

# Idiom of the Month: OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

By *Sarah Gudgeon*

1. Tick the five adjectives you can use to describe a hotel:

- a. quiet
- b. nice
- c. secluded
- d. delicious
- e. luxury

2a. Read

Where do you want to go on holiday

Hmmm....I don't know really but somewhere off the beaten track, without loads of tourists.

Sounds good to me. I love quiet, relaxing places.

## 2b. Complete

The hotel we went to last year was fantastic; it was totally \_\_\_\_\_.

In fact, it isn't in any guide books and so we were the only foreign tourists.

Glossary:

foreign = straniero

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

- a. Jenny and Lisa **are in the same boat**; they have both failed their maths exam.
- b. I can't stay for another coffee; it's time **to hit the road**.
- c. I'm so angry at you I, want you to **take a hike and leave me alone**.
- d. That cup of tea **was just the ticket**; I feel much better now
- e. Teenagers often **drive their parents up the wall** with their loud music and untidy bedrooms

- 1. to go away
- 2. were in the same situation
- 3. make their parents crazy
- 4. to leave
- 5. was the perfect thing

## 4. Write

- a. A cup of coffee is \_\_\_\_\_ to wake you up in the morning.
- b. The celebrity told the photographer "stop following me and \_\_\_\_\_".
- c. The dog barks all night and \_\_\_\_\_ the neighbours \_\_\_\_\_.
- d. Jack and Rob are both in trouble with the teacher; but at least they \_\_\_\_\_.
- e. Mike loved visiting his family but after a week it was time to \_\_\_\_\_.

# Teachers notes

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1.

Can't use 'delicious'

2b.

The hotel we went to last year was fantastic; it was totally *off the beaten track*. In fact, it isn't in any guide books and so we were the only foreign tourists.

3.

a. 2

b. 4

c. 1

d. 5

e. 3

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 something that drives you up the wall

4.

- a. A cup of coffee is just the ticket to wake you up in the morning.
- b. The celebrity told the photographer “stop following me and take a hike”.
- c. The dog barks all night and drives the neighbours up the wall.
- d. Jack and Rob are both in trouble with the teacher; but at least they are in the same boat
- e. Mike loved visiting his family but after a week it was time to hit the road