

## Idioms | Lesson 22

**A night owl | Drink like a fish | Lion's share | Eyes like a hawk | Take the bull by the horns**

### Example Dialogue

**Robyn** : Tom gets a lion's share of the work at the office. I wonder if the boss trusts him more.

**Nora** : Maybe he does. But it's actually stressful for Tom. He drinks like a fish because of it!

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**Jazmin** : Hey! You look tired! Have you been staying up late again? You used to be a night owl as far as I remember.

**Albert** : I thought no one would notice. You've got eyes like a hawk!

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**Sam** : What should I do? The project is a mess!

**Pete** : Well, how about you take the bull by the horns? Take control, this way it will be easier.

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

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### Example Passage

This is the story of how I became a night owl.

I never used to stay up late. However, that changed once I got my new job. At the beginning, I was getting a lion's share of the editing tasks, which I had to finish at home. Obviously, I would stay up late to do everything in time. Back then, I wanted to take the bull by the horns; I wanted to prove to everyone that I was a good worker.

Unfortunately, a colleague started talking to me frequently. She had eyes like a hawk; she managed to notice that I was the sort of person who just couldn't say "no." This woman drank like a fish and used to call me in the evenings and talk about how unlucky she was in love.

When I could finally return to my old regime I had already gotten used to staying up late.



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

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 **Definitions**

**a night owl** | a person who likes to stay up at night

*I always feel more energetic in the evening; I'm **a night owl**!*

*He became **a night owl** in his forties when he got that new mall job.*

**drink like a fish** | drink a lot of alcohol

*Stan **drinks like a fish**!*

*Mark really **drank like a fish** at the party last night.*

**lion's share** | the largest part of something

*He got the **lion's share** of the pizza.*

*Sheila received the **lion's share** of the research money.*

**eyes like a hawk** | someone who has good eyesight

*He's got **eyes like a hawk**; he noticed what earrings she was wearing from afar.*

*Beware of our new boss – he has **eyes like a hawk**.*

**take the bull by the horns** | deal with a problem or a challenge in a direct and fearless way

*The house was falling apart, so she decided to **take the bull by the horns** and renovate it herself.*

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

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### Practice

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

- 1 | I hate mornings because I'm a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 | You \_\_\_\_\_! That's bad for your health.
- 3 | Sometimes you have to \_\_\_\_\_ and control the situation yourself.
- 4 | Heather has \_\_\_\_\_; I sometimes feel like she sees everything!
- 5 | I got a \_\_\_\_\_ of the work; that's not fair!
- 6 | Scott always gets the \_\_\_\_\_ of your time. Spend some time with me, too!
- 7 | I usually work late; I'm a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8 | I wish I had \_\_\_\_\_, but I have bad eyesight.
- 9 | He \_\_\_\_\_ in order to keep the company from going under.
- 10 | She used to \_\_\_\_\_; but now she doesn't even drink wine.




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

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 Exercise

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

(Jeremy is complaining to Catherine.)

**Jeremy** : I'm so tired!

**Catherine** : You? Tired? No way.

**Jeremy** : I am a \_\_\_\_\_, but I'm not Superman. I can't sleep at all.

**Catherine** : (*chuckle*) Sorry! So what's going on? Is it that group project?

**Jeremy** : Yes! I decided to \_\_\_\_\_. But that was a huge mistake. I'm the only one working on it.

**Catherine** : Oh... Now I get why you are stressed. I hope you're not \_\_\_\_\_!

**Jeremy** : (*chuckle*) No!

**Catherine** : Hey, isn't that Jim? He's in your group, right? You should talk to him!

**Jeremy** : You have \_\_\_\_\_! I didn't even notice him.

**Catherine** : Go talk! You'll be doing a \_\_\_\_\_ of the work anyway. He has to do at least something!

**Jeremy** : Ok, I'm leaving. Bye!



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

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