

# Advanced Level

## A Stroll in the Park



### WARM-UPS

1. Do you like the summer season? Why?
2. What do you usually do during summer?
3. Is there a park near your house? Near your school? Near your office?
4. What do people usually do in a park?
5. What about you, do you like strolling in a park?

### CONVERSATION

Note the underlined phrases; they're called business idioms.

A: Everyday it seems to get warmer and sunnier, and we're all cooped up here in the office. It's enough to make someone stir-crazy!

B: I hear what you're saying. What I wouldn't give for a day with nothing to do but take a stroll in the park.

A: But weren't you just telling me that you had a bunch of sick leave and personal days squirreled away? Why don't you take advantage of them?

B: I did have them (with the emphasis on did). That was before the New Year. The company has a "use it or lose it" policy when it comes to those days. Since I didn't take them before the end of the year, I received some compensation, but I can't use them now.

A: Oh, I didn't realize the company had that policy. I must remember to take mine when I have the chance.

B: I would say so. The lump sum payment was nice, but now I wish I could take the R and R.

A: I guess we're both stuck then. We might as well get to work.

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## Vocabulary

Choose the correct meaning of the word from the following:

Salary      benefit      procedure      set      total  
                 stress      a walk

bunch(n) \_\_\_\_\_  
advantage(n) \_\_\_\_\_  
emphasis(n) \_\_\_\_\_  
policy(n) \_\_\_\_\_  
lump sum(n) \_\_\_\_\_  
compensation(n) \_\_\_\_\_  
stroll(n) \_\_\_\_\_

Business Idioms	Meaning
Cooped up	being stuck; can't go out
Stir-crazy	going crazy because you can't go outside
I wouldn't give	something I really want to do
Squirreled away	take something and put it away to be used later
Received compensation	received money
R and R	rest and relaxation