

### Unit 27 Positive thinking

#### Expressions with *mind*

##### Learn the expressions

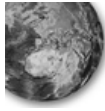
1 In this unit, we talked about ways of thinking, and other aspects of the mind. Let's now look at some common expressions with the word "mind." Read the sentences. Match the expressions in bold with the definitions in the box.

- a. crazy
- b. change your decision
- c. be willing to accept other ideas
- d. make someone stop thinking about something
- e. not think about something
- f. decide to do something and put a lot of effort into it
- g. remember
- h. tell someone you're very angry at him/her
- i. decide something
- j. be unable to think clearly because you're very busy or have a lot of problems

1. When I first came to the U.S., **it never crossed my mind that** I would decide to live here. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Ms. Soto **gave her students a piece of her mind** when she discovered that none of them had completed the assignment. \_\_\_\_\_
3. You want me to move to Iceland with you? Are you **out of your mind**? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Danny was going to come to the game with us tonight, but he **changed his mind**. He said he had too much work to do. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Kristina wasn't sure what she was going to do after she graduates, but she's finally **made up her mind**. She's going to law school. \_\_\_\_\_
6. **Keep in mind** that we'll be driving to the city during rush hour, so we should allow some extra time for traffic. \_\_\_\_\_
7. It's often difficult to **keep an open mind** when someone's opinion is very different from yours. \_\_\_\_\_
8. What can we do to **take Brendan's mind off** his problems? Why don't we invite him to dinner and a movie? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Emily is very talented. She can do just about anything she **puts her mind to**. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Tim seems very distracted. He must **have a lot on his mind**. \_\_\_\_\_

**Answer Key**  
 1. e 2. h 3. a 4. b 5. i 6. g 7. c 8. d 9. f 10. j





### Use the expressions

**2 Complete the conversations with the appropriate form of the expressions in the box. Change the pronoun *your* to the appropriate pronoun (*my, his, her, etc.*) for each situation.**

cross your mind	give somebody a piece of your mind	out of your mind
change your mind	put your mind to	keep in mind    keep an open mind
take your mind off	make up your mind	have a lot on your mind

- A: I wish you would (1) \_\_\_\_\_. One minute you say you're moving to the city and the next you (2) \_\_\_\_\_ and say you're staying here.  
 B: It's not an easy decision. I like the city because there is always something to do, and I like it here because it's nice and quiet.
- A: I can't concentrate. Between my new job and all the things going on in my personal life, I (3) \_\_\_\_\_.  
 B: Come on. Let's go out for lunch. It will (4) \_\_\_\_\_ all of that.
- A: Want to go for a walk?  
 B: Sure, if it's a short one. (5) \_\_\_\_\_ that we have to pick up Ted and Alice at the train station at 3:00  
 B: Right
- A: Have you seen Carlos lately? I haven't spoken to him in ages.  
 B: As a matter of fact, I saw him last night. He's quitting his job and moving to Alaska.  
 A: Alaska? Is he (6) \_\_\_\_\_? He hates snow. Did it (7) \_\_\_\_\_ that he'll feel miserable there?  
 B: You know the guy. There is no stopping him once he (8) \_\_\_\_\_ something.
- A: How are things with Madeleine at work?  
 B: I don't know . . . We disagree just about everything. Like, just yesterday, we had an argument and I really (9) \_\_\_\_\_. I kind of regret it now.  
 A: Maybe one of you should work on a different project  
 B: I don't know. I just wish she would (10) \_\_\_\_\_ and stop being so stubborn.

### Make the expressions your own

**3 Complete the sentences with information that is true for you. Explain your answers and provide details.**

- When was the last time you gave someone a piece of your mind? Why? What happened?
- Do you often change your mind about things, or do you always stick to your idea once you make up your mind?
- What do you do when you want to take your mind off something that's bothering you? Does it work?