

Can You Believe It?

Stories and Idioms from Real Life



2

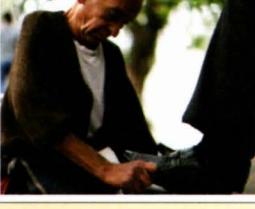


A* List



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OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

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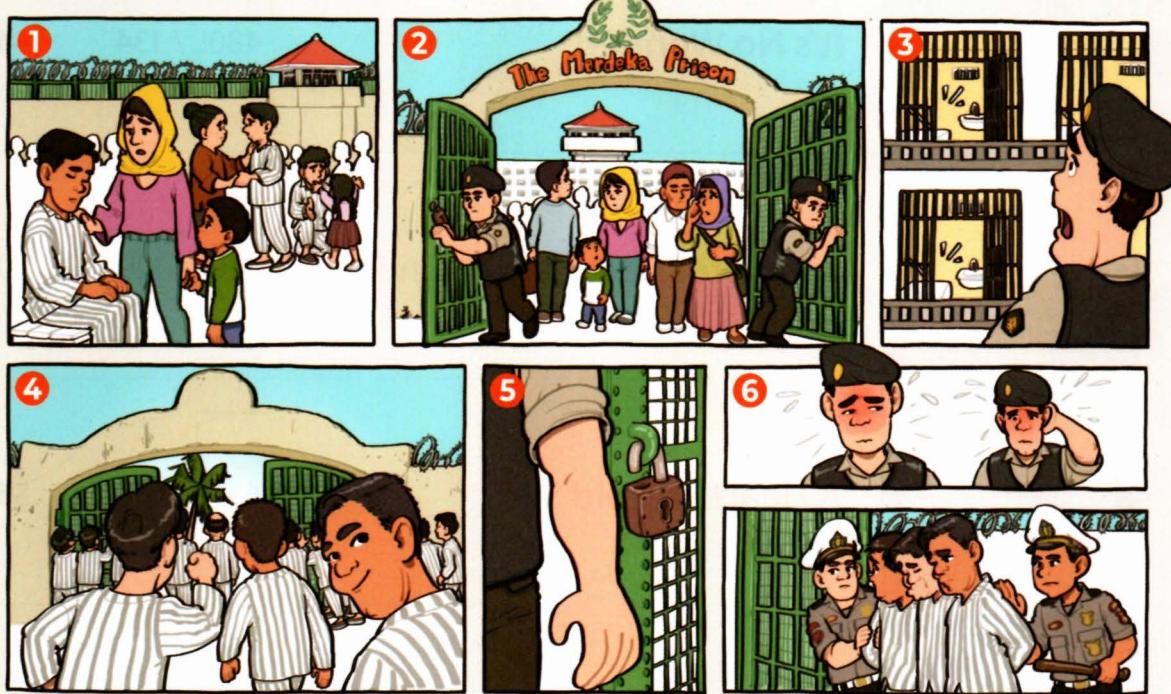


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02 Listen

Look at the pictures below and listen to the story.



03 New Idioms & Expressions

- **spend time (with someone)** use time (with someone)
- **be over** be finished; end
- **let someone out** allow someone to leave
- **later on** later; at some time in the future
- **(as) easy as pie** very simple and easy
- **make a mistake** do something incorrectly
- **so far** until now; up to the present time

Words in parentheses () can be used with the idiom, but aren't necessary.

04 Read the Story

Now, read the story carefully. Pay special attention to the idioms and expressions.

* Lexile: 530L * Words: 86

Prison Escape Is Easy as Pie



SUMATRA ISLAND, PALEMBANG, INDONESIA

① It was Sunday, visiting day, at Merdeka Prison. Families were **spending time with** the prisoners. ② When visiting hours **were over**, security guards opened the front gate for the visitors and **let them out**.

③ **Later on** that day, 106 prisoners escaped. ④ **How?** It was **as easy as pie**. They walked out the front gate! ⑤ The guards had **made a mistake** and forgotten to lock it. ⑥ Prison officials are red in the face. Police are looking for the escaped prisoners, but **so far**, they have caught only three.

Reading Comprehension

Read and write the answers.

1 Why were families spending time with the prisoners?

2 What happened when visiting hours were over?

3 When did the prisoners escape?

4 Why was the prisoners' escape as easy as pie?

5 How do prison officials feel now?

6 How many prisoners have the police caught so far?

About You

Read and answer the questions.

1 Talk about a time you made a big mistake.

2 What things are easy as pie for you?

3 How do you spend your free time? Who do you like to spend it with?

4 Do you have a pet? If so, do you let it out of the house alone?

5 What time is your English class over?

Match

Draw a line from the first part of each idiom or expression to the second. Then, write the numbers to match them to the definitions.

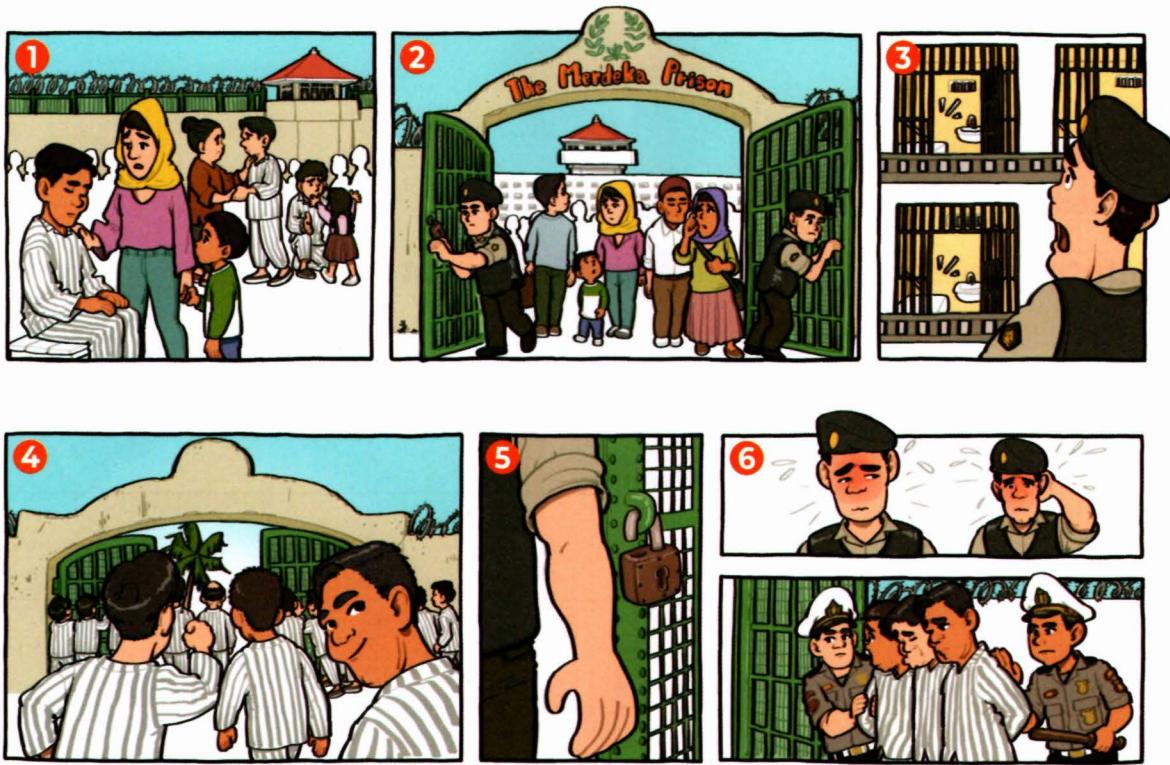
1 later	•	• pie
2 make a	•	• out
3 as easy as	•	• over
4 be	•	• on
5 let	•	• mistake
6 spend	•	• time

a	end
b	use time
c	very simple and easy
d	allow to leave
e	at some time in the future
f	do something incorrectly

Tell the Story

Look at the pictures below. Tell the story using as many idioms as you can.

- 1 First, work with the whole class to retell the story.
- 2 Then, tell the story to a partner or a small group in your own words.



Paraphrase

A Read and fill in the blanks.

It was Sunday at Merdeka Prison. Families were ① _____ the prisoners. When visiting hours ② _____, security guards opened the front gate and ③ _____ the visitors. ④ _____ that day, more than 100 prisoners escaped. How? It was ⑤ _____. They walked out the front gate! The guards had ⑥ _____ and forgotten to lock it. Prison officials are red in the face. Police are looking for the escaped prisoners, but they've caught only three ⑦ _____.

later on as easy as pie were over
so far spending time with let out made a mistake

05 B Listen and check your answers.

Write About Yourself

Complete the sentences. Write something true about yourself.

- 1 Yesterday, I spent time with _____.
- 2 When school or work is over, I usually _____.
- 3 Later on, I plan to _____.
- 4 So far in this book, I have learned _____.

Complete the Story

A Read the true story and fill in the blanks.

was over later on easy as pie made a mistake spend time let out

Drama at McDonald's

BODEGRAVEN, THE NETHERLANDS People in Bodegraven love to

① _____ at their local McDonald's

restaurant. It's quick, and getting a meal there is

② _____.

But one day, the fast-food restaurant didn't

open **on time**. Customers wanted their Big Macs.

They called the police, and the police were worried. "McDonald's always opens on time!" they said. The police were afraid there was a hostage situation inside the restaurant. Soon, there were more than 30 police cars around the restaurant.

③ _____, police called a special team to storm into the

building. It was time to ④ _____ the hostages. Just

then, the manager of the restaurant arrived. "I'm sorry. I thought I was working

the late shift," he said. The drama ⑤ _____. The police

⑥ _____, and they are red in the face.



* on time: at the correct time

* be red in the face: be embarrassed

B Read or tell the story to a partner.