

## Dialogue

Sam: That was the **last straw**. I don't like people **making fun of me**.

Nick: **Just shrug it off. Don't make a mountain out of a molehill.**

Sam: If he does it again, the **fur will fly**.

Nick: Don't **make waves**.

Sam: If I don't **nip it in the bud**, he'll keep doing it.

Nick: If I were you, I'd **bury the hatchet**.

## Vocabulary

the last straw	n.) the last insult or injury that one can endure
make fun of	v.) ridicule
shrug off	v.) not be bothered or hurt, dismiss
make a mountain out of a molehill	v.) make a big problem out of a small one
the fur will fly, make the fur fly	v.) create a disturbance
make waves	v.) upset the status quo, create a disturbance
nip in the bud	v.) prevent at the start
bury the hatchet	v.) make peace, stop arguing

### Exercise I. Complete the sentences with the correct idiom.

a) last straw b) make fun of c) nip it in the bud d) shrugged off e) make waves  
f) make a mountain out of a molehill g) bury the hatchet h) fur's going to fly

1. They have been fighting for years. I don't think they will ever .....
2. It wasn't difficult. It was easy. Don't .....
3. When your child starts smoking, it's best to .....
4. The baseball pitcher ..... the booing of the fans.
5. He lost all his money at the racetrack. When he gets home, the .....
6. Some people avoid controversy. They don't like to .....
7. Her son watched TV all day and didn't work. When he started to gamble, she was furious. That was the .....
8. It's not nice to ..... people.

### Exercise II. Rewrite the phrases in italics, using the proper idiomatic expression.

1. You have to *stop bad habits in the beginning*.
2. I do everything in that office. Nobody helps me. When the boss asked me to make coffee, too, that was *the end*.
3. I know you're upset, but *don't let it bother you*.
4. It would be nice to see them *stop arguing*.
5. Everything is going well. Don't *make any problems*.

6. When he sees the teenagers scratch his car with their bicycles, *there's going to be a big argument*.
7. That is such a little problem. Don't *make it bigger than it is*.
8. He was getting very angry because another student was *ridiculing* his friend.