



# Idioms 6

Vocabulary > Advanced 7



## Exercise 1 – Vocabulary

<b>keep one's head above water</b>	To manage to survive or endure, especially when faced with financial difficulties.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: After getting fired, he barely managed to <b>keep his head above water</b>.</i>

<b>lend an ear</b>	To listen carefully or sympathetically.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: If you need someone to talk to, I'm always here to <b>lend</b> you <b>an ear</b>.</i>

<b>fish in troubled waters</b>	To try to benefit from a difficult situation.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: Ross will be <b>fishing in troubled waters</b> if he decides to invest in that company.</i>

<b>in the same vein</b>	In the same manner, style, or type.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: She raised her voice angrily, and he replied <b>in the same vein</b>.</i>

<b>bag of bones</b>	A person who is extremely skinny or malnourished.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: Roy is a <b>bag of bones</b>. He weighs only 50 kilos.</i>



## Exercise 2 – Reading

*Read the text aloud with your tutor.*

### Life Hardships

Peter was worried when he saw David because he looked like a **bag of bones**. He lost around 20 kilos and he looked drained. After talking with David and **lending** him **an ear**, Peter found out that the doctor told David that he had caught stomach flu. Since then, David had been unable to eat properly. Upon hearing this, Peter advised David to get some rest and drink more fluids. However, Peter himself was also not at his best because he was **fishing in troubled waters** with his new project. To be honest, it was a tough period for both of them. In the end, David recovered and Peter's project got off to a good start, so he hoped to continue **in the same vein** and **keep his head above water**.



## Exercise 3 – Fill in the Blanks

*Fill in the blanks with the correct idioms.*

1. It may be risky to invest in such a project but he likes \_\_\_\_\_ and it usually pays off.
2. My lips are sealed and I'm always willing to \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The grief has affected her greatly - she has neglected her health and she is a \_\_\_\_\_ now.
4. Even though they lost a lot of money, they managed to \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The beginning of the match was very exciting, and it ended \_\_\_\_\_.
6. It's important to \_\_\_\_\_ when someone is asking for advice.
7. I spent too much money this week. I have to \_\_\_\_\_ till the end of the month.
8. Although I offered some good arguments, my supervisor responded \_\_\_\_\_ as before.



## Exercise 4 – Sentence Construction

*Create sentences using the following idioms.*

**Example:** keep one's head above water → This has been a tough year for all of us, but we are still managing to keep our heads above water.

### **Content:**

1. keep one's head above water
2. lend an ear
3. fish in troubled waters
4. in the same vein
5. bag of bones