

PRACTICAL ENGLISH FOR PROFESSIONALS

LESSON 12. TRAVEL IDIOMS 1

Match the following travel idioms to their meanings:

Idiom	Meaning
1. to jump on the bandwagon	A. to do nothing that might cause trouble or upset a stable situation
2. in the same boat	B. a passenger in a car who gives unwanted advice to the driver
3. to miss the boat	C. to do what you want to do without help or interference from anyone
4. to (not) rock the boat	D. large and small roads
5. to paddle one's own canoe	E. accept what I propose or leave the project
6. to put the cart before the horse	F. someone who finds it difficult to stay in one place and likes to travel and discover new places
7. to drive a hard bargain	G. in the same unpleasant or difficult situation
8. to drive someone up the wall	H. to begin a journey
9. backseat driver	I. to be approaching the end of something such as a task, a race or a journey
10. highways and byways	J. to decide to do something when it is already successful or fashionable
11. my way or the highway	K. to do something that greatly annoys or irritates others
12. to hit the road	L. to fail to take advantage of an opportunity because you don't act quickly enough
13. to be on the home stretch	M. to do things in the wrong order
14. to have itchy feet	N. to make sure you gain advantage in a business deal

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Now choose one of the idioms (1-14) above to complete each of the sentences (A-N) below. Use the correct form of the verbs:

- A. After the recent riots, it was decided _____ by introducing strict measures.
- B. He decided _____ and set up his own business.
- C. Building a school before knowing the age of the population is _____.
- D. Be prepared for tough negotiations with Dan. He _____.
- E. Andrew _____ again. He says he's going to teach in China for a few years.
- F. It's getting late and we've got a long way to go. Let's _____.
- G. Don't give up – we _____ now.
- H. He travelled the _____ looking for traces of his ancestors.
- I. You don't have much choice when someone says _____.
- J. I can't concentrate with all the noise - it's _____.
- K. I can't stand _____ like my mother-in-law!
- L. When the factory closed down, the workers all found themselves _____.
- M. I managed to get my order through before the end of the special offer - but I nearly _____!
- N. When organic food became popular, certain stores were quick _____ and promote it.