

PRACTICAL ENGLISH FOR PROFESSIONALS

LESSON 13 ANSWERS. TRAVEL IDIOMS 2

Idiom		Meaning	
1.	to jump the lights	N.	to continue driving when the traffic lights turn red
2.	fallen off the back of a lorry	G.	stolen goods
3.	to make your way to	R.	to manage to get to a destination without difficulty
4.	to put the pedal to the metal	P.	to accelerate or make something go faster
5.	any port in a storm	H.	a solution you accept which in normal circumstances you would find unacceptable
6.	to take someone for a ride	O.	to cheat or deceive them
7.	road rage	T.	aggressive driving habits sometimes resulting in violence against other drivers
8.	middle of the road (MOR)	L.	anything moderate, unadventurous or inoffensive that avoids extremes and appeals to the majority of people
9.	to get the show on the road	Q.	to manage to put a plan into action
10.	to sail close to the wind	E.	to do something dangerous or act just within the limits of what is legal or acceptable
11.	to sail through	D.	to succeed in doing something without difficulty
12.	Shank's pony	C.	to have to walk rather than travel by bus, car, etc.
13.	ships that pass in the night	F.	People who meet briefly and are not likely to meet again.
14.	to live out of a suitcase	S.	someone who travels a lot, moving from place to place
15.	train of thought	B.	a sequence of connected ideas
16.	to hitch one's wagon to a star	I.	to try to succeed by forming a relationship with someone who is already successful.
17.	to be on the wagon	M.	someone who is no longer drinking alcohol
18.	to be asleep at the wheel	K.	not sufficiently attentive, especially at a critical moment when vigilance is required
19.	fifth wheel	J.	a person who finds himself in a situation where his presence is unnecessary and as a result he feels useless
20.	wheels fall off	A.	when a situation gets out of control and everything starts to go wrong

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- A. When the firemen arrived too late at the scene, the night watchman was accused of **being asleep at the wheel**.
- B. The hotel was substandard, but it was a case of **any port in a storm**; all the others were full.
- C. I was considering the different options when the noise outside broke **my train of thought**.
- D. OK, we've got all we need, so let's **get the show on the road**.
- E. The English test was no problem for Pedro. He **sailed through** it.
- F. Judging by the price of that camera, it must have **fallen off the back of a lorry!**
- G. A number of accidents today are a direct result of **road rage**.
- H. If I **put the pedal to the metal**, I might get there on time.
- I. Everyone seemed to have a specific role except me. I felt like **a fifth wheel**.
- J. Sarah's job involves so much travelling that she **lives out of a suitcase**.
- K. No wine for me please - I'm **on the wagon**.
- L. It's very dangerous **to jump the lights**. No wonder he was stopped by the police.
- M. At an early age she decided **to hitch her wagon to a star** and become famous.
- N. The **wheels fell off** her career when she started taking drugs and cancelling concerts.
- O. I discovered he had charged me double the normal fee. He really **took me for a ride!**
- P. The two men met once, like **ships that pass in the night**, and never met again.
- Q. He's a successful **middle-of-the-road** entertainer. My mother wouldn't miss a show!
- R. He seems to invest his money well although he often **sails close to the wind**.
- S. It was impossible to find a taxi after the party, so it was **Shank's pony** for us!
- T. Don't worry. I'll **make my way to** your home from the station.