



Topic

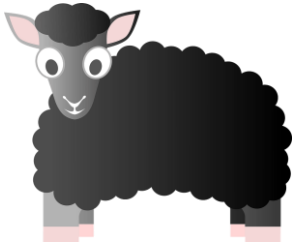
Conversation
for Idioms

Lesson 4
“Colorful” People

Lead-in

Arrange the letters to form the correct idiom.

1



black _____

S H E P E

3



green _____

B H M U T

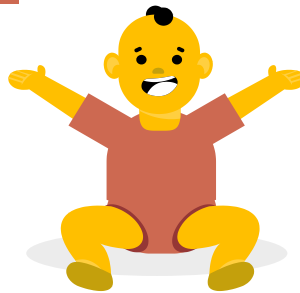
2



blue _____

O L B D O

4



golden _____

Y O B

Let's Learn

1. He is known as the family's **black sheep** because he is the only one who doesn't have a job.

- Q What are your thoughts on the black sheep concept?
- Q How does being regarded as the "black sheep" affect a person?

Origin

The phrase is derived from the rare black sheep that is born into a flock of white sheep. Due to its inability to be dyed, black wool is seen as being commercially undesirable.



2. Mae is carrying on the **blue blood** lineage because her mother was a duchess and her father was a duke.

Q What traits distinguish someone as having blue blood?

Origin

Typically, the elite or royalty in many societies spent their days in the palace or estate. As a result, they had very light skin because they were never in the sun, working the fields. As a result, it was easy to see the blue veins below their skin, leading to the formation of the phrase.



3. I've never been able to grow a plant, but my sister is the complete opposite because she has a **green thumb**.

Q When do we use the idiom?



when describing someone who has a natural talent for growing plants



when describing someone who likes to buy different kinds of plants



4. Being a **golden boy** earned him the admiration of many ladies.

Q What does the idiom mean?



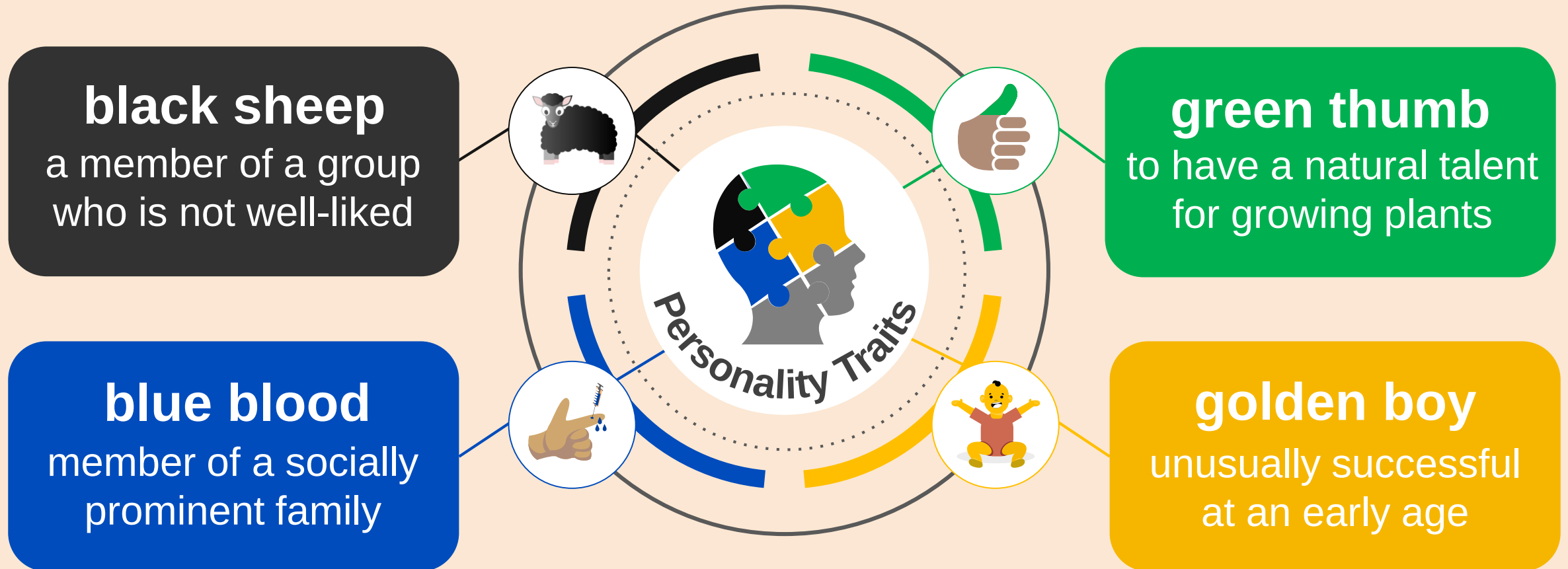
a man who is unusually successful at an early age



a man who is successful due to a wealthy family background



Quick Review



Practice

Mark the sentences that are correct.

- He's referred to as the "black horse" since he always causes trouble.
- He's referred to as the "black sheep" since he always causes trouble.
- Even if we have red blood, we should still save money.
- Even if we have blue blood, we should still save money.
- As she has a green thumb, my mom has decided not to grow plants anymore.
- As she has a green thumb, my mom has a variety of plants in her garden.
- Nobody knows him wherever he goes. He is indeed a golden boy.
- No wonder he is so well-known everywhere I go—he is a golden boy.

Practice

Extend the sentences by adding phrases using the idioms.

1. He is a rule breaker.



black sheep

2. She wants to enroll in Harvard University.



blue blood

3. They participated in a tree planting program.



green thumb

4. Many people admire him for his success.



golden boy

A woman with long blonde hair, wearing a gold crown and a black and gold sequined dress, is sitting in a red upholstered chair. She has her hand to her chin in a thoughtful pose. The background is a grand, ornate room with chandeliers and arched doorways.

What are the advantages and disadvantages of having **blue blood?**