

Idiom of the Month: EVERY CLOUD HAS A SILVER LINING

By Sarah Gudgeon

1. Write two or more things that make you happy or sad.

- a. A family pet dies. (sad)
- b. Receiving birthday or Christmas presents. (happy)
- c. Your best friend doesn't invite you to her party. (sad)
- d. Hanging out with friends at the weekend. (happy)
- e.
- f.

2.

a. Read

What's wrong, Sam? You look really sad.

I am. It's my best friend's birthday party tomorrow and I'm not invited.

That's a shame! But every cloud has a silver lining! You can come to my cinema party. See you tomorrow at 8pm!

b. Complete:

James was really sad when his football match was cancelled, but then his dad got him tickets for the Championship Final at the stadium that same day, so in fact

.....

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

- | | |
|--|---|
| a. When life gives you lemons, make lemonade. | 1. There are other boys and girls in the world to love. |
| b. There is always light at the end of the tunnel. | 2. When you miss an opportunity, there is always another one. |
| c. When one door closes another one opens. | 3. Something positive will happen soon. |
| d. Keep your chin up. | 4. Make something good out of a bad situation. |
| e. There are plenty more fish in the sea. | 5. There is always some good in a bad situation. |
| f. Every cloud has a silver lining | 6. Be strong and think positive thoughts. |

4. Write.

- a. Gemma is heartbroken. Her boyfriend doesn't want to see her again, but her best friend Lucy tells her not to cry too much because they're young and
.....
- b. Marco is exhausted and stressed. He has got exams every day for two weeks but
.....
school finishes next Friday for the summer break.
- c. Justine was so sad when her grandma moved away but
.....: now she can go and stay with her at the seaside every weekend, and she's made loads of new friends too.
- d. Sarah's mum is brilliant. When she has a problem she always finds a way round it:
..... She never gives up, no matter what happens.
- e. Phil lost his job last week but then he was offered a new position the next day in a great company in America: you see,
.....
- f. It's hard to be brave sometimes but you should always
.....and do your best.

Teacher's Notes

1. Suggested answers: winning a sports match, getting really good grades, failing an exam, falling out with your friends.

2b. Complete

James was really sad when his football match was cancelled, but then his dad got him tickets for the Championship Final at the stadium that same day, so in fact **every cloud has a silver lining**.

3. Match the optimism idioms to their correct meaning.

a. 4 b.3 c.2 d. 6 e.1 f.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 something bad happened but then you realised that **every cloud has a silver lining**.*

4. Complete using idioms from exercise 3.

- a. Gemma is heartbroken. Her boyfriend doesn't want to see her again, but her best friend Lucy tells her not to cry too much because they're young and **there are plenty of fish in the sea**.
- b. Marco is exhausted and stressed. He has got exams every day for two weeks but **there is light at the end of the tunnel**: school finishes next Friday for the summer break.
- c. Justine was so sad when her grandma moved away but **every cloud has a silver lining**: now she can go and stay with her at the seaside every weekend, and she's made loads of new friends too.
- d. Sarah's mum is brilliant. When she has a problem she always finds a way round it: **when life gives her lemons, she makes lemonade**. She never gives up, no matter what happens.
- e. Phil lost his job last week but then he was offered a new position the next day in a great company in America: you see, **when one door closes, another one opens**.
- f. It's hard to be brave sometimes but you should always **keep your chin up** and do your best.