

Unit 12

Straightforward Upper Intermediate Companion | Italian Edition

Idioms (money)

be hard up	/bi ˌhɑːd ˈʌp/	essere al verde, in bolletta	Do you know anyone who is hard up at the moment?
be in the red	/biː ˌɪn ðə ˈred/	essere in passivo	Would it worry you if you were in the red ?
be on the breadline	/biː ˌɒn ðə ˈbredlaɪn/	essere ridotto in povertà	What would you miss most if you were on the breadline ?
be without a penny to your name	/bi wɪðəʊt ə ˌpeni tə jə ˈneɪm/	non possedere nulla	Who would you turn to for help if you were without a penny to your name ?
be worth a fortune	/bi ˌwɜːθ ə ˈfɔːtʃən/	valere una fortuna	Domino was suddenly worth a fortune and never needed to worry about money again.
have money to burn	/hæv ˌmʌni tə ˈbɜːn/	aver denaro da buttare	What would you do if you had money to burn ?
live hand to mouth	/lɪv ˌhænd tə ˈmaʊθ/	vivere alla giornata	Do you know anyone who is living hand to mouth at the moment?
live in the lap of luxury	/lɪv ɪn ðə ˌlæp əv ˈlʌkfəri/	vivere nel lusso	Is it good for children to grow up living in the lap of luxury ?

Phrasal verbs 2

fall for	/fɔːl ˌfɔː/	essere ingannato da	Have you ever fallen for a little lie?
get away with	/get əˈweɪ wɪð/	farla franca	Have you ever got away with doing something bad?
get your own back on (sb)	/get jə ˈəʊn bæk ɒn/	rivalersi su q.cuno	Have you ever got your own back on someone who has done you a bad turn?
give (sth) away	/gɪv əˈweɪ/	lasciarsi sfuggire	Have you ever regretted giving away personal information?
hand (sth) back	/hænd ˈbæk/	restituire	Have you ever been given something by mistake and then had to hand it back ?
make (sth) up	/meɪk ˈʌp/	inventare	Have you ever made up an excuse for being late?
rip (sb) off	/rɪp ˈɒf/	rapinare, far pagare un'esagerazione	The taxi driver ripped us off and charged us \$50 for the journey.
turn (sb) away	/tɜːn əˈweɪ/	mandar via	The club was full and the bouncers turned us away .

US & UK English

bathroom / toilet (n) C	/ˈbɑːθruːm/ /ˈtɔɪlət/	bagno	She had to leave the show to go to the bathroom/toilet .
check / bill (n) C	/tʃek/ /bɪl/	conto	At the end of the meal they asked for the check/bill .
eggplant / aubergine (n) C	/ˈegplaɪnt/ /əʊbəʒiːn/	melanzana	Eggplant/aubergine is an important ingredient in moussaka.

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faucet / tap (n) C	/ˈfɔːsɪt/ /tæp/	rubinetto	The faucet/tap in the bathroom keeps dripping – I think I'll have to have it changed.
fries / chips (n pl)	/fraɪz/ /tʃɪps/	patatine	There's nothing better than a hamburger and fries/chips when you're feeling hungry.
garbage can / dustbin (n) C	/ˈgɑːbɪdʒ ,kæn/ /ˈdʌstbɪn/	bidone della spazzatura	Can you remember to put the garbage can/dustbin out on Wednesday when the dustmen come?
gas station / petrol station (n) C	/gæs ,steɪʃn/ /petrəl ,steɪʃn/	stazione di servizio	We'd better stop at the gas station/petrol station on the way home or we'll have problems.
pants / trousers (n pl)	/pænts/ /traʊzəz/	pantaloni	Have you seen those new black pants/trousers in Next's window? They're great!
sidewalk / pavement (n) C	/saɪdwɔːk/ /peɪvmənt/	marciapiede	Be careful – the sidewalk/pavement gets really slippery when it snows!
soccer / football (n) U	/sɒkə/ /fʊtbɔːl/	calcio, football	Do you feel like going to the soccer/football match with me on Saturday?
stove / cooker (n) C	/stəʊv/ /ˈkʊkə/	cucina, fornello	That new stove/cooker from Germany is the best one I've cooked on.
subway / underground (n) C	/sʌbweɪ/ /ʌndəgraʊnd/	metropolitana	I think I'll take the subway/underground – it'll be quicker.
underpass / subway (n) C	/ʌndəpɑːs/ /sʌbweɪ/	sottopassaggio	This road's so busy – let's take the underpass/subway .
undershirt / vest (n) C	/ʌndəʃɜːt/ /vest/	canottiera	It gets really chilly in the winter there, and I always have to wear an undershirt/vest .

Other words & phrases

alive and well	/əˈlaɪv ən ˈwel/	vivo e vegeto	It may come as a surprise to learn that bounty hunters are still alive and well .
all-seeing (adj)	/ɔːlˈsiːɪŋ/	onniveggente	Others identify the all-seeing eye as a symbol of the Illuminati.
and the like	/ənd ðə ˈlaɪk/	e simili, e così via	Other scam baiters have actually managed to get the would-be conmen to pay – for bank charges and the like .
axe (n) C	/æks/	scure	Nearby lay two skeletons, one with an axe clasped in one hand and a knife between its ribs, the other with a large hole in its skull.
bail (n) C	/beɪl/	cauzione	Bail is the money you pay to a court to remain free until the time of your trial.
bait (n) C	/beɪt/	esca	If you take the bait , you accept what is offered.
bankrupt (adj)	/ˈbæŋkrʌpt/	fallito	One million American credit card holders declare themselves bankrupt every year.
billfold (n) C	/ˈbɪlˌfəʊld/	portafoglio	Next time you take a dollar bill out of your billfold , the chances are you won't give it a second's thought.

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bondsman (n) C	/ˈbɒndzmən/	garante	If you can't afford to pay bail yourself, you can borrow it from a 'bail bondsman '.
bounty hunter (n) C	/ˈbaʊnti ˌhʌntə/	cacciatore di taglie	In their time together as bounty hunters they have caught more than 50 fugitives.
cargo (n) C	/ˈkɑːɡəʊ/	carico	A Portuguese pirate named Benito Bonito made off with a cargo of gold and silver coins.
clasp (v)	/klaːsp/	stringere, afferrare	One of the skeletons had an axe clasped in one hand.
codeword (n) C	/ˈkəʊd,wɜːd/	parola in codice	For 'security purposes' he asked the would-be conman to write a codeword on a piece of card.
conman (n) C	/ˈkɒnmæn/ /ˈkɒnmen/	truffatore	Amazingly, many of the conmen fall for the scam baiters' tricks.
counterfeit (adj)	/ˈkaʊntəfɪt/	contraffatto, falsificato	The Treasury estimates there to be 70 million counterfeit dollars in circulation.
deactivate (v)	/diːˈæktɪveɪt/	disattivare	Scam baiters deactivate the anti-spam controls on their own computers.
deathbed (n) U	/deθbed/	letto di morte	On his deathbed he told a friend, John Keating, where the loot could be found.
decode (v)	/diːˈkəʊd/	decodificare	He left his widow clues about how to find the treasure but she was never able to decode them.
deface (v)	/diːfeɪs/	deturpare	Burning, damaging or in any way defacing a dollar bill is a federal crime.
denomination (n) C	/ˌdɪnəˈmɪneɪʃn/	valore nominale	The denomination of a banknote is its value -- \$10, \$50 etc.
desperado (n) C	/ˌdespəˈrɑːdəʊ/	desperado, bandito	The bounty hunter will collect the reward money before identifying another desperado and riding off, once more, into the sunset.
do (sb) a bad turn	/ˌduː ə ˌbæd ˈtɜːn/	fare (a q.cuno) un brutto scherzo	Have you ever got your own back on someone who has done you a bad turn ?
doubloon (n) C	/ˈdʌbluːn/	doblone	All he found was one single doubloon (a Spanish coin).
embark on (v)	/ɪmˈbɑːk ɒn/	iniziare, intraprendere	In 1989, she moved to the States to join her mother, but instead of joining the Hollywood jetset, she embarked on a series of adventures.
enforce (v)	/ɪnˈfɔːs/	far rispettare	The law is enforced by the American Secret Service.
excess (n) U	/ɪkˈses/	eccesso	After a lifetime of excess she was arrested for possession of drugs.
expel (v)	/ɪkˈspel/	espellere	By the time she was ready to leave school, she had already been expelled from four of them.
face value (n) U	/feɪs ˈvæljuː/	valore apparente	As a rule a \$10,000 bill can be sold for more than four times its face value .
fake (adj)	/feɪk/	falso	If your bill turns out to be a fake , you can always burn it.
fall apart (v)	/fɔːl əˈpɑːt/	andare in pezzi	In those two years, they can change hands hundreds of times and they can be folded eight thousand times before they begin to fall apart .

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fall into the hands of (sb)	/fɔ:l ɪntə ðə 'hændz əv/	cadere in mano a (q.cuno)	In 1880 Bonito's map fell into the hands of a German sailor.
fishpond (n) C	/fɪʃ.pɒnd/	laghetto per i pesci	He found coins yesterday as he was digging a fishpond in his back garden.
fool (v)	/fu:l/	ingannare	Spam victims are fooled by an email that has got through their anti-spam system.
fugitive (n) C	/fju:dʒətɪv/	fuggiasco	In their time together as bounty hunters they have caught more than 50 fugitives .
give (sb) more teeth	/gɪv mɔ: 'ti:θ/	rafforzare (q.cuno)	If you give somebody more teeth , you make them more powerful.
grab (v)	/græb/	afferrare	They had killed each other in their desperation to grab the loot for themselves.
haul (n) C	/hɔ:l/	bottino	The biggest haul of all was left by a Scottish sailor, William Thompson.
hoard (n) C	/hɔ:d/	tesoro	They found a hoard of treasure, including a life-size gold statue.
inscription (n) C	/ɪn'skrɪpʃn/	iscrizione	The Latin inscription Novus Ordo Seclorum means 'New order of the ages'.
jet set (n) U	/dʒetset/	jet set	Instead of joining the Hollywood jet set , she embarked on a series of adventures.
life savings (n) pl	/laɪf ,seɪvɪŋz/	risparmi di una vita	Winnie Mitchell lost her life savings after falling for one email scam.
loot (n) U	/lu:t/	bottino	On his deathbed he told a friend, John Keating, where the loot could be found.
magnet (n) C	/mæɡnɪt/	calamita	Cocos Island became a treasure bank for pirates and a magnet for treasure hunters.
make off with (v)	/meɪk ɒf wɪð/	fuggire con	In 1819, a Portuguese pirate named Benito Bonito carried out a raid on the Mexican port of Acapulco, making off with a cargo of gold and silver coins.
metal detector (n) C	/metl dɪ'tektə/	metal detector, cercametalli	Going out with a metal detector is an unlikely way to make money.
on the trail of	/ɒn ðə 'treɪl əv/	sulle tracce di	People tend to think of a bounty hunter as being on the trail of a bank robber who is wanted dead or alive.
overboard (adv)	/əʊvə,bɔ:d/	fuori bordo	They jumped overboard and swam to the island to escape.
overdose (n) C	/əʊvə,dəʊs/	overdose	At the age of 35 Domino Harvey was found dead of a drugs overdose .
play (sb) at their own game	/pleɪ ət ðeə ,əʊn 'geɪm/	rendere pan per focaccia	If you play someone at their own game , you do to someone what they have done to you.
provider (n) C	/prə'vaɪdə/	provider	In the US, internet service providers claim to be winning the war on spam after seeing a drop of 75% in the last two years.
put up a fight	/pʊt ʌp ə 'faɪt/	lottare	Winnie's daughter was not prepared to see her mother ripped off without putting up a fight .

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raid (v) / (n) C	/reɪd/	fare una scorreria (v) scorreria (n)	He would attack passing ships and raid coastal towns before returning to the thickly wooded island to store his treasure. His raids were not always successful.
ranch hand (n) C	/rɑːntʃ ˌhænd/	lavoratore di un ranch	She is rumoured to have worked as a ranch hand and then as a volunteer fire fighter.
recall (v)	/rɪˈkɔːl/	ricordare	None of the staff could recall ever having come across anyone with the name of Domino Harvey.
rumour (v) / (n) C	/ruːmə/	far correre la voce (v) diceria (n)	She is rumoured to have worked as a ranch hand and then as a volunteer fire fighter. There's a rumour that she's going to be fired.
Saxon (adj)	/ˈsæksn/	sassone	She found some Saxon coins while digging in her garden.
scam (n) C	/skæm/	raggiro, truffa	She lost her life savings after falling for one email scam .
scam baiter (n) C	/skæm baɪtə/	chi adescia un truffatore, chi fa scoprire una truffa	Amazingly, many of the conmen fall for the scam baiters' tricks.
scour (v)	/skaʊə/	perlustrare, esplorare minuziosamente	Other treasure hunters have scoured Cocos, but with little success.
seal (n) C	/siːl/	sigillo	The reverse side of a dollar bill shows the Great Seal of the United States.
serial number (n)	/ˈsɪəriəl ˌnʌmbə/	numero di serie	Users of the site post the serial numbers of dollar bills in their possession.
set in (v)	/ˌset ˈɪn/	subentrare	Boredom set in and she was soon looking for new sources of excitement.
single out (v)	/ˈsɪŋɡl aʊt/	scegliere	It informs them that they have been singled out to receive a very large sum of money.
skeleton (n) C	/ˈskelɪtən/	scheletro	Nearby lay two skeletons , one with an axe clasped in its hand, the other with a hole in its skull.
spam (n) U	/spæm/	spam	Internet service providers claim to be winning the war on spam .
spammer (n) C	/ˈspæmə/	spammer	Spammers send out large numbers of unwanted emails on the internet.
speculate (v)	/ˈspekjʊleɪt/	speculare	If you know what you're doing, speculating on the stock exchange can be a good way to make money.
string (n) C	/strɪŋ/	successione, un certo numero	Cocos Island became a treasure bank for a string of pirates and a magnet for treasure hunters.
the chances are	/ðə ˈtʃɑːnsəz ˌɑː/	le probabilità sono	Next time you take a dollar bill out of your billfold, the chances are you won't give it a second's thought.
to the tune of	/tə ðə ˈtjuːn əv/	per la bellezza di	It is estimated that spam victims in the US are ripped off to the tune of \$200 million every year.
trickery (n) U	/ˈtrɪkəri/	frode	Pirates in the 1700s often used trickery to steal treasure from ships.

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ungirly (adj)	/ʌn'gɜ:li/	poco interessato alle ragazze	As a child Domino was said to be aggressive and ungirly .
want for nothing	/wɒnt fə 'nʌθɪŋ/	non mancare di nulla	Domino wanted for nothing , living in the lap of luxury.
whaling (adj)	/weɪlɪŋ/	baleniera	Keating escaped on a passing whaling ship.
wooded (adj)	/wʊdəd/	boscoso	He would return to the thickly- wooded island to store his treasure.
would-be	/wʊdbi:/	aspirante	For “security purposes” he asked the would-be conman to write a codeword on a piece of card.
yield up (v)	/ji:ld 'ʌp/	rivelare	Even after 300 years, Cocos Island has not yet yielded up all its secrets.