

Can You Believe It?

Stories and Idioms from Real Life



3



A*List



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02 Listen

Look at the pictures below and listen to the story.



03 New Idioms & Expressions

- **by oneself** alone
- **by mistake** accidentally; because of a mistake
- **get lost** become unable to find one's way (home)
- **be scared to death** feel very afraid
- **keep one's head** stay calm in trouble or danger
- **all night long** during the entire night
- **keep on doing** something continue doing something
- **give (something) up** stop trying; quit something
- **look for** someone or something try to find someone or something
- **all right** fine; OK

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

* Lexile: 510L * Words: 139

A Lost Skier Dances All Night Long



LAYTON, UT, USA ① It's the day before Christmas. Karen Hartley, 33, is skiing by herself at Powder Mountain in Utah. ② By mistake, she begins to ski off trail.

③ Soon, she gets lost. She yells for help, but no one hears her. ④ Night comes, and the temperature falls below freezing. Karen is scared to death and is very cold.

⑤ But she keeps her head. She plays music in her mind and dances all night long to stay warm. She dances to old disco songs, pop songs, and Christmas songs. "It was either dance or die," she says. "I kept on dancing. I didn't give up."

⑥ The next morning, a helicopter begins to look for Karen. After 18 hours in the cold, she is rescued just before it's too late. ⑦ Karen is frozen but all right. ⑧ She spends Christmas Day in a hot tub.

Reading Comprehension

Read and write the answers.

1 Is Karen skiing in a group?

2 What happens to Karen when she skies off trail?

3 Karen is in a terrible situation. How does she feel?

4 What does Karen do all night long? Why does she do that?

5 What happens in the morning?

6 What does Karen do on Christmas Day?

About You

Read and answer the questions.

- 1 If you got lost in the mountains in winter, would you keep your head? What would you do to survive?
- 2 Talk about a time you were scared to death. Were you with other people, or were you by yourself?
- 3 Talk about a dangerous or funny thing you did by mistake.
- 4 What kind of music do you like?

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 give	•	• long
2 all night	•	• for
3 all	•	• up
4 by	•	• one's head
5 keep	•	• to death
6 look	•	• right
7 be scared	•	• oneself

a	try to find
b	stop trying
c	during the entire night
d	fine
e	alone
f	feel very afraid
g	stay calm in trouble or danger

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.

On Christmas Eve, Karen Hartley is skiing ① _____ and ② _____. She ③ _____, but she ④ _____. She dances ⑤ _____. to stay warm. She doesn't ⑥ _____. The next morning, a helicopter comes for her just before it's too late. When she is rescued, she is cold but ⑦ _____. Karen spends Christmas Day in a hot tub.

all night long give up gets lost keeps her head
by herself all right is scared to death

B Listen and check your answers.

Write About Yourself

Complete the sentences. Write something true about yourself.

1 When I'm by myself, I like to _____.

2 I was scared to death once when _____.

3 I'm always looking for _____.

Complete the Story

A Read the true story and fill in the blanks.

all right by herself keeps her head give up are looking for

A Girl Uses Candy Wrappers to Find Her Father

LAKE CREEK, OR, USA Krystal Andrews, 17, and her father, Michael Andrews,

48, are riding in the mountains in a snowmobile.

They ① _____ animals. They eat a bag of hard candies and **have a good time**.



Suddenly, the snowmobile hits some ice and turns over. It falls on top of Michael. He's injured and can't move. Krystal can't move the snowmobile either. She's scared to death, but she ② _____. She puts several jackets around her father and begins to walk to their pickup truck ③ _____.

As she walks, she drops candy wrappers to mark her route so that she can find her father again.

After about three miles (about five kilometers), she arrives at the truck. She drives to a store and calls 911. Rescuers come, and Krystal shows them the way to her father. They reach Michael Andrews just before it's too late. He is frozen and has some broken ribs, but he's ④ _____. "I'm proud of Krystal. I knew she would not ⑤ _____. I knew she would save me," he says.

* **have a good time:** enjoy oneself

B Read or tell the story to a partner.