to be up to one’s ears in work, to go in one ear and out the other, to roll out the red carpet, to roll one’s sleeves up, to be dressed to the nines, to be in seventh heaven, to be dead as a doornail, to wait until the cows home, to burn the candle at both ends, to swallow one’s pride, to eat humble pie, to take it for granted, to kick the bucket, to let the f loodgates open, to drop the ball, to catch the drift, to be caught off guard, to get away with murder, to read between the lines, to read the handwriting on the wall, to lick someone’s boots, to have the time of one’s life, to drop something like a hot potato, to throw someone for a loop, to throw someone into a tizzy, to get a kick out of something, to play it by ear, to bend over backwards, to f ly in the face of the evidence, to tie the knot, to get hitched, to open a can of worms, to scrape the bottom of the barrel, to drop a bombshell, to be caught between a rock and a hard place, to paint oneself into a corner, to eat one’s words, to let the cat out of the bag, to spill the beans, to be knocking at death’s door, to play the field, to make a mountain out of a molehill, to shout at the top of one’s lungs, to be scared out of one’s wits, to act like there’s no tomorrow, to take a rain check, to cry all the way to the bank, to cross swords, to drag someone over the coals, to hit pay dirt, to make hay while the sun shines, to rise and shine, to set one’s sights on someone, to make someone’s blood boil, to shout something from the rooftops, to lord it over someone, to even the score, to give someone a taste of their own medicine, to turn the tables, to miss the boat, to jump on the bandwagon, to have no truck with someone, to put the cart before the horse, to close the barn door after the horse is out, to while the hours away, to kill time, to spend like a drunken sailor, to get the hell out, to take it out on someone, to go for broke, to even the score, to be in the pink, to be riding high, to be down in the dumps, to throw the baby out with the bathwater, to carry coals to Newcastle, to scatter to the four winds, to open a Pandora’s box, to be carrying a torch for someone, to get something for a song, to be whistling Dixie, to need something like a hole in the head, to tell it like it is, to be playing with a stacked deck, to make a long story short, to give someone short shrift, to be feeling one’s oats, to sow one’s wild oats, to butter someone up, to slip someone a mickey, to laugh on the other side of one’s face, to hit the nail on the head, to miss the point, to make the grade, to lose one’s marbles, to grasp at straws, to be on pins and needles, to run the gauntlet, to blow one’s chances, to shoot one’s wad, to keep one’s cool, to throw a monkey wrench into the works, to screw things up royally, to look daggers at someone, to look white as a sheet, to be pushing up daisies, to send someone to kingdom come, to knock someone into the middle of next week, to cut the mustard, to cut to the chase, to jump ship, to crack the whip, to go belly-up, to be champing at the bit, to have one’s cake and eat it too, to kill two birds with one stone…

What’s up? What’s new? Just barely made it. Why does it always happen to *me*? It’s your bedtime. Are you out of your mind? Who do you think you are? Just what do you think you’re doing? And don’t come back. I’ll be right with you. Can I help you? How’s your meal? The check, please. Will that be all? Anything else? You’re more than welcome. Oh, great… that’s all I needed. I told you so! Spare me the details. *That’s* a likely story! I wasn’t born yesterday! Don’t give me that. Don’t make me laugh. I’ve really had it. Well, what have we here? And who would *this* be? That’s beside the point. There you go again! I’ve heard that one before. You can say *that* again! *Tell* me about it! Get to the point, would you? Give me a break! I’m no fool. I hope I’ve made myself clear. So *now* you tell me! Don’t get me wrong! Well, I’ll be damned! How was *I* supposed to know? Now why didn’t *I* think of that? You want it *when*? Go jump in a lake! Have it your way. See if I care! Take my word for it. *That’s* putting it mildly! That’s no excuse. I wouldn’t know. What makes you say that? You’ve got to be kidding! There’s nothing to do about it now. Might as well make the best of it. It’s not worth the trouble. Keep it to yourself. Mind your own business. You think you’re so smart. So where do we go from here? Don’t worry about it. Don’t give it a second thought. Oh, you really shouldn’t have! It could be worse! What won’t they think of next? Shame on you! I don’t know what I was thinking. That’ll be a hard act to follow. No harm trying! So what? What do you want me to do? So what am *I* — chopped liver? Is *that* all you wanted? All right, are you done now? Haven’t I seen you somewhere before? We can’t keep on meeting this way.

• the ability to acquire and use knowledge;

• the ability to reason;

• the ability to solve problems;

• the ability to plan;

• the ability to achieve goals;

• the ability to remember important information;

• the ability to adapt to new situations;

• the ability to understand complex ideas;

• the ability to think abstractly;

• the ability to learn and apply skills;

• the ability to profit from experience;

• the ability to perceive and recognize;

• the ability to create products of value;

• the ability to attain what one seeks;

• the ability to think rationally;

• the ability to improve.

