



Ted's chemistry class is way over his head.

LESSON 3

TED'S DAY AT SCHOOL

Ted tells his parents he did poorly on his chemistry test. They tell him he needs to get serious and study more.

テッドは両親に科学のテストが上手くいかなかったことを伝えました。彼らはテッドに、もっと真剣に勉強するように言いました。

Susan: How was your day at school today, Ted?

Ted: Bad. I had a chemistry test, and I **blew it!**

Susan: Maybe if you didn't **cut class** so often, you'd do better.

Bob: That's right, son. Stop **slacking off** and start **hitting the books!**

Ted: **But I can't stand chemistry class.** Besides, it's a **lost cause.** That class is way **over my head.**

Susan: You need to **buckle down.**

Ted: When I'm a famous musician, people won't **give a hoot** about my knowledge of atoms and molecules.

Bob: That's **beside the point.**

Susan: We know you have your **heart set on** going to New York University.

Bob: And you don't **stand a chance** of getting in there with such poor grades!



IDIOMS – LESSON 3

beside the point – not relevant; not the issue

別問題、要点をはずれて、筋違いで

EXAMPLE: Whether or not I asked the waiter to bring us water is **beside the point**. Waiters should always bring water to the table.

(to) blow something – to spoil or botch something

しくじる、台無しにする、チャンスを逃がす

EXAMPLE: Sharon **blew the interview** and didn't get the job offer.

(to) buckle down – to start working seriously

(仕事や勉強に)身を入れる、真面目に取り組む

EXAMPLE: If Jason **buckles down** now, he might be able to graduate from high school this year.

can't stand – to hate

我慢できない、むしゃくしゃする

EXAMPLE: Bob **can't stand** bureaucrats, so he'd never do well working for the government.

(to) cut class – to miss class without an excuse

授業をさぼる

EXAMPLE: Ted often **cuts class** to spend more time with his girlfriend.

Get real! – be serious or realistic about what's going on

現実を目に向けようよ、現実的に考える

EXAMPLE: You think you won't get a speeding ticket when you drive 85 miles per hour? **Get real!**

(to) have one's heart set on – to really want something

～を欲しがらる、心を決める

EXAMPLE: Nicole **has her heart set on** studying in Madrid during her junior year of college.

(to) hit the books – to start studying

熱心に勉強する、勉強を始める

EXAMPLE: Ted partied all weekend. Finally, on Sunday night, he decided it was time to **hit the books**.

lost cause – something hopeless

見込みのない、駄目になった目標、

EXAMPLE: Cindy spent four years studying Russian. Finally, she realized it was a **lost cause**. She would never learn it.

(to) not give a hoot [slang] – to not care about

少しも気にしない、気にならない

EXAMPLE: Tom likes to walk around town in his pajamas — he doesn't **give a hoot** what people think.

SYNONYMS: to not give a damn (下品な表現); to not give a darn

over one's head – beyond one's understanding

難し過ぎて分からない、理解できない

EXAMPLE: The article on cloning was written for scientists. It was **over my head**.

(to) slack off – to waste time

怠ける

EXAMPLE: Amanda doesn't get much done at the office. She's too busy **slacking off**.

メモ: "slack off"には、激しさや速さが減少するという意味もあります。

(to) stand a chance – to have the possibility of success

チャンスがある、見込みがある、有望である

EXAMPLE: Although the American figure skaters were good, they didn't **stand a chance** of winning a gold medal at the Olympics.

PRACTICE THE IDIOMS

English Teachers On Call

Choose the most appropriate reply to the following statements:

1) *Bob*: "Susan, I can't get my old job back. It's a lost cause."

Susan's reply:

- "Lost? Maybe I can help you find it."
- "Yes, I know it's not a good cause."
- "I understand. You'll find something else."

2) *Susan*: "How could Peter fire you? Were you slacking off?"

Bob's reply:

- a) "No. I was working very hard!"
- b) "No. I talked on the phone to friends all day."
- c) "Yes. I was working very hard!"

3) *Ted*: "It's getting late. I'd better start hitting the books."

Bob's reply:

- a) "Yes, that's a good idea. Spend some time studying."
- b) "Hit the books? Why don't you read them instead?"
- c) "Why don't you study instead?"

4) *Peter*: "I don't give a hoot how long you've been working here."

Bob's reply:

- a) "I wouldn't give you a hoot either."
- b) "I guess our years together aren't important to you."
- c) "Yes, it was a long time."

5) *Bob*: "Susan, the truth is that I couldn't stand Peter."

Susan's reply:

- a) "I know. Peter really liked you too."
- b) "I liked him too. He was a nice guy."
- c) "I didn't like him either. He was a jerk."

6) *Susan*: "Nicole, do you ever cut class?"

Nicole's reply:

- a) "No. I've never missed a single class."
- b) "Yes. I had to leave my math class early yesterday."
- c) "No. Sometimes I go to the mall during class time."

7) *Bob*: "This book on computers is way over my head."

Susan's reply:

- a) "Over your head? It should be in front of your face!"
- b) "Why don't you start with an easier book?"
- c) "Here, try this book. It's more difficult."

8) *Nicole*: "I've got my heart set on going to the school picnic."

Susan's reply:

- a) "Okay. You should definitely go."
- b) "Really? Why don't you want to go?"
- c) "I understand. Picnics can be boring."

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