

Common Business Idioms - 10

A. Look at the following idioms and decide if you know what they mean. Try and connect the meaning with the explanation given:

<i>Idiom:</i>	<i>Meaning:</i>
1. smooth sailing (or clear sailing)	a) Not change your opinion or position on an issue.
2. stand one's ground	b) Traditional mail that goes through the post office.
3. snail mail	c) Start something in a negative way.
4. state of the art	d) Accept something unpleasant without fighting back.
5. take something lying down	e) Convince someone to do something.
6. take the bull by the horns	f) Convince someone <u>not</u> to do something.
7. talk someone into something	g) Start something in a positive way.
8. talk someone out of something	h) To achieve success without difficulties.
9. start off on the wrong foot.	i) Directly confront a difficult situation.
10. start off on the right foot	j) Modern and technologically advanced.

B. Now look at the following sentences and use the correct idiom in the right place:

1. I wanted to make an investment, but my financial adviser _____.
2. Certain institutions won't accept electronic documents and you have to send them the actual document using _____.
3. We tried to change the dress code, but the boss _____ her _____.
4. We offered a very generous price on the client's first order and were able to _____.
5. Once we upgraded our servers, it was _____ to implement the new system.
6. One of our products wasn't very popular and was causing some problems, so we took the _____ and withdrew it from the market.
7. I've just switched Internet providers, but they overcharged me for the first month. They really _____.

8. Rosy lives in a _____ home with a lot of modern technology.
9. Staff are not keen on the bosses' new ways of thinking and they are not going to _____. We can expect some difficult times.
10. I was hesitant to redesign our website, but my IT department _____.