

Common Business Idioms 4

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. get down to business | a) If someone likes you. |
| 2. get something off the ground | b) To take a low-level position with a company with the goal of eventually getting a better position with the same company in the future. |
| 3. give someone a pat on the back | c) To deny approval. |
| 4. go broke | d) To stop making small talk and start talking about serious topics related to business. |
| 5. go down the drain | e) To approve. |
| 6. give something/someone the thumbs up | f) To go bankrupt or to lose all the money a person or business had. |
| 7. get/be on the good side of someone | g) When you waste or lose something. |
| 8. get the ball rolling | h) To tell someone that he or she did a good job. |
| 9. give something/someone the thumbs down | i) To start something (a work project, for example). When you start a business, project, or something else from nothing. |
| 10. get/have foot in the door | j) To start a project or business. |

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

Well, everyone's here, and I know everyone is very busy. So, let's _____ and talk about the proposal.

They gave our new proposal _____. We're going out to celebrate tonight.

My son just took a low-paying internship position with a large company. He was happy _____ at a well-known, respected company.

We really need to get the _____ on this project. The deadline is in June, and it's already April.

We're very glad that the planning process is over. We're looking forward to getting the project _____.

I always remember my co-workers' birthdays and get them a card or small gift. I like to _____.

The boss gave Brian a _____ for coming up with such a good idea.

There was too much competition and their expenses were too high. They eventually _____.

I can't believe she gave us the _____. I thought it was a great idea.

He dropped out of college in his third year and never continued his studies. All of his hard work and money _____.