



## 12 Rhyming pairs in idioms

### Activity A

A number of idioms are composed of rhyming pairs of words joined with *and*.

Complete the idioms below with a word from each box.

doom fair high huff name  
slice thrills wear wheel wine

and

deal dice dine dry gloom puff  
shame spills square tear

- 1 to publish the names of people or organizations who have done something wrong or illegal \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 to do a lot of complicated deals in business or politics, often in a dishonest way \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 in a difficult situation, without help or money \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 the damage to objects, furniture, property, etc. that is the result of normal use \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 a general feeling of having lost all hope, and of pessimism \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 to divide information into small parts in order to study it more closely or to see it in different ways \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 to go to restaurants, etc. and enjoy good food and drink; to entertain somebody by buying them good food and drink \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 to make it obvious that you are annoyed about something without doing anything to change the situation \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 the excitement that is involved in dangerous activities, especially sports \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 honestly and according to the rules \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

### Activity B

Now choose an idiom to fill the gaps.

- 1 Lots of business people use this restaurant for \_\_\_\_\_ing and \_\_\_\_\_ing, or for \_\_\_\_\_ing and \_\_\_\_\_ing clients.
- 2 The newspaper says it will \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ any politician found to be involved in corruption.
- 3 Economic crisis, war, natural disasters ... It's all \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ on the news these days.
- 4 Cricket is a calm, slow game, without the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of, say, ice-hockey.
- 5 These statistics could be used in lots of different ways – it just depends how you \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ them.
- 6 The boss will \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ if you ask him for the day off, but he always says yes.
- 7 He says I cheated, but I beat him \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_!
- 8 My business failed because the main investor withdrew at the last minute and left me \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- 9 They use plastic seats in stadiums because they're resistant to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and will last for years.

### Activity C

Discuss the question with a partner:

Do you use pairs of words in a similar way in your language? If so, tell your partner three examples.