

3. Someone disclosed the secret and it appeared in the press.
4. Whenever there was a problem, the staff called on the file clerk who seemed to manage computers well.
5. Now that he retired he appears in town very rarely.
6. Politicians often make exaggerated or inaccurate statements and their promises seldom meet our expectations.
7. I wish you good luck at your exam.
8. Strange as it may appear, the president made everybody believe that he could not understand how it all had happened.
9. Fortunately the two parties had the same opinion on all the issues.
10. The two leaders were in strong opposition.
11. You should be more determined and do something about it. It's no good always choosing to avoid responsibility.

#### Exercise 32

Fill in the gaps with an idiom from Exercise 31.

1. I think we \_\_\_\_\_ on how to handle this problem.
2. Dick \_\_\_\_\_ when he said he had got a call from the White House.
3. Let's \_\_\_\_\_ that his plane lands on time.
4. I've got a few \_\_\_\_\_ for us to snack on while we wait.
5. During the election campaign most candidates \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The President's budget director and housing secretary had long \_\_\_\_\_ over domestic policy spending.
7. I'll admit I am a bit \_\_\_\_\_ over the new tax law.
8. The mayor's \_\_\_\_\_ was to discuss council housing.

#### Exercise 33

Try to guess what the idioms below mean.

1. He fell over backwards to help her.
  - a. He did everything he could to help her.
  - b. He fell over when he was trying to help her.
  - c. He made a fool of himself.
2. She really seems to have fallen over her feet.
  - a. Everything has got wrong for her.
  - b. She's hurt her feet.
  - c. She's been very lucky.

3. I'm not going and that's flat.
  - a. That's my final decision.
  - b. I'm very disappointed that I can't go.
  - c. I'm not going because I can't afford it.

4. The joke fell flat with the audience.
  - a. Everyone fell about laughing.
  - b. No one realized it was supposed to be funny.
  - c. It started as a joke but had serious consequences.

#### Exercise 34

There are many idioms containing parts of human body: *head, face, mouth, eye, foot, hand, leg*, etc. and idioms containing colours which you may find difficult to interpret. Use a dictionary, choose at least five idiomatic expressions with body parts and five containing colours, illustrate their use and translate the sentences into Russian.

#### Exercise 35

Identify and explain the idioms in the following sentences.

1. Many words that were originally coined as **slang** have remained to become part and parcel of the language.
2. Sir Thomas More saw to the heart of the issue in a **way** (hat almost no other did).
3. The whole problem has just been swept under **the carpet**. **Nobody** has done anything about it.
4. Inability to speak publicly has nipped many promising **careers** in the bud.
5. His little daughter could easily twist him round her little finger.
6. RP speakers are apparently rated highest by their hearers for intelligence, ambition, self-confidence, wealth... Not everyone takes this lying down.
7. Don't tell her the truth. I would let sleeping dogs lie if I were you.
8. Whenever there is a conflict in a region they always have their finger in the pie.
9. - I shall always remember the day we first set eyes on the Grand Canyon. My husband's face dropped a mile.  
- You mean he wasn't impressed?  
- No. I mean he fell over the edge.