Idiom of the Month: BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU

By Sarah Gudgeon

1.	Think of si	x places where video cameras film	you when you're out.					
a.		b.	C.					
d.		e.	f.					
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.					
			at them.					
	TI							
		video cameras all over the shop. er is watching you!						
	big brotin	er is watering you:						
	b. Comple	nto:						
	There are video cameras in lots of public places. Organisations can monitor everything you							
	do. They can see where you go, who you go with and when you go. With video cameras							
	everywhere	these days we say '	is watching you'. The phrase comes					
	from the far	mous George Orwell novel '1984'.						

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3. Match these idioms to the correct meaning.

a.	Mrs	Smith	ruled	the	group	of
	teena	d of ir	on			

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 his wife carte blanche in decorating the new house.

3. They tried to escape

d. The boss kept his assistant on a 4. He didn't allow him much freedom short lead

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 6. She was in total control their geography project

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

My mum and dad are going on holiday next week.

Hurray! Let's have a party! While the.....

My maths teacher is so strict, she rules.....

.....

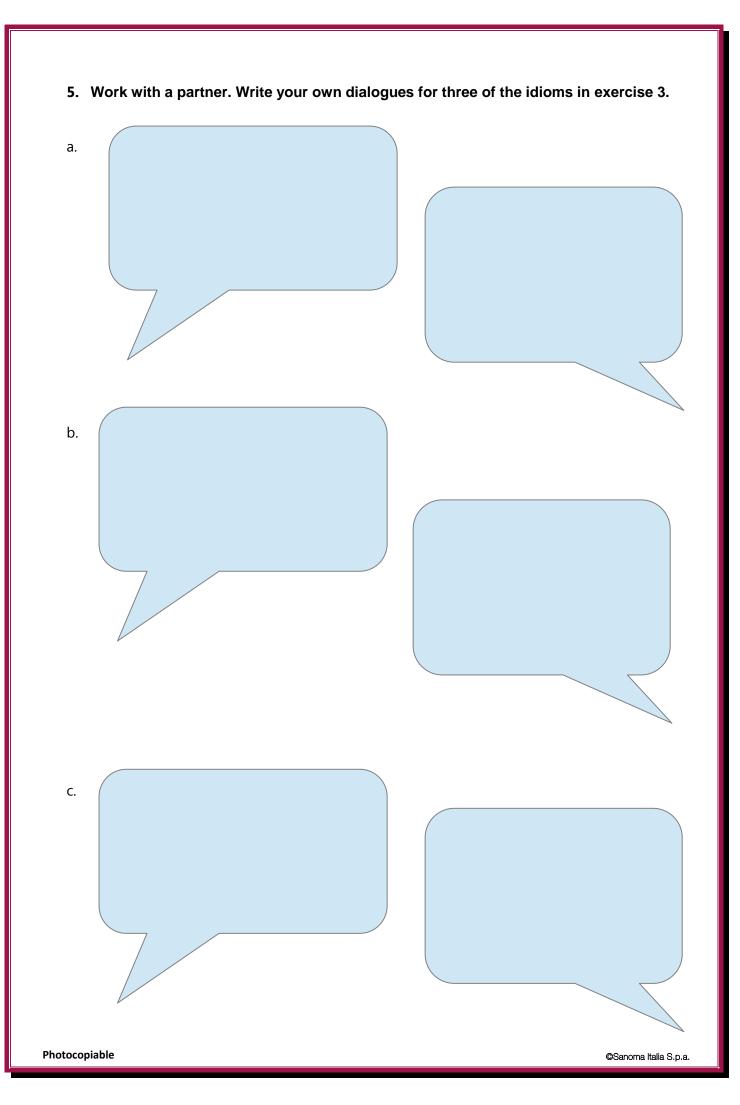
Poor you! My math's teacher is really cool.

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c. I'm going out later	
	No, you're not!
Yes, I am. You can't keep me on!	
d. Sit down, children!	
	But, Miss, it's nearly four o'clock
But it isn't four o'clock. No making a	
before the final bell!	

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Teacher's Notes

1. Think of six places where video cameras film you when you're out.

a. in the street

b. in shops

c. in banks

d. in the library

e. in metro stations

f. in airports

2b. Complete:

There are video cameras in lots of public places. Organisations can monitor everything you do. They can see where you go, who you go with and when you go. With video cameras everywhere these days we say 'Big Brother is watching you'. The phrase comes from the famous George Orwell novel '1984'.

3. Match these idioms to the correct meaning.

a6 b5 c2 d4 e3 f1

- 4. Read and choose the correct idiom to complete the dialogues.
- a. while thecat'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.
- 5. Work with a partner. Write your own dialogues for three of the idioms in exercise 3.

Put the students into pairs. Get them to think of some situations in which they feel their freedom is restricted. Gather class feedback and then ask each pair to write their dialogues. You could work on pronunciation by choosing some random pairs to act out their short dialogues.