

LESSON 3

To pick out: to choose, to select (S)

- Ann picked out a good book to give to her brother as a graduation gift.
- Johnny, if you want me to buy you a toy, then pick one out now.

To take one's (my, his, your, etc.) time: to do without rush, not to hurry

This idiom is often used in the imperative form. (See the first example.)

- There's no need to hurry doing those exercises. Take your time.
- William never works rapidly. He always takes his time in everything that he does.

There's no rush—take your time

To talk over: to discuss or consider a situation with others (S) to discuss something thoroughly, especially in order to reach an agreement or make a decision

- We talked over Carlo's plan to install an air conditioner in the room, but we couldn't reach a decision.
- Before I accepted the new job offer, I talked the matter over with my wife.

You'll find it helpful to talk things over with a friend.

They talked over the proposal and decided to give it their approval.

To lie down: to place oneself in a flat position, to recline

- If you are tired, why don't you lie down for an hour or so?
- The doctor says that Grace must lie down and rest for a short time every afternoon.

to stand up: to rise from a sitting or lying position (also: to get up)

- When the president entered the room, everyone stood up.
- Suzy, stop rolling around on the floor; get up now.

To sit down: to be seated (also: to take a seat) = take your weight off your feet

- We sat down on the park bench and watched the children play.
- There aren't any more chairs, but you can take a seat on the floor.

All (day, week, month, year) long: the entire day, week, month, year

- I've been working on my income tax forms all day long. I've hardly had time to eat.
- It's been raining all week long. We haven't seen the sun since last Monday.

By oneself: alone, without assistance

- Francis translated that French novel by himself. No one helped him.
- Paula likes to walk through the woods by herself, but her brother prefers to walk with a companion.

On purpose: for a reason, deliberately

This idiom is usually used when someone does something wrong or unfair.

- Do you think that she didn't come to the meeting on purpose?
- It was no accident that he broke my glasses. He did it on purpose.

He did it on purpose, knowing it would annoy her.

To get along with someone (something): to associate or work well with; to succeed or manage in doing (also: to get on with someone or something) have a friendly relationship with somebody

- Terry isn't getting along with her new roommate; they argue constantly.
- How are you getting on with your studies?

She's never really got on with her sister.

She and her sister have never really got well on with each other.

We get along with fine each other.

To make a difference (to someone): to be of importance (to), to affect

This idiom is often used with adjectives to show the degree of importance.

- It makes a big difference to me whether he likes the food I serve.
- Does it make any difference to you where we go for dinner?
- No, it doesn't make any difference.
- It makes no difference to Lisa either.

To take out: to remove, to extract (S); to go on a date with (S) (also: to go out with) lấy ra, hẹn hò

- Students, take out your books and open them to page twelve.
- Did you take Sue out last night?
- No, she couldn't go out with me.

Take off

1. to remove something, especially a piece of clothing from your/somebody's body

- Remember to take off your shoes before entering the temple.
- He took off my wet boots and made me sit by the fire.

2. To have a period of time as a break from work.

- I've decided to take a few days off next week.

3. To stop a public service, television program, performances of a show.

- The show was taken off because of poor audience figures.

4. To remove some of somebody's hair, part of somebody's body.

- The hairdresser asked me how much she should take off.
- The explosion nearly took his arm off.

LESSON 4

to take part in: to be involved in, to participate in (also: to be in on)

- Martin was sick and could not take part in the meeting yesterday.
- I didn't want to be in on their argument, so I remained silent.

at all: to any degree (also: in the least) (không gì hết, một chút nào)

This idiom is used with the negative to add emphasis to a statement.

- Larry isn't at all shy about expressing his opinions.
- When I asked Donna whether she was tired, she said, "Not in the least. I'm full of energy."

to look up: to locate information in a directory, dictionary, book, etc. (S)

- Ellen suggested that we look up Lee's telephone number in the directory.
- Students should try to understand the meaning of a new word from context before looking the word up in the dictionary.

to wait on someone: to serve in a store or restaurant

- A very pleasant young clerk waited on me in that shop.
- The restaurant waitress asked us, "Has anyone waited on you yet?"

at least: a minimum of, no fewer (or less) than

- I spend at least two hours every night on my studies.
- Mike claims that he drinks at least a quart of water every day.

so far: until now, until the present time (also: up to now, as of yet)

This idiom is usually used with the present perfect tense.

- So far, this year has been excellent for business. I hope that the good luck continues.

- How many idioms have we studied in this book up to now?

- As of yet, we have not had an answer from him.

to take a walk, stroll, hike, etc.: to go for a walk, stroll, hike, etc

A stroll involves slow, easy walking; a hike involves serious, strenuous walking.

- Last evening we took a walk around the park.

- It's a fine day. Would you like to take a stroll along Mason Boulevard?

- Let's take a hike up Cowles Mountain this afternoon.

to take a trip (to): to go on a journey, to travel

- I'm so busy at work that I have no time to take a trip.

- During the summer holidays, the Thompsons took a trip to Europe.

to try on: to wear clothes to check the style or fit before buying (S)

- He tried on several suits before he picked out a blue one.

- Why don't you try these shoes on next?

to think over: to consider carefully before deciding (S)

- I'd like to think over your offer first. Then can we talk it over tomorrow?

- You don't have to give me your decision now. Think it over for a while.

- The regular meetings of the committee take place in Constitution Hall.

- I thought that the celebration was taking place at John's house.

to put away: to remove from sight, to put in the proper place (S)

- Please put away your papers before you open the test booklet.

- John put the notepad away in his desk when he was finished with it.

to put up = build a building or structure means to erect.

- Where the old theatre used to be, they have put up a new apartment block.

- They're putting up a new sports stadium just outside the town.

to put up with = tolerate chịu đựng

- I can't put up with my neighbor's noise any longer; it's driving me mad.

- I can put up with the house being untidy, but I hate it if it's not clean.

- He's so moody - I don't know why she puts up with him.

- How has Jan put up with him for so long?

- I will not put up with your bad behavior any longer!

from time to time = now and then = occasionally = sometimes

out of date = obsolete = too old

Out of work (jobless, unemployed): thất nghiệp

Out of order (not functioning): hư, không hoạt động

By the way (incidentally): tiện thể

By far (considerably): rất, rất nhiều

By accident (by mistake): ngẫu nhiên, không cố ý

On the whole (in general): nói chung, đại khái.

On sale: bán giảm giá

This book is **by far** the best on the subject.

Nobody will receive a check on Friday because the wrong cards were put into the computer **by accident**.

On the whole, the rescue mission was well executed.

