

B1.II

Unit 1

Exercise 1

For questions 1-8, complete the sentence with the correct idiom from box A; for questions 9-15, write the idiom that fits the gap from box B.

<i>on the chin</i>	<i>get the ball rolling</i>
<i>keep your eye on the ball</i>	<i>given a fighting chance</i>
<i>out of left field</i>	<i>be in deep water</i>
<i>out of my depth</i>	<i>saved by the bell</i>

1. If you want to get along in this office, you're going to have to _____.
2. I was going to have to do my part, but someone knocked on the door and I didn't have to do it. I was _____.
3. A good education will ensure that even the most disadvantaged children are _____.
4. When Ruth started talking about the differences between the databases, I knew I was _____.
5. Your remarks came _____. I can't understand your complaint.
6. If I could just _____, then other people would help.
7. We're going to _____ if the bank refuses to authorize a bigger loan.
8. They laid some blunt criticism on him, but he took it _____.

<i>put her foot down</i>	<i>got something up my sleeve</i>
<i>caught his son red-handed</i>	<i>lift a finger</i>
<i>pulling your leg</i>	<i>gave him the boot</i>
<i>an arm and a leg</i>	

9. These opera tickets cost us _____!
10. My mum _____ and refused to let me go out with my friends until my homework was finished.
11. The boss wouldn't _____ and refused to accept any more changes to the plan.
12. John is always joking around. Don't believe him. He's just _____.
13. I've _____, and it should solve all your problems. I'll tell you what it is after I'm elected.
14. The father was furious when he _____, smoking a cigarette.
15. They _____ for swearing at his manager.

Exercise 2

For questions 1-11, complete the gaps with the verb given at the end of the line, using simple past or present perfect according to the text.

<p>Rafa Nadal was born in Manacor in 1986. He (1) _____ four French Open titles and an Olympic gold medal. In 2008, Nadal (2) _____ the second Spanish man to win Wimbledon.</p>	<p>WIN BECOME</p>
<p>Nadal (3) _____ 14 Grand Slam singles titles, the 2008 Olympic gold medal in singles, a record 27 titles ATP World Tour Masters 1000 and 16 ATP World Tour 500 tournaments. By winning the 2014 French Open, Nadal (4) _____ the only male player to win a single Grand Slam tournament nine times and the first to win at least one Grand Slam tournament for ten consecutive years.</p>	<p>WIN BECOME</p>
<p>Since 2004, Nadal (5) _____ a strong competitor to Roger Federer.</p>	<p>BE</p>
<p>They (6) _____ against each other in seven Grand Slam finals.</p>	<p>PLAY</p>
<p>Nadal won five of them. Nadal (7) _____ World No. 2 behind Federer for a record 160 weeks. He (8) _____ top of the rankings for 46 weeks. Rafa has won the Davis</p>	<p>BE BE</p>
<p>Cup with the Spanish team four times so far. They (9) _____ the trophy in 2004 and 2008, although he (10) _____ in the final due to a knee injury.</p>	<p>WIN PLAY</p>
<p>He is widely regarded as the greatest clay court player in history and has been titled "The King of Clay". His evolution into an all-court threat (11) _____ him as one of the greatest players in tennis history, with some considering Nadal to be the greatest player of all time.</p>	<p>ESTABLISH</p>

Exercise 3

For questions 1-4, read the text below and choose A, B or C according to the text.

Team sports

In many ways, Americans and Europeans do the same things, have the same interests, have similar lifestyles; but in "team sports", America and Europe are two different continents. Europeans play football, and Americans play football; but surprisingly they do not play the same game. American football is played by men (and occasionally women) wearing helmets and protective clothing; the ball is oval. European football is played with a round ball, by people wearing just socks, shorts, a shirt, and football boots. Americans have another popular outdoor game too; baseball - a classic American game.

In today's "global village", lifestyles have become international; often the American model has spread to other countries of the world. American sports, however, have not spread all over the world, as American films and American fashions have. On the contrary, European sports have been more successful internationally; European football, indeed, is slowly developing in the USA (where it is called "soccer").

Besides these big sports, America of course has basketball - perhaps the most successful "export". Invented at Springfield College, Massachusetts, in 1891, basketball is quite certainly an "American game". Although it is not as big in Europe as in the USA, basketball has become much more popular in other countries than any other American team sport.

Until the 1960's, team sports were not played on a global scale. In Europe, people played European games, and in North America we played American games. The only real "global" sports were individual sports, such as golf and tennis. The first worldwide sports competition was the Olympic Games; but originally the Olympics were only concerned with athletics; they did not include the wide variety of team sports that they now cover.

1. What does the writer say in paragraph 1 about American and European football?
 - A) They are two completely different sports.
 - B) They are played with the same kind of ball.
 - C) They are similar sports.
2. What does the writer say in paragraph 2 about American influence in the world?
 - A) American influence has extended to all aspects of life
 - B) American films, sports and fashions have a strong presence in Europe.
 - C) European sports have achieved a greater influence in the world.
3. What is the writer's opinion about basketball?
 - A) It is very popular in the United States.
 - B) It has become the most popular American sport around the world?
 - C) It is more popular in Europe than in the United States.

4. In paragraph 4, what does the writer say about team sports?
- A) They have been played internationally since the 19th century.
 - B) They were included in the first Olympic Games.
 - C) Initially, the Olympic Games did not include as many team sports as they do now.

Exercise 4

Now you. Write a paragraph using at least three of the sports idioms given below.

To keep your eye on the ball To be out of your depth To get the ball rolling To be in with a fighting chance To throw in the towel
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