

# Idiom of the Month: BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU

By Sarah Gudgeon

## 1. Where can video cameras film you? Tick

- |                  |                            |                |
|------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| a. in the street | b. in shops                | c. in banks    |
| d. at home       | e. in underground stations | f. in airports |

## 2.

### a. Read

Don't touch those earrings! The sign says don't touch.

There's no-one here. I just want to look at them.

There are video cameras all over the shop. Big Brother is watching you!

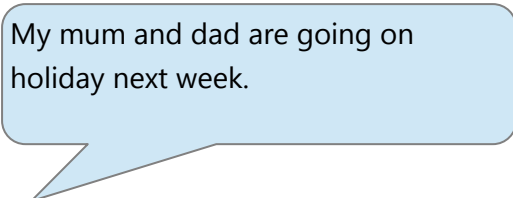
### b. Complete:

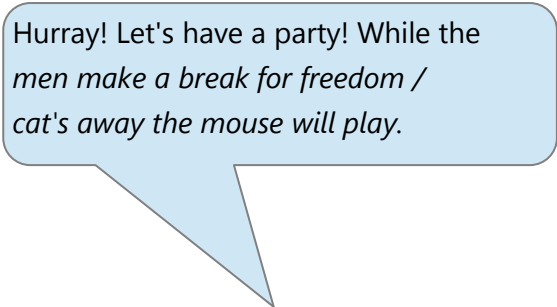
There are video cameras in lots of public places. Organisations can see what you do and when you do it. They can see where you go and who you go with. With video cameras everywhere these days we say ' \_\_\_\_\_ is watching you'.

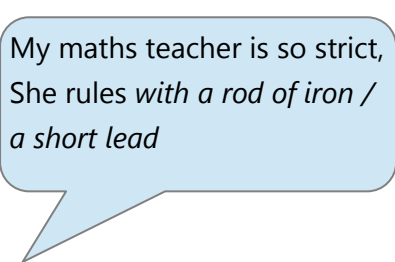
**3. Match these idioms to the correct meaning.**

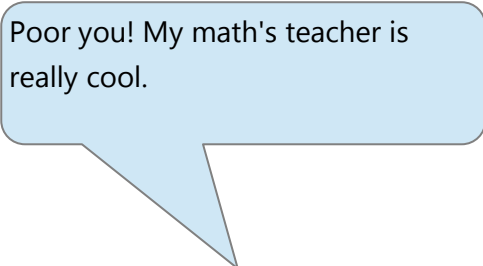
- |   |  |
|---|--|
| a. Mrs Smith ruled the group of teenagers with a rod of iron            | 1. She let them decide   |
| b. While the cat's away, the mouse will play                            | 2. He let her do what she wanted   |
| c. The man gave the architect carte blanche in designing the new house. | 3. They tried to escape  |
| d. The boss kept his assistant on a short lead                          | 4. He didn't allow him much freedom  |
| e. The young men made a break for freedom                               | 5. When the person in charge leaves, the other person enjoys their freedom |
| f. Julie gave her class free rein for their geography project           | 6. She was in total control  |

**4. Read and choose the correct idiom to complete the dialogues.**

a.  My mum and dad are going on holiday next week.

 Hurray! Let's have a party! While the *men make a break for freedom / cat's away the mouse will play.*

b.  My maths teacher is so strict, She rules *with a rod of iron / a short lead*

 Poor you! My math's teacher is really cool.

c.

I'm going out later...

No, you're not!

Yes, I am. You can't keep me on  
*free rein / a short lead forever!*

d.

Sit down, children!

But, Miss, it's nearly four o'clock

But it isn't four o'clock. No making a  
*break for freedom / carte blanche*  
before the final bell!

## Teacher's Notes

1. Where can video cameras film you? Tick.

a b c e f

2b. Complete:

There are video cameras in lots of public places. Organisations can see what you do and when you do it. They can see where you go and who you go with. With video cameras everywhere these days we say '**Big Brother** is watching you'.

3. Match these idioms to the correct meaning.

a 6   b 5   c 2   d 4   e 3   f 1

3. Read and choose the correct idiom to complete the dialogues.

a. while the... cat's away the mouse will play.

b. rules... us with a rod of iron.

c. on... a short leash

d. making... a break for freedom.