



Idioms 25

Vocabulary > Advanced 7



Exercise 1 – Vocabulary

a recipe for disaster	Something that is likely to cause trouble or problems.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: Jumping from this height is a recipe for disaster. You could hurt yourself.</i>

change one's tune	To change one's opinion or attitude completely.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: I was against the idea of bringing her with us, but I changed my tune when she brought cookies.</i>

everything's coming up roses	Used to say that everything is going very well.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: Life is so wonderful at the moment. Everything is coming up roses.</i>

as quiet as a mouse	Very quiet; almost silent.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: I didn't hear you come in; you are as quiet as a mouse.</i>

hard to swallow	Difficult to believe or accept.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: This story is hard to swallow; besides, Jack is always making things up!</i>



Exercise 2 – Reading

Read the text aloud with your tutor.

An Odd Situation

My roommate Silvia used to be such an outgoing person. Although some of her ideas seemed like **a recipe for disaster**, she was always so fun to be around. However, recently, Silvia has been **as quiet as a mouse**. She doesn't listen to loud music any more, nor does she go out every Friday night. I began to wonder why she **changed her tune** so suddenly, so I asked her if she was okay. She only told me that **everything was coming up roses** and there was nothing to worry about. Her words are **hard to swallow** though. I still wonder what happened to this day!



Exercise 3 – Fill in the Blanks

Fill in the blanks with the correct idioms.

1. Driving without a license is _____.
2. You have really _____. You used to be so nervous, but you seem so confident now!
3. I apologized to Harry and now _____!
4. Jin's excuse for not coming is _____.
5. You can never hear Sally in the office, she is _____.
6. Don't go to that party, it's _____.
7. Mary is _____; she never says anything.
8. _____! I got promoted, bought a new flat, got a car.



Exercise 4 – Sentence Construction

Create sentences using the following idioms.

Example: a recipe for disaster → Going on a trip with Amy is a recipe for disaster, I tell you!

Content:

1. a recipe for disaster
2. change one's tune
3. everything's coming up roses
4. as quiet as a mouse
5. hard to swallow