



# Topic

Conversation  
for Idioms

Lesson 27  
Communication



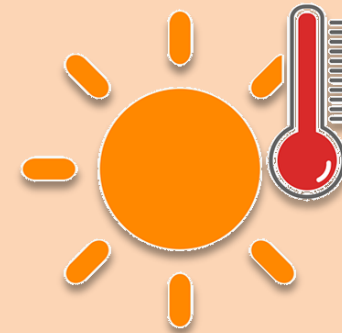
1 by word of \_\_\_\_\_



2 spread like wild \_\_\_\_\_



3 \_\_\_\_\_ someone a line



4 \_\_\_\_\_ -off-the-press

1. I had no idea that he lost the game.  
I just found out **by word of mouth**.

What does the idiom mean?



by being told by another person



to live without a lot of money



2. She told us to keep it a secret, but we were shocked that it **spread like wildfire**.



Guess the meaning of the idiom.



Create a sentence using the idiom.



3. Mila is busy but she still **drops me a line** and lets me know how she is doing.

### Meaning

write someone a letter or an email

**Q** If you could drop someone a line now, who would you write to and what would you say?



4. My favorite radio station provides **hot-off-the-press** news every hour.

### Did you know?

This expression originated from newspaper printing in the early 1900s. The large printing presses used to produce newspapers operated at high temperatures. Just like a printed page that comes off hot, the 'news' coming off the printers was literally hot too.



# Quick Review

## by word of mouth

by being told by another person

## spread like wildfire

to spread quickly



# Communication

## drop someone a line

write someone a letter or an email

## hot-off-the-press

only just printed or only just received

1

**This idiom means ‘to spread something quickly’.**

- a. hot-off-the-press    b. spread like wildfire    c. by word of mouth

2

**It means ‘to write someone a letter or an email’.**

- a. drop someone a line    b. by word of mouth    c. hot-off-the-press

3

**It means that information has just been printed or received.**

- a. hot-off-the-press    b. spread like wildfire    c. by word of mouth

4

**This idiom means ‘by being told by another person’.**

- a. drop someone a line    b. by word of mouth    c. hot-off-the-press



## Practice

Choose the idiom to complete the sentence.  
Change their forms where needed.

by word of mouth

drop someone a line

spread like wildfire

hot-off-the-press

1

The media has greatly evolved. Nowadays, news can just \_\_\_\_\_ and keep everyone updated.

2

I haven't talked to Sheena for a while. I plan to \_\_\_\_\_ once I finish all my tasks.

## Practice

Choose the idiom to complete the sentence.  
Change their forms where needed.

by word of mouth

drop someone a line

spread like wildfire

hot-off-the-press

3

Britney got some \_\_\_\_\_ news. She told me that Claire is pregnant.

4

The movie became successful \_\_\_\_\_.  
A few people saw it and told their friends about it.

# Discussion

Go through your email and answer some questions.

The screenshot shows an email application interface. On the left is a sidebar with a 'Compose' button and five folders: 'Inbox' (5), 'Starred' (1), 'Sent' (1), and 'Draft' (1). The main area displays the 'Inbox' with five email entries, each with a sender name and a snippet of the subject line.

Folder	Count
Inbox	5
Starred	1
Sent	1
Draft	1

Sender	Subject Snippet
Erica	Do you have any hot-off ...
Phillip	Who was the last person ...
Liza	Which news in your country ...
Sam	Have you ever spread a ...
George	What recent information ...