



WORLD NEWS

and IDIOMS

PART 2.

articles #31-60



#31 A Very Young Influencer



Sirio is a seven-year-old boy from Italy. He cannot speak and he cannot feed himself, but it did not stop him from becoming a social media star. He has become one of Italy's youngest influencers.

His mother Valentina runs Sirio's Instagram page. She said that she wanted to tell the story of a disabled person differently. Valentina said that it was difficult to accept her son's disability, but she was lucky to get help from other people. With the right help, her son started living a good life. She met many families who were in a similar situation and they supported each other.

Sirio's parents understood that it was very important to show that their son enjoyed his life. People are usually sorry for disabled people and they think that disabled people cannot live a good life.



WORDS

- * **influencer** : a person who affects many other people's lives by what he does and says
- * **disabled** : a person who cannot use a part of his body properly or he cannot learn easily

1. Who is Sirio? How did he become a social media star?
2. What did Sirio's parents understand was very important?
3. What would you like to tell Sirio? What would you like to tell his parents?
4. What are seven-year-old children in Korea usually like? What do they do? What things do they like?
5. In your opinion, how can disabled people live a good life?
6. Do you want to become an influencer? If yes, what do you want to be famous for on social media? / If not, why not?



#32 A Boy Steals a Bus



An 11-year-old boy stole a school bus and he took it for a joyride in the streets of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on Sunday morning.

The boy was chased by the police for 45 minutes, and he drove about 13 miles before he crashed the vehicle into a tree. A witness at the scene said that she saw the child giggling behind the wheel as he drove past her.

The boy was arrested and taken into police custody for the theft of the vehicle, aggravated flight, and three counts of aggravated damage to property and assault. Police said that it was unclear how the boy got to the bus, which was reportedly privately owned.



WORDS

- * **joyride** : a ride that is taken for pleasure
- * **aggravated flight** : when a driver refuses to stop a vehicle
- * **aggravated damage** : when a person causes a lot of damage to something

1. Where did the boy steal a school bus and take it for a joyride?
2. What was the boy arrested and taken into police custody for? Give three reasons.
3. In your opinion, why did the boy steal the school bus? How do you think he was able to do it?
4. A witness said that she saw the child giggling behind the wheel as he drove past her. Why do you think the boy was giggling?
5. Do you think the boy should be punished? If yes, why? How do you think he should be punished? / If not, why not?
6. Are school buses common in your country? Explain your answer.



IDIOM Lesson #16



* **be made of** = consist of; be made up of; be composed of

My pants are made of cotton.

Jam is made of sugar and fruit.

A : Is this bottle made of glass?

B : No, I think it's made of plastic.

* **be proud of** = feel pleased about; take pride in

They were very proud of their son.

I am proud of my country.

A : I got an A on the test.

B : I'm very proud of you!



#33 A Man Collects Old Phones



Hassan al-Tourky is a 65-year-old man who collects and restores telephones. Al-Tourky runs a family shop where he repairs and sells phones, but he loves to collect old phones.

Some of al-Tourky's phones belonged to famous people, for example, Egyptian King Farouq. King Farouq's phone dates back to 1933, but some phones are much older. The oldest phones date back to the 1800s. Al-Tourky also owns two phones that belonged to Charlie Chaplin. One phone hangs on the wall and the second phone was on Chaplin's desk.

Al-Tourky said that he got some phones from his father who loved them. Al-Tourky loves them, too, and he is happy that he can share his passion with his sons. He buys old phones from villas, palaces, and auctions.



WORDS

- * **restore** : to repair something or bring it back into previous state
- * **passion** : a person's intense interest that he wants to do
- * **auction** : an event where people buy and sell things

1. How old are some of Hassan al-Tourky's phones?
2. Where does al-Tourky buy old phones?
3. What do you think of al-Tourky's collection of old phones? Why?
4. What are old phones in your country like?
5. What do you collect, and why? Where do you get or buy them?
6. If you had a lot of money, would you be interested to buy something that belongs to a famous person? If yes, what thing is it? To whom does it belong? Why do you want to have it? / If not, why not?



#34 Laws on Vellum



In the UK, people traditionally write laws on vellum. Vellum is made from animal skin. Some people think that paper is a cheaper option. Vellum, however, has its supporters.

Vellum can last 5000 years. Laws of countries are important, powerful and they change our lives. Some people think that laws should be written on a long-lasting medium.

In 1215, people wrote a very important law. They called it the Magna Carta and today the UK still has it. The Magna Carta is so old, it costs six pounds for every century.



WORDS

- * **supporter** : a person who supports something – who thinks that something is good
- * **last** : to exist
- * **medium** : something which you can write on or make things out of

1. What is vellum made from?
2. How long can vellum last?
3. Have you ever seen vellum before? If yes, where did you see it? What did it look like? / If not, what do you think vellum looks like?
4. In your opinion, should laws be written on vellum? Why or why not?
5. Why are laws of countries important and powerful?
6. Imagine that you will write a very important new law. What law will you write, and why?



IDIOM Lesson #17



* **be pleased with** = be happy with; be delighted with

I was pleased with the quick service.

She was pleased with the new wallpaper.

A : Wow! That is a nice picture you are painting!

B : Thanks. I hope my art teacher will be pleased with this.

* **be satisfied with** = be pleased with; be content with

My father is satisfied with his new car.

Miss Johnson is not satisfied with her job.

A : Are you satisfied with your meal?

B : Yes, it tastes very good.

