

Idioms in English – Volume Three

Idioms “bogged down” and “up to speed” are used frequently in conversations, email, and presentations in English. When nonnative speakers of English don’t understand the idioms, they can miss the point of a conversation, email, or presentation since the idiom is often used to encapsulate the message.

This is a self-paced course. Students should review the course syllabus before enrolling. Each student will have up to 12 months to complete the course and meet the course objectives as outlined below.

Electronic textbooks for the course - *Idioms in English - Volume Three*

The electronic textbook for this course includes pre and post assessments with instant scoring and features over 220 interactive lessons.

Each of the 9 chapters feature:

- TOEFL® listening practices to check comprehension
- Stories and Dialogues using the idioms in context
- Reading comprehension quizzes to identify the meaning of each idiom
- Idiom pages with definitions, examples, and pronunciation notes
- Dictation and focus word practices with scoring
- Chapter reviews with scoring

Idioms in English – Volume Three was first released in 2014. The program has been used by nonnative speakers of English internationally and in the United States in workplace settings like the IBM research labs in both California (Almaden) and New York (Watson). Schools like the University of Oklahoma and De Anza College use these programs in their language labs.

This course includes:

- ✓ 24/7 access to the interactive, electronic textbook
- ✓ Access to an audio book version
- ✓ Weekly “Tips from the Author” emails with links to narrated movie files

Syllabus for *Idioms in English – Volume Three* (2 CEUs)

Chapter One: Whitewater Rafting

Objectives

- Students will learn to identify and use the following idioms with the correct stress, intonation and rhythm:
 - Head off
 - Hang out
 - Get along
 - Pick out
 - Keep in touch
 - Keep track of something
 - Check in
 - Get someone on board
 - Look forward to something
 - Bugged down
 - From the ground up
 - Up and running

Outcomes

- Students will be able to **hear** and **understand** the targeted idioms, improving both listening and reading comprehension, thus reducing communication problems at work.
- Students will be able to **hear** and **reproduce** correct stress, intonation and rhythm with these idiomatic phrases, improving both listening comprehension & spoken English.

Chapter Two: The Party

Objectives

- Students will learn to identify and use the following idioms with the correct stress, intonation and rhythm:

- In a bind
- In charge of
- Pick up the baton
- Take over something
- Bail someone out
- Take a pass
- At stake
- Flying blind
- Bounce an idea off someone
- Fire away
- Start off
- Help someone out
- Pick someone's brain

Outcomes

- Students will be able to **hear** and **understand** the targeted idioms, improving both listening and reading comprehension, thus reducing communication problems at work.
- Students will be able to **hear** and **reproduce** correct stress, intonation and rhythm with these idiomatic phrases, improving both listening comprehension & spoken English.

Chapter Three: Green Technology

Objectives

- Students will learn to identify and use the following idioms with the correct stress, intonation and rhythm:
 - A turnkey solution
 - Around the clock
 - Downstream
 - Ring in
 - Gain steam
 - The tip of the iceberg
 - Bleeding-edge technology
 - Come into one's own
 - Bring something online

Outcomes

- Students will be able to **hear** and **understand** the targeted idioms, improving both listening and reading comprehension, thus reducing communication problems at work.
- Students will be able to **hear** and **reproduce** correct stress, intonation and rhythm with these idiomatic phrases, improving both listening comprehension & spoken English.

Chapter Four: New Software Release

Objectives

- Students will learn to identify and use the following idioms with the correct stress, intonation and rhythm:
 - All the bells and whistles
 - The look and feel
 - Be user-friendly
 - A nice touch
 - Put something on the map
 - Gain ground
 - Be ahead of the curve
 - Shake things up
 - Up the ante
 - Eat someone's lunch
 - From now on
 - Cook up

Outcomes

- Students will be able to **hear** and **understand** the targeted idioms, improving both listening and reading comprehension, thus reducing communication problems at work.

- Students will be able to **hear** and **reproduce** correct stress, intonation and rhythm with these idiomatic phrases, improving both listening comprehension & spoken English.

Chapter Five: Investing

Objectives

- Students will learn to identify and use the following idioms with the correct stress, intonation and rhythm:
 - Deep pockets
 - A downturn
 - In the pipeline
 - Stay the course
 - In the long run/in the short run
 - Bite the dust
 - Breakthrough technology
 - Pull the plug
 - A rude awakening
 - Go up in smoke
 - Sit tight
 - Wait on the sidelines
 - Raise a red flag
 - Skin in the game

Outcomes

- Students will be able to **hear** and **understand** the targeted idioms, improving both listening and reading comprehension, thus reducing communication problems at work.
- Students will be able to **hear** and **reproduce** correct stress, intonation and rhythm with these idiomatic phrases, improving both listening comprehension & spoken English.

Chapter Six: Job Hunting

Objectives

- Students will learn to identify and use the following idioms with the correct stress, intonation and rhythm:
 - Beef up
 - Keep one's eyes peeled
 - Open up
 - Freeze up
 - Blurt out something
 - Shoot oneself in the foot
 - Warm up
 - Think on one's feet
 - Go out the window
 - Rough around the edges
 - Be up front

Outcomes

- Students will be able to **hear** and **understand** the targeted idioms, improving both listening and reading comprehension, thus reducing communication problems at work.
- Students will be able to **hear** and **reproduce** correct stress, intonation and rhythm with these idiomatic phrases, improving both listening comprehension & spoken English.

Chapter Seven: Saving Energy

Objectives

- Students will learn to identify and use the following idioms with the correct stress, intonation and rhythm:
 - Carbon footprint
 - Cut back
 - Up to speed
 - Drill down
 - A ballpark figure
 - Roll out
 - Be on the up and up

- Shy away from something
- Not be all someone is cracked up to be

Outcomes

- Students will be able to **hear** and **understand** the targeted idioms, improving both listening and reading comprehension, thus reducing communication problems at work.
- Students will be able to **hear** and **reproduce** correct stress, intonation and rhythm with these idiomatic phrases, improving both listening comprehension & spoken English.

Chapter Eight: Weekend Plans

Objectives

- Students will learn to identify and use the following idioms with the correct stress, intonation and rhythm:
 - Stuck in a rut
 - Stick around
 - Pass something with flying colors
 - Take a cue
 - Stand a chance
 - A tug of war
 - Steer clear of something
 - Come around
 - Buckle down

Outcomes

- Students will be able to **hear** and **understand** the targeted idioms, improving both listening and reading comprehension, thus reducing communication problems at work.
- Students will be able to **hear** and **reproduce** correct stress, intonation and rhythm with these idiomatic phrases, improving both listening comprehension & spoken English.

Chapter Nine: Getting back in shape

Objectives

- Students will learn to identify and use the following idioms with the correct stress, intonation and rhythm:
 - Slack off
 - Get lost in the shuffle
 - A wake-up call
 - Work out
 - The bottom line
 - A walk in the park
 - The odds are high
 - Keep one's eye on the ball
 - Get back in shape

Outcomes

- Students will be able to **hear** and **understand** the targeted idioms, improving both listening and reading comprehension, thus reducing communication problems at work.
- Students will be able to **hear** and **reproduce** correct stress, intonation and rhythm with these idiomatic phrases, improving both listening comprehension & spoken English.

Successful Completion of the course will be demonstrated by satisfying the required 20 hours working in the online program, audio book, Weekly Tips from the Author and completing the Final review with a minimum score of 75% (tracked by the UMS - User Management System).