

## Vocabulary 1

### Expressions with take

1

1 Complete the short dialogues by matching each sentence to a response below.

- 1 It was a long time before he could **take it all in** and understand what people were telling him.
  - 2 The class **took to** the new teacher the moment she walked into the classroom.
  - 3 You can't **take** anyone else **on** – the budget just won't stand it.
  - 4 You cope so well – you always **take everything in your stride**.
  - 5 Sometimes it's easy to **take advantage of** people, especially when they are rather naïve.
  - 6 I think the boss really **takes me for granted** sometimes – he never thanks me for the work I do.
  - 7 The show was amazing – it really **took my breath away**.
  - 8 Running the department single-handed is hard work – it's **taken a lot out of you** and you need to watch your health.
  - 9 If you feel bad about what she said, then **take it up with her** – don't let it go.
  - 10 When he told me about the job I **took it** as an offer, but in fact he was just talking in general terms and I'd got the wrong end of the stick.
- a) That's true, but it's just a case of doing what's right and not asking too much of them.
  - b) I realise that – I'll be careful not to overdo it and get ill.
  - c) I think everyone felt the same – she's so charismatic and easy to like.
  - d) Well, perhaps they just weren't explaining the situation clearly enough.
  - e) I know – we can't really afford to pay the staff we've got already.
  - f) So you misunderstood what he was saying – that's a shame!
  - g) Thanks – I do try not to make things more difficult than they are.
  - h) You should tell him how you feel – it's not nice to feel unappreciated at work.
  - i) I know – I've never seen anything like it. It was fantastic!
  - j) You're right – I'll speak to her about it in the morning.

2 Now tell a partner what you think the highlighted expressions mean.

## Expressions with *mind* and *brain(s)*

2

1 Complete the sentences using the correct form of expressions from the box.

speak (your) mind  
 take (your) mind off something  
 out of (your) mind  
 read someone's mind  
 put (your) mind at rest  
~~change (your) mind~~  
 make up (your) mind  
 have something on the brain  
 pick (someone's) brains  
 rack (your) brains

### Example:

She never sticks to what she says – she's always changing her mind.

- 1 I wish he would decide what he wants to do – he can never .....
- 2 I've got an essay to write on psychology, and you know a lot about it – can I ..... for some ideas?
- 3 You seem to have a lot of problems – why don't you come to the cinema to stop you thinking too much – it will ..... your difficulties for a while.
- 4 That's a crazy thing to suggest – I think you must be ..... to think it would work!
- 5 I downloaded that tune last week and now I can't stop singing it – I've .....
- 6 You've thought of exactly the same idea as I did – you must have .....!
- 7 If you are worried about the situation, then you'll have to tell someone – don't be afraid to ..... and tell them how you feel.
- 8 If you go and speak to a doctor, then he can reassure you about your concerns – he can .....
- 9 He had no idea what to do, and spent a long time ..... trying to think of a solution.

2 Now tell a partner what you think the expressions in the box mean.

3 Tell a partner about a time:

- something took your breath away
- something took a lot out of you
- you changed your mind
- you racked your brains about something
- you spoke your mind
- you read someone's mind.