

BUSINESS IDIOMS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- 1) Why do business people focus on the bottom line so much?
- 2) Do you break even at the end of the month, or are you in the red, or even in the black?
- 3) Do you like numbers and statistics? Are you a number cruncher?
- 4) Does it take you a long time to figure out something? Can you do it in your head or do you need a calculator?
- 5) What do you think of the credit squeeze? Are you borrowing less spending less on your credit card because of it?
- 6) Have you ever written a cheque / check that bounced? Did it cause you any problems? Did you have to pay bank charges?
- 7) Are you into stocks and shares? Have you ever bought a stake in a company?
- 8) Have you ever taken a calculated risk? Did you need a calculator?
- 9) Why do you think estimating a number uses the language of baseball? People say "C'mon. Gimme a ballpark figure
- 10) Why do you think a CEO is sometimes referred to as the big cheese?

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STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- 1) Have you cut back on anything recently? Do you like these cutbacks?
- 2) How often do you think companies cut corners? How is this?
- 3) Have you ever helped draw up a contract?
- 4) Do other people's mobile phones ever make your temper become thin?
- 5) What do you need to do to get a company off the ground?
- 6) How do you stop a company from going belly up?
- 7) Is it only water and drinks companies that have liquid assets?
- 8) Have you ever got fed up with red tape?
- 9) Why do things that sell quickly sell like hotcakes?
- 10) What things can either nosedive or skyrocket?

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