



Teacher's guide

Idioms: Career & Life Goals – Intermediate (B1-B2)

Canva Presentation Link: [🌐 Idioms: Career & Life Goals](#)

Warm-up

Part 1. Students discuss the questions and activate previous knowledge of the idioms. Provide guidance if necessary.

Reading activity

Part 1. Students read the dialogue, then answer the comprehension questions.

Answer Key:

1. Leo is still **learning the ropes**.
2. Aria admires that Leo **goes the extra mile**.
3. Because his new role demands higher performance—he needs to **step up his game**.
4. Leo is now **calling the shots**.

Definition matching

Part 1. Students match each idiom to its correct definition.

Answer key:

1. Pull your weight
2. Go the extra mile
3. Take the bull by the horns
4. Learn the ropes
5. Step up your game
6. Call the shots

Typical usage matching

Part 1. Students match the idioms with what they are typically used with.

Answer key:

1. Step up your game
2. Pull your weight
3. Call the shots
4. Take the bull by the horns
5. Learn the ropes
6. Go the extra mile

Sentence transformation

Part 1. Students rewrite the sentences using the target idioms so that the meaning stays the same.

Suggested answers:

1. I still need to **learn the ropes**.

2. You must **step up your game** if you want to compete.
3. She **calls the shots**.
4. Everyone must **pull their weight**.
5. He always **goes the extra mile**.
6. It was time to **take the bull by the horns**.

Sentence gap-fill

Part 1. Students use the correct form of the idiom in brackets to complete each sentence.

Answer key:

1. had learnt the ropes
2. have stepped up our game
3. was calling the shots
4. pulled their weight
5. have gone the extra mile
6. took the bull by the horns

Speaking

Part 1. Students use the idioms from the lesson to talk about:

- A time they had to **learn the ropes** in a new role
- A moment they needed to **take the bull by the horns**
- When they or someone else had to **step up their game**
- An example of **going the extra mile** to achieve a goal
- How they feel when they finally **call the shots**