



Topic

Conversation
for Idioms

Lesson 39
Transportation

Lead-in

Guess the names of the following.

1



2



3



Lead-in

Guess the meaning of these idioms.



**the ship
has sailed**



**sleep at
the wheel**



**paddle one's
own canoe**



**spin one's
wheel**

Let's Learn

1. Ben wanted to buy my house, but **the ship has sailed**. Lara has already bought it.

Meaning

the opportunity has already passed

- Q** Tell me about a very important opportunity you missed before.

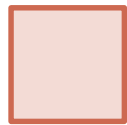


2. I did not know that our trip was canceled. I was just **spinning my wheels** packing my things all this time.

What does the idiom mean?



to save time and effort in packing things



to waste time and effort doing things that achieve nothing



3. Tom should be busy doing his homework, but it seems like he is just **sleeping at the wheel**.



Guess the meaning of the idiom.

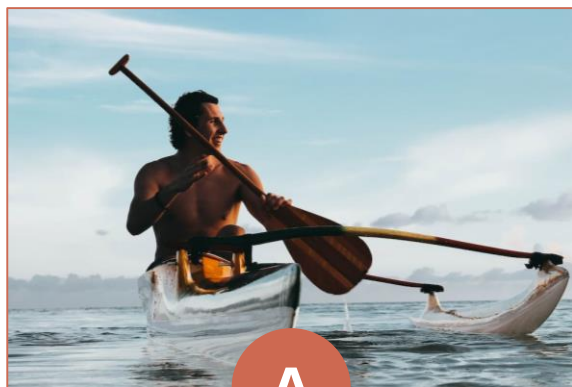


Create a sentence using the idiom.

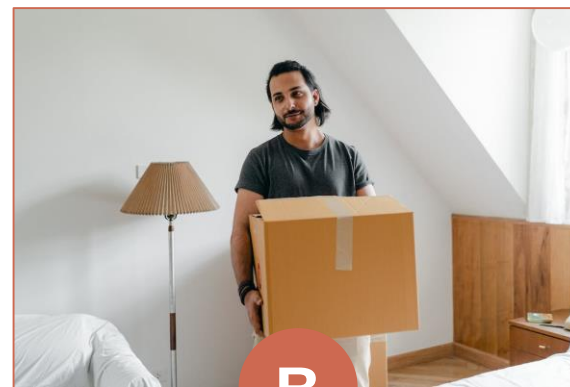


4. I should **paddle my own canoe** now that I have moved out of my parents' house.

Choose the picture that best describes the idiom.



A



B

Quick Review

TRANSPORTATION

**the ship
has sailed**

an opportunity
has already
passed

**spin one's
wheel**

to waste time and
effort doing things
that achieve nothing

**sleep at
the wheel**

not paying attention to
problems or important things

**paddle one's
own canoe**

to be independent
and self-sufficient

Practice

Match the idioms in Column A to their meanings in Column B.

A

1. the ship has sailed
2. spin one's wheel
3. sleep at the wheel
4. paddle one's own canoe

B

- a. be independent and self-sufficient
- b. to waste time by achieving nothing
- c. the opportunity has already passed
- d. not paying attention to problems or important things

Practice

Complete the sentences using the idioms.
Change their forms where needed.

the ship has sailed

sleep at the wheel

spin one's wheel

paddle one's own canoe

- 1 I finished a lot of tasks, but I feel like I am just _____.
- 2 Their child learned to _____ when they died last year.
- 3 His boss was angry because he was always _____.
- 4 Sorry, but _____ and we're no longer accepting applications.

Discussion

Compare the following quotations and answer the question.

If your ship has sailed, you missed your chance.

There is no such thing as “too late” in life.

How should an individual paddle his own canoe when he feels like he is just spinning the wheel all the time?

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