



Idioms 23

Vocabulary > Advanced 7



Exercise 1 – Vocabulary

tighten one's belt	To try to spend less money.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: I spent a lot this Christmas, now I have to tighten my belt.</i>

go with the flow	To go along with what is happening rather than trying to control a situation; to act in a relaxed and calm manner.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: He used to be so uptight, but now he just goes with the flow.</i>

not one's cup of tea	Something one is not interested in or does not like.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: This book is not my cup of tea. I prefer horror stories.</i>

make ends meet	To earn just enough money to cover basic expenses, such as food and rent.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: Many people in this area are struggling to make ends meet.</i>

down to earth	Reasonable and practical; modest.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: He is a really down to earth person, despite being so famous!</i>



Exercise 2 – Reading

Read the text aloud with your tutor.

Financial Education

My mother has always been **down to earth**. She always made practical decisions and taught me to do the same. It was particularly necessary to make smart financial decisions. In the past, our family had some money troubles, so sometimes we had to **tighten our belts** just to **make ends meet**. I learned a lot from my mother and this experience. However, when I started living on my own and got a job, things changed. I realized that making practical decisions **wasn't my cup of tea**. It was really hard for me to keep track of my expenses all the time! Nowadays, I prefer to just do what I feel like doing and **go with the flow**.



Exercise 3 – Fill in the Blanks

Fill in the blanks with the correct idioms.

1. Sports cars aren't really _____; I prefer motorbikes.
2. I had to _____ last year, but this year I got a promotion, so I can spend a bit more money.
3. Bella barely _____, so her brother sends her money every month.
4. James is such a dreamer, but his sister is the complete opposite. She's so _____.
5. Emily hates to just _____. She plans everything.
6. The single mother barely made enough money to _____.
7. Classical music isn't _____. I think it's boring.
8. My grandmother had to _____ to afford the expensive medication.



Exercise 4 – Sentence Construction

Create sentences using the following idioms.

Example: tighten one's belt → Everything is getting more and more expensive. We have to tighten our belts!

Content:

1. tighten one's belt
2. go with the flow
3. not one's cup of tea
4. make ends meet
5. down to earth