

Angielski na mp3

Idioms Part 1 & 2

Lesson six PROBLEMS

Exercise one

21

Listen.

- 1) **TO STIR THINGS UP** *umyślnie powodować zamęt, zamieszanie*
to deliberately try to have arguments

Melanie is a real troublemaker. She stirs things up wherever she appears.

- 2) **TO POUR OIL ON TROUBLED WATERS** *łagodzić sytuację*
to try to make an angry situation calmer

Sue was really mad at Steve so he tried to pour oil on troubled waters by offering to take her out for a meal.

- 3) **TO LAY ONE'S CARDS ON THE TABLE** *wyłożyć karty na stół*
to tell somebody honestly what you think or plan to do

Chris decided to lay his cards on the table and inform Betty he was in love with someone else.

- 4) **TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THINGS** *dotrzeć do sedna, do prawdy*
to discover the truth about the situation

It is difficult for the police to get to the bottom of this crime as there are no witnesses who could confirm what really happened.

- 5) **TO GET A GRASP** *pojąć coś*
to get the ability to understand something

Sue had few language skills before she left Poland. After she had spent a year in London, they really developed and she got a good grasp of English.

Fragment

6) TO SEE A LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL *zobaczyć światło w tunelu*

to believe that a difficult situation will end

Inflation is still rising but analysts say there is a light at the end of the tunnel and it will start falling before the end of the year.

7) TO SWEEP UNDER THE CARPET *ukrywać problem, zamiast stawić mu czoło*

to try to hide a problem instead of dealing with it

When some people don't know how to deal with a problem they prefer to sweep it under the carpet and pretend not to bother about it.

8) TO BE IN A FIX *być w potrzasku*
to be in a difficult situation

I'm in a real fix. The car doors are locked and the keys are inside.

9) TO BE AT A CROSSROADS *być na rozdrożach*
to be at a crisis, at a turning point in one's life

When Julie divorced her husband, she found herself at a crossroads. She wasn't sure whether she should stay in Spain or go back to Britain.

10) TO FIND A HAPPY MEDIUM *znaleźć złoty środek*
to find a way that is not extreme but is somewhere
between two possible choices

Nowadays it's very difficult for young women to find a happy medium between having a family and a career.