

47 Colloquial expressions 3

Replace the words in brackets in the following sentences with a suitable colloquial expression from the list below.

get butterflies in my stomach	blowing his own trumpet	let the cat out of the bag
pulling my leg	hold my tongue	pig-headed
for a song	an out-and-out	he wouldn't say 'Boo' to
smell a rat	as right as rain	a goose
to keep a straight face	down the drain	cheesed off
	get on like a house on fire	

- I see John's again. I've just
(boasting)
- We were hoping to keep our engagement a secret, but my mother
(told everyone about it)
- I always before an interview.
(feel nervous)
- We all found it difficult when
(not to laugh)
- We noticed that our teacher had forgotten to do up the zip on his trousers.
5 Well, that's £5 I told you that
(wasted)
- I must say that I found it hard to
(remain silent)
- when he started saying all those horrible things about foreigners.
- You're not frightened of Mr Biggs, are you?
(He's very timid really)

8 I believed Ian when he told me he'd lost his job, but I later found out from Inger that he was only
(joking)

9 You look a bit , John. What's the matter?
(fed up)

10 The holiday was disaster. So many things went wrong that it would take me all day to tell you about it.
(a complete)

11 I got a 1981 Jaguar the other day
(very cheaply)

The owner was going abroad, so he just wanted to sell it quickly.

12 My wife will never admit that she's wrong, even when she knows she is. She's so
(stubborn)

13 Just keep him at home today, Mrs Brown, and he'll be
(perfectly all right)

..... by tomorrow.

14 I really like my mother-in-law. We
(have a really good relationship)

15 I thought she was the new secretary, but I began to
(become suspicious)

..... when I found her going through coat pockets in the cloakroom.