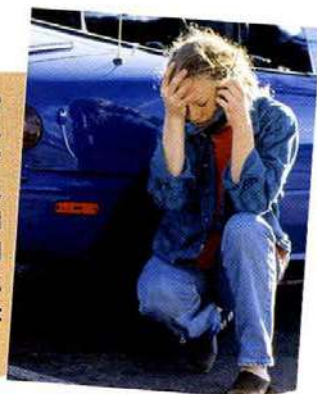


## 2 I can use familiar words in a new way

### A Phrases and figurative meaning

Familiar words may appear with an unfamiliar meaning (often a figurative meaning), or surrounded by other words that form an idiom or set phrase.

**A**s I **crawled** along the motorway, I was **having second thoughts** about staying with Marcus. I'd **been in two minds about** going in the first place, but it was **sweet of** him to invite me, and I **wasn't tied up**, so I said, 'Yes'. But now it **dawned on** me that he may have had an **ulterior motive**: he wanted to go out with me! How could I be so **thick**? Marcus was very nice, but a romantic relationship **was the last thing on my mind**. How can I **get out of** this, I wondered? Just as the traffic started to speed up, something went into the back of me and **sent** the car **flying** off the road. Dazed but OK, I pulled my mobile out of my bag. 'Is that you, Marcus? Listen, **you're not gonna believe this**, but ...'



#### Glossary

<b>crawl</b>	(of a vehicle) move very slowly.
<b>have second thoughts</b>	start having doubts about a decision you have made.
<b>be in two minds about sth</b>	be unable to decide what to do about sth.
<b>sweet (of sb)</b>	kind (of sb).
<b>be tied up</b>	be busy and unable to do other things.
<b>dawn on sb</b>	If sth <b>dawns on</b> you, you begin to realize it for the first time.
<b>ulterior motive</b>	a reason for doing sth that you keep hidden.
<b>thick</b>	INF stupid.
<b>be the last thing on sb's mind</b>	be the thing that sb is least likely to be thinking about.
<b>get out of sth</b>	avoid doing sth.
<b>send sth/sb flying</b>	make sth/sb move quickly and without control.
<b>you're not gonna believe this</b>	used to introduce surprising and often unwelcome news (gonna INF = going to).

#### 1 Complete the dialogues with a word or phrase.

- 1 Do you still want to go? ~ Actually, I'm having \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 Are you thinking of getting married? ~ That's the last thing \_\_\_\_\_!
- 3 Do you want to go to the wedding? ~ No, but I can't \_\_\_\_\_ it.
- 4 You're not gonna \_\_\_\_\_, but ... ~ You've lost my keys again! How could you?
- 5 Did he bump into you? ~ Yes, he sent me \_\_\_\_\_ across the room.
- 6 Are you going or not? ~ I'm afraid I'm still in \_\_\_\_\_ about it.
- 7 I'm sure it's just an innocent request. ~ Mm. I think he has an \_\_\_\_\_ motive.
- 8 Could we talk about it this morning? ~ I'm afraid I'm \_\_\_\_\_ this morning.

#### 2 Complete the sentences using words from the glossary with their more common meanings.

- 1 She's only eight months old, so she's still \_\_\_\_\_ across the living room floor.
- 2 It's a very \_\_\_\_\_ book: almost 1,000 pages.
- 3 These oranges are lovely; they're very \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 The men were \_\_\_\_\_, with both hands behind their backs.
- 5 The morning \_\_\_\_\_ with a clear blue sky after the storm.

