Kinga White

100 ilustrowanych angielskich idiomów z ćwiczeniami



Monkey Business with English Idioms

Poziom B1-B2

poltext

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couch potato



leń; maniak telewizyjny

osoba leniwa, mało aktywna fizycznie, przesiadująca na kanapie i nałogowo oglądająca telewizję

[dosł. kanapowy ziemniak/kartofel]



a person who watches a lot of television and does very little or no exercise



Mike is a real couch potato; he just wants to sit at home and watch TV all day. He does not want to take part in any activity that would make him tired.

Don't be such a couch potato! Switch off the TV and let's go out.

Janet is really worried about her husband; he has become a real couch potato and put on a lot of weight.





Wyrażenie zostało użyte po raz pierwszy w latach 70. ubiegłego wieku. Kanapowego lenia świetnie opisał Jan Brzechwa w pierwszych słowach wiersza "Leń": "Na tapczanie siedzi leń,/ Nic nie robi cały dzień". Chociaż w czasach, gdy pisał wiersz, oglądanie telewizji nie było tak powszechne jak dziś.

Local branch of Count Your Pennies Bank robbed

The Little Land police confirmed that the local Count Your Pennies Bank had been broken into last night. The two crooks caught on CCTV camera were described as rather unfit men who liked 1 spending their time in front of the TV. 2 They looked very similar; in fact, one witness said they might have been twins.

Ten bags of diamonds were stolen from the safety deposit boxes and the men were still at large.

The Count Your Pennies bosses 3 were furious when they found out that the day before two 4 very bubbly men, who were most likely the burglars, 5 were complimenting one of the female employees. They were pretending to be worried about leaving their most priced possessions in the bank and wanted to see what security the bank had in place. The young and inexperienced employee told the men that it was not 6 at all easy to get access to the bank's vault and she accidentally 7 revealed that all safety deposit boxes were kept in the basement. 8 Long story short, she unknowingly helped them finalise their burglary plan!

We can only hope that things will 9 not work out for the two burglars and they will decide that splitting the bounty is not 10 their thing. Hopefully, they will argue and make a mistake that will lead the Little Land police to them.

under the weather



nie być w formie; czuć się źle, czuć się kiepsko

[dosł. pod pogoda]



to feel unwell or ill; to be in low spirits



I am feeling a bit under the weather today. I think it's best if I stay in and skip today's swimming lesson.

I might be getting a cold.

Jacey was very quiet today, maybe he was feeling under the weather?

Sam asked to postpone our meeting. She said she was feeling a bit under the weather.





Idiom ma korzenie marynistyczne. Według jednej wersji wywodzi się stąd, że pasażerowie statku i marynarze często czują się źle podczas sztormu, kiedy fale kołyszą statkiem. Według innej, w dawnych czasach marynarza, który źle się poczuł, odsyłano pod pokład, by wydobrzał "pod pogodą", czyli z dala od wpływu pogody.

Read the newspaper snippets below and then answer the questions.

Lady Lola on cloud nine showing off her 4 carat engagement ring

Delivery companies snowed under during lock-down

Rainy days are here for Big Boys United player Pruny after his injury

DJ Jazzy steals DJ Maxx's thunder at his own rave by announcing his new album

Broken glass turned out to be storm in a teacup in the McMahons' home Razza's rainbow chase finally fulfilled

- 1 Who managed to achieve their dreams?
- Who has too much work and is struggling to cope?

- Who might be upset because attention was taken away from them?
- 4 Who is experiencing hard times and loss of income?

- **5** Who is very excited?
- 6 In whose house did a small argument take place?

when pigs fly



na święty/świętego nigdy; jeśli wierzyć w cuda

Określenie czegoś mało prawdopodobnego, używane często, by osiągnąć efekt humorystyczny lub sarkastyczny, np. "prędzej mi kaktus na dłoni wyrośnie".

[dosł. kiedy świnie będą latać]



humorous way of saying that something will never happen

Example



Of course I'll go for morning runs with you
- when pigs fly!

"I am planning on getting a teaching job at a local school. It would be so convenient." "When pigs fly! You need to have a teaching degree first before you can apply!"

Ciekawostka



Jeden z najbardziej znanych przykładów użycia idiomu występuje w "Alicji w krainie czarów" Lewisa Carolla, gdzie Księżna zwraca się do Alicji słowami: "Masz takie samo prawo do myślenia jak świnie do latania". Okazało się to prawdą. W 1909 roku pionier lotnictwa i polityk John Moore-Brabazon, chcąc dla żartu udowodnić, że świnie jednak mogą latać, swoim prywatnym dwupłatowcem zabrał w lot małego prosiaka.

Tick the correct meaning of the sentence. Sometimes more than one answer is right.

1.	I had butterflies in my stomach when I asked Janet to marry me.
	I was nervous when I asked Janet to marry me.
	I was excited when I asked Janet to marry me.
2.	Doing work experience with the police service was such an eye-opener.
	Doing work experience with the police made me stay awake for long hours.
	Doing work experience with the police made me realise many new things.
3.	It took me a while to find my feet in the new office building.
	It took me a while to get from place to place in the new office building.
	It took me a while to learn things in the new office building.
4.	They like playing things by ear when on holiday.
	They like planning things when on holiday.
	They like being flexible and deciding on the spot when on holiday.
5.	After a year or two in a new job, Will gets itchy feet.
	After a year or two in a new job, Will wants to move to another job.
	After a year or two in a new job, Will gets feet problems.
6.	Did you see Michael's car? It must have cost him an arm and a leg!
	Did you see Michael's car? It must be very risky driving in it.
	Did you see Michael's car? It must have been very expensive.

luck of the Irish



niesamowite szczęście, wielkie szczęście

[dosł. szczęście Irlandczyka]



Example

Fraser got made redundant from his old job but on the same day, he got an offer for a new job with double the salary. He has the luck of the Irish!

Nathan got a scholarship and a prize for the best exam results all in the same week – he must have the luck of the Irish!

Lucia must have the luck of the Irish; she got promoted twice this year.

Ciekawostka

Idiom powstał w drugiej połowie XIX wieku w USA, kiedy wielu irlandzkim imigrantom poszczęściło się w czasie "gorączki złota". A ponieważ poszukiwanie złota nie wymaga specjalnej wiedzy, wyrażenia używano początkowo w znaczeniu "głupi ma szczęście". Obecnie pierwotne, pejoratywne znaczenie idiomu zanikło.

drive someone up the wall



[dosł. doprowadzać kogoś do wjechania na ścianę]

Jeśli chcesz dobrze opanować język angielski, musisz poznać idiomy. A jeśli chcesz się przekonać, że nauka angielskiego może być też zabawna, sięgnij po

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Książka zawiera:

100 najczęściej używanych idiomów angielskich

polskie odpowiedniki idiomów

definicje idiomów w języku angielskim

przykłady użycia w języku angielskim

interesujące i zabawne ciekawostki na temat pochodzenia idiomów

mnóstwo przeróżnych ćwiczeń językowych z kluczem

i co najważniejsze – każdy idiom opatrzony jest zabawną ilustracją, co z pewnością ułatwi jego zapamiętanie.

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Nauka języka angielskiego





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