

14 idioms de tiempo y prisa que se dicen de verdad

Ficha 3 de 3 · Ficha 3 · cuáles se traducen a tu idioma y cuáles hay que memorizar enteros · idioms mal escritos y mal usados: una preposición cambia el sentido

LA REGLA

Un idiom no se traduce palabra por palabra: se aprende entero y con su contexto. Estos catorce son los del reloj: llegar tarde, ir con prisa, aplazar y dejarlo por hoy.

¡Ojo! — el fallo típico. Traducir el idiom de tu idioma al inglés y esperar que funcione. «At the eleventh hour» no son las once, y «in no time» no lleva ningún negativo en el significado: quiere decir enseguida.

1 ¿Tiene equivalente casi literal en tu idioma o no? Reparte.

against the clock · around the clock · better late than never · call it a day · in the nick of time · kill time · on the dot · time flies

translates almost word for word	no literal equivalent
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2

We finished the report and the client never knew how close it was.

- ☐ in the nick of time ☐ in no time ☐ around the clock
☐ at no time

3 El idiom está mal escrito. Escribe la frase bien.

It's late and we're all tired: let's call the day.

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4 El idiom está mal usado. Escribe la frase bien.

The factory works against the clock: it never stops, day or night.

5 El idiom está mal escrito. Escribe la frase bien.

Don't worry about the delay: better late that never.

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6 El idiom está mal usado. Escribe la frase bien.

At no time we finished the work: it only took us ten minutes.

7 El idiom está mal usado. Escribe la frase bien.

He arrived at the eleventh hour, exactly at eleven o'clock as we agreed.

8

We can't keep this decision off; the team needs an answer.

9

Which sentence uses the idiom correctly?

- ☐ I was killing time at the airport, so I bought a coffee and read the news.
☐ I was killing the time at the airport, so I bought a coffee.
☐ I was killing my time at the airport with an important meeting.
☐ I killed a time at the airport reading the news.

10 Un idiom está mal escrito y el otro está bien. Escribe la frase bien.

We were working around the clock all week and finally we called the day at midnight.

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Soluciones · ficha 3 de 3

Recorta o dobla esta página antes de dar la ficha.

- 1 translates almost word for word: time flies, kill time, against the clock, better late than never · no literal equivalent: call it a day, on the dot, in the nick of time, around the clock
- 2 We finished the report in the nick of time and the client never knew how close it was.
- 3 It's late and we're all tired: let's call the day. → It's late and we're all tired: let's call it a day.
- 4 The factory works against the clock: it never stops, day or night. → The factory works around the clock: it never stops, day or night.
- 5 Don't worry about the delay: better late than never. → Don't worry about the delay: better late than never.
- 6 At no time we finished the work: it only took us ten minutes. → We finished the work in no time: it only took us ten minutes.
- 7 He arrived at the eleventh hour, exactly at eleven o'clock as we agreed. → He arrived on the dot, exactly at eleven o'clock as we agreed.
- 8 We can't keep putting this decision off; the team needs an answer.
- 9 Which sentence uses the idiom correctly? → I was killing time at the airport, so I bought a coffee and read the news.
- 10 We were working around the clock all week and finally we called the day at midnight. → We were working around the clock all week and finally we called it a day at midnight.