Unit 1

**anticipate** *verb* to expect something or prepare for something before it happens

Are you anticipating a big crowd at the party tonight?

**assertion** *noun* a statement that you strongly believe is true

I don’t agree with his assertion that men are safer drivers than women.

**believe wholeheartedly** *phrase* to be completely sure about something

I believe wholeheartedly that this plan will succeed.

**choose wisely** *phrase* to make a good decision about something

He chose his staff wisely, and the company was a huge success.

**clueless** *adjective* without any knowledge about a situation or subject

**come back to haunt you** *idiom* If something you do comes back to haunt you, it has bad consequences at a

later time. Her earlier lies have come back to haunt her now.

**courage in the face of an affliction** *phrase* the ability to stay brave even though you are suffering

Despite their problems, they remain positive and show courage in the face of affliction.

**critical thinking skills** *phrase* the ability to analyse or evaluate information without letting feelings or

opinions influence you. Many people believe that that critical thinking skills should be taught in schools.

**enquiring mind** *phrase* Someone who has an enquiring mind always wants to find out about things.

She had inherited her father’s enquiring mind and was hungry for knowledge and information.

**eye-opener** *noun* something that surprises you and teaches you new facts about life, people, etc.

Living in another country can be a real eye-opener.

**go to incredible lengths** *idiom* to try extremely hard to achieve something

She went to incredible lengths to impress her friends.

**hoodwink** *verb* to deceive or trick someone

He hoodwinked us into agreeing.

**lap up** *phrasal verb* to accept or believe something with enthusiasm

They positively lapped up everything he said.

**make a flying visit** *phrase* to visit somebody for a short period of time

We won’t have time to stop long – we’re just making a flying visit on our way to Boston.

**make an informed choice** *phrase* to make a choice that is based on good information

These leaflets will help you make an informed choice about your treatment.

**mismatch** *noun* an occasion when people or things are put together that are not suitable for each other

There is a mismatch between the capacity of the airport and the large number of people wanting to fly from it.

**out in all weathers** *phrase* outside whatever the weather is like I wouldn’t like to be a fisherman.

They have to be out in all weathers to make a living.

**perform a trick** *phrase* to do a magic trick in order to entertain people

I really liked it when he performed the trick of pulling a rabbit out of a hat.

**positive outlook** *phrase* If you have a positive outlook, you think the future is likely to be good.

She has a positive outlook on life.

**serendipity** *noun* when you are lucky and find something interesting or valuable by chance

Our meeting was pure serendipity.

**set foot in** *phrase* to go to or into a certain place

That owner of that shop is so rude! I’m not setting foot in there again.

**share a viewpoint** *phrase* to have the same opinions about something

We don’t agree on everything, but we share a viewpoint on what’s best for the children.

**splitting headache** *phrase* a very bad pain in your head

I’ve got a splitting headache.

**suffer from stage fright** *phrase* to be scared of performing in public

Although he has a lot of experience as an actor, he still suffers from stage fright.

**well-intentioned** *adjective* wanting to have good effects, but sometimes having bad effects that were

not expected

It was a well-intentioned plan, but it did more harm than good in the long run.