



Topic

Conversation
for Idioms

Lesson 2
Numbers

Lead-in

Guess the words based on the pictures.



1st
wheel



2nd
wheel



3rd
wheel



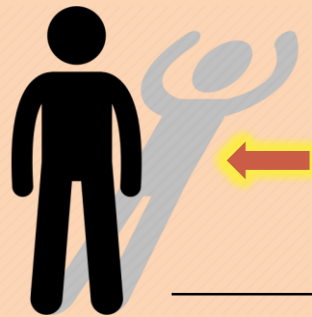
4th
wheel



?

$\frac{1}{8}$

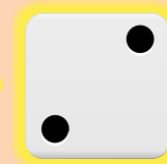
one over the _____



5 o'clock



+



+



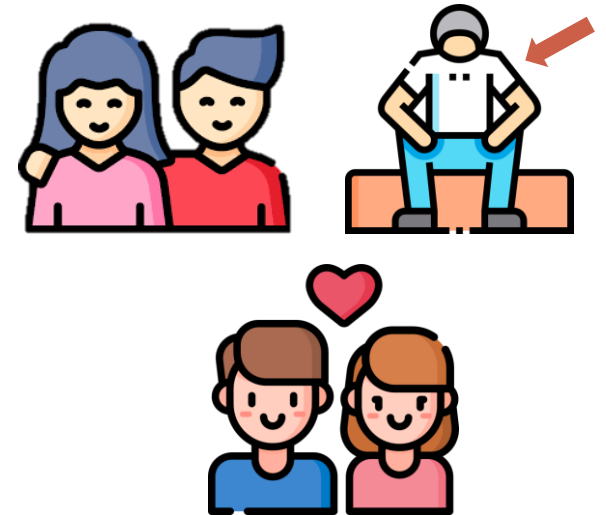
at _____ es and _____ s

1. He didn't realize that the party was for couples only, so when he showed up, he felt like a **fifth wheel**.

Q How would you feel about being a fifth wheel?

Origin

This idiom is similar to the expression “third wheel”. This phrase originated from an extra wheel that was on four-wheel coaches, carriages, and wagons which was unnecessary or unimportant.



2. I was in control of myself for most of the evening but after drinking a lot of beer, I'm **one over the eight**.

- Q** Which is true about the statement?
- a. He is drunk.
 - b. He has drunk only one-eighth of his glass.

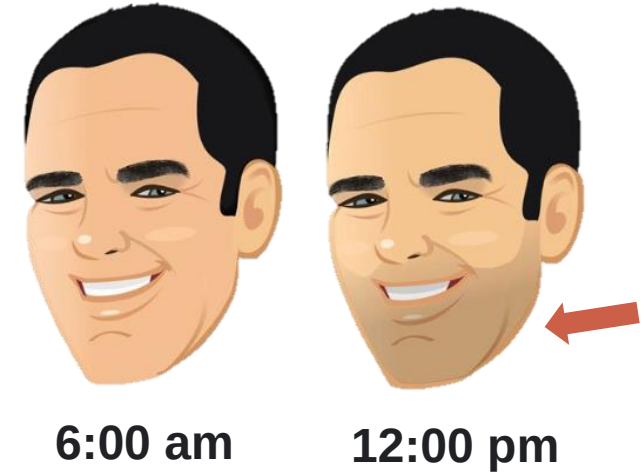
Origin

This originated as UK military slang from the early 20th century in which a drinker can reasonably be expected to consume eight glasses of beer without becoming drunk. A person was thought to be drunk by the time they drank over eight glasses of beer.



3. I shave every morning but I get a **5 o'clock shadow** by lunchtime.

Q Do you think it's necessary for men to shave for work? Why or why not?



Did you know?

No matter how close of a shave a man may get in the morning, on average, one can expect this length of hair to have grown by around 5-6 pm that evening. Yes – that's exactly where it gets its name from.

4. She was **at sixes and sevens** after cramming for her final exams.

- Q** What is the meaning of the idiom?
- a. to be in a state of confusion and disorder
 - b. to be tired because it's getting late at the night

Origin

The term at sixes and sevens goes back at least to the 1300s. The phrase likely originated from a dice game in which rolling a six or a seven was unfavorable.



Quick Review

Numbers



fifth wheel
an extra and unnecessary person or thing

one over the eight
one drink too many

5 o'clock shadow
a short beard on a man's face that has grown since the morning shave

at sixes and sevens
to be in a confused or badly organized situation

Practice

Complete the sentences by choosing the appropriate idioms.

at sixes and sevens

fifth wheel

one over the eight

5 o'clock shadow

1. Mom has been _____ because of the never-ending chores.
2. Whenever I go out with them, I feel like the _____.
They don't even talk to me.
3. He was _____ after drinking 10 bottles of beer last night.
4. I always shave my beard in the morning but the _____
appears after a few hours.

Practice

Read each task card and answer the questions using the idioms learned.

1

Tommy is having dinner with 4 of his friends but he is bored because he can't relate to their conversations.

How does Tommy feel?

2

Thomas is going to attend a whole-day meeting. He is afraid that he will grow a beard later in the day.

What does Thomas fear?

3

Clifford was tired from work so he invited Philip to drink at a pub. Clifford drank one too many bottles of beer.

What will happen to Clifford?

4

Trisha has been taking care of 6 dogs while her best friend was on a vacation in Malibu.

What state is Trisha possibly experiencing?

WHO ARE YOU?



1. When was the last time you felt **at sixes and sevens**?
2. Give 3 ways to avoid being disorganized:

- _____
- _____
- _____