

31 Ups and downs

A Circle the correct words and expressions to complete the sentences.

- 1 If you are downbeat / upbeat about something, you don't show or feel much excitement about it.
- 2 If you downgrade / upgrade something, you change it for a better one.
- 3 If something has a downside / an upside, it has a negative side to it.
- 4 If there is a downturn / an upturn in something, there is an increase in it.
- 5 If something is a letdown / a turn-up for the books, it is disappointing because it isn't as good as you'd thought it would be.
- 6 If you have a downer / have your ups and downs, a mixture of good and bad things happen to you.
- 7 If something is downcast / up and running, it is established and working.
- 8 If you are down-at-heel / up-and-coming, you are badly dressed or in a bad condition because of lack of money.

B Complete the sentences with the other words and expressions from A.

- 1 If you are _____, you are becoming more successful in a job.
- 2 If there is _____ in something, there is a reduction in amount.
- 3 If you _____ on someone, you don't like them.
- 4 If you are _____ about something, you are full of hope, happiness and good feelings about it.
- 5 If you _____ someone or something, you reduce them to a lower level or position of importance.
- 6 If something has _____, this is the good or pleasant part of it.
- 7 If you are _____, you are sad and without hope.
- 8 If you say that something is _____, you find it strange or surprising, usually in a positive way.

C Complete the sentences with words and expressions from A and B.

- 1 He hadn't worked very hard, but he still felt _____ about how he'd done in the exams.
- 2 I worked all night in order to get the machine _____.
- 3 Why do you _____ on Paul? What's wrong with him?
- 4 Economy class is full, so we'll _____ you to business class.
- 5 There's _____ to earning more money – you pay more tax.
- 6 Her last book was much better – this one was a bit of _____.

36 Idioms: succeeding and failing

A Circle the correct idioms to complete the sentences.

- 1 If something bears fruit / misses the mark, it produces successful results.
- 2 If a plan gets off the ground / goes pear-shaped, it starts or succeeds.
- 3 If something falls flat / works like a dream, it works very well.
- 4 If something goes from strength to strength / misses the mark, it fails to achieve what it is intended to achieve.
- 5 If an attempt to achieve something or to tell a joke bears fruit / falls flat, it fails.
- 6 If something comes to nothing / gets off the ground, it doesn't succeed.
- 7 If a plan goes pear-shaped / works like a dream, it fails.
- 8 If something comes to nothing / goes from strength to strength, it becomes better and better or more and more successful.

B Match the sentence halves. Write the letters in the box below.

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| 1 If you <i>make it big</i> , | a you won't be successful. |
| 2 If you <i>draw a blank</i> , | b you don't make any mistakes. |
| 3 If you <i>make the grade</i> , | c your relationship starts badly, often with an argument. |
| 4 If you <i>fight a losing battle</i> , | d you become successful or famous. |
| 5 If you <i>don't put a foot wrong</i> , | e you have produced something as a result of it. |
| 6 If you <i>won't last five minutes</i> , | f you improve something a lot. |
| 7 If you <i>work wonders</i> , | g you are unable to get information, think of something or achieve something. |
| 8 If you <i>get off on the wrong foot</i> with someone you have just met, | h you succeed at something usually because your skills are good enough. |
| 9 If you <i>have something to show</i> for your efforts or time, | i you try hard to do something when there is no chance of success. |

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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C Complete the sentences in your own words.

- 1 If you get off on the right foot with someone you have just met,
- 2 If something hits the mark,
- 3 If you have nothing to show for your efforts or time,