



PINES ACADEMY
INTERNATIONAL



Vocabulary Hoard



English as a
Foreign
Language

Introduction

This book is composed of twenty (20) units having ten (10) business idioms each. One unit is good for one day. Definitions and usage will be discussed in class. Check-up exercises are provided after each unit which serves as a review for the learners. Supplementary exercises and information in relation to the business vocabularies may be imparted by the teacher.

Business idioms are essential in some settings which makes the conversation more interesting and vibrant. For this reason, it is relevant for ESL learners, like you, to be familiar with business vocabularies so you could relate to English conversations with the frequent use of such expressions. Primarily, it is for better usage and understanding of the English language more like a native speaker does.

This book was formulated to enhance the students' vocabulary skills by learning conversational business expressions. At the end of the term, the students' are expected to:

- a. have mastered the most commonly used business idioms acquired in this subject, and
- b. be able to identify expressions in business used by other English speakers when the latter converses with them.

UNIT 1

1. all of your eggs in one basket

having all of your resources in one place; putting your money or hopes or future into one thing

- a. You don't want to keep all of your eggs in one basket. You might lose everything!
- b. Tom had all of his eggs in one basket -- Yoyodyne.com stock -- and when the stock market crashed he was bankrupt.



2. angel-investor

an individual who invests in a company during its start-up phase; a financial supporter in the early stages of a corporation's existence

- a. The company never would have survived without the backing of its angel investors.
- b. They were able to survive their start-up phase because of its angel-investors.



3. in the hot seat

in trouble; in a very uncomfortable situation

- a. The analysts who promoted the dot-bomb stocks are now in the hot seat with the SEC.
- b. Andrew was really in the hot seat after his girlfriend caught him lying to her.

4. catch on

to understand something new

- a. Sabah is a good student. She catches on quickly.
- b. Until someone catches on, they will keep cheating their customers forever.

5. bells and whistles

excessive or unnecessary features on something; showy or flashy parts

- a. My father bought a new computer with all the bells and whistles. I think it even makes toast.
- b. I like the original model, without all the bells and whistles the second version has.

6. bad eggs

a troublemaker; someone who has a bad attitude and causes trouble

- a. Emily is a real bad egg -- she's always starting fights and causing trouble.
- b. We have to get rid of the bad eggs in the accounting department.

7. think outside the box

to think creatively; to approach a situation or problem in a new way

- a. To solve this problem, we're going to have to think outside the box.
- b. I like to hire people who can think outside the box.



8. pirate

illegal, usually in reference to an illegal copy of a CD or video or software; to make an illegal copy

- a. The pirate copies of the new Stallone movie aren't very good quality.
- b. People are already pirating the new Microsoftie program.

9. head above water

out of difficulty or trouble

- a. After a disastrous last quarter, I think the company is finally above water.
- b. We have so little money that we can hardly keep our heads above water.

10. **bug**

an error or fault in a machine or program; a mistake in a computer program that causes it to work incorrectly

- a. *We have to get the bugs out of our new software program before we release it to the public.*
- b. *They hired an expert technician to fix the bug they detected last night.*

check-up time!

Define each idiom and use them in a sentence.

1. all of your eggs in one basket - _____
2. angel-investor- _____
3. in the hot seat- _____
4. catch on- _____
5. bells and whistles- _____
6. bad eggs- _____
7. think outside the box- _____
8. pirate- _____
9. head above water- _____
10. bug- _____