



Vocabulary

<p>To badger someone</p> <p>Steven badgered his parents into buying him a new car.</p>	<p>You persistently nag or pester someone until you obtain what you want.</p>
<p>A balancing act</p> <p>Right now I have to perform a balancing act between work and family.</p>	<p>When you try to satisfy two or more people or groups who have different needs, and keep everyone happy.</p>
<p>To bite the hand that feeds you</p> <p>When you say bad things about your loving partner, you bite the hand that feeds you.</p>	<p>You are unfriendly or do harm to someone who is kind to you.</p>
<p>To burn your bridges</p> <p>Be careful not to burn your bridges by refusing them. They may have a better offer later.</p>	<p>You do something that will be impossible to rectify in the future.</p>
<p>To bury one's head in the sand</p> <p>It's no good burying your head in the sand. You have to take the bull by the horns.</p>	<p>You refuse to face the unpleasant reality by pretending that the situation doesn't exist.</p>
<p>To take the bull by the horns</p> <p>I took the bull by the horns and confronted my manager about his unfair treatment.</p>	<p>To deal with a difficult situation in a very direct way.</p>
<p>To bury the hatchet</p> <p>After the long conflict they finally decided to bury the hatchet.</p>	<p>When people who have had a disagreement decide to forget their quarrel and become friends again.</p>
<p>To cramp someone's style</p> <p>I can't do this with everyone watching me - it cramps my style!</p>	<p>You do something to prevent them from behaving freely, or performing to the best of their ability.</p>
<p>To dive in headfirst</p> <p>I accepted the job without understanding how much time it would take. I shouldn't have dived in headfirst!</p>	<p>If you begin something enthusiastically, without thinking about the possible consequences.</p>



Exercise 1

Choose the correct answer.

1. Stop **badgering/diving in head first** dad, he won't buy you that new car.
2. Can you please stop looking at me, you are **biting the hand that feeds you/ cramping my style**.
3. After that long argument we grabbed a few beers and **buried the hatchet/ took the bull by its horns**.
4. Stop **burying your head in the sand/ taking the bull by its horns** and start fixing the problem.
5. I think I **performed a balancing act/ burned that bridge**, when I said no to their proposal.
6. Mario always **grabs the bulls by its horns/dives in headfirst** and starts fixing the problems straightaway.
7. Sometimes I'm really angry with my girlfriend for no reason, I should **stop biting the hand that feeds me/ perform a balancing act**.
8. Work, a family, an active social life, doing sports, sometimes I feel like **I'm cramping my style/'m performing a balancing act** to make it all work.
9. Tom always **badgers/dives in headfirst** and worries about the problems later.



Exercise 2

Fill in the correct answer.

To badger someone	A balancing act	To bite the hand that feeds you	to burn your bridges
To bury one's head in the sand	To take the bull by the horns	To bury the hatchet	
To cramp someone's style	To dive in headfirst		

1. Nicola always.....when I'm trying to make dinner and show off to my friends.
2. If you don't apply for that job soon, you'll and will never get an opportunity like that.
3. I mom into finally buying that new TV.
4. My uncle always and just pretends there are no issues at all.
5. Don't yell at your boss and stop
6. I shouldn't have and thought about the consequences first.
7. I have to and send my boss that email, so I know what needs to be done.
8. I think I'll haveif I don't want to lose my best friend.
9. Rosie is with an executive job and a family.



Speaking

Talk to your partner

1. Have you ever **badgered** someone?
2. Do you sometimes feel you are **performing a balancing act**?
3. Do you ever **bite the hand that feeds you**?
4. Have you ever **burned any bridges**?
5. Do you often **bury your head in the sand**?
6. When was the last time you **took the bull by its horns**?
7. Have you ever **buried the hatchet**?
8. What **cramps your style**?
9. Have you ever **cramped someone's style**?
10. Do you ever **dive in headfirst**?



Answer Key

Exercise 1

1. Stop **badgering** dad, he won't buy you that new car.
2. Can you please stop looking at me, you **are cramping my style**.
3. After that long argument we grabbed a few beers and **buried the hatchet**.
4. Stop **burying your head in the sand** and start fixing the problem.
5. I think **I burned that bridge**, when I said no to their proposal.
6. Mario always **grabs the bulls by its horns** and starts fixing the problems straightaway.
7. Sometimes I'm really angry with my girlfriend for no reason, I **should stop biting the hand that feeds me**.
8. Work, a family, an active social life, doing sports, sometimes I feel like I'm **performing a balancing act** to make it all work.
9. Tom always **dives in headfirst** and worries about the problems later.

Exercise 2

1. Nicola always **cramps my style** when I'm trying to make dinner and show off to my friends.
2. If you don't apply for that job soon, you'll **burn your bridges** and will never get an opportunity like that.
3. I **badgered** mom into finally buying that new TV.
4. My uncle always **buries his head in the sand** and just pretends there are no issues at all.
5. Don't yell at your boss and stop **biting the hand that feeds you**.
6. I shouldn't have **dived in head first** and thought about the consequences first.
7. I have to **take the bull by the horns** and send my boss that email, so I know what needs to be done.
8. I think I'll have to **bury the hatchet** if I don't want to lose my best friend.
9. Rosie is **performing a balancing act** with an executive job and a family.