**7A Body idioms**

**A** Read sentences 1–10 and match the idioms in **bold** with their meanings a–j.

1. Susan and Sally are really mean. They're always **talking about people behind their backs**.
2. We spent all evening **racking our brains**, but didn't come up with a **solution** to the problem.
3. We should get the bill. Can you try to **catch the waiter’s eye**?
4. My neighbour really **gets on my nerves**. She's always playing loud **music** and watching everyone out of the window.
5. Kim's always boasting about herself. She is **such a big-head**!
6. I'm going out tomorrow evening. Do you think you could **keep an eye on** the children for me?
7. I always **get butterflies in my stomach** before I travel by plane.
8. My dad is **so tight-fisted**! He really hates spending money.
9. I always **get a lump in my throat** when I go to weddings. **They're** so emotional!
10. It **makes my blood boil** if I see people being cruel to animals.

   a. annoy someone  
   b. think really, really hard about something  
   c. feel like you are about to cry  
   d. watch or look after something or someone  
   e. speak about someone when they aren't there  
   f. make someone very angry  
   g. be arrogant  
   h. get someone's attention  
   i. feel very nervous  
   j. be mean

**B** Complete the following with ONE word and then ask your partner the questions. Make some notes, so you can remember what your partner says!

1. What types of people or behaviour really get on your **__________**?
2. Do you ever talk about your friends behind their **__________**?
3. Have you ever asked someone to keep an **__________** on your bag while you went to the toilet?
4. Is anyone in your family **tight-fisted**?
5. What do you do if you’re in a restaurant and you want to catch the waiter’s **__________**?
6. What makes your **__________** boil?
7. When was the last time you racked your **__________** about something?
8. Do you get a lump in your **__________** when you watch a sad film?
9. Do you know someone who is a big-**__________**?
10. Do you get **__________** in your **__________** before you take an exam?
7A Body idioms

Aims To introduce and practise idioms related to the body

Time 15 minutes

Materials 1 handout for each student

- Before beginning, ensure that students are familiar with the meaning of the word idiom.
- Give each student the handout and get them to do task A.

**ANSWER KEY**

1 e 3 h 5 g 7 i 9 c
2 b 4 a 6 d 8 j 10 f

- In task B, students need to complete the questions.

**ANSWER KEY**

1 nerves
2 backs
3 eye
4 fisted
5 eye
6 blood
7 brains (used in the plural form, even if we are only referring to one person)
8 throat
9 head
10 stomach

- Now working in pairs, students ask and answer the questions from task B.
- Select a few students to give you some information about their partner.