

## vocabulary

### idioms

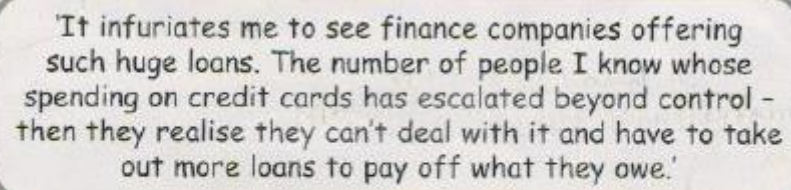
- 1 a** For each of 1–9, underline the idiom, look at the context and discuss its meaning.
- 1 When my dad saw the huge phone bill he hit the roof, blaming me for it.
  - 2 Watching people dance Flamenco is great, but I'm dying to try it for myself.
  - 3 Kira loves motorbikes, so when she won a new one in a competition she was over the moon.
  - 4 Being beaten by United always makes me angry, but losing so unfairly makes my blood boil.
  - 5 When the police started arresting people, the demonstration got out of hand and serious damage was caused.
  - 6 Sam and his brother never agree; in fact, they fight like cat and dog all the time.
  - 7 We'll stop at nothing to prevent them building a factory in this beautiful valley.
  - 8 Carol and Derek hate being apart even for an hour: they're mad about each other.
  - 9 Ron is a good manager, but he's bitten off more than he can chew by promising that we'll win the next World Cup.

**b** Which of the above idioms do pictures 1–3 illustrate?



- 2** Rewrite the following paragraphs more informally using as many idioms from 1a as possible.

Are you fascinated by all things Spanish?  
Desperate to experience 'authentic' Spain? Why  
not visit our new website? You'll be delighted  
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'It infuriates me to see finance companies offering such huge loans. The number of people I know whose spending on credit cards has escalated beyond control - then they realise they can't deal with it and have to take out more loans to pay off what they owe.'