



# Idioms 14

Vocabulary > Advanced 7



## Exercise 1 – Vocabulary

<b>on the fence</b>	To be undecided about something.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: You can't sit <b>on the fence</b> any longer; you have to say whether you're for or against the idea.</i>

<b>call it a day</b>	To decide to stop doing something, especially working.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: Everyone else in the office had <b>called it a day</b>.</i>

<b>curiosity killed the cat</b>	Being too curious can get a person into trouble (usually said as a warning).
[phrase]	<i>Ex: <b>Curiosity killed the cat</b>. So stop asking me so many questions!</i>

<b>from scratch</b>	To start something from the beginning; from nothing.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: I didn't buy the cake base. I made it myself <b>from scratch</b>.</i>

<b>head to toe</b>	Completely; covering one's whole body.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: He was dressed in black, <b>head to toe</b>.</i>



## Exercise 2 – Reading

*Read the text aloud with your tutor.*

### Looking for Trouble

They say: “**Curiosity killed the cat.**” Although I am a careful person, I can’t help being curious about other people’s affairs. It was just another Friday evening. I decided to **call it a day** and head home. I left the office and on my way to the elevator, I heard some laughter. Thereupon, I heard other noises coming from one of the rooms. I sat **on the fence** for a moment; I didn’t know whether I should enter the room or not. After a while, I decided to go in, and as I opened the door, I got covered in paint **head to toe**. Some of my office co-workers were making huge Christmas decorations **from scratch**. When I opened the door I hit a ladder and Christine, who was on the ladder, dropped a bucket of paint right on my head. Once again my curiosity got me in trouble.



## Exercise 3 – Fill in the Blanks

*Fill in the blanks with the correct idioms.*

1. He's \_\_\_\_\_ about whether to accept the job offer and relocate or not.
2. I got covered in mud \_\_\_\_\_. It was terrible!
3. My father used to tell me that \_\_\_\_\_ whenever I asked him something that he didn't know the answer to.
4. I was \_\_\_\_\_ about whether to enroll in university or not.
5. Lily knows how to make the cake \_\_\_\_\_. It's delicious.
6. How much money does she earn? She's dressed \_\_\_\_\_ in designer clothing!
7. A few centuries ago people had to make their clothes \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Jeffrey \_\_\_\_\_ and went home 3 hours earlier than everyone else.



## Exercise 4 – Sentence Construction

*Create sentences using the following idioms.*

**Example:** on the fence → I'm on the fence about whether I should go home or not.

### Content:

1. on the fence
2. call it a day
3. curiosity killed the cat
4. from scratch
5. head to toe