owner of the store, if she would like to sell Susan's Scrumptious Cookies. Carol agrees, but isn't able to tell Bob how much she'll pay him.*

*Bob:* Thank you for **making time for** me today, Carol.

*Carol:* **Don't mention it**, Bob. **What's up?**

*Bob:* My wife baked these cookies **from scratch**. Please take one.

*Carol:* Mmmm, chewy. These are **out of this world!**

*Bob:* My wife's a great cook.

*Carol:* **You can say that again**. I don't want to **make a pig of** myself, but let me take a few more.

*Bob:* *Oink oink!* **Just kidding!**

*Carol:* I'd like to sell these at the Village Market. My customers will **go nuts** over these!

*Bob:* How much would you pay us for each cookie?

*Carol:* I'm not sure. I need to **roll up my sleeves** and **figure out** the finances.

**Bob:** Can you give me a **ballpark figure** now?

**Carol:** I don't want to **jump the gun**. **Sit tight** for now, and we'll **talk things over** this evening.



## IDIOMS – LESSON 10

**ballpark figure** – an approximate number

EXAMPLE 1: The auto mechanic didn't know exactly how much the repairs would cost, but he was able to give me a **ballpark figure**.

EXAMPLE 2: The plumber estimated that it would cost \$150 to fix our sink, but that was just a **ballpark figure**.

**Don't mention it!** – you're welcome

EXAMPLE 1: "Thanks for bringing the cookies," I said to Susan. "**Don't mention it!**" she replied.

EXAMPLE 2: "Thanks for picking up my suit at the dry cleaners." – "**Don't mention it**. It was my pleasure."

**(to) figure out** – to solve; to determine

EXAMPLE 1: Ted couldn't **figure out** one of his math problems, so he asked his sister for help.

EXAMPLE 2: Susan is sure she'll never **figure out** why kids today behave the way they do.

**from scratch** – from the beginning; using all fresh ingredients rather than using a prepared mix

EXAMPLE 1: The house was in such bad shape, they decided to tear it down and re-build it **from scratch**.

EXAMPLE 2: You baked these muffins **from scratch**? They're delicious!

**(to) go nuts** [slang] – to react with great enthusiasm

EXAMPLE 1: When Tiger Woods got a hole-in-one during the golf tournament, the crowd **went nuts**.

EXAMPLE 2: When Eminem appeared on stage, everybody **went nuts**.

NOTE: This expression also means "to go crazy" or "to become crazy with anger." Example: Jim **went nuts** when his wife told him she was leaving him for another man.

**(to) jump the gun** – to start doing something too soon or ahead of everybody else

EXAMPLE 1: Nicole really **jumped the gun** by writing her acceptance speech before the results of the elections were announced.

EXAMPLE 2: The bookstore **jumped the gun** by selling the new Harry Potter book two weeks before its official release date.

**just kidding** – talking more to get a laugh than anything

EXAMPLE 1: I was **just kidding** when I said your new orange dress makes you look like a pumpkin.

EXAMPLE 2: Are you sure that's your boyfriend? I thought he was your grandfather. **Just kidding!**

**(to) make a pig of oneself** [slang] – to overeat; to eat too much

EXAMPLE 1: I **made a pig of myself** by eating four slices of pie.

EXAMPLE 2: Of course you could eat another hamburger, but you don't want to **make a pig of yourself**.

**(to) make time for** – to put time in one's schedule for something

EXAMPLE 1: Don is a busy lawyer, but he always **makes time for** his family.

EXAMPLE 2: I'll be sure to **make time for** you when you visit me.

**out of this world** – *see Lesson 6*

**(to) roll up one's sleeves** – to prepare to work

EXAMPLE 1: Let's **roll up our sleeves** and finish making these cookies!

EXAMPLE 2: You'd better **roll up your sleeves** and finish your homework.

**(to) sit tight** – to wait patiently

EXAMPLE 1: Nicole won't hear back from the colleges she applied to until April. For now, she'll just have to **sit tight**.

EXAMPLE 2: **Sit tight**, the doctor will be with you in a few minutes.

**(to) talk over** – *see Lesson 1*

**What's up?** – What's going on? What's new?

EXAMPLE 1: **What's up?** I haven't spoken to you in a long time.

EXAMPLE 2: You never call me anymore. **What's up** with that?

**you can say that again** – I agree with you

EXAMPLE 1: You think our house needs repairs? **You can say that again** — even our toilet is broken!

EXAMPLE 2: "The weather is so nasty today." — "**You can say that again!** I don't even want to go outside!"

## PRACTICE THE IDIOMS

*Imagine that you are Bob and that you're meeting with Carol from the Village Market to sell her your cookies. Choose the most appropriate replies to Carol's questions and statements:*

1) *Carol:* "I'm glad I was able to make time to see you today."

*Bob's reply:*

- a) "I guess I'll see you tomorrow then."
- b) "It must be nice to have so much free time."
- c) "Yes, thanks for fitting me into your busy schedule."

2) *Carol:* "What's up?"

*Bob's reply:*

- a) "Fine, thank you."
- b) "I'd like to discuss a business deal with you."
- c) "I don't know. Let me check with my wife."

3) *Carol:* "These cookies are out of this world. What do you think?"

*Bob's reply:*

- a) "I agree. They're delicious!"
- b) "I don't know where they are."
- c) "No thanks. I've already had ten cookies."

4) *Carol:* "Did your wife make these from scratch?"

*Bob's reply:*

- a) "No, she made them from flour, eggs, and sugar."
- b) "Yes, she did. She loves to bake."
- c) "Yes. She bought a roll of Pillsbury frozen dough and heated it in the oven for 15 minutes."

5) *Carol:* "I ate seven cookies. Do you think I've made a pig of myself?"

*Bob's reply:*

- a) "Not at all. These cookies are hard to resist!"
- b) "Yes. You look just like a pig."
- c) "Yes. Pigs love to eat cookies too."

- 6) *Carol*: "I think my customers will go nuts over these cookies."  
*Bob's reply*:
- "I agree. After all, they're very good!"
  - "Nuts? Sure, we can put nuts in the cookies."
  - "I disagree. They'll probably like them."
- 7) *Carol*: "Bob, I'm not ready to give you a ballpark figure yet."  
*Bob's reply*:
- "Okay, how about one dollar per cookie?"
  - "When you're ready, we can sell them in the ballpark."
  - "Okay, I can wait until tomorrow."
- 8) *Carol*: "I don't want to jump the gun by discussing details now."  
*Bob's reply*:
- "I understand. Take some time to think about it."
  - "I didn't say anything about selling you guns."
  - "Thanks, I'd love an answer right now."

ANSWERS TO LESSON 10, p. 162



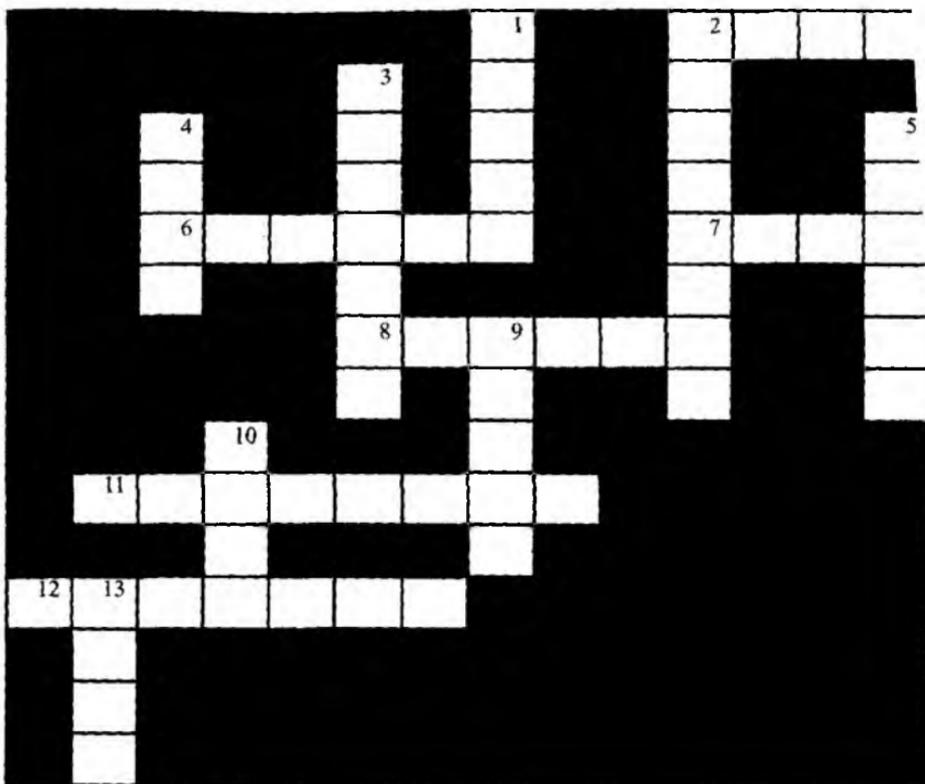
## ***Review for Lessons 6-10***

**Choose the best substitute for the phrase in bold:**

- This apple pie is **out of this world**.
  - not bad
  - from another planet
  - delicious
- Jane was feeling **on edge**, so she went to a day spa to relax.
  - anxious
  - relaxed
  - angry
- You ate 15 cookies? You really **made a pig of yourself!**
  - turned into an animal with a snout and tail
  - made yourself sick
  - ate more than you should have

- 4) Bob wasn't sure he wanted to work for his wife's cookie company, but she **talked him into it**.
- forced him
  - convinced him
  - asked him
- 5) Nancy **doesn't have a clue** about the Internet. She's never even used e-mail.
- understands deeply
  - knows nothing
  - is learning a lot
- 6) Stop **beating around the bush!** I don't know what you're trying to tell me.
- avoiding the subject
  - hitting the trees
  - repeating yourself
- 7) Paul likes to draw silly cartoons of his classmates on the blackboard before class. He's a **wise guy**.
- bad student
  - smart person
  - sarcastic person
- 8) Tom needed to learn how to ride a horse before his trip to Ireland, so he took a **crash course**.
- short, intensive class
  - class in falling down
  - semester-long class
- 9) Laura **made a bundle** when she was younger, and now she spends every day on the golf course.
- had a good job
  - made lots of money
  - stole money
- 10) The doctor will be with you soon. Please **sit tight**.
- come back later
  - wait patiently
  - follow me

## CROSSWORD PUZZLE



### Across

2. Stop beating around the \_\_\_\_ and get to the point already!
6. Susan's cookies really made a \_\_\_\_ at the Village Market. Everybody loved them!
7. You want to be a famous painter? That sounds like a \_\_\_\_ dream!
8. When Ted was asked to perform at the high school dance, he was one happy \_\_\_\_.
11. When I ran into Mary at the mall, she gave me the cold \_\_\_\_.
12. Stop \_\_\_\_ around! We've got work to do.

### Down

1. If you need to learn something quickly, you can take a \_\_\_\_ course.
2. I don't need an exact number right now. A \_\_\_\_ figure is fine.
3. I always prefer cakes and cookies made from \_\_\_\_.
4. If there's one thing teachers hate, it's a \_\_\_\_ guy.
5. It's nice when a boss gives you the \_\_\_\_ for your ideas.
9. I have \_\_\_\_ feelings about visiting Puerto Rico in August. On the one hand, it won't be too full of tourists. On the other hand, it will be very hot.
10. Susan is always helping others. She's got a heart of \_\_\_\_.
13. I don't know how I got talked \_\_\_\_ taking a tour of Costa Rica during the rainy season.

*ANSWERS TO REVIEW, p. 162*



**Let me sweeten  
the deal – 60 cents  
per cookie?**

**That barely  
pays for the cost  
of the sugar!**