

Answers

Conv. 6-12



(JTB)

Juniors Idioms

1. **to surge** : to increase quickly
2. **missing the point** : not understanding the problem; focusing on the wrong thing
3. **battered by** : hurt seriously by (Note: this can be used in the financial sense, as it is here. It can also be used in the physical sense as in:
4. **catchy** : memorable, appealing (Note: You will often heard the phrase "catchy tune," meaning a song or melody that stays in your head and is fun to sing, though eventually it might drive you crazy)
5. **ground rules** : basic rules; rules that everybody should be know and follow (Note: I've never worked at a company that laid out the ground rules for dating. All the employee manuals I've seen are pretty boring -- how many days in advance to ask for a vacation day, insurance policies -- nothing so interesting as How to Behave if You've Fallen in Love with a Co-worker).
6. **skimpy** : small in quantity. This also has another definition, which is where the pun is here: skimpy also means lacking in fullness (when said of clothes, it means there is not enough of the clothing to fully cover the body part in question -- so a skimpy skirt, for example, might be tight and very short
7. **make strides** : to make progress

8. **to draw the line** : to set a limit; to establish a boundary.
9. **dicey** : risky; unpredictable.
10. **to gripe** : to complain; to whine (note: this term has been around for centuries)
11. **to stay upbeat** : to remain positive. Example: Sales have been slow lately, but we're trying to stay upbeat.
12. **perks** : a benefit given to employees (such as bonus money, a gym membership, free tuition for school, etc).
13. **to bank on** : to count on; to rely on (as a way to make money). You may hear people say, "You can bank on it!"
14. **above all** : most importantly
15. **type A personalities** : very competitive people, who are often aggressive and very ambitious
16. **to tune out** : to ignore; to stop listening to
17. **pricey** : expensive
18. **to come up with** : to think of