

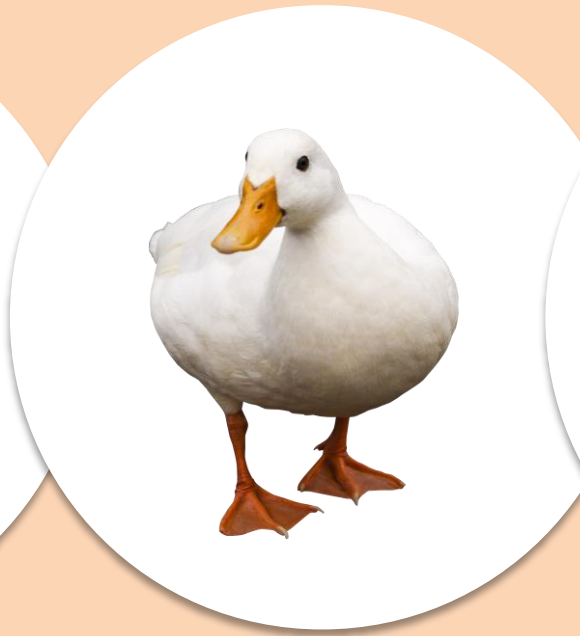


Topic

Conversation
for Idioms

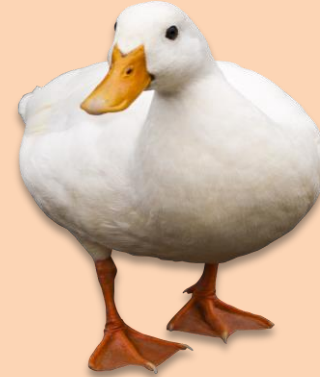
Lesson 38
Animals (2)

What are these animals?

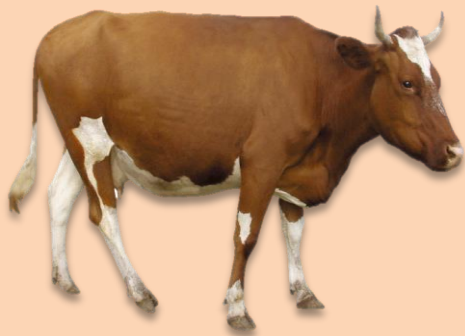




**let the cat
out of the bag**



**get one's ducks
in a row**



**take the bull
by the horns**



**to have/ get
the lion's share**

Let's Learn

1. Before we begin our project, we must **get our ducks in a row**.

- Q What are some situations where one needs to do a lot of preparations?
- Q Are you the kind of person who likes to prepare before doing something?

Origin

One possible origin is from a 1700s lawn bowling game that involved lining up duckpins in a row.



2. Fiona **took the bull by the horns** and told her noisy roommate to move out of her apartment.

Q What is the meaning of the idiom?

- to act as if a difficult situation did not exist at all
- to deal with a difficult, dangerous, or unpleasant situation bravely



3. Joe's issue was supposed to be a secret, but she **let the cat out of the bag**.

- Q** What is true about the sentence?
- She shared Joe's issue to other people.
 - Joe secretly has a pet cat but she told other people about it.

Origin

In the 1700s, when someone would buy a pig, vendors would sneak a cat into the bag instead. When buyers arrived home, the cat would be out of the bag and they'd realize they'd been scammed; hence, the phrase's association with revealing a secret.



4. Sean is lazy and doesn't do much at work, but he **gets the lion's share** of the profit.

Q When is it fair for someone to get the lion's share?

Origin

The idiom is derived from an Aesop fable in which the lion hunts with three other beasts and claims one portion as king of the forest.



Lazy Sean



Hardworking Me

Quick Review



**get one's
ducks in a row**

to make all
the necessary
preparations for
doing something



**take the bull
by the horns**

to deal with a
difficult, dangerous,
or unpleasant
situation bravely



**let the cat out
of the bag**

to unintentionally
or accidentally
reveal a secret



**to have/ get the
lion's share**

to have the largest
part or share, especially
a disproportionate portion

A

1. **get one's ducks in a row**
2. **take the bull by the horns**
3. **let the cat out of the bag**
4. **to have/ get the lion's share**

B

- a. **to get the largest share**
- b. **to make all the needed preparations**
- c. **to tell secrets accidentally**
- d. **to bravely deal with a difficult situation**

Practice

Fill in the blanks with the appropriate idiom.
Change its form if necessary.

get one's ducks in a row

take the bull by the horns

let the cat out of the bag

to have/ get the lion's share

- 1 He didn't _____ and delivered a poor presentation.
- 2 Because she is the favorite child, she always _____ of the meal.
- 3 He is so careless that he always _____ .
- 4 Peter normally lets bullies go, but this time he _____ and fought back.



Why is it unfair to always **get the lion's share?
What usually happens when we **let the cat out of the bag?****