

## Idioms | Lesson 13

let the cat out of the bag | speak of the devil | feel under the weather | beat around the bush | fit as a fiddle

### Example Dialogue

**Olly** : Hi, Diana! I didn't recognize you at first. You're fit as a fiddle now!

**Diana** : Thanks, Olly! Well, you know, I've been working out hard lately.

**Olly** : I see. Is there something going on?

**Diana** : You know... Um...

**Olly** : Please stop beating around the bush! What do you want to say?

**Diana** : I really wanted to look good for Richard.

**Olly** : Is that so? I made you let the cat out of the bag! But, you shouldn't have been so secretive about it.

**Diana** : It's not funny, Olly. You know I'm shy...

**Olly** : Speak of the Devil! Here's Richard!


**Richard**: Hey, guys!

**Olly** : Hi, Rich! You look pale.

**Richard**: Yeah, I feel under the weather. I caught a cold, actually...

**Diana** : You should take better care of your health, Richard!

**Richard**: You're right Diana! Thank you for your concern. (*Sneezes.*)

 **Try to figure out the meaning of these idioms.**

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### Example Passage

Sam Garrot is a salesman who lives in London. His hobby is sports, so he often goes jogging or swimming. He is indeed **fit as a fiddle**. However, this spring he caught an awful cold and was **feeling under the weather**. He was so ill he couldn't even get out of bed. It was the worst time to get a cold, as Sam was planning to organize a party for his girlfriend's birthday.

During these days he called his friend Olly. "Olly..." he mumbled into the phone. "What? What? **Stop beating around the bush!** What's going on Sam?" Olly panicked. Sam finally answered: "Olly, I really need some help. Will you help me organize the party? I can't do it in this state." Olly agreed to help him. "So what do I have to do?" he said. Suddenly the doorbell rang. "**Speak of the devil!**" Olly said looking through the peephole, "It's your girlfriend!" Sam stood up and said: "If you **let the cat out of the bag** about the party, I will be so angry! " Olly laughed: "Don't worry, I won't! Open the door already."

**!** Again, try to figure out the meaning of these idioms.

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### Definitions

**let the cat out of the bag** | reveal a secret carelessly or by mistake

*The present was supposed to be a surprise but Dan **let the cat out of the bag**.*

*Now that Hiro had **let the cat out of the bag**, he had to confess to his crime.*

**speak of the devil** | said when a person appears just after being mentioned.

*A: Miranda lost a lot of weight this year. B: **Speak of the devil!** Here she goes.*

*Let's go say hi.*

**feel under the weather** | to feel ill

*I'm feeling **under the weather** today; you'll have to go to the beach alone.*

*She was a bit **under the weather** yesterday, but seems to be recovering nicely.*

**beat around the bush** | avoid talking about important topics or answering a question

*Stop **beating around the bush** and tell me what happened.*

**fit as a fiddle** | in very good health

*Although Mr. Goro is 70 years old, he is still **fit as a fiddle**.*

*Drink plenty of liquids and you'll be **fit as a fiddle** in no time.*

*Make sure you can understand the meaning of these idioms.*

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### Practice

Fill in the blanks with the correct **idioms** (in the correct form) to complete the dialogue.

1 | So Marcus told her.. \_\_\_\_\_! There goes Marcus.

2 | I'm always sick in winter, but my sister never gets sick – she's \_\_\_\_\_.

3 | I really didn't want Sally to know, but Chris \_\_\_\_\_.

4 | I \_\_\_\_\_ today... I think I got a cold.

5 | If you eat healthy and exercise you'll be \_\_\_\_\_.

6 | Mia was \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday, so Marcus took some medicine to her house.

7 | I hate it when Jack \_\_\_\_\_ instead of talking about serious matters!

8 | Well, \_\_\_\_\_, here's Carrie now!

9 | Shhh! Keep quiet about that! You don't want to \_\_\_\_\_, do you?

10 | Stop \_\_\_\_\_ and tell me what you're thinking about!



**APPLICATION:** Create your own sentences using these idioms.

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### Exercise

Fill in the blanks with the correct **idioms** (in the correct form) to complete the dialogue.

**Luke** : Hey! How's it going, Tom?

**Tom** : Hi, Luke. I'm feeling \_\_\_\_\_.

**Luke** : Oh. You are usually \_\_\_\_\_. Have you been to the doctor?


**Tom** : No, not yet. How are you?

**Luke** : Well, I'm in trouble. I \_\_\_\_\_ about Trevor's promotion to the other workers. Now he's very mad at me.

**Tom** : No way!

**Luke** : Yeah. He was \_\_\_\_\_ instead of telling everyone openly. To be honest, I didn't even realize he didn't want everyone to know.

**Tom** : I see. \_\_\_\_\_! Here's Trevor. How about you just go and apologize now?

 **APPLICATION:** Create your own dialogue using these idioms.

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