



Topic

Conversation
for Idioms

Lesson 14
Money

tighten one's

burn a hole in
one's _____



cost an _____
and a _____

a nest _____

1. The latest phone **costs an arm and a leg**.
I can't afford to buy it.

Q When do we use this idiom?

- when something is very pricey
- when something is very cheap



2. I am building **a nest egg** now because I want to have a new house.

Q What things would you build a nest egg for?

Origin

The term comes from the practice of leaving a real or fake egg in a nest to encourage hens to lay more. You put money into “nest eggs” to let it grow to a greater sum in the future.



3. I had to **tighten my belt** since I was fired from my job.

Q Tick the actions that show tightening one's belt.

- dining-in at expensive restaurants
- doing online shopping every day
- buying necessary things only
- reducing the use of electricity and appliances



4. My salary is **burning a hole in my pocket**.
I can't wait to spend it.

Q Which picture best describes the meaning of the idiom?



A



B

Quick Review

tighten one's belt

to spend less than usual in order to save money



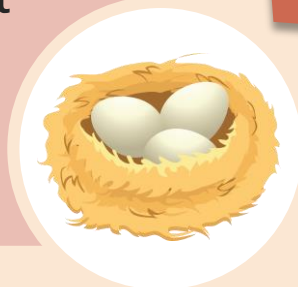
burn a hole in one's pocket

in one's possession and cause an intense urge to make use of it



a nest egg

a sum of money that has been kept for a special purpose



cost an arm and a leg

to be extremely expensive



Practice

Rearrange the idioms to correct the sentences.

1. I can't afford to spend my salary even if it (hole/ my/ pocket/ in/ burns/ a).

2. I am paying for my mom's hospital bills, so I have to (my/ tighten/ belt).

3. I am now building (egg/ a/ nest) for my future.

4. Buying a new house (an/ arm/ costs/ and/ leg/ a).

Money is necessary yet a difficult thing to obtain and keep. It is needed to pay for our needs and wants that sometimes **c** _____. Often, it can vanish quickly. So, if you plan to travel or buy something in the future, you must build **a** _____, try not to spend much, and **t** _____. Do not be tempted to spend your money, even if it **b** _____. Learning to save money now will pay off in the future.



What are the advantages and disadvantages of **tightening one's belt**?

Advantages

Disadvantages
