



LANGUAGE LINKS

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What's happening this week?

Quiz Day is designed for all the trainees to practice English skills they have learned in the form of group work with enjoyable atmosphere. It is a great chance for them to practice their listening, writing, and speaking skills, while widening their general knowledge.

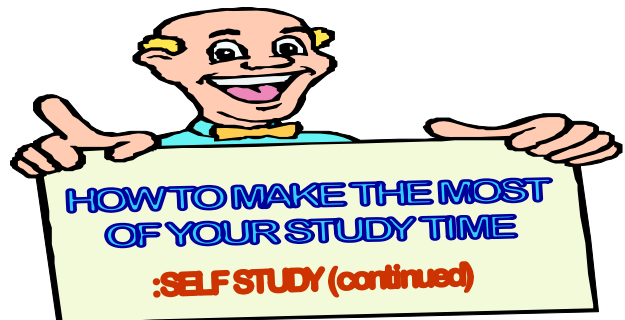
Quiz Day will be held at Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on Sri Ayutthaya Road this Friday, November 28. The Quiz will start from 9.00-12.00.



NOTE:

- * Please be at Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sri Ayutthaya Road by 8.45 a.m.
- * Casual dress is NOT acceptable

LEARNING STRATEGIES



Notices, signs and labels

Are there English-language signs in your town? Do you buy food or things for your house which have labels in English? Try to be aware of how much written English there is around you. Can you pronounce the words on the label? Do you understand the instructions if they are written in English? When you next walk around your town, try to count how many signs or notices you see in English. Make a note of any words you don't know. Can you work out



An Update From The
Marketing
Department

Talks and lectures

In your town, you may have clubs and societies which give talks in English. Try to find out if there is a cultural society you can join. There may also be foreign companies which give marketing seminars or who publish brochures and booklets. For example, if you are interested in becoming a teacher, try to find out if there are any foreign educational groups working in your area. They may have talks you can attend or books you could read.



Adapted from: <http://www.bbc.co.uk>

Usana

Culture Corner



Meeting & Greeting in Canada

- ☺ Shake hands and introduce yourself when meeting Canadians for the first time. Always shake hands firmly when meeting or departing. Eye contact is important.



- ☺ When a woman enters or leaves a room, it is polite for men to rise. Men normally offer their hands to women.



- ☺ In Quebec, kissing on the cheeks in the French manner is quite common. When close friends and family meet in Quebec, they use first names and kiss both cheeks.



- ☺ An older French Canadian man may kiss the hand of a woman. Accept this gesture graciously. A foreign man should **not** kiss the hand of a French Canadian woman, who would be quite shocked.



- ☺ Canadians use last names and appropriate titles; first names are normally used by close friends and family only. Western Canadians may use first names more frequently than other Canadians.

- ☺ Academic titles and degrees are important to French Canadians. You should know and use them properly.



Adapted from material compiled by Window on the World, a cross-cultural training and consulting firm. Originally based on material contained in the "Put Your Best Foot Forward" series of books by Mary Murray Bosrock.

Here's the Answer

Idioms



I have a hard time understanding the idioms *answer the call of nature*, *around the clock*, and *call it a day*. Can you explain?



An idiom is a group of words in current usage having a meaning that is not deducible from the individual words. For example, *to rain cats and dogs* (which means "to rain very heavily") is an idiom, and *over the moon* (which means "extremely happy") is another. In both cases, you would have had a hard time understanding the real meaning if you did not already know these idioms!

Answer the call of nature

Meaning: If you answer the call of nature, you go to the toilet.

- Could we stop somewhere? I need to *answer the call of nature*.
- Does anyone need to *answer the call of nature* before we set off?



Around the clock

Meaning: If something occurs around the clock, it goes on all day and all night.

- I have to finish this report by Tuesday, so I'll be working *around the clock* until I get it done.



- What the young people of this town need is a drop-in centre that's open *around the clock*.

Call it a day (Informal)

Meaning: If you call it a day, you stop doing something (usually work-related).

- We couldn't do any more work because of the rain, so we *called it a day* and went home.
- After running a hotel for nearly thirty years, we decided to *call it a day* and do something else.

<http://www.englishclub.com/ref/Idioms/index.htm>



Napassawan

FUN WITH ENGLISH

No.9 Definitions 5

Match the definitions on the left (1-16) with correct idiom on the right (a-p)

1	Incite someone to do something that perhaps they should not do	a	Bark up the wrong tree
2	Make a serious effort to improve one's work	b	Bide one's time
3	Live from day to day, often without regular money	c	Butter someone up
4	Hear a rumour	d	Call someone's bluff
5	Find faults or mistakes in something (e.g. an argument)	e	Cut someone dead
6	Go from a bad situation to one that is even worse	f	Egg someone on
7	Flatter someone (often in order to get something)	g	Hear something on the grapevine
8	Become angry	h	Jump down someone's throat
9	Challenge someone to do what he or she has threatened to do (usually because one does not believe the person will do it)	I	Jump out of the frying pan into the fire
10	Be humiliated or be made to look foolish in front of others	j	Lend someone a hand
11	Make a mistake; have the wrong idea of something	k	Live from hand to mouth
12	Annoy or irritate someone	l	Lose face
13	Speak angrily to someone	m	Lose one's temper
14	Wait patiently for a suitable opportunity to do something	n	Pick holes in something
15	Help someone	o	Pull one's socks up
16	Completely ignore a person while passing him or her	p	Rub someone up the wrong way

From: Test Your, English Idioms, Peter Watcyn-Jones

Answers No.8

Across

- 3 mountain (You're exaggerating the importance of something; you're making a small difficulty or problem seem like a big one)
 6 package (A group holiday arranged by a travel agency where the travel and accommodation are paid for beforehand)
 7 keep (So as not to forget how to teach)
 8 crow (If you travel in a straight line)
 9 hand (A big round of applause)
 10 business (Don't interfere in things that don't concern you)
 14 tongue (A "slip of the tongue" is a careless mistake you make when speaking)
 15 collar (He got angry, upset or embarrassed)
 16 flies (Time passes very quickly)
 18 bite (There's no need to lose your temper with me or shout at me)

Down

- 1 soaked (We were very wet)
 2 figures (He is very good at mathematics, especially arithmetic)
 4 handy (It might be useful in the future)
 5 heels (To fall madly in love)
 10 blue (The letter arrived unexpectedly)
 11 silver (He was born into a rich family)
 12 stick (You've misunderstood me completely)
 13 inside (Someone who worked at the bank had helped to plan and carry out the robbery)
 16 fire (They get on really well together)
 17 swing (It's very small)

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