

Idioms: B

Back to square one

- start over; go back to the beginning

Bark up the wrong tree

- looking for information in the wrong place; asking the wrong person

Be careful what you wish for

- When you wish (or hope) for something, it may not be as good as you think – there may be negative consequences that you hadn't thought of.

Beggars can't be choosers

- If you beg (or ask) for a thing or a favor, then you shouldn't complain about what you get.

Better late than never

- It's better to do something late than to *not* do it at all.

Better safe than sorry

- It's better to be cautious (careful) than to take a risk that you might regret.

Bite your tongue!

- Don't say something that might be rude or inappropriate – keep the words in your mouth, and don't let them out!

Break a leg!

- This is a (funny) way to say "good luck" – we usually say it to someone before a performance or contest.



Give Advice with Idioms!

Using the idioms on the previous page, give advice to these people:

Brad: I really want to drive to my girlfriend's house, but there's a typhoon right now and it's quite dangerous outside.

Advice: _____

Betty: My brother is so mean! He just kicked me and threw water in my face! I hope he gets hit by a car!

Advice: _____

Beth: *Mom, can I have 20 dollars?*

Mom: *Absolutely not.*

Beth: *Pleeeeeeease! I need to buy a new cell phone!*

Mom: No way.

Beth: *But Mommmmm. . . all my friends have new cell phones!*

Mom: Too bad. I don't care.

Advice to Beth: _____

Now, look at the advice given, and think of a situation that would cause someone to give that advice:

Brian: _____

Advice: It's better late than never!

Bob: _____

Advice: Break a leg!

Britney: _____

Advice: Bite your tongue!