**Lesson 6**

**to keep out**: not to enter, not allow to enter (**S**)

o There was a large sign outside the door that said, "Danger! *Keep out*!"

o I've told you to *keep* the dog *out* of the house.

**to keep away** (**from**): to stay at a distance (from) (**S**); to avoid use of (also: **stay away from**)

**to be up to**: to be responsible for deciding; to be doing as a regular activity The second definition is most often used in a question as a form of greeting.

o I don't care whether we go to the reception or not. It*'s up to* you.

o Hi, George. I haven't seen you in a while. What have you *been up to*?

**to do over**: to revise, to do again (**S**) A noun or pronoun must separate the two parts of this idiom.

o You'd better *do* the letter *over* because it is written so poorly.

o Jose made so many mistakes in his homework that the teacher made him *do* it *over*.

**to look into**: to investigate, to examine carefully (also: **to check into**)

o The police are *looking into* the matter of the stolen computers.

o The congressional committee will *check into* the financial dealings of

the government contractor.

**to get through**: to finish, to complete This idiom is followed either by the *–ing* form of a verb (a gerund) or by the preposition *with*.

o I didn't *get through* studying last night until almost eleven o'clock. o At what time does your wife *get through* with work every day?

**from now on**: from this time into the future o Mr. Lee's doctor told him to cut down on eating fatty foods *from now*

*on*, or else he might suffer heart disease. o I'm sorry that I dropped by at a bad time. *From now on* I'll call you first.

**up to date**: modern; current, timely Hyphens (**-**) separate the parts of this idiom when it precedes a noun form, as in the third example. The verb *to update* derives from this idiom.

o The president insisted that the company bring its aging equipment *up to date*.

o This catalog is not *up to date*. It was published several years ago. o The news program gave an *up-to-date* account of the nuclear accident.

The newscaster said that he would update the news report every half hour.

**out of date**: not modern; not current, not timely; no longer available in published form

Again, hyphens separate the parts of this idiom when it precedes a noun form as, in the second example. The passive verb *to be outdated* derives from this idiom.

o Many people buy new cars when their old cars become *out of date*. o I don't know why Gene likes to wear *out-of-date* cloth. His clothes are

so *outdated* that even his girlfriend hesitates to be seen with him. o This book can't be ordered any more because it is out of date.

**to blow up**: to inflate, to fill with air (**S**); to explode, to destroy (or be destroyed) by explosion (**S**)

o Daddy, could you please *blow up* this balloon for me? o When the airplane crashed into the ground, it *blew up* immediately. o The military had to *blow* the missile *up* in midair when it started to go

the wrong way.

**to break out**: to become widespread suddenly o An epidemic of measles *broke out* in Chicago this past week. o If a nuclear war ever *breaks out*, it is unlikely that many people will

survive. o The news says that a large fire has *broken out* in a huge chemical plant.