

10 useful Idioms and Phrasal verbs

1. Pull / tear your hair out



pull/tear your hair out

to be very anxious about something (often in continuous tenses)

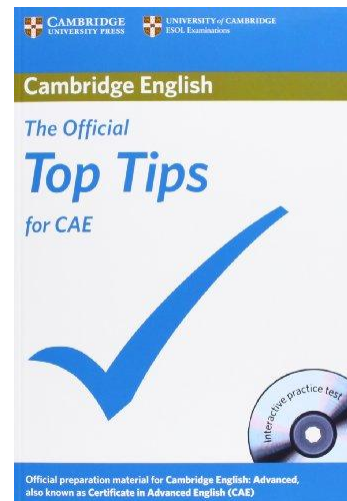
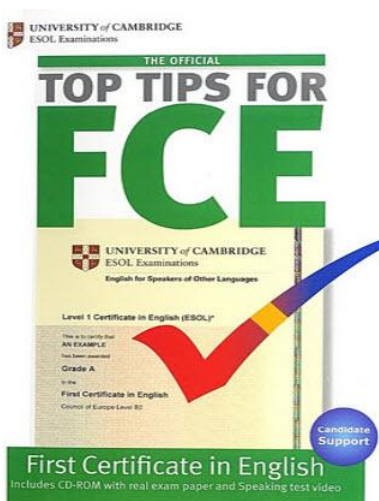
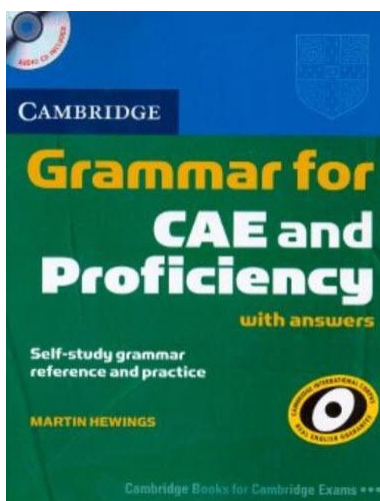
I've been **tearing my hair out** trying to get the job finished on time.

It was obvious Daphne was **pulling her hair out** over the preparations by the way her voice shook.

I had better get home. My parents will be tearing **their hair out**.

Companies are **pulling their hair out** trying to decide how to deal with these new regulations.

Tener los nervios de punta



2. Go scot-free / get off scot-free



go scot-free / get off scot-free

to go unpunished; to be acquitted of a crime.

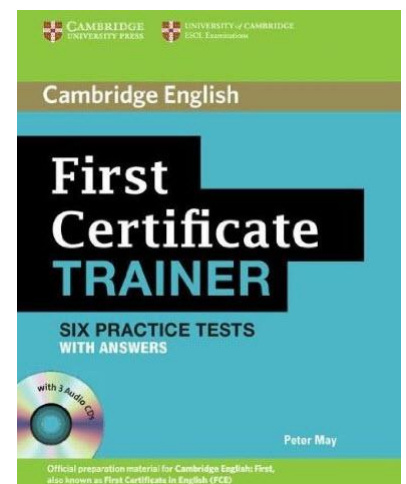
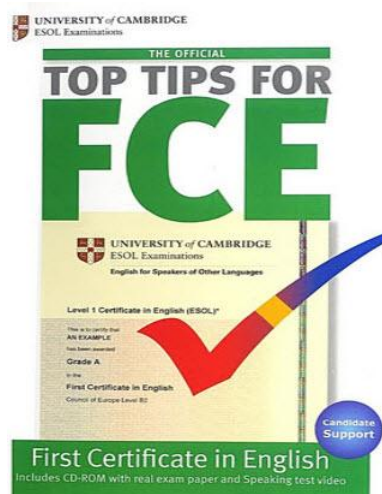
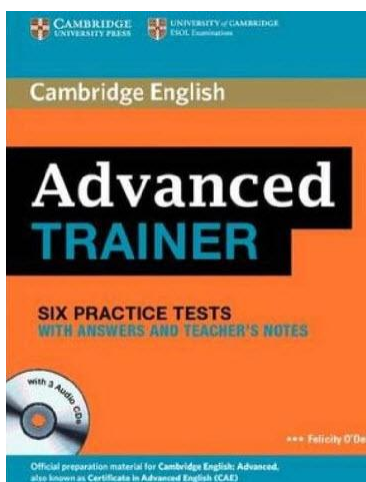
(This scot is an old word meaning "tax" or "tax burden.")

The thief went **scot-free**.

Jane cheated on the test and got caught, but she **got off scot-free**.

Although the police caught him red-handed, the judge said there wasn't enough evidence and he **got off scot free**.

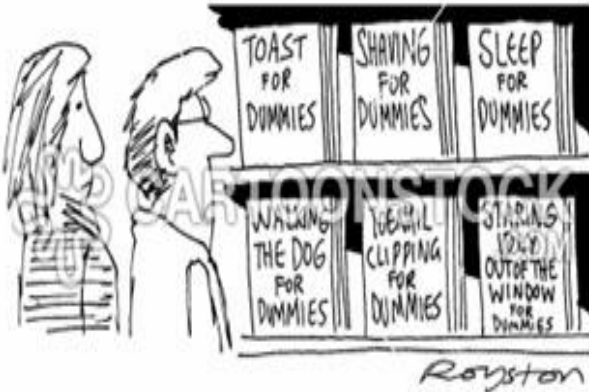
quedar impune / sin castigo



3. Run its course

© Original Artist / Search ID: ron52

ights Available from CartoonStock.co



Royston

“I think this series has run its course.”

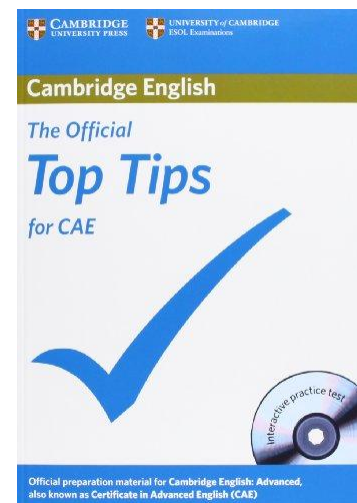
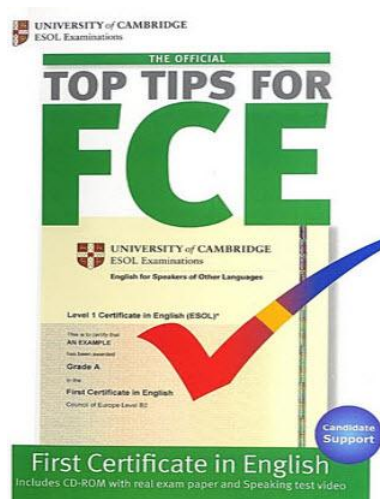
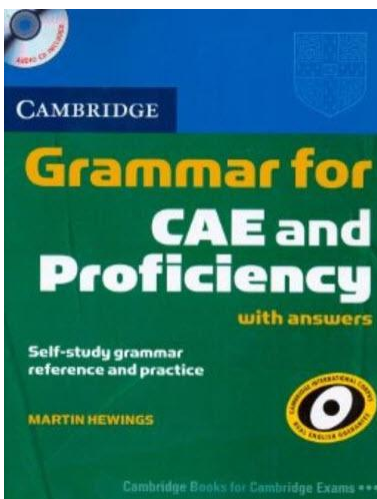
run its course

if something runs its course, it continues naturally until it has finished
Sorry. There is no medicine for it. It will just have to **run its course**.

Many people believe that feminism has **run its course**.

The doctor insisted I rest for a few days while the infection **ran its course**.

Seguir su curso / llegar a su fin



4. do a double take

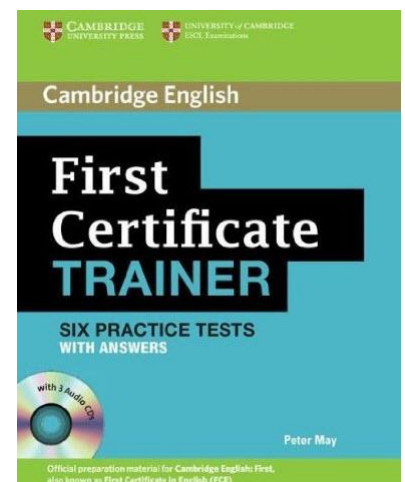
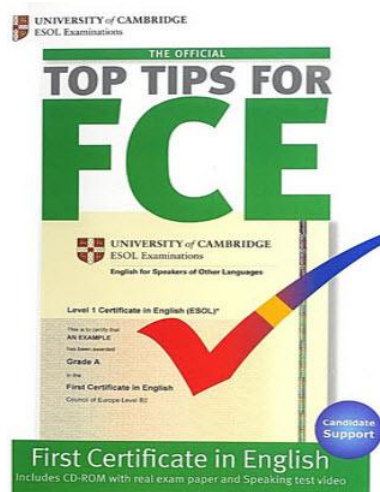
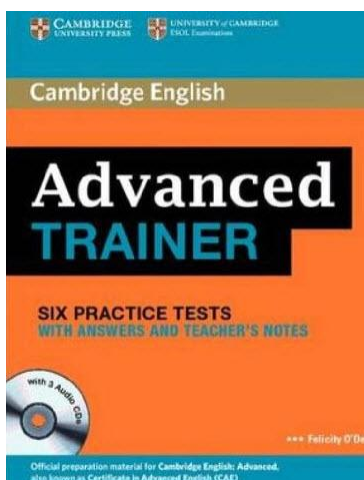


do a double take

to look at something or someone twice because
you are so surprised at what you have seen

When the boy led a goat into the park, everyone **did a double take**.
When the nurse saw that the man had six toes, she **did a double take**.
I **did a double take** , I couldn't believe it was him.

Tener que mirar dos veces (porque algo te sorprende)



5. Set up shop.



set up shop

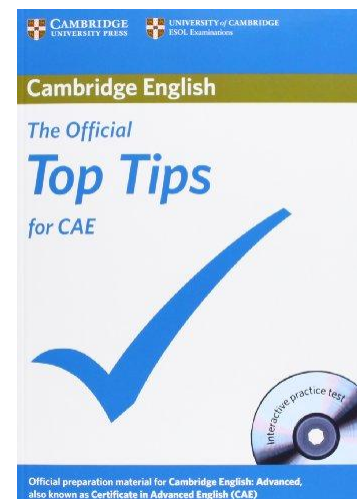
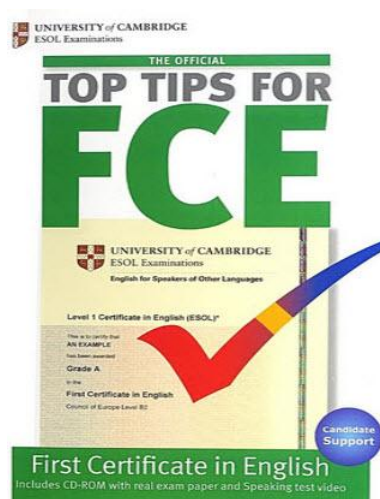
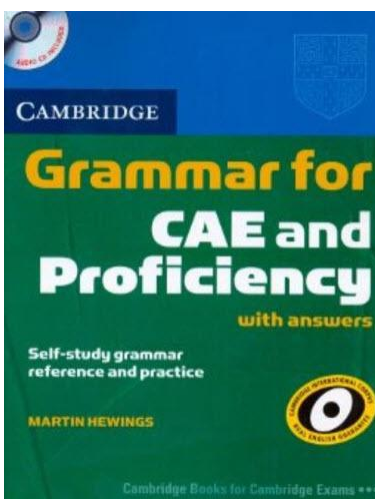
to establish a business or an organization

Some companies have **set up shop** in other countries, like China.

UN agencies have **set up shop** all over the world.

Some kind of virus **set up shop** in my body and played havoc with my digestive system.

Establecerse



More Free resources at :
www.aprendeinglesenleganes.com

6. Put the finishing touches to/on something



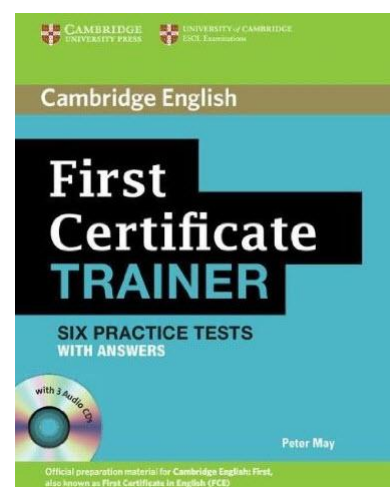
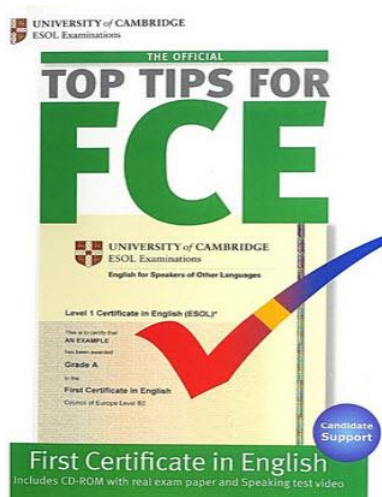
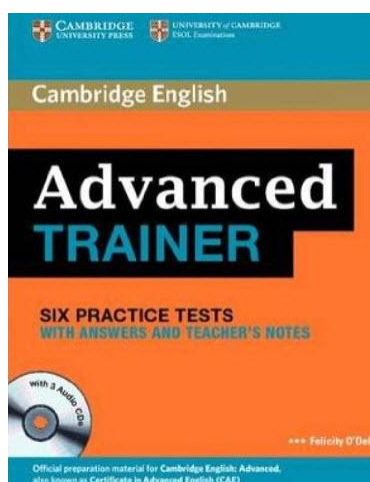
Put the finishing touch(es) to (UK) / on (US) something

a final adjustment of something; some effort or action
that completes something.

Norm is in his workshop putting the **finishing touches on** his latest project.
We usually just end up getting too excited and want to start recording as soon
as we **put the finishing touches on** the songs.

The artist was so engrossed in **putting the finishing touches to** the painting
that he didn't notice that someone was watching him and his work so closely.

Darle los últimos retoques a algo



7. Be up to your eyes /ears in something



be up to your eyes in sth
be up to your ears in sth

› to be very busy doing something:

I'm **up to my eyes in** school reports this week.

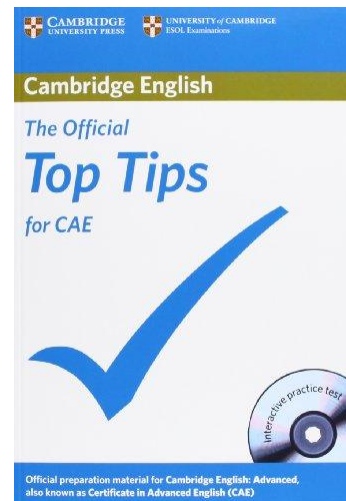
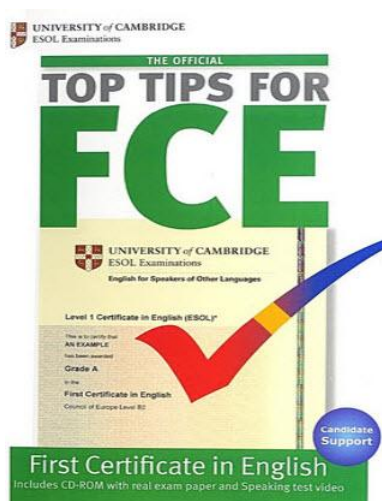
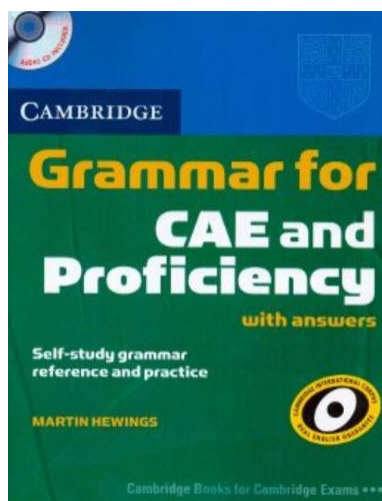
I apologize for not calling you yesterday, but I was **up to my eyes in** work.

I don't have much time, I'm **up to my eyes in** exams right now

I'm **up to my ears in** work.

She's **up to her ears in** debt.

Estar hasta arriba de algo



More Free resources at :
www.aprendeinglesenleganes.com

8. Be snowed under (with something)

Snowed under



Having too much to do.

KAPLAN
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

Your English learning journey starts here.
For more fun activities, visit
<http://kaplan.edu/illustrations>

be snowed under (with something)

overworked; exceptionally busy. having too much work to do

Look, I'm really **snowed under** at the moment. Can this wait?

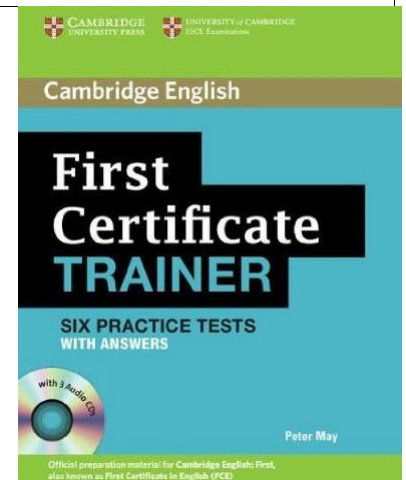
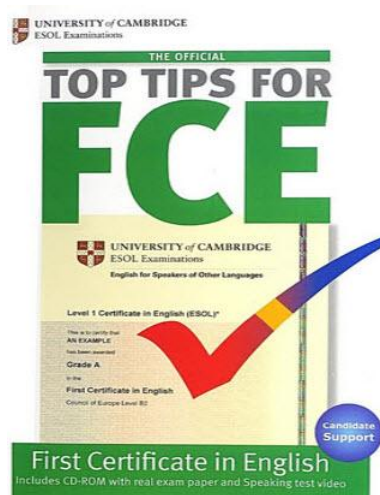
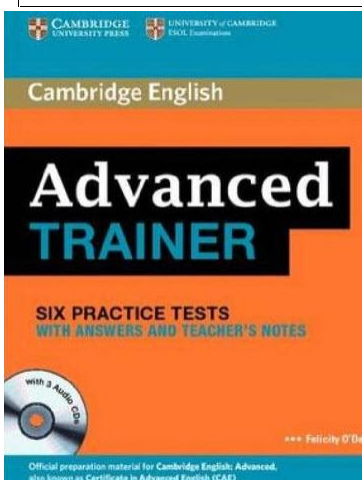
He really has been **snowed under with** work.

She wants me to take some time off but I'm **snowed under with work** at the moment.

If you find yourself **snowed under with** commitments, start saying 'no' to anything that is not absolutely essential.

Etymology: based on the literal meaning of snowed under (covered by so much snow that people cannot get out or move around)

Estar hasta arriba de (algo)



9. All in a day's work

SO, WHAT DID YOU DO TODAY?

OH, NOTHIN' MUCH
- JUST SAVED A LADY
BY SHOOTING A COUPLE
OF SAVAGE PIT BULLS.

YEAH, ALL I HAD
TO DO WAS RESCUE
A COUPLE OF KIDS DUCT-
TAPED TO THEIR CHAIRS.

QUIET, REALLY - ALL
I DID WAS BUST
A METH LAB

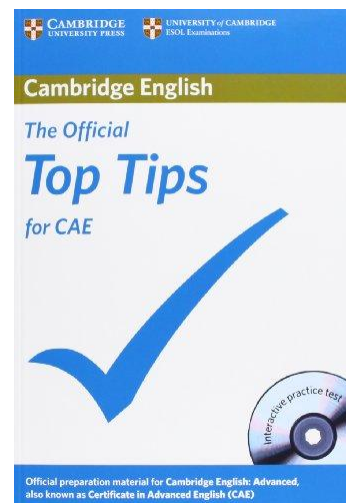
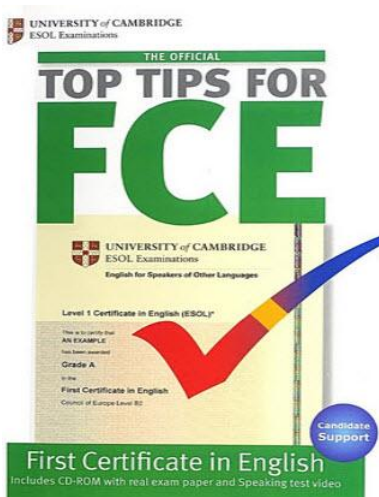
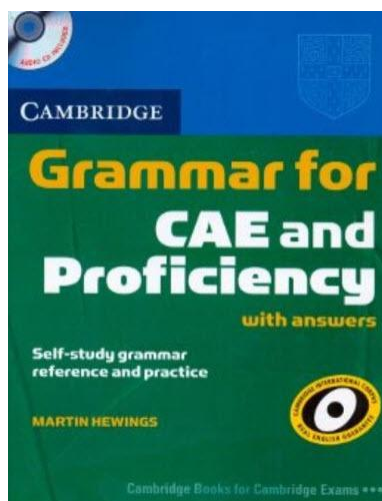


all in a day's work

part of what is expected; typical or normal.

I don't particularly like to cook, but it's **all in a day's work**.
Cleaning up after other people is **all in a day's work** for a busboy.
A fancy dinner with a Hollywood celebrity is **all in a day's work**
for this reporter.

Es el pan de cada día / es parte del trabajo



More Free resources at :
www.aprendeinglesenleganes.com

10. Be / get out of the woods



be / get out of the woods

Fig. past a critical phase; out of the unknown.
When the patient got **out of the woods**, everyone relaxed.
I can give you a better prediction for your future health
when you are **out of the woods**.
The club has been given funding for another year,
but it's not **out of the woods** yet.
They're not **out of the woods** yet – there are still a lot of
enemy troops in the surrounding areas.

Estar a salvo / estar fuera de peligro

