

Idiom of the Month: PUT ON A BRAVE FACE

By Sarah Gudgeon

1. Tick five things that make people feel sad.

- a. You don't like your new house.
- b. You fight with a friend.
- c. You lose a precious ring.
- d. You eat birthday cake.
- e. You don't get invited to a party.
- f. You don't pass your exams.

2.

a. Read

Poor Susy! She's the only girl in the class who isn't invited to Claire's party.

I know! She put on a brave face, but I think she was really sad when Claire didn't give her an invitation.

They were best friends too, before their fight over Michael.

b. Complete:

Alice..... when all her friends stopped talking to her, but her sister told me that she cried at home.

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

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| a. It was a slap in the face for Martin when his best friend took the girl he liked on a romantic date. | 1. when your face shows extreme feelings like great surprise or anger |
| b. John's mum was tired of looking at his long face , so she gave him some money to go to the cinema with his friends. | 2. an insult; offensive |
| c. Joan didn't know about the surprise party – her face was a picture . | 3. a miserable/sad expression |
| d. Philippa was very upset about her mum going away for two weeks, but she put on a brave face . | 4. pretend to be OK and not sad or upset |
| e. Julian is a barefaced liar : the answers to the exam were in his rucksack, but he still insisted that he didn't cheat. | 5. a person who doesn't tell the truth even when it is obvious |

4. Complete the sentences using idioms from exercise 3:

- a. Patrick didn't expect to receive the football trophy – his
- b. Louise was very disappointed when she didn't win, but she
- c. The decision to appoint Rosie as head of the basketball team was
..... for Juliette.
- d. Mandy is We all saw her take Paul's rubber.
- e. Frankie had a really He was bored on holiday without his friends.

Teacher's Notes

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

2b. Complete

Alice **put on a brave face** when all her friends stopped talking to her but her sister told me that she cried at home.

3. Match the music idioms to their correct meaning.

a. 2 b. 3 c. 1 d. 4 e. 5

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 had to **put on a brave face** even when, really, you just wanted to cry or shout.*

4. Complete using idioms from exercise 3.

- a. Patrick didn't expect to receive the football trophy – his *face was a picture*.
- b. Louise was very disappointed when she didn't win, but she *put on a brave face*.
- c. The decision to appoint Rosie as head of the basketball team was *a slap in the face* for Juliette.
- d. Mandy is *a barefaced liar*. We all saw her take Paul's rubber.
- e. Frankie had a really *long face*. He was bored on holiday without his friends.