

Can You Believe It?

Stories and Idioms from Real Life



1








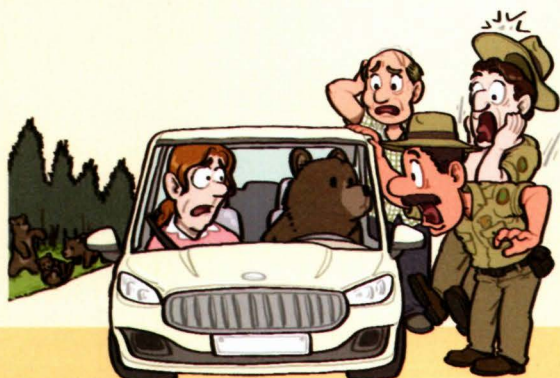
A*List



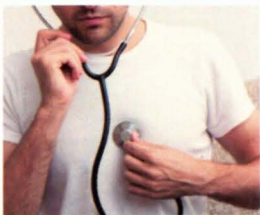




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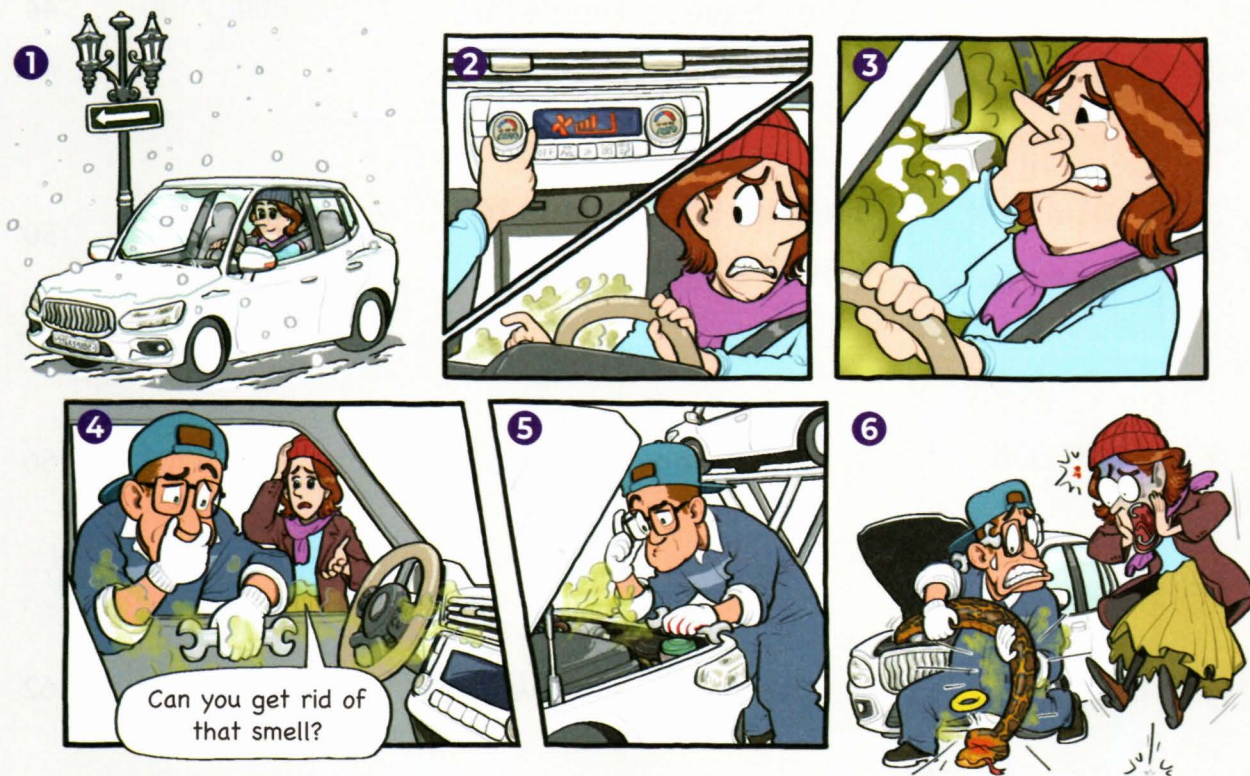




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02 Listen

Look at the pictures below and listen to the story.



03 New Idioms & Expressions

- **turn something on** start a machine or the flow of electricity, water, etc.

- **get worse and worse** become very bad

- **can't stand something** dislike something very much

- **What's the matter (with something or someone)?**
 What's wrong (with something or someone)?

- **get rid of something** remove something

- **take a look (at something)** look quickly (at something)

- **lose it** become too excited; lose one's self-control

Read the Story

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

* Lexile: 370L * Words: 82

Please Get Rid of That Smell!



BALTIMORE, MD, USA ¹ It's winter. Barbara Pridgen, 43, is driving her car. ² When she **turns on** the heater, there's a terrible smell in her car. ³ It **gets worse and worse**. She **can't stand it!** ⁴ She takes



the car to the repair shop. "**What's the matter with my car?**" she asks.

"Can you **get rid of** that smell?" ⁵ The mechanic **takes a look at** the engine.

He examines the heating system. ⁶ Then, Barbara screams. She **loses it**. The mechanic pulls out a big, fat, dead python!



Reading Comprehension

Read and write the answers.

1 Why do you think Barbara turns on the heater?

2 What happens when Barbara turns the heater on?

3 Does Barbara like the smell?

4 What does Barbara want the mechanic to do?

5 What does the mechanic take a look at?

6 Why does Barbara lose it?

7 Why do you think the python was in the heater?

About You

Read and answer the questions.

1 What makes you lose it?

2 What things do you turn on in your house every day?

3 What are some smells or foods that you can't stand?

4 Think about the problems in your community, your country, or in the world.
Which ones are getting worse and worse? What can you do about them?

Complete the Idioms

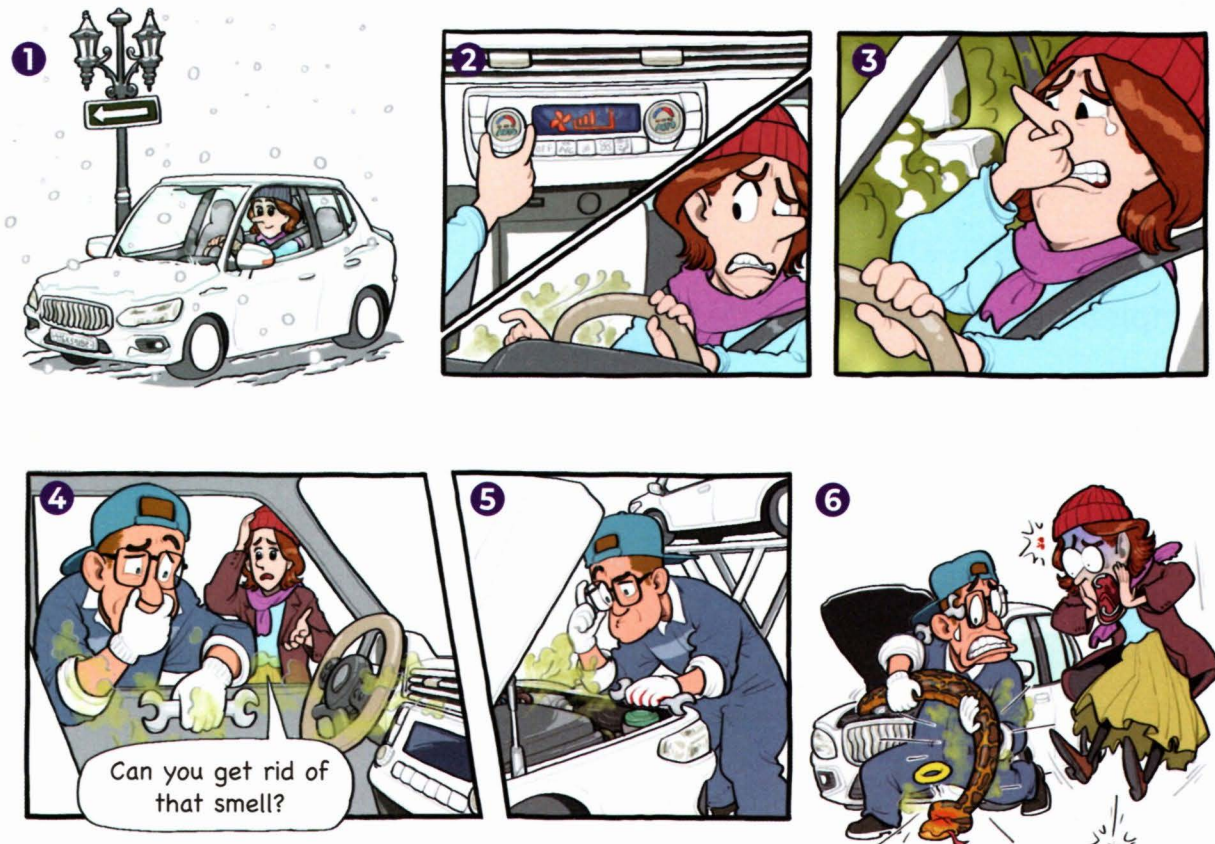
Look at each definition and then complete the idiom or expression.

- 1 look quickly = take a _____
- 2 start a machine = turn _____
- 3 dislike very much = can't _____
- 4 What's wrong? = What's the _____?
- 5 become very bad = get worse and _____
- 6 lose one's self-control = lose _____

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.

When Barbara ① _____ her heater, there's a terrible smell. It ② _____. She ③ _____ it! She goes to the repair shop. "④ _____ with my car? Can you ⑤ _____ that smell?" she asks. When the mechanic ⑥ _____ the heating system, he pulls out a big, dead python. Barbara ⑦ _____!

loses it

takes a look at

get rid of

can't stand

what's the matter

turns on

is getting worse and worse

B Listen and check your answers.

Write About Yourself

Complete the sentences. Write something true about yourself.

1 I want to get rid of my _____.

2 I can't stand _____.

3 I often turn on _____

because _____.

Complete the Dialog

A A mother and her teenage daughter are talking about TV. Fill in the blanks.

take a look at get rid of can't stand turn on are getting worse and worse



Carmen, why did you ① _____
that TV again? You've watched enough for today.

But Mom! This is a good show!



No, it's not.
I ② _____ it.

Just **sit down** a minute.

③ _____
this, Mom. It's funny!



These programs ④ _____.
Turn it off now. It's time to do your homework.

Just 10 more minutes!



We should just ⑤ _____
this stupid TV set!

* sit down: sit; have a seat

* turn something off: stop a machine or the flow of electricity, water, etc.

B Work with a partner. Role-play the dialog.