



Lesson: V113

Idioms relating to
the head and the brain

**Aim: to enable you to learn and use some idioms connected
with the head and the brain**

A. Complete the following with your teacher and write an explanation underneath in your own words:

- Can I call you later, I'd like toabout something?

pick your brains rack your brain chew your head

- I'vebut I still can't remember where I've left my keys.

chewed my head racked my brains picked my nose

- I'm pleased to say we're making good with this project.

headway highway brainway

- She's a good boss, but when she's angry she can really.....

eat your mind bite your head off chew your mind

- I've been looking at these figures for an hour but I still can't make.....

head or mind of it head or tail of it brain or body of it

- We are giving this award to the company that is above the rest

head and shoulders body and spirit heads

Phone English



B) Here are some more idioms. Match the idioms from the yellow box on the left with the correct explanation from the green box on the right:

To keep your head above water

To bury your head in the sand

To give someone a head-start

To face the music

To deliberately ignore something bad by pretending it doesn't exist

To let them go first,
in a race for example

To survive – but maybe only just

To accept your fate or punishment

C. Answer these questions with your teacher:

- 1) Do you like to face the music or are you the type of person to bury your head in the sand?
- 2) When was the last time you made real headway with a project or task?
- 3) If you were competing against someone weaker than you in a race, would you give them a head-start?
- 4) Do you like to pick people's brains in order to gather information from various sources?
- 5) Do you know anyone who often bites people's heads off?
- 6) In terms of people you know or admire, who stands head and shoulders above the rest?

D. **Homework:** Visit: <http://www.englishzone.com/idioms/body1a.html>. Many of these idioms will be new. Write the new ones down for your next lesson.