

# 10 useful Idioms and Phrasal verbs

## 1. Come forward (with something)



### come forward (with something)

to bring something, such as information, to someone's attention.

to offer help or information

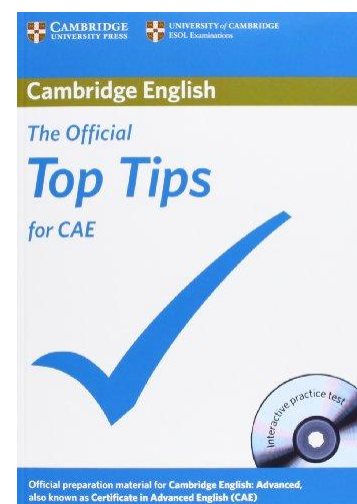
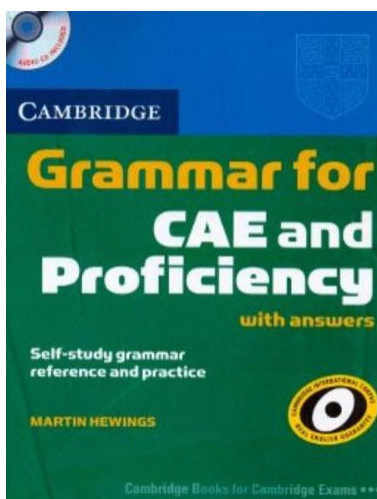
Colleen **came forward with** a new idea.

I hope you each can **come forward with** something useful.

The police hope that some witness to the shooting  
will **come forward with** information.

I'll **come forward to** speak on behalf of women  
who have been subjected to injustice.

**Ofrecer(se) / presentar(se)**



## 2. People who live in glass houses (shouldn't throw stones).



## People who live in glass houses (shouldn't throw stones).

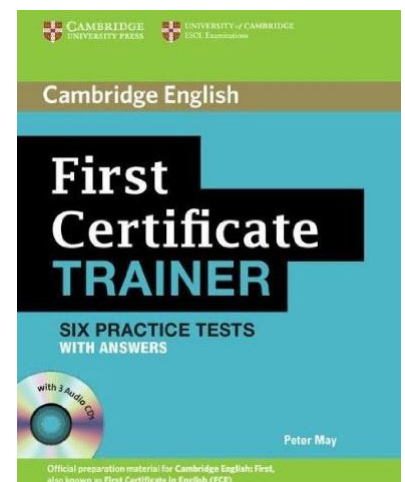
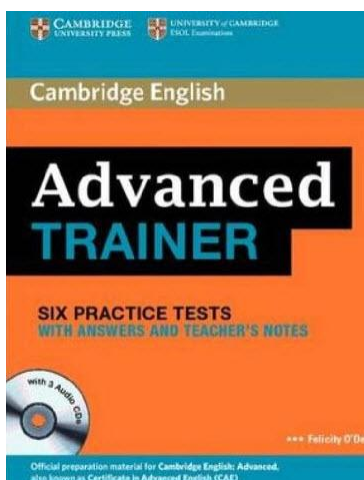
something that you say which means people should not criticize other people for faults that they have themselves .

He's always criticizing Rick for the way he treats his wife and I feel like saying, **people who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones.**

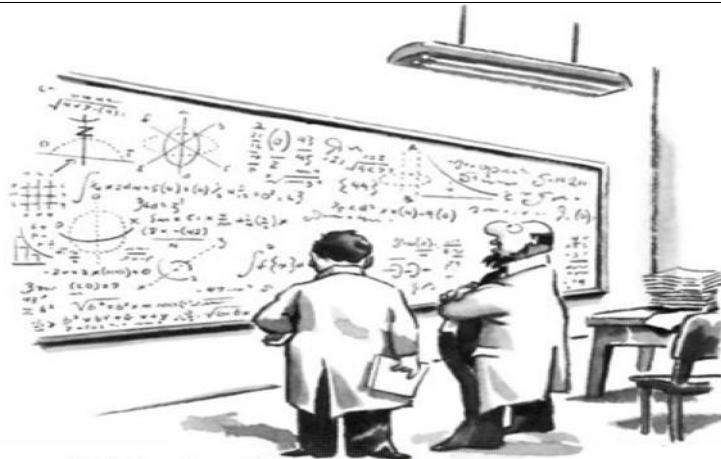
The man always criticizes his friend for gossiping about other people but **people who live in glass houses should not throw stones.**

He always does the same thing himself.

**siempre habla el que más tiene que callar;  
mira quién fue a hablar**



### 3. As far as it goes



**This is fine as far as it goes.  
From here on, it's who you know.**

## As far as it goes

used to say that something has good qualities  
but could be better.

used for saying that something is good or true only  
to a limited degree

It's a good essay **as far as it goes**.

His theory is good **as far as it goes**.

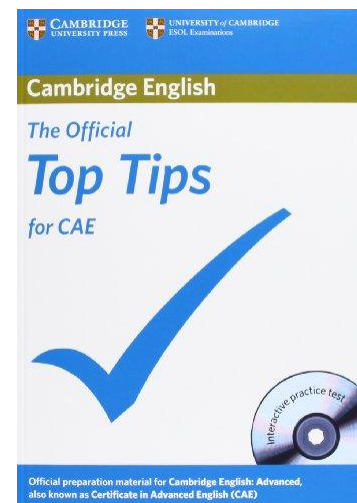
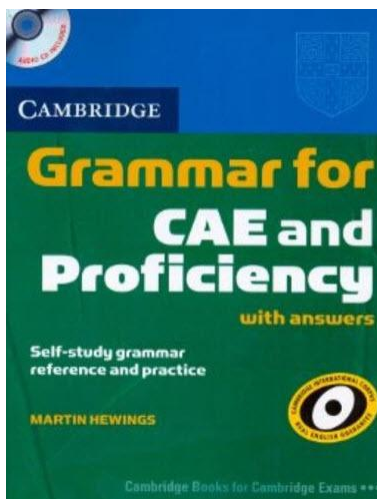
Your plan is fine **as far as it goes**.

It doesn't seem to take care of everything, though.

**As far as it goes**, this law is a good one.

It should set stiffer penalties, however.

**dentro de sus límites / dentro de lo que cabe**



## 4. mend (your) fences



## mend (your) fences

to try to become friendly again with someone after an argument.

to repair a relationship with someone

(usually + *with* )

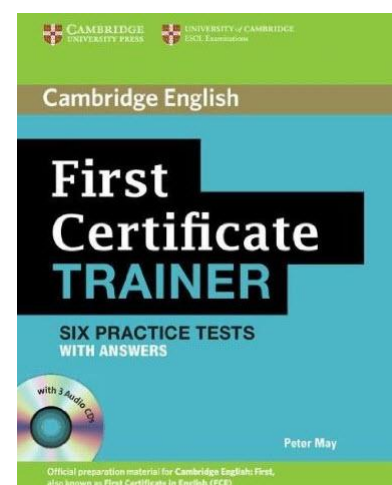
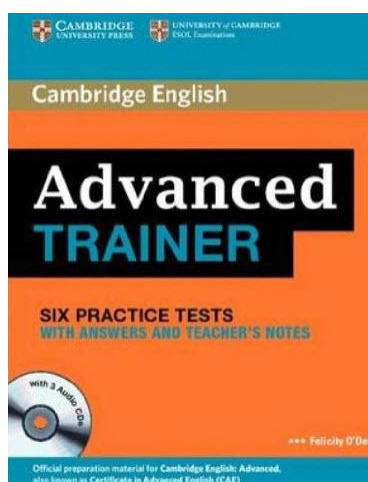
China is trying to **mend fences with** Russia after the recent border dispute.

The mayor is trying to **mend his fences with** members of the city council  
so they will approve his plan.

I **mended fences with** my sister after an argument.

The object of the meeting was primarily to **mend fences**.

**Hacer las paces / arreglar las cosas/ reconciliarse**



## 5. The pot calling the kettle black



### The pot calling the kettle black and

#### that's the pot calling the kettle black

Prov. You should not criticize someone for a fault that you have too.

(Not polite to say about the person you are addressing.)

Bill told Barbara she was sloppy, but Bill never cleans up after himself, either.

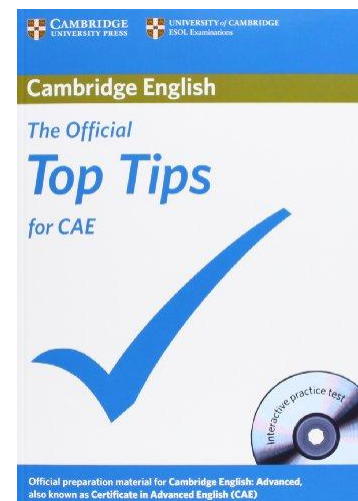
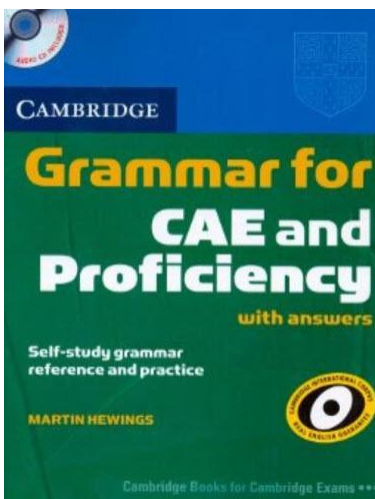
**That's the pot calling the kettle black.**

My sister says I dress funny, but if you've seen some of the clothes she wears, you know **it's a case of the pot calling the kettle black.**

I'm tired of you always wearing my clothing!" **"Aren't you the pot calling the kettle black? You're wearing my pants right now!"**

Here comes the guy who is always late for work." **"Aren't you the pot calling the kettle black? You are usually the last person to show up!"**

**le dijo la sartén al cazo, apártate que me tiznas**



## 6. Be a numbers game



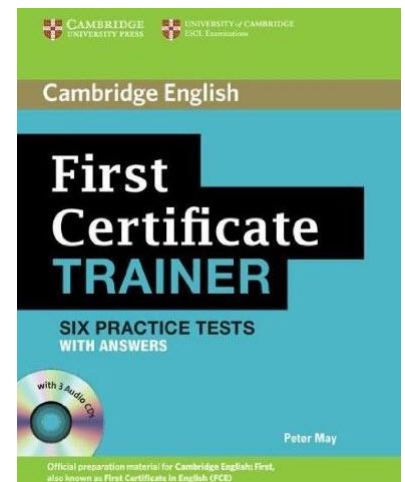
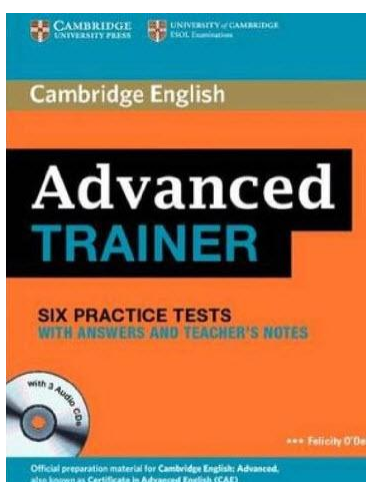
### be a numbers game

A lottery in which bets are made on an unpredictable number, such as a daily stock quotation.

Picking up women **is a numbers game**, and PUA's know this. They know they'll need to approach X amount of women to get X amount of women into bed. The more women they approach, the more women they'll get into bed.

To a large extent, sales **is a numbers game**. Every sales representative and every business owner needs to know how many phone calls it will take to get a prospect. They also need to know how many prospects you will need to get a customer.

**Ser una lotería / ser cuestión de números**



## 7. Take a / an (adjective) approach to sth /to do sth



### Take a / an (adjective) approach to sth /to do sth

To deal with something / to take certain attitude when dealing with something

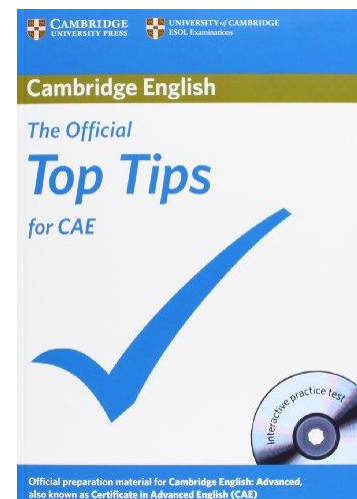
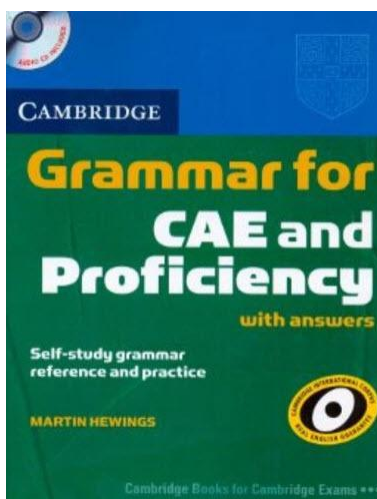
I'm finding it hard not to **take a personal approach** to the issue

We **take a varied and often innovative approach** to teaching,  
learning and assessment.

We need to **take a more aggressive approach** to ensure  
we have regional security and stability.

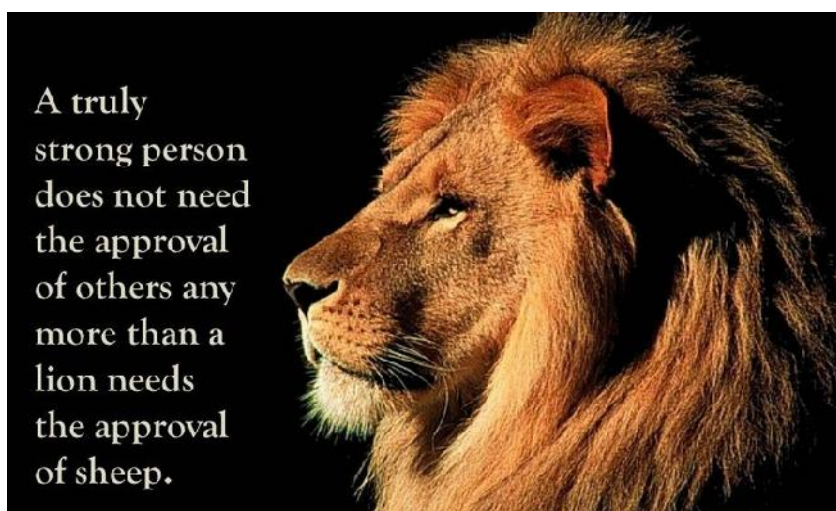
**Tomar una actitud ( adjetivo) hacia algo / para hacer algo**

**Abordar algo de manera (adjetivo) .**



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## 8. (X) not any more than (Y)



### (X) not any more than (Y)

expression used when comparing two things to add emphasis.

You say that X is not any more true than Y, that is to say, it is equally untrue.

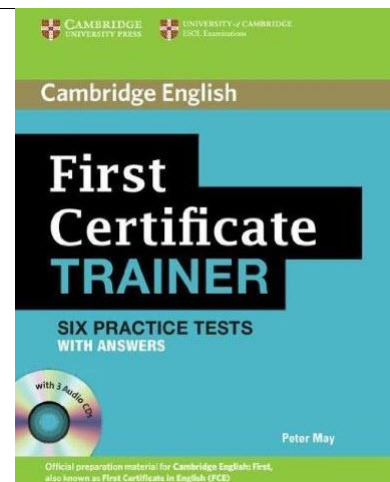
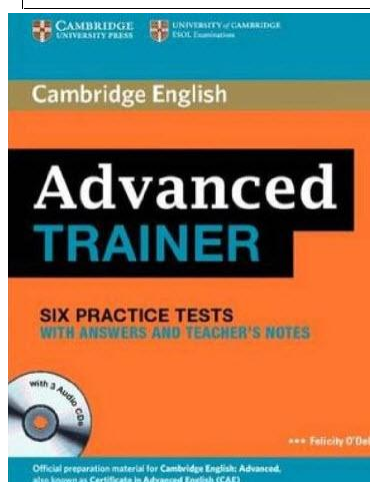
You do not have to compel God to give you good things,  
**any more than** you have to use your will power to make the sun rise.

No man or woman who obeys the law can fail to get rich,  
**any more than** one can multiply two by two and fail to get four.

Genes cannot be selfish or unselfish, **any more than** atoms can be jealous,  
Elephants abstract or biscuits teleological.'

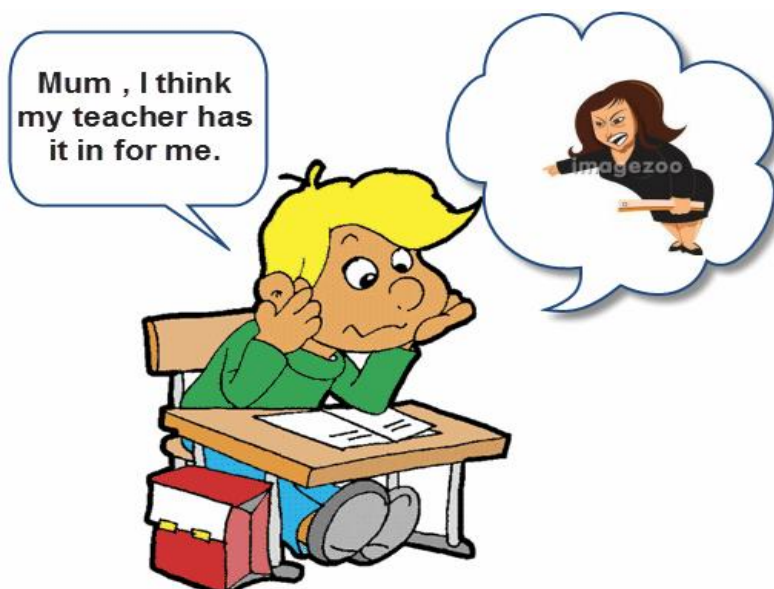
Going to church doesn't make you a Christian **any more than**  
going to a garage makes you an automobile.

**De la misma manera que (tampoco) ...**





## 9. have it in for (someone)



## have it in for (someone)

colloq. to feel hostile towards them and wish to cause them unpleasantness.

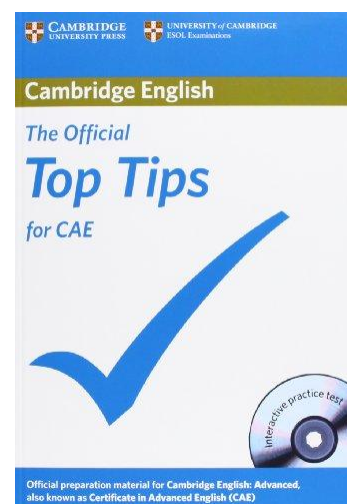
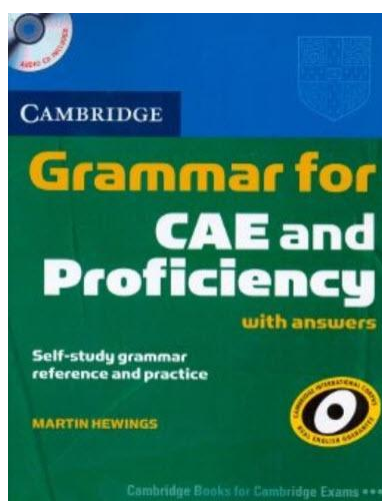
My boss must really **have it in for me**; that was the third lecture this week!

I don't know why, but my physics teacher **has it in for me**.

He's always trying to make me look stupid in front of the other kids.

He probably **has it in for you** just 'cause he's jealous.

**Tener a alguien enfilado / tenerle manía a alguien**



## 10. Rummage in / through something



### rummage in/through something

to move things about haphazardly while searching through something.

I **rummaged through** my top drawer, looking for any two socks that matched.

Mary spent some time **rummaging through** the toolbox before she found what she was looking for.

I caught him in the act of **rummaging in** my locker

I've asked you a million times to stop **rummaging through** my drawers like that.

She rummaged through all the drawers, looking for a pen.

She **rummaged in** a drawer for some aspirin.

**Rebuscar , hurgar , revolver en algún sitio**

