Holiday Idioms & Expressions

- trim the tree
- quit cold turkey
- Bah, humbug!
- the holiday spirit
- don’t look a gift horse in the mouth
- Christmas cracker
- feel stuffed
- stocking stuffer
- white Christmas
### Holiday Idioms & Expressions

**Visual Learning**

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| trim the tree          | to decorate a Christmas tree with ornaments and lights                      | A: Can you get the ornaments down from the attic?  
B: Okay. I guess it's time to **trim the tree**. |
| quit cold turkey       | to quit a bad habit all at once (not over time)                             | A: Who wants a glass of wine with dinner?  
B: Not me. I **quit cold turkey**. I haven't had a drink since last New Year's Eve. |
| “Bah, humbug!”         | something people say when they are feeling grumpy about the Christmas holidays | A: It's time to put up the Christmas lights!  
B: **Bah, humbug!** The hockey game is on. |
| Scrooge                | a person who is cheap or unkind at Christmastime                           | A: Don't be a **Scrooge**!  
B: I need this for coffee money tomorrow. |
| the holiday spirit     | a positive feeling that people have during the Christmas season            | A: How is the Christmas shopping going?  
B: Not good. I can't get into **the holiday spirit** this year. |
| don't look a gift horse in the mouth | to not point out flaws about a gift or free item                           | A: This box of candy the neighbors gave us has too much dark chocolate.  
B: **Don't look a gift horse in the mouth!** |
| Christmas cracker      | a tube wrapped in decorative paper with party favors inside (small toy, tissue paper crown, joke); two people at the dinner table pull the paper strip at each end to set off a tiny firecracker | A: I'm going to take a picture of you all at the dinner table.  
B: Wait! Let's do/pull our **Christmas crackers** first and put on our crowns. |
## Reference cont.

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| feel/be stuffed      | to have a full feeling inside your body after you eat a large meal          | A: Would you like some more turkey?  
B: No thanks, I’m stuffed.                                                   |
| stocking stuffer     | a small gift or treat placed inside a Christmas stocking (large sock) on Christmas Eve | A: I like your keychain.  
B: Thanks, it was a stocking stuffer.                                       |
| white Christmas      | a Christmas Day or season when there is snow on the ground or snow falling | A: I hope we have a white Christmas this year.  
B: Me too! Last year it rained during the Christmas holidays.                |
| snowed in            | to be unable to leave a building due to a snowstorm/blizzard                | A: I’m afraid we won’t be able to come to the party tonight.  
B: Don’t worry. We’re going to cancel it. Everyone is snowed in.             |
| the more the merrier | everyone is welcome; the more people who come, the better it will be       | A: Can Ella and Josiah come for dinner on Christmas Eve?  
B: Sure. The more the merrier.                                               |
Vocabulary Review

A. What’s the Idiom?

Write the correct idiom below each picture.

B. Draw an Idiom

Now choose one of the expressions you learned on pages 2–3 and draw your own visual definition. Challenge a classmate to guess which expression you drew.