

The Hand That Feeds Me

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After Reading

A The title, *The Hand that Feeds Me*, is taken from an English saying that goes: “Don’t bite the hand that feeds you”. Do you know about any similar sayings in your language?

Task 1:

a) Watch the video dealing with some idioms about dogs and provide your own definition:

1. To be in the dog house:

2. The hair of the dog:

3. To make a dog's dinner of something:

b) Do you know any other idioms connected with dogs/animals?

Task 2:

a) Work with a partner. Read the following list of idioms about dogs. Choose three and write a definition.

Are there any equivalent idioms in your mother tongue?

1. <i>It's a dog's life</i>	6. <i>Every dog has its day</i>
2. <i>She is a real dog</i>	7. <i>If you lie down with dogs, you will get up with fleas</i>
3. <i>The dog that didn't bark</i>	8. <i>You can't teach an old dog new tricks</i>
4. <i>His bark is worse than his bite</i>	9. <i>barking up the wrong tree</i>
5. <i>dog eat dog</i>	10. <i>throw someone to the dogs</i>

b) Match the idioms and definitions.

<u>IDIOMS</u>	<u>DEFINITIONS</u>
<p>1. It's a dog's life</p> <p>2. S/he is a real dog</p> <p>3. The dog that didn't bark</p> <p>4. His bark is worse than his bite</p> <p>5. dog eat dog</p> <p>6. Every dog has its day</p> <p>7. You can't teach an old dog new tricks</p> <p>8. If you lie down with dogs, you will get up with fleas</p> <p>9. barking up the wrong tree</p> <p>10. throw someone to the dogs</p>	<p>a. Someone who appears to be mean and nasty, but rarely acts on their threats</p> <p>b. everyone has a lucky period in their life.</p> <p>c. a situation where people will do anything to be successful, regardless of the fact they could harm other people.</p> <p>d. If you frequently meet bad people, you will acquire their defects</p> <p>e. Things are terrible.</p> <p>f. not to intervene when someone is criticized, in order to protect yourself from being attacked.</p> <p>g. It's hard to make someone change their habits when they have been behaving that way all their life</p> <p>h. believing the wrong explanation for something.</p> <p>i. a very ugly looking person</p> <p>j. something unspoken, something people don't talk about</p>

Task 3:

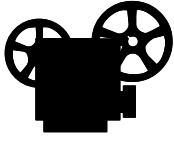
Work in pairs: choose three idioms from the list above and think of a situation where they could be applied, write it down and then report to the class.

B There is a two-hour gap between the first time that the dog and the homeless man meet and the moment when the dog finds him lying on the floor. Imagine what happened in those two hours in the alleys. Write an extract that could be inserted in the story to complete this gap. Write from the point of view of either:

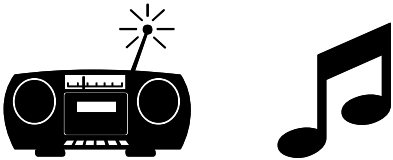
- The dog
- One of the three men
- The homeless man.



C Research the role of dogs in films, cartoons or literature (Rex, 101 Dalmatians, Scooby-Doo, etc.) and compare them to the dog in this story.



D Imagine that this story was made into a film. Choose the soundtrack for the different scenes and be ready to explain your choice.



E In groups, draw a storyboard of one or two scenes of the story. Post your drawings on the walls to share with the rest of the students.

F Discuss with your classmates the quotation from the story “I was pleased with my justice” (line 85).

G Web Search: “The Big Issue”

OPTION 1

Visit the website www.bigissue.com and do the tasks that follow:

1. Find out about the history of the magazine and fill in the table:

Year it was founded	
Who founded it	
Where was it published for 1 st time	
Original idea	

2. How does The Big Issue work?
3. Click on “Code of Conduct” and choose the three rules that strike you as the most surprising/shocking/interesting. Explain why.
4. How could you contribute to the Big Issue foundation?

OPTION 2

Visit the website www.bigissue.com and do the tasks that follow:

1. Find out about the history of the magazine and fill in the table:

Year it was founded	
Who founded it	
Where was it published for 1 st time	
Original idea	

2. Click on the link INSP and find which countries have a similar magazine. Read about the magazine in your country.
3. Who are the vendors?