

## Dialogue

John: Do you know these drinks are **on the house**?

Sue: Who's **the sport**?

John: The boss. He's **bending over backward** to **make a go of** the business. He feels if he **springs** now, later he'll be **on easy street**.

Sue: Well, he bought this place **for a song** and it'll be **a gold mine**.

## Vocabulary

on the house	adj.) provided free by a bar or restaurant
sport	n.) person generous with money
bend over backward	v.) try very hard, make a great effort
make a go of	v.) succeed, produce good results
spring	v.) pay
on easy street	adv.) having a pleasant, secure life
for a song	adv.) at a low price, cheap
a gold mine	n.) worth a lot of money, successful

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

- a) for a song b) on the house c) bend over backward  
d) easy street e) spring f) sport g) gold mine h) make a go of

1. She didn't care how expensive that dress was. She was going to ..... for it.
2. He made a lot of money. Now he's on .....
3. She was giving a very important dinner party and was going to ..... to make the evening a success.
4. He was married before but this time he plans to ..... his marriage.
5. That house was very cheap. He bought it .....
6. When he takes a girl out he goes to the best restaurants, buys her flowers and rents a limousine. He's a .....
7. He bought all the customers a drink. The drinks were .....
8. That new restaurant is always busy. They make a lot of money. It's a .....

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

1. She bought that property *when it was very cheap*.
2. Because they're working so hard on their business, I'm sure *they will succeed*.
3. Because he was not satisfied with his meal, the restaurant owner told him *he didn't have to pay*.
4. When we go out, he always pays. He's *very generous*.
5. *I try very hard* to be pleasant to people.
6. I don't know if I should *buy* that very expensive dress even though I love it.

7. She worked very hard in the store and now it's *very successful*.
8. Her uncle died and left her a lot of money. Now *she is rich*.