

■ Now you've read the meanings of these idioms, do the exercise and try to guess the meanings of the common body part idioms.

**Q1.** Face the music

- a) go to a concert
- b) accept unpleasant consequences, e.g. of one's actions
- c) argue with one's partner

**Q2.** Head start

- a) An early start
- b) Getting up very early
- c) Getting married too soon

**Q3.** By heart

- a) with a huge amount of feeling
- b) memorize
- c) loving someone you shouldn't

**Q4.** Rule of thumb

- a) Disregard the rules
- b) Lie to one's boss
- c) General, basic rule

**Q5.** Pull one's leg

- a) joke with someone, often by not telling the truth
- b) trip someone over
- c) shout at someone

**Q6.** Flesh and blood

- a) meat
- b) direct relative
- c) a big fight

**Q7.** Let one's hair down

- a) relax, enjoy yourself
- b) go to the hairdresser
- c) be very careful

**Q8.** Old hand

- a) a grandparent
- b) to be very good at tennis
- c) to be experienced in something

## ANSWERS

### A1. b) accept consequences

«I know that I didn't do the washing up this morning, so I'll have to go home and face the music now... my wife will be fuming.»

### A2. a) an early start

The teacher gave us a week's head start on the project, so we could do more research and get our facts straight.

### A3. b) memorize

I know several Shakespeare sonnets by heart.

### A4. c) general, basic rule

Doctors say you should drink at least 1 litre of water a day as a rule of thumb.

### A5. a) joke with someone, often by not telling the truth

When we told Colin it was a costume party, we were only pulling his leg. Imagine his poor face when he turned up as a Smurf and we were all in normal clothes!

### A6. b) a direct relative

I can't be angry with her forever, she's my own flesh and blood!

### A7. a) relax, enjoy yourself

This weekend, just forget about the big interview and try to let your hair down.

### A8. c) to be experienced in something

Tim is an old hand at DIY – why don't you ask him to put your shelves up?