

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.