

Dialogue

Mike: **The coast is clear.** Let's **give him the slip.**

Rob: **My heart is in my mouth.**

Mike: You'd better **wash your hands of** this affair before you're put **in the klink.**

Rob: You're right. If he **blabs**, I'm **out on a limb.**

Mike: Why do you always **stick your neck out?**

Vocabulary

The coast is clear.

give someone the slip

One's heart is one's mouth.

wash one's hands of

in the klink

blab

out on a limb

stick one's neck out

No enemy is in sight.

v.) escape, get away from

One is nervous, fearful, or anxious.

v.) refuse responsibility for, abandon

adj.) in jail

v.) talk too much

adj. or adv.) in a dangerous, exposed position;

one's ideas are openly known

v.) look for trouble, take risks

Exercise I. Complete the sentences with the correct idiom.

a) the coast is clear b) my heart is in my mouth c) wash your hands of him
d) stick my neck out e) out on a limb f) give them the slip g) blabbing h) in the klink

1. The bank robbers weren't caught by the police. Did they ?
2. I'm speaking before 200 people tonight.
3. If he lies or hurts you, you should
4. If you commit a crime, you'll be put
5. I want it quiet when I'm watching TV but my children are usually
6. Nobody is around. We can leave.
7. Whenever I help somebody, I get in trouble. I should never
8. By speaking up against her boss, she's put herself

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

1. He's always *looking for trouble*.
2. *I don't see anybody who would stop us.*
3. Let's *get rid of him*.
4. I can't believe he's *in jail*.
5. She's always *talking*.
6. I didn't realize I was putting myself *in a dangerous position*.

7. Traffic was so bad on the way to the airport, that I thought I would miss my plane.
I was so nervous.
8. That's not your responsibility. *Don't get involved.*