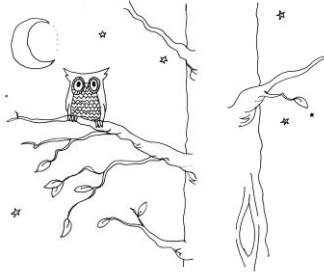


Task 1 – the words in the idioms

a) *Work in pairs. Describe the pictures a–e with a partner.*



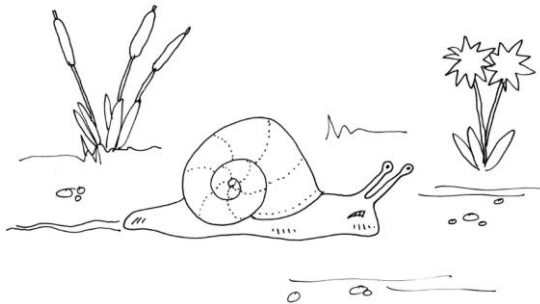
a



b



c



d



e

b) *Now write the idioms from the box under the correct picture.*

lie low	at a snail's pace	break the ice	send someone packing	a night owl
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Task 2 – the meanings of the idioms

a) *Match the idioms in Task 1 with situations 1–5. Try to work out the meaning of each idiom.*



1



2



3



4



5

Task 2 – the meanings of the idioms (continued)

b) Write the idiom for definitions 1–5.

Definition	Idiom
1 tell someone to go away	<i>send ...</i>
2 hide so that you will not be found	_____
3 do or say something to start a conversation in a social situation, especially meeting strangers	_____
4 a person who stays up late	_____
5 extremely slowly	_____

Task 3 – gap fill

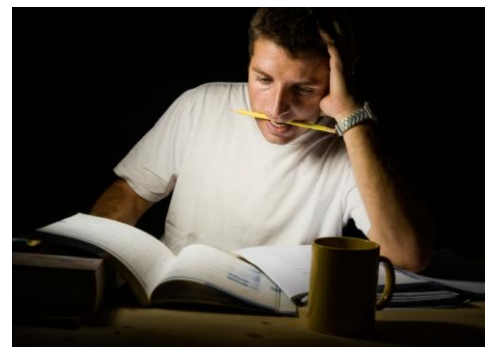
- 'I fired my new employee because I saw him stealing money from the till,' said the shop manager. 'That's a good enough reason to _____.'
- After the robbery, the thief decided to _____ for a while. He knew that the police would be looking for him, so he stayed with his brother, hardly ever leaving the flat.
- He still hasn't finished his essay! He works _____.
- She's always been _____. At college she would often stay up working until 3 in the morning.
- Telling a joke at a party where you don't know anyone can help to _____.



Task 4 – idioms in context

Your teacher will give you and the other students in your group a story. Choose which idiom best summarises that story.

Then retell the story to other students, who will try to guess what the idiom is.



Franz, the night owl

Task 5 – discussion

Work in small groups to discuss the questions.

1. *What's the best thing to do if you want to break the ice?*
2. *Do you know any night owls?*
3. *Have you ever sent someone packing?*
4. *When do you think a person might need to lie low?*
5. *Is moving at a snail's pace ever a good thing?*



Task 6 – using the idioms

Prepare a short conversation using as many of the idioms as you can.

Cooler – idioms in your language

Discuss in groups.

1. Do you have any idioms in your language?
2. What do they mean?