



ENGLISH VOCABULARY BUILDER

IDIOMS WITH "FIRE"

BY AMY SMITH



A comprehensive vocabulary learning plan that includes reading and writing practice, as well as error correction and review exercises.

LEVEL B1 AND BEYOND

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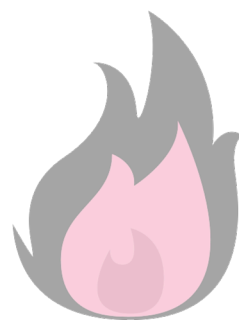
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GET IN TOUCH

Contact me or arrange a lesson.

Idioms Connected To "Fire"

Read the text and find 10 idioms.:



Burning Ambition

My brother is an actor. We have always got on like a house on fire, but some people do not find him so easy to get along with - this made it difficult for him to become successful...

He had always had a burning ambition, but was very often shot down in flames. This was usually due to his fiery temper. His first audition in particular was a disaster...

It started out okay , but then the director made a suggestion for improvement. My brother didn't like this, and very soon sparks began to fly. He knew that he was playing with fire arguing with the director, but he just could not control his temper. What started as a heated discussion, soon turned into a blazing row right on the stage in front of everyone. This row ended with the director saying that even though my brother had some talent, he was never going to set the world on fire. He left the audition feeling disappointed and angry with himself, his plans to become an actor seemed to have completely gone up in smoke. He realised that to become successful he needed to learn how to control his temper.

Fast forward to now and there has been some improvement, he has even just recently got his first acting role!

However time will tell how long he can keep his temper under control..



Did you find them all?



To get on like a house on fire

To have a burning ambition

To be shot down in flames

A fiery temper

Sparks (began to) fly

To play with fire

A heated discussion

A blazing row

To set the world on fire

To go up in smoke

TOP TIP!

Always check the way that the idioms are used in a sentence, this will help you identify whether they are used as a verb or noun etc.



Exercise 1

Using the context of the text to help you, match the idioms to their meanings:

To get on like a house on fire

To have a burning ambition

To be shot down in flames

A fiery temper

Sparks (begin to) fly

To play with fire

A heated discussion

A blazing row

To set the world on fire

To go up in smoke

The tendency to become angry, quickly

An angry, animated conversation or dispute

To get along well/have a good relationship

(To start) a heated encounter; an argument with

To be strongly criticised or rejected

To do something remarkable / be very successful

To be destroyed / come to nothing

To have a strong need or desire to do something

To take careless risks/ do something dangerous

A noisy and intense argument



Notes



DID YOU KNOW

The use of idioms varies greatly depending on anything from geographical region to personal preference. This sometimes makes it difficult to say whether an idiom is "common" or not.



TOP TIP

Don't just write long lists of unconnected words in your notebook. Try to record new vocabulary in logical groups, for example with expressions, situations in which you can use them.



Exercise 2

Put the dialogue in the correct order:

☐ "Yes, you'd certainly be playing with fire if you had to cut people open all day! You can't do that if there is a risk of you fainting!"

☐ "Not at all. We've both got fiery tempers, so sparks often fly! It keeps things interesting!"



☒ 1. "Hi Phill, how's it going? I haven't seen you for ages! I remember we used to get on like a house on fire in college."

☐ "Each to their own! What works for one doesn't work for another. Although saying that, I should probably get home! It was great seeing you Phill!"


☐ "I wouldn't know about that, I'd be shot down in flames if I disagreed with my wife! We have the odd heated discussion here and there, but that's about all."

☐ "Oh dear, nothing serious I hope...?"






"You're right, I did! However, all my plans went up in smoke when my sister broke her leg in a horse riding accident. It was a particularly gruesome injury and I was completely useless! I just could not deal with all the blood and I knew then that I wouldn't be able to set the world on fire as a surgeon!"



"Hi Matt, yes we did! I can't believe it's been so long! I'm good thanks, I've just started a new job in medicine."




"I'm alright thanks. Actually I've just had a blazing row with the wife, so I've come out for a walk."



"Absolutely right! So I decided to work for a pharmaceutical company instead, in sales - a much safer bet! Anyway, how are you?"



"You too Matt, let's hope it's not so long next time!"



"Oh yes, I remember that you always had a burning ambition to become a surgeon!"



Exercise 3

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the idioms.
Add any other words necessary to make the sentence correct.

REMEMBER!

Pay attention to the form of the idiom when putting it in a sentence.

1. I'm devastated. I was so confident that I could win the dance competition, but now I've broken my leg my plans..... completely
2. Our boss has got such that we are afraid to say the wrong thing.
3. It may be unusual, but me and my sister have always We have a great relationship!
4. Felix has always to become a journalist.
5. Emma has a terrible voice. She's never going with her singing skills.
6. Paul knew he arguing with his teacher, but he just hated being told what to do.
7. I hated my co-worker from the moment we met. right at the first meeting.
8. "Why is it so tense in here?" We and we can't even look at each other right now.
9. I'm so embarrassed. I just asked that girl out at the bar but she completely
10. We can't talk about politics in my family without it turning into

To get on like a house on fire
To have a burning ambition
To be shot down in flames
A fiery temper
Sparks (begin to) fly

To play with fire
A heated discussion
A blazing row
To set the world on fire
To go up in smoke



Exercise 4

Now, have a go at writing your own sentences with the idioms:

1.

2.

3..

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

To get on like a house on fire
To have a burning ambition
To be shot down in flames
A fiery temper
Sparks (begin to) fly

To play with fire
A heated discussion
A blazing row
To set the world on fire
To go up in smoke



Notes

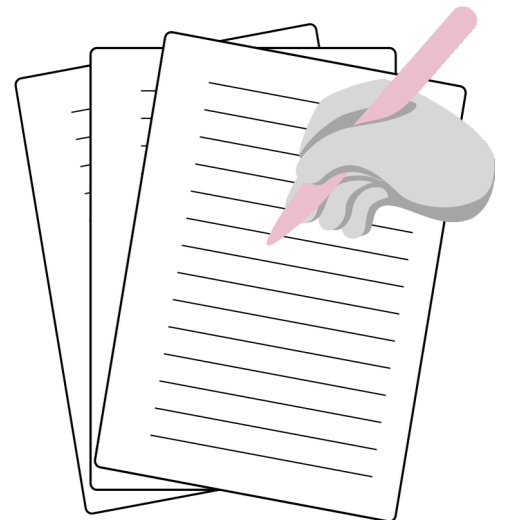


Exercise 6

Continue the story below using all of the idioms.

Amelia had always wanted to be an author.....

Handwriting practice lines for the story continuation. The lines are organized into two groups of five lines each, with alternating dark grey and light grey lines. The first group contains ten lines, and the second group contains five lines.





Handwriting practice lines consisting of alternating dark grey and light grey horizontal bars.



Exercise 7

BE CAREFUL!

Not all mistakes
will be connected
to the idioms!

Can you correct the mistakes in these sentences?
Each sentence has one mistake.
You can use the following page to write any notes.

1. You were playing with fire. Stop that now!

2. Every time we talk, it turns into a heated conversation

3. We have always got on like a house on fire, until we had that argument.

4. If we haven't had that blazing row, we'd still be friends today.

5. You've got such fiery temper!

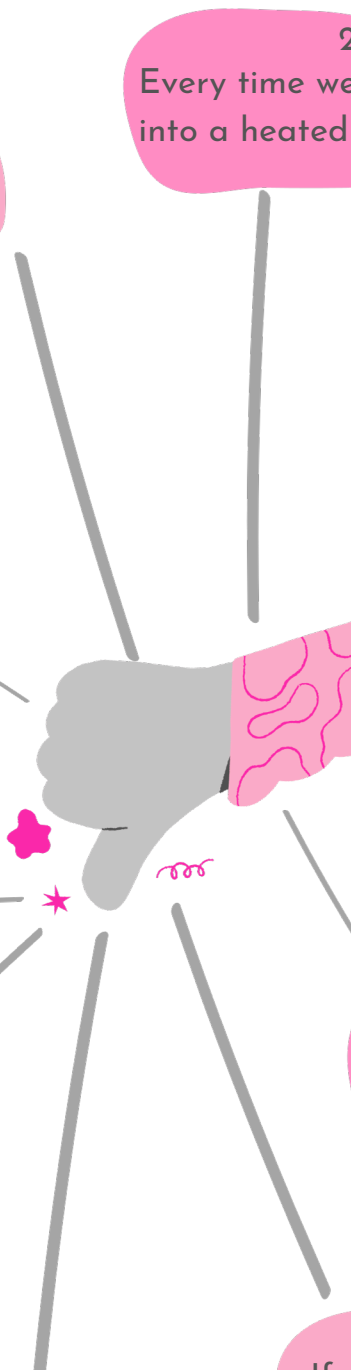
6. If you keep behaving like that, your whole world will be going up in smoke.

7. He has always had a burning dream to become a musician.

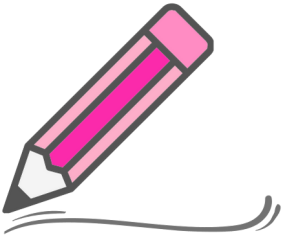
8. Look at them talking angry with each other. Sparks will certainly fly next time they meet!

9. I asked my boss for a pay rise, but I was shot down in fire.

10. You've certainly got talent! You will have definitely set the world on fire.



Notes



DID YOU KNOW...?


It is fine to make mistakes in English!

Try to focus more on communication,
and getting your point across.

Put more emphasis on those mistakes
that prevent you from doing this.



Memory Game



to get on	like a house on fire
to have a	burning ambition
to be shot	down in flames
a fiery	temper
sparks	fly
to play	with fire
a heated	discussion
a blazing	row
to set the	world on fire
to go up	in smoke

Instructions

1. Cut out all of the idioms.
2. Place them all face down.
3. Turn over two at a time, trying to make the complete phrase. For extra practice, say the definition of each idiom after you have matched it.



Language Review

Memory Sheet

Adapted from: thisreadingmama.com

Printable
Activity

Do this review about one month after your first contact with the idioms..

To get on like a house on fire

My definition:

Picture to help me remember:

Example sentence:

Synonyms:



Language Review

Printable
Activity

Memory Sheet

Adapted from: thisreadingmama.com

To have a burning ambition

My definition:

Picture to help me remember:

Example sentence:

Synonyms:



Language Review

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To be shot down in flames

My definition:

Picture to help me remember:

Example sentence:

Synonyms:



Language Review

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Printable
Activity

A fiery temper

My definition:

Picture to help me remember:

Example sentence:

Synonyms:



Language Review

Memory Sheet

Adapted from: thisreadingmama.com

Printable
Activity

Sparks fly

My definition:

Picture to help me remember:

Example sentence:

Synonyms:



Language Review

Memory Sheet

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Printable
Activity

To play with fire

My definition:

Picture to help me remember:

Example sentence:

Synonyms:



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A heated discussion

My definition:

Picture to help me remember:

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A blazing row

My definition:

Picture to help me remember:

Example sentence:

Synonyms:



Language Review

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Activity

Memory Sheet

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To set the world on fire

My definition:

Picture to help me remember:

Example sentence:

Synonyms:



Language Review

Memory Sheet

Adapted from: thisreadingmama.com

Printable
Activity

To go up in smoke

My definition:

Picture to help me remember:

Example sentence:

Synonyms:



Answer Key

Exercise 1:

To get on like a house on fire	To get along well/have a good relationship
To have a burning ambition	To have a strong need or desire to do something
To be shot down in flames	To be strongly criticised or rejected
A fiery temper	The tendency to become angry, quickly
Sparks (began to) fly	(To start) a heated encounter; an argument with
To play with fire	To take careless risks/ do something dangerous
A heated discussion	An angry, animated conversation or dispute
A blazing row	A noisy and intense argument
To set the world on fire	To do something remarkable / be very successful
To go up in smoke	To be destroyed / come to nothing

Exercise 2:

"Hi Phill, how's it going? I haven't seen you for ages! I remember we used to get on like a house on fire in college."

"Hi Matt, yes we did! I can't believe it's been so long! I'm good thanks, I've just started a new job in medicine."

"Oh yes, I remember that you always had a burning ambition to become a surgeon!"

"You're right, I did! However, all my plans went up in smoke when my sister broke her leg in a horse riding accident. It was a particularly gruesome injury and I was completely useless! I just could not deal with all the blood and I knew then that I wouldn't be able to set the world on fire as a surgeon!"

"Yes, you'd certainly be playing with fire if you had to cut people open all day! You can't do that if there is a risk of you fainting!"

"Absolutely right! So I decided to work for a pharmaceutical company instead, in sales - a much safer bet! Anyway, how are you?"

"I'm alright thanks. Actually I've just had a blazing row with the wife, so I've come out for a walk."

"Oh dear, nothing serious I hope...?"

"Not at all. We've both got fiery tempers, so sparks often fly! It keeps things interesting!"

"I wouldn't know about that, I'd be shot down in flames if I disagreed with my wife! We have the odd heated discussion here and there, but that's about all."

"Each to their own! What works for one doesn't work for another. Although saying that, I should probably get home! It was great seeing you Phill!"

"You too Matt, let's hope it's not so long next time!"

Exercise 7:

1. You **are** playing with fire. Stop that now!"
2. "Every time we talk, it turns into a heated **discussion**"
3. We'd (**had**) always got on like a house on fire, until we had that argument.
4. If we **hadn't** had that blazing row, we'd still be friends today.
5. You've got such a fiery temper!
6. If you keep behaving like that, your whole world **will go** up in smoke.
7. He has always had a burning **ambition** to become a musician.
8. Look at them talking **angrily** with each other. Sparks will certainly fly next time they meet!
9. I asked my boss for a pay rise, but I was shot down in **flames**.
10. You've certainly got talent! You **will** definitely set the world on fire. / **You're** definitely going to

Exercise 3:

1. have/gone up in smoke
2. a fiery temper
3. got on like a house on fire
4. had a burning ambition
5. to set the world on fire
6. was playing with fire
7. sparks began to fly
8. have just had a blazing row/ heated discussion
9. shot me down in flames
10. a heated discussion/ blazing row

Exercise 4:

You can check your answers to these during your lesson.

Exercise 5:

You can check your answers to these during your lesson.

Exercise 6:

You can check your answers to these during your lesson.

Memory Game:

to get on	like a house on fire
to have a	burning ambition
to be shot	down in flames
a fiery	temper
sparks	fly
to play	with fire
a heated	discussion
a blazing	row
to set the	world on fire
to go up	in smoke

Memory Sheet

This is for your own use and interpretation.



Get In Touch

Now that you have finished the workbook, why not book a lesson with me?

How will this help?

- ★ I can check all of your written answers.
- ★ We can practise the new vocabulary in speaking.
- ★ I can answer any questions you have about the lesson or vocabulary.

You can contact me on the email address below.

info@pinkflamingoenglish.com



Arrange
your lesson
now!!



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