

10 Business English Idioms



Complete the gaps using the idioms below.

hit a snag – play it by ear – out of the blue – keep me in the loop – hit a nerve

1. His reaction surprised me. I guess that joke really _____.
2. She just left the company _____ — no warning, no signs, nothing.
3. Can you _____ while I'm out of office? I don't want to miss anything important.
4. I don't know how long the interview will last, so let's _____ with dinner plans.
5. The renovation was going well until they _____. They needed to reapply for the building permits.

think on his feet – the last straw – touch base – out of reach – think outside the box

6. A house in that neighborhood is completely _____ for most first-time buyers.
7. I'll _____ with the client tomorrow and see if they've approved the new terms.
8. We need fresh ideas for this ad campaign — something bold. Let's try to _____.
9. The team was falling behind, and then the power went out. That was _____.
10. He didn't expect to be asked about budget cuts in the meeting, but he managed to _____ and respond clearly.





1. hit a nerve
2. out of the blue
3. keep me in the loop
4. play it by ear
5. hit a snag

6. out of reach
7. touch base
8. think outside the box
9. the last straw
10. think on his feet

