

# Idiom of the Month: JAZZ SOMETHING UP

By Sarah Gudgeon

1. Tick the five adjectives you can use to describe something you like:

- a. beautiful
- b. nice
- c. horrible
- d. pretty
- e. cute
- f. gorgeous

2.

a. Read

I can't wear this dress to the party.  
It's horrible

Don't worry, we can jazz it up with a pretty belt  
and this gorgeous necklace.

OK, but I need a cute bag too!

b. Complete:

Sarah didn't like the boring black dress her mum bought her. She decided to

\_\_\_\_\_ with a gold belt and a pretty scarf.

**3. Read these music idioms and match each one to the correct meaning.**

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| a. It was <b>music to their ears</b> when the teacher announced that there was no test.                       | 1. in good physical form          |
| b. James decided to <b>face the music</b> and tell his mum he failed his exam.                                | 2. made a good decision           |
| c. John is very old but he is <b>as fit as a fiddle</b> . He runs 10km every day.                             | 3. great news                     |
| d. Denise wanted to <b>jazz up</b> the living room with some new curtains and new sofa cushions.              | 4. make something more attractive |
| e. Ben <b>hit the right note</b> when he made cheesecake for dessert - all his friends love Ben's cheesecake. | 5. accept the consequences        |

**4. Complete using music idioms from exercise 3:**

- a. Julia went to \_\_\_\_\_ and tell her dad about the crystal vase she broke yesterday.
- b. Jeremy decided to \_\_\_\_\_ his old car with some new paint.
- c. Kim goes swimming every day and is \_\_\_\_\_.
- d. Florence \_\_\_\_\_ when she gave all her friends a handmade candle for Christmas.
- e. The price of the video game was \_\_\_\_\_ David's \_\_\_\_\_; he had enough money to buy two!

## Teacher's Notes

1. Tick the adjectives: a, b, d, f, but not c.

2b. Complete

Sarah didn't like the boring black dress her mum bought her. She decided to **jazz it up** with a gold belt and a pretty scarf.

3. Match the music idioms to their correct meaning.

a. 3    b. 5    c. 1    d. 4    e. 2

4. Complete using idioms from exercise 3.

- a. Julia went to **face the music** and tell her dad about the crystal vase she broke yesterday.
- b. Jeremy decided to **jazz up** his old car with some new paint.
- c. Kim goes swimming every day and is **as fit as a fiddle**.
- d. Florence **hit the right note** when she gave all her friends a handmade candle for Christmas.
- e. The price of the video game was **music to David's ears**; he had enough money to buy two!

Ask the students some questions to elicit use of the idioms after they have completed the sentences to enable freer practice. For example:

*Tell your partner about a time that you decided to **jazz something up**.*