

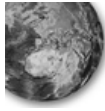
Unit 20 Looks good!

Expressions using sense words

Learn the expressions

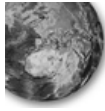
1 In this unit, we focused on the verbs related to the five senses. Now let's look at idioms that relate to the senses. Read the sentences. For each boldfaced expression, guess the meaning and write it in the blank. (There are clues to help you.) Then check your answers in the answer key at the end of the exercise.

1. Stacy's friends always tell her to **stop and smell the roses**. She does nothing but work. She needs to take time to appreciate life.
Guess: _____
2. Paul is an excellent writer, but he hasn't published anything for three years. Is he **losing his touch**?
Guess: _____
3. There was a fascinating report on the radio about the president's meeting with his advisors. **From the sound of it**, there will be some pretty drastic changes in the country within the next few months.
Guess: _____
4. Marc's comment was **in poor taste**, and everyone at the meeting was offended by it. Why doesn't he think before he speaks?
Guess: _____
5. Hank seems to **love the sound of his own voice**. He talks and talks and doesn't show the least interest in what anyone else has to say.
Guess: _____
6. Many politicians **lose sight of** their ideals and become more interested in acquiring power than in keeping the promises they made before the elections.
Guess: _____
7. In the United States, it's difficult to **stay in touch with** old classmates—especially when so many people leave their hometowns when they finish school and get jobs.
Guess: _____
8. **I smelled a rat** the minute I heard that Ann had volunteered to prepare the food for the company party. I was right to be suspicious; all she wanted was to was hire her sister's catering company.
Guess: _____
9. The movie was OK, but the unnecessary violence in it **left a bad taste in my mouth**.
Guess: _____
10. Now that Paolo is going back to Italy and you won't see him every day, you'll see how quickly you forget about him. **Out of sight, out of mind!**
Guess: _____



Answer Key

1. take time to appreciate life
2. stop having a special ability or skill
3. according to what you have read or heard about something
4. not appropriate for a particular occasion
5. talk a lot without listening to what others say
6. get distracted and forget about important parts of something you are doing
7. speak, see, or write to someone
8. be suspicious about someone or something
9. be followed by negative feelings such as anger or disgust
10. you will forget someone or something if you don't see him/her/it



Use the expressions

2 Complete the sentences with the appropriate form of the expressions in the box. Change "one," "one's," and "someone's" to the appropriate pronoun.

lose one's touch	out of sight, out of mind	stay in touch with
smell a rat	from the sound of it	stop and smell the roses
lose sight of	leave a bad taste in someone's mouth	
in poor taste	love the sound of one's own voice	

- Professor Wilson read an outline of her course in class. _____, it's going to be a very tough class.
- I'm not at all convinced that Patricia really cares about Thomas. Could she be interested only in his money? I _____!
- We've been working much too hard. Why don't we take the day off and go to the beach? It's time to _____.
- They say, "_____" but I hope you'll always remember me. In fact, I believe just the opposite is true: Absence makes the heart grow fonder!
- These days, it's easy to _____ relatives in other cities. Thanks to the Internet, you can usually locate just about anyone anywhere in the world.
- All of Tony's friends are happy about his success in the corporate world. We just hope that he never _____ what is really important in life.
- I'm sure Monica didn't intend to upset anyone, but the joke she told during dinner was _____—especially considering Kristina and Gene's recent problems.
- Some of the new reality TV shows are pretty awful. I don't know about you, but watching participants being dishonest with one another always _____.
- Many fans thought the singer _____ when her new CD came out. Some critics even said that her career might be over.
- Victor really _____. He needs to learn to be a better listener!

Make the expressions your own

3 Answer these questions with information about yourself.

- Do you know anyone who "loves the sound of his or her voice"? Describe this person.
- Which do you believe is more true: "Out of sight, out of mind" or "Absence makes the heart grow fonder"? Tell a personal story to illustrate your idea.
- How do you stay in touch with your old friends? Are there any old friends you've lost touch with? What happened?
- Have you had an experience recently that "left a bad taste in your mouth"? What happened?