

“BLACK PETER” GAME

1. Introduction

From my own teaching experience I have noticed how enthusiastic students are about using games during the lesson. However, apart from the fact that games are one of the most enjoyable classroom activities, they “provide an opportunity for intensive language practise” (Hadfield 1990: VII) and are successful methods of language presentation and revision. They enrich classroom activities but at the same time focus student attention on specific structures, grammatical patterns and vocabulary items, hence their great educational value. W.R. Lee holds that “most language games make learners use the language instead of thinking about learning the correct forms” (Lee 1995: 35). They are also highly motivating because they are amusing and at the same time challenging. However, since games are used not only for mere fun, but more importantly, for the useful practice and review of language lessons, games should be suitable and carefully-chosen.

The game described below is based on a simple children’s card game called “Black Peter” [„Czarny Piotruś” in Polish], which consists of ‘pairs’ and one additional card without a pair called Black Peter. The aim of the game is to discard of the cards by collecting pairs and the person left with the Black Peter is the loser.

2. Objectives

As the sets of cards cover very different areas of using language, they will be applicable to students who are at intermediate, upper-intermediate and advanced levels. The objectives of the games will also vary and include:

1. increasing and practising the student’s vocabulary (e.g. sets 1, 2, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12);
2. reviewing vocabulary items and specific structures (e.g. sets 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12);
3. introducing new topics and raising student interest (e.g. sets 3, 4, 5);
4. stimulating discussion through the use of quotations on specific topics (e.g. sets 3, 4, 5);

5. providing practise in the use of specific structures (e.g. set 8);
6. providing entertainment (e.g. set 13), especially after covering topics related to humour.

3. Method

I suggest the following procedure:

1. Divide the students into groups of four.
2. Copy, cut up and shuffle the 25 cards for each group.
3. The cards are dealt out to all the players in the group (in groups of four three students get six cards and one student gets seven).
4. Students check if they have any pairs, if so, they put them on the desk and read aloud so that other students can check if the pair is correct.
5. Each player takes turns offering his hand facedown to the person on his left. That person selects a card and adds it to his or her hand. This player then sees if the selected card makes a pair with their original cards. If so, the pair is discarded. The player who just took a card then offers his or her hand to the person on their left and so on.
6. Students continue to take cards, discarding pairs, until one is left with "Black Peter".

The following pages include sets covering these items:

1. British and American English 1.
2. British and American English 2.
3. Happiness quotations.
4. Friendship quotations.
5. Money quotations.
6. Phrasal verbs with 'up'.
7. Comparisons with 'as..as..' and 'like'.
8. Reporting verbs.
9. Health and medicine – key words.
10. Body idioms.
11. Animal idioms.
12. Word formation – nouns.
13. Jokes.

4. Final remarks

The game described above involves competition, as the players race to be the first to reach the goal. It usually keeps all the students interested and involved in the activity. This involvement is undoubtedly the key factor facilitating students' learn-

ing process, following Benjamin Franklin's words, "Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn".

Bibliography

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1. British and American English 1.

GASOLINE	PETROL	TRUCK	LORRY	SIDEWALK
PAVEMENT	LINE	QUEUE	PARKING LOT	CAR PARK

FREEWAY	MOTORWAY	ROUND TRIP	RETURN	SUBWAY
UNDERGROUND	ELEVATOR	LIFT	ERASER	RUBBER
APARTMENT	FLAT	CLOSET	WARDROBE	\$ £

2. British and American English 2.

YARD	GARDEN	DRAPES	CURTAINS	COOKIE
BISCUIT	CANDY	SWEETS	REST ROOM	TOILET

GARBAGE	RUBBISH	DIAPER	NAPPY	FRENCH FRIES
CHIPS	UNDERSHIRT	VEST	VEST	WAISTCOAT
PANTS	TROUSERS	SILVERWARE	CUTLERY	£ \$

3. Happiness quotations.

<p>The secret of happiness is ...</p>	<p>... to make others believe they are the cause of it. – <i>A/ Batt</i></p>	<p>Happiness is nothing more than good health ...</p>	<p>... and a bad memory.– <i>Albert Schweitzer</i></p>	<p>A lifetime of happiness! No man alive could bear it: ...</p>
<p>... it would be hell on earth. – <i>George Bernard Shaw</i></p>	<p>Happiness is having a large, loving, caring, close-knit family ...</p>	<p>... in another city. – <i>George Burns</i></p>	<p>I am happy and content because ...</p>	<p>... I think I am. – <i>Alain-René Lesage</i></p>

Indeed, man wishes to be happy even when he so lives ...	... as to make happiness impossible. – <i>St Augustine</i>	When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that ...	... we do not see the one which has been opened for us. – <i>Helen Keller</i>	Happiness always looks small while you hold it in your hands, but ...
... let it go, and you learn at once how big and precious it is. – <i>Maxim Gorky</i>	If there were in the world today any large number of people who desired their own happiness more than they desired the unhappiness of others, ...	... we could have paradise in a few years. – <i>Bertrand Russell</i>	When a man has lost all happiness, he's not alive. ...	... Call him a breathing corpse. – <i>Sophocles</i>
Happiness is not having what you want, but ...	... wanting what you have. – <i>Rabbi Hyman Judah Schachte</i>	The grand essentials to happiness in this life are ...	... something to do, something to love, and something to hope for. – <i>Joseph Addison Light</i>	If we cannot live so as to be happy, let us at least live so as to deserve it. – <i>Immanuel Hermann Fichte</i>

4. Friendship quotations.

<p>A friend is one who knows us, but ...</p>	<p>... loves us anyway. – <i>Fr. Jerome Cummings</i></p>	<p>A true friend is someone who thinks that you are a good egg even though ...</p>	<p>... he knows that you are slightly cracked.” – <i>Bernard Meltzer.</i></p>	<p>What is a friend? ...</p>
<p>... A single soul dwelling in two bodies. – <i>Aristotle</i></p>	<p>Don't walk in front of me, I may not follow. Don't walk behind me, I may not lead. ...</p>	<p>... Just walk beside me and be my friend. – <i>Albert Camus</i></p>	<p>A real friend is one who walks in when ...</p>	<p>... the rest of the world walks out. – <i>Walter Winchell</i></p>

Count your age with friends ...	... but not with years – <i>Anonymous</i>	The only way to have a friend ...	... is to be one. – <i>Ralph Waldo Emerson</i>	In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but ...
... the silence of our friends. – <i>Martin Luther King, Jr.</i>	Everyone hears what you say. Friends listen to what you say. ...	... Best friends listen to what you don't say. – <i>Anonymous</i>	To find a friend one must close one eye; ...	... To keep him, two. <i>Norman Douglas</i>
It is easier to forgive an enemy ...	... than to forgive a friend. <i>William Blake</i>	Love is blind, ...	... but friendship closes its eyes. – <i>Anonymous</i>	Good friends, good books and a sleepy conscience: this is the ideal life. <i>Mark Twain</i>

5. Money quotations.

<p>Money can't buy you happiness, ...</p>	<p>... but it does bring you a more pleasant form of misery. – <i>Spike Milligan</i></p>	<p>It's good to have money and the things that money can buy, ...</p>	<p>... but it's good, too, to check up once in a while and make sure you haven't lost the things money can't buy. – <i>George Lorimer</i></p>	<p>Lack of money ...</p>
<p>... is the root of all evil. – <i>George Bernard Shaw</i></p>	<p>With money in your pocket, ...</p>	<p>... you are wise and you are handsome and you sing well too. – <i>Yiddish Proverb</i></p>	<p>Money often ...</p>	<p>... costs too much. – <i>Ralph Waldo Emerson</i></p>

<p>When it's a question of money, ...</p>	<p>... everybody is of the same religion. – <i>Voltaire</i></p>	<p>Money is better than poverty, ...</p>	<p>... if only for financial reasons. – <i>Woody Allen</i></p>	<p>When a man tells you that he got rich through hard work, ...</p>
<p>... ask him: 'Whose?' – <i>Don Marquis</i></p>	<p>What's the use of happiness? ...</p>	<p>... It can't buy you money – <i>Henny Youngman</i></p>	<p>Money never made a man happy yet, nor will it. There is nothing in its nature to produce happiness. ...</p>	<p>... The more a man has, the more he wants. Instead of filling a vacuum, it makes one. – <i>Benjamin Franklin</i></p>
<p>If you want to know what God thinks of money, ...</p>	<p>... just look at the people he gave it to. – <i>Dorothy Parker</i></p>	<p>Save a little money each month and ...</p>	<p>... at the end of the year you'll be surprised at how little you have. <i>Ernest Haskins</i></p>	<p>€€€€€€€€€€€€€€€€ The only way not to think about money is to have a great deal of it. – <i>Edith Wharton</i> €€€€€€€€€€€€€€€€</p>

6. Phrasal verbs with 'up'.

<p>BROKE UP</p> <p>The mother felt depressed when her only son was two weeks after war broke out.</p>	<p>Jim and Helen after 20 years of living together.</p>	<p>BROUGHT UP</p>	<p>The question of fighting pollution was at the meeting on Monday.</p>	<p>CALLED UP</p>
<p>COOKING UP</p>	<p>She's really good at excuses for not attending classes and lectures.</p>	<p>DREW UP</p>	<p>When a taxi at the gate, I knew that he had finally arrived.</p>	

<p>DO UP</p>	<p>..... your shoes or you'll fall over the laces.</p>	<p>EATING UP</p>	<p>Unfortunately, rising costs were most of our profits.</p>	<p>HELD UP</p>
<p>I was late for work, having been by the traffic.</p>	<p>HUSHED UP</p>	<p>The whole affair had been by the government; however, the truth was finally brought to light.</p>	<p>JOINED UP</p>	<p>My brothers at the beginning of the war.</p>
<p>SHOWED UP</p>	<p>Although we invited about 50 guests, only 20</p>	<p>THROW UP</p>	<p>Just the idea of going there makes me want to</p>	<p>There are so many phrasal verbs in English that you have to brush up on them regularly.</p>

7. Comparisons with 'as...as...' and 'like'.

<p>AS BLIND AS A BAT</p>	<p>I'm afraid I can't read this small print – I'm without my glasses.</p>	<p>A BRAIN LIKE A SIEVE</p>	<p>I've forgotten to bring you the CD again. I've got</p>	<p>SLEEP LIKE A LOG</p>
<p>After a hard day's work, I usually</p>	<p>LIKE A RED RAG TO A BULL</p>	<p>Mentioning his ex-wife's name is He always gets furious.</p>	<p>AS DEAF AS A POST</p>	<p>I think you'll have to shout – he's</p>

<p>AS RED AS A BEETROOT</p>	<p>As soon as he'd said it, he felt so embarrassed that his face turned</p>	<p>LIKE A BEAR WITH A SORE HEAD</p>	<p>She didn't even dare to ask him – he was all day.</p>	<p>LIKE A BULL IN A CHINA SHOP</p>
<p>Her living room with its delicate furniture and knick-knacks made him feel</p>	<p>AS FRESH AS A DAISY</p>	<p>Even at the end of the day she always looks lively and</p>	<p>AS FLAT AS A PANCAKE</p>	<p>There aren't any hills in that area, it's and you can see for miles.</p>
<p>AS DRUNK AS A LORD</p>	<p>He came back from the party</p>	<p>AS DIFFERENT AS CHALK AND CHEESE</p>	<p>Although they are brothers, their personality and appearance are</p>	<p>English idioms are AS EASY AS PIE</p>

8. Reporting verbs.

He me to close the windows before leaving the house.	REFUSED	He to help me with the shopping.	ENCOURAGED
REMINDED	He me of stealing his mobile phone.	BOASTED	He me to apply for the job, saying I was really an ideal candidate.
He about being the best footballer in the team.	ACCUSED		

He me not to leave him alone.	COMMANDER	He to me of heaving a terrible headache.	THREATENED	He to kill us all if we didn't obey his orders.
He me not to touch the wires as it could result in electrocution.	BEGGED	He having taken my bag, but I still didn't believe him.	COMPLAINED	He suggested learning the reporting verbs first and then going to the cinema.
He them to give him all their money and then lie on the floor.	WARNED	He that it was the most beautiful view he had ever seen.	EXCLAIMED	DENIED

9. Health and medicine – key words.

<p>She's allergic to strawberries and whenever she eats them she gets a nasty on her skin.</p>	<p>RASH</p>	<p>She was prescribed a course of to treat the pneumonia.</p>	<p>INJECTIONS</p>	<p>It's so hot here that I'd rather go outside. I feel as if I was going to</p>
<p>FAINT</p>	<p>I had such a terrible toothache that my face was badly</p>	<p>SWOLLEN</p>	<p>There's no such thing as an ideal drug; there are always some that you can suffer from during treatment.</p>	<p>SIDE EFFECTS</p>

<p>We are sorry to inform you that the disease is and we can only lessen the pain.</p>	<p>INCURABLE</p>	<p>During early spring a lot of children flu and classrooms are almost empty.</p>	<p>GO DOWN WITH</p>	<p>The paramedics carried the injured woman to the ambulance on a</p>
<p>STRETCHER</p>	<p>I banged into the shelf so hard that I got an ugly purple on my arm.</p>	<p>BRUISE</p>	<p>It wasn't a good idea to wear those new shoes – now my feet are covered with</p>	<p>BLISTERS</p>
<p>Flu is a highly disease, as it can be easily passed from one person to another.</p>	<p>INFECTIOUS</p>	<p>I've been bitten by mosquitoes and now my arms and legs are so terribly that I can't stop scratching them.</p>	<p>ITCHING</p>	<p>All those new words are giving me a headache.</p>

10. Body idioms.

<p>I've just dropped another cup. I seem this morning.</p>	<p>TO BE ALL FINGERS AND THUMBS</p>	<p>It will to spend two weeks in a four-star hotel in Egypt.</p>	<p>COST YOU AN ARM AND A LEG</p>	<p>If we really, we could finish the work today.</p>
<p>PUT OUR BACK INTO IT</p>	<p>Swimming – she's an excellent swimmer, like her mother.</p>	<p>IS IN HER BLOOD</p>	<p>..... to hear some politicians lying through their teeth.</p>	<p>IT MAKES MY BLOOD BOIL</p>

<p>Politics is in my family. My mother supports the right-wing parties, whereas my father has the leftist views.</p>	<p>A BONE OF CONTENTION</p>	<p>I've just had a and think I've found the solution to that problem. Just listen!</p>	<p>BRAINWAVE</p>	<p>Let's not make any plans. We'll see what the weather's like and just</p>
<p>PLAY IT BY EAR</p> <p>I really when I said I didn't like the poem. The author turned out to be sitting right beside me!</p>	<p>Don't try and It won't work with me – I know you too well.</p>	<p>PULL THE WOOL OVER MY EYES</p>	<p>Everybody found it very difficult to when the lecturer's glasses fell off the end of his nose.</p>	<p>KEEP A STRAIGHT FACE</p>
<p>PUT MY FOOT IN IT</p>	<p>Having passed all their exams, they decided to and have a party.</p>	<p>LET THEIR HAIR DOWN</p>	<p>Don't lose heart – I'm sure you'll soon master these idioms.</p>	<p>Let's not make any plans. We'll see what the weather's like and just</p>

11. Animal idioms.

<p>Not very big?! The flat's so small there isn't</p>	<p>ENOUGH ROOM TO SWING A CAT</p>	<p>You really when you told him about the party. It was going to be a surprise!</p>	<p>LET THE CAT OUT OF THE BAG</p>	<p>She's already planning how to spend the money before she's even earned it. That's typical of Jane -</p>
<p>COUNTING HER CHICKENS BEFORE THEY'RE HATCHED</p>	<p>He shows no interest in other people and never seems to be moved by emotions. He's a real</p>	<p>COLD FISH</p>	<p>I got the news, SO it must be true. The manager himself told me about it.</p>	<p>FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH</p>

<p>I think they're involved in some importing used cars.</p>	<p>MONKEY BUSINESS</p>	<p>Personally, I here. The story is definitely unconvincing.</p>	<p>SMELL A RAT</p>	<p>Although it took me almost a whole day to clean up the mess, the party was a huge success and everybody had</p>
<p>A WHALE OF A TIME</p>	<p>I don't trust Mark. He is always so kind and helpful but I have the feeling that he's</p>	<p>A WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING</p>	<p>I tried so many times to persuade Kate to be more patient, but in vain.</p>	<p>A LEOPARD CAN'T CHANGE HIS SPOTS</p>
<p>I'm afraid you'll have to write your essay again – this one is a</p>	<p>DOG'S BREAKFAST</p>	<p>Let's and tell the boss we're expecting a pay rise.</p>	<p>TAKE THE BULL BY THE HORNS</p>	<p>We'll have to be up with the lark tomorrow morning and learn all those idioms for the test.</p>

12. Word formation – nouns.

FLEXIBILITY	ADMISSION	WEAKNESS	REPLACEMENT	LAZINESS
GENEROSITY	BOREDOM	DEPTH	REFUSAL	CURIOSITY

IMPRISONMENT	GRATER	flexible	admit	weak
replace	lazy	generous	boring	deep
refuse	curious	imprison	grate	WORD FORMATION

13. Jokes.

<p>The professor rapped on his desk and shouted: 'Gentlemen – order!' ...</p>	<p>...The entire class yelled: 'Beer!'</p>	<p>– I eat in a different restaurant every night!....</p>	<p>...– I don't give tips either.</p>	<p>My dog is a nuisance. He chases everyone on a bicycle. What can I do?...</p>
<p>... – Take his bicycle away.</p>	<p>– Waiter, there's a fly in my soup. ...</p>	<p>... – Don't worry, sir. The spider on your bread will eat it.</p>	<p>– I'd like two tickets to the moon, please. ...</p>	<p>... – I'm sorry, sir, but the moon is full at the moment.</p>

<p>– Why do mother kangaroos hate rainy days? ...</p>	<p>... – Because the children have to play inside.</p>	<p>– I've got 100 goldfish. – Where do you keep them? – In the bath. – But what do you do when you want to have a bath? ...</p>	<p>... – Oh, I blindfold the fish so that they can't see me.</p>	<p>– Well, son, how are your marks from school? – They 're under water. – What do you mean? ...</p>
<p>... – They're below C level.</p>	<p>– Why are soldiers always tired on the first of April? ...</p>	<p>... – Because they have just finished a March of 31 days.</p>	<p>– You can't like everybody, can you? – You certainly can't. For example, I detest people who talk behind your back....</p>	<p>... – Yes, especially at the cinema.</p>
<p>– Waiter! What's this? – It's bean soup. ...</p>	<p>... – I don't care what it's been, I want to know what it is now.</p>	<p>– Who's been eating my porridge? said Baby Bear. – And who's been eating my porridge? said Daddy Bear. ...</p>	<p>... – Don't get excited, said Mother Bear. I haven't made it yet.</p>	<p>– Doctor, help me. My heart is beating very quickly and I feel terrible. I think I'm going to die. – Nonsense. That's the last thing you'll do.</p>

KEY

1. BRITISH AND AMERICAN ENGLISH 1.

AMERICAN	BRITISH
Gasoline	Petrol
Truck	Lorry
Sidewalk	Pavement
Line	Queue
Parking lot	Car park
Highway	Motorway
Round trip	Return
Subway	Underground
Elevator	Lift
Eraser	Rubber
Apartment	Flat
Closet	Wardrobe

2. BRITISH AND AMERICAN ENGLISH 2.

AMERICAN	BRITISH
Yard	Garden
Drapes	Curtains
Cookie	Biscuit
Candy	Sweets
Rest room	Toilet
Garbage	Rubbish
Diaper	Nappy
French fries	Chips
Undershirtt	Vest
Vest	Waistcoat
Pants	Trousers
Silverware	Cutlery

3. HAPPINESS QUOTATIONS.

1. The secret of happiness is to make others believe they are the cause of it.
Al Batt
2. Happiness is nothing more than good health and a bad memory.
Albert Schweitzer
3. A lifetime of happiness! No man alive could bear it: it would be hell on earth.
George Bernard Shaw
4. Happiness is having a large, loving, caring, close-knit family in another city.
George Burns
5. I am happy and content because I think I am.
Alain-René Lesage
6. Indeed, man wishes to be happy even when he so lives as to make happiness impossible.
St Augustine
7. When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us.
Helen Keller
8. Happiness always looks small while you hold it in your hands, but let it go, and you learn at once how big and precious it is.
Maxim Gorky
9. If there were in the world today any large number of people who desired their own happiness more than they desired the unhappiness of others, we could have paradise in a few years.
Bertrand Russell
10. When a man has lost all happiness, he's not alive. Call him a breathing corpse.
Sophocles
11. Happiness is not having what you want, but wanting what you have.
Rabbi Hyman Judah Schachtel
12. The grand essentials to happiness in this life are something to do, something to love, and something to hope for.
Joseph Addison Light

BLACK PETER

If we cannot live so as to be happy, let us least live so as to deserve it.
Immanuel Hermann Fichte

4. FRIENDSHIP QUOTATIONS.

1. A friend is one who knows us, but loves us anyway.
Fr. Jerome Cummings
2. A true friend is someone who thinks that you are a good egg even though he knows that you are slightly cracked.
Bernard Meltzer.
3. What is a friend? A single soul dwelling in two bodies.
Aristotle
4. Don't walk in front of me, I may not follow. Don't walk behind me, I may not lead. Just walk beside me and be my friend.
Albert Camus
5. A real friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out.
Walter Winchell
6. Count your age with friends but not with years.
Anonymous
7. The only way to have a friend is to be one.
Ralph Waldo Emerson
8. In the End, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.
Martin Luther King, Jr.
9. Everyone hears what you say. Friends listen to what you say. Best friends listen to what you don't say.
Anonymous
10. To find a friend one must close one eye; To keep him, two.
Norman Douglas
11. It is easier to forgive an enemy than to forgive a friend.
William Blake
12. Love is blind, ...but friendship closes its eyes.
Anonymous

BLACK PETER

Good friends, good books and a sleepy conscience: this is the ideal life.
Mark Twain

5. MONEY QUOTATIONS.

1. Money can't buy you happiness, but it does bring you a more pleasant form of misery.
Spike Milligan

2. It is good to have money and the things that money can buy, but it's good too, to check up once in a while and make sure you haven't lost the things money can't buy.
George Lorimer
3. Lack of money is the root of all evil.
George Bernard Shaw
4. With money in your pocket, you are wise and you are handsome and you sing well too.
Yiddish Proverb
5. Money often costs too much.
Ralph Waldo Emerson
6. When it's a question of money, everybody is of the same religion.
Voltaire
7. Money is better than poverty, if only for financial reasons.
Woody Allen
8. When a man tells you that he got rich through hard work, ask him: 'Whose?'
Don Marquis
9. What's the use of happiness? It can't buy you money.
Henny Youngman
10. Money never made a man happy yet, nor will it. There is nothing in its nature to produce happiness. The more a man has, the more he wants. Instead of filling a vacuum, it makes one.
Benjamin Franklin
11. If you want to know what God thinks of money, just look at the people he gave it to.
Dorothy Parker
12. Save a little money each month and at the end of the year you'll be surprised at how little you have.
Ernest Haskins

BLACK PETER

The only way not to think about money is to have a great deal of it.
Edith Wharton

6. PHRASAL VERBS WITH 'UP'.

1. Jim and Helen after 20 years of living together. **BROKE UP**
2. The question of fighting pollution was at the meeting on Monday.
BROUGHT UP

3. The mother felt depressed when her only son was two weeks after the war broke out. CALLED UP
4. She's really good at excuses for not attending the classes and lectures. COOKING UP
5. When a taxi at the gate, I knew that he finally arrived. DREW UP
6. your shoes or you'll fall over the laces. DO UP
7. Unfortunately rising costs were most of our profits. EATING UP
8. I was late for work because of being by the traffic. HELD UP
9. The whole affair had been by the government, however the truth was brought to life. HUSHED UP
10. My brothers at the beginning of the war. JOINED UP
11. Although we invited about 50 guests, only 20 SHOWED UP
12. Just a mere idea of going there makes me want to THROW UP

BLACK PETER

There are so many phrasal verbs in English that you have to brush up on them regularly.

7. COMPARISONS WITH 'AS...AS...' AND 'LIKE'.

1. I'm afraid I can't read this small print – I'm without my glasses.
AS BLIND AS A BAT
2. I've forgotten to bring you the CD again. I've got
A BRAIN LIKE A SIEVE
3. After hard work during the day, I usually
SLEEP LIKE A LOG
4. Mentioning his ex-wife name is He always gets furious.
LIKE A RED RAG TO A BULL
5. I think you'll have to shout, he's
AS DEAF AS A POST
6. Having said that, he felt so embarrassed that his face was
AS RED AS A BEETROOT
7. She even didn't dare to ask him – he was all day.
LIKE A BEAR WITH A SORE HEAD
8. Her living room with its delicate furniture and knick-knacks made him feel like
LIKE A BULL IN A CHINA SHOP

9. Even at the end of the day she always looks lively and
AS FRESH AS A DAISY
10. There aren't any hills in that area, it's and you can see for miles.
AS FLAT AS A PANCAKE
11. He came back from the party
AS DRUNK AS A LORD
12. Although they are brothers, their personality and appearance are
AS DIFFERENT AS CHALK and CHEESE

BLACK PETER

English idioms are AS EASY AS PIE.

8. REPORTING VERBS.

1. He me to close the windows before leaving the house.
REMINDED
2. He about being the best footballer in the team.
BOASTED
3. He to help me with the shopping. REFUSED
4. He me of stealing his mobile phone. ACCUSED
5. He me to apply for the job saying I was really an ideal candidate. ENCOURAGED
6. He me not to leave him alone. BEGGED
7. He me not to touch the wires as it could result in electrocution. WARNED
8. He them to give him all their money and then lie on the floor. COMMANDED
9. He to me of heaving a terrible headache. COMPLAINED
10. He that it was the most beautiful view he had ever seen. EXCLAIMED
11. He to kill us all if we didn't obey his orders. THREATENED
12. He having taken my bag, however I didn't believe him.
DENIED

BLACK PETER

He suggested learning the reporting verbs first and then going to the cinema.

9. HEALTH AND MEDICINE – KEY WORDS.

1. She's allergic to strawberries and whenever she eats them she gets a nasty on her skin.
RASH
2. She was prescribed a course of to treat the pneumonia.
INJECTIONS
3. It's so hot here that I'd rather go outside. I feel as if I was going to
FAINT
4. I had such a terrible toothache that my face was badly
SWOLLEN
5. There isn't an ideal drug, there are always some that you can suffer from during the treatment.
SIDE EFFECTS
6. We are sorry to inform you but the disease is and we can only lessen the pain.
INCURABLE
7. During early spring a lot of children flu and the classrooms are almost empty.
GO DOWN WITH
8. The paramedics carried the injured woman to the ambulance on a
STRETCHER
9. I banged into the shelf so hard that I got an ugly purple on my arm.
BRUISE
10. It wasn't a good idea to wear those new shoes – now my feet are covered with
BLISTERS
11. I felt – cold one moment and hot the next.
SHIVERY
12. I've been bitten by mosquitoes and now my arm and legs are so terribly that I can't stop scratching them.
ITCHING

BLACK PETER

All those new words are giving me a headache.

10. BODY IDIOMS.

1. I've just dropped another cup. I seem this morning.
TO BE ALL FINGERS AND THUMBS

2. It will to spend two weeks in a four-star hotel in Egypt.
COST YOU AN ARM AND A LEG
3. If we really, we could finish the work today.
PUT OUR BACK INTO
4. Swimming – she’s an excellent swimmer, like her mother.
IS IN HER BLOOD
5. to hear some politicians lying impudently.
IT MAKES MY BLOOD BOIL
6. Politics is in my family. My mother supports the right-wing parties, whereas my father has the leftist views.
BONE OF CONTENTION
7. I’ve just had a and think I’ve found the solution to that problem. Just listen!
BRAINWAVE
8. Let’s not make any plans. We’ll just see what the weather is like and simply
PLAY IT BY EAR
9. Don’t try and, it won’t work with me. I know you too well.
PULL THE WOOL OVER MY EYES
10. Everybody found it very difficult to when the lecturer’s glasses fell off the end of his nose.
KEEP A STRAIGHT FACE
11. I really when I said I didn’t like the poem. Its author turned out to be sitting beside me!
PUT MY FOOT IN IT
12. Having passed all the exams they decided to and relax.
LET THEIR HAIR DOWN

BLACK PETER

Don’t lose heart – I’m sure you’ll soon master these idioms.

11. ANIMALS IDIOMS

1. It’s not fair to say the flat isn’t big. In fact it’s so small that that there isn’t
ENOUGH ROOM TO SWING A CAT
2. You really when you told him about the party. It was going to be a surprise!
LET THE CAT OUT OF THE BAG
3. She’s already planning how to spend the money before she has even earned it. That’s typical of Jane –
COUNTING HER CHICKENS BEFORE THEY HATCH

4. He shows no interest in other people and never seems to be moved by emotions. He's a real
COLD FISH
5. I got the news , so it must be true. The manager himself told me about it.
FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH
6. I think they're involved in some importing used cars.
MONKEY BUSINESS
7. Personally I here. The story is definitely unconvincing.
SMELL A RAT
8. Although it took me almost a whole day to clean up the mess, the party was a huge success and everybody had
A WHALE OF TIME
9. I don't trust Mark. He is always so kind and helpful but I have the feeling that he's
A WOLF IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING
10. I tried so many times to persuade Kate to be more patient, but in vain.
.....
A LEOPARD CANNOT CHANGE HIS SPOTS
11. I'm afraid you have to write your essay again, this one is a
DOG'S BREAKFAST
12. Let's and tell the boss we are expecting a pay rise.
TAKE THE BULL BY THE HORNS

BLACK PETER

We'll have to be up with the lark tomorrow morning and learn all those idioms for the test.

12. WORD FORMATION – NOUNS.

flexible	FLEXIBILITY
admit	ADMISSION
weak	WEAKNESS
replace	REPLACEMENT
lazy	LAZINESS
generous	GENEROSITY
boring	BOREDOM
deep	DEPTH
refuse	REFUSAL

curious	CURIOSITY
imprison	IMPRISONMENT
grate	GRATER

13. JOKES.

1. The professor rapped on his desk and shouted: ‘Gentlemen – order!’
The entire class yelled: ‘Beer!’
2. – I eat in a different restaurant every night!
– I don’t give tips either.
3. My dog is a nuisance. He chases everyone on a bicycle. What can I do?
– Take his bicycle away.
4. – Waiter, there’s a fly in my soup.
– Don’t worry, sir. The spider on your bread will eat it.
5. – I’d like two tickets to the moon, please.
– I’m sorry, sir, but the moon is full at the moment.
6. – Why do mother kangaroos hate rainy days?
– Because the children have to play inside.
7. – I’ve got 100 goldfish.
– Where do you keep them?
– In the bath.
– But what do you do when you want to have a bath?
– Oh, I blindfold the fish so that they can’t see me.
8. – Well, son, how are your marks from school?
– They are below water.
– What do you mean?
– They’re below C level.
9. – Why are soldiers always tired on the first of April?
– Because they have just finished a March of 31 days.
10. – You can’t like everybody, can you?
– You certainly can’t. For example, I detest people who talk behind your back.

– Yes, especially at the cinema.

11. – Waiter! What is this?

– It's bean soup.

– I don't care what it has been, I want to know what it is now.

12. – Who's been eating my porridge? said Baby Bear.

– And who's been eating my porridge? said Daddy Bear.

– Don't get excited, said Mother Bear. I haven't made it yet.

BLACK PETER

– Doctor, help me. My heart is beating very quickly and I feel terrible. I think I'm going to die.

– Nonsense. That's the last thing you'll do.