**Proficiency Notes**

**Unit 6**

**Page 53- ex C, D, E**

**C.**

1. hard labor: tough work
2. thorough grounding: detailed and strong basis
3. broken man: depressed, sad
4. incorrigible liar: An incorrigible person is bad and impossible to change or improve
5. lasting satisfaction: continuous benefit
6. formative years: basic years of childhood

**D.**

1. nosey parker: curious person
2. stuffed shirt: someone who behaves in a very formal and old-fashioned way and thinks that they are very important
3. smart aleck: someone who tries to appear clever or who answers questions in a clever way that annoys other people
4. live wire: someone who is very quick and active, both mentally and physically
5. armchair critic: describes a person who knows, or claims to know, a lot about a subject without having direct experience of it
6. soft touch: someone who you can easily persuade to do what you want
7. fair-weather friend: someone who is a good friend when it is easy for them to be one and who stops when you are having problems
8. wet blanket: a person who says or does something that stops other people enjoying themselves

**Ex E.**

1. ran him to ground: found him
2. run away with the idea: consider something to be always true
3. runs counter to: is opposite to
4. my blood ran cold: I was frightened
5. were running riot: were acting uncontrollably

**Ex. I**

1. falling over: dropping down
2. fell for: fell in love with her
3. fell out: had a fight
4. fell behind: was late in studies
5. fell through: failed to happen
6. fall in with: to accept and support a plan or suggestion
7. fell on: started to eat food eagerly
8. didn’t fall for: I was not tricked into believing something that is not true
9. fell about: started laughing aloud and a lot
10. fell apart: went into pieces

**Unit 7**

**Page 60 ex B**

**B**.

1. Backlog: a large amount of things that you should have done before and must do now
2. Fire: to remove someone from their job, either because they have done something wrong or badly, or as a way of saving the cost of employing the
3. Flexitime: a system of working in which people work a set number of hours within a fixed period of time, but can vary the time they start or finish work
4. Freelance: doing particular pieces of work for different organizations, rather than working all the time for a single organization
5. Merger: when two or more companies join together
6. Overload: too much work
7. Overtime: extra working hours
8. Pension: a sum of money paid regularly by the government or a private company to a person who does not work any more because they are too old or they have become ill
9. Petty cash: a small amount of money kept in an office for buying cheap items
10. Redundancy package: money that a company pays to workers who have lost their jobs because they are no longer needed
11. Retirement: when you leave your job and stop working, usually because you are old
12. Self-employed: not working for an employer but finding work for yourself or having your own business
13. Shift work: when different groups of workers work somewhere at different times of the day and night
14. The dole: the money that the government gives to people who are unemployed
15. Trade union: an organization that represents the people who work in a particular industry, protects their rights, and discusses their pay and working conditions with employers
16. Workforce: the group of people who work in a company, industry, country
17. Workload: the amount of work to be done, especially by a particular person or machine in a period of time

**1. k 2. i 3. d 4. q 5. n 6. e 7. h 8. p 9. g; a 10. o**

**D.**

1. broke off: ended
2. break up: When schools and colleges, or the teachers and students who go to them break up, their classes stop and the holidays start
3. break up: end, stop
4. broke out: started laughing
5. break into: to get into a building or car using force, usually to steal something
6. break in on: interrupt
7. broke out: started
8. broken down: failed due to disagreement
9. broke through: to force yourself through something that is holding you back:
10. broke away: left
11. breaking down: it stops working
12. broke out: escaped

**Page 62 ex F**

**F.**

1. a vicious circle: a continuing unpleasant situation, created when one problem causes another problem which then makes the first problem worse
2. a sure-fire solution: guaranteed solution
3. a skeleton staff: the smallest number of people needed for a business or organization to operate
4. at a rough guess: approximate guess or try
5. take a snap decision: decide fast without thinking twice
6. a flying visit: unexpected short visit
7. a golden handshake: a usually large payment made to someone when they leave their job, either when their employer has asked them to leave or when they are leaving at the end of their working life, as a reward for very long or good service in their job
8. a star performer: best employee
9. a dead-end job: a job in which there is no chance of being raised to a better, more important job
10. a vested interest: a strong personal interest in something because you could benefit from it

**Unit 8:**

**Page 68—ex. A**

**Definition of words:**

* Arson: fire-raising
* Assault: attack
* Bigamy: the crime of marrying a person while already legally married to someone else
* Blackmail: when you obtain money from people or force them to do something by threatening to make known a secret of theirs or to harm them
* Bribery: money or a present that you give to someone so that they will do something for you, usually something dishonest
* Burglary: the crime of illegally entering a building and stealing things
* Conspiracy: when people secretly plan together to do something bad or illegal
* Drug-trafficking: drug dealing
* Embezzlement: to secretly take money that is in your care or that belongs to an organization or business you work for
* Forgery: an illegal copy of a document, painting, etc. or the crime of making such illegal copies
* Fraud: the crime of obtaining money by deceiving people
* Gambling: a risk that might result in loss of money or failure
* Handling stolen goods: selling products that have been stolen
* Housebreaking: a person who illegally enters a house in order to steal something
* Joyriding: the crime of stealing a vehicle and driving fast and dangerously for fun
* Kidnapping: to take a person away illegally by force, usually in order to demand money in exchange for releasing them
* Libel: a piece of writing which contains bad and false things about a person
* Manslaughter: the crime of killing a person by someone who did not intend to do it or who cannot be responsible for their actions
* Mugging: to attack a person in a public place and steal their money
* Petty theft: stealing something which is of small value
* Pick-pocketing: stealing things out of pockets or bags, especially in a crowd
* Poaching: to catch and kill animals without permission
* Racism: the belief that people's qualities are influenced by their race and that other races are not as good as the members of your own
* Shoplifting: the illegal act of taking goods from a shop without paying for them
* Stalking: to illegally follow and watch someone, usually a woman, over a period of time
* Treason: the crime of lack of loyalty to your country, especially by helping its enemies or attempting to defeat its government
* Trespass: to go onto someone's land or enter their building without permission

**Answers**

* **libel**
* **fraud**
* **shoplifting**
* **arson**
* **manslaughter**
* **conspiracy**
* **trespass**
* **bribery**

**Ex. B:**

1. k send somebody to jail for a period of time
2. j reach….: decide on the judgment/ reject…..: refute it
3. h to be forced to pay money for having committed a minor crime
4. a take someone into the police’s custody
5. c be a part of, or having to do with
6. b was prohibited from
7. l take someone to court
8. f make a formal statement saying that someone is accused of a crime

**Ex. C:**

1. besetting sin: bad characteristic
2. a near miss: a situation in which something almost hits something else
3. a marked man: someone who is at risk of unpleasant action being taken against them
4. foul play: a criminal act which results in serious damage or injury, especially murder
5. spot check: a quick examination of a few members of a group instead of the whole group
6. ill-gotten gains: dishonestly obtained money
7. rough diamond: a person who is kinder and more pleasant than they seem to be from their appearance and manner
8. a put-up job: an attempt to trick or deceive someone
9. sharp practice: a way of behaving, in business, that is dishonest but not illegal
10. funny business: dishonest actions or behavior intended to trick someone

EX. E:

1. Under a cloud of suspicion: to not be trusted or popular because people think you have done something bad
2. By the look of it: judging by the information we have now
3. Up to scratch: up to the right standard
4. Behind bars: in prison
5. Above suspicion: cannot be doubted
6. For kicks: for fun
7. At large: loose, free
8. On tenterhooks: nervous, worried
9. From scratch: from the start, from zero
10. In the clear: to not be guilty of a crime
11. Off the rails: to start behaving in a way that is not generally acceptable, especially dishonestly or illegally
12. Out of the woods : to no longer be in danger or difficulty

**Ex. F:**

1. got round: to succeed in avoiding or solving a problem
2. get her off: to avoid punishment, or to help another person to avoid punishment for something
3. getting up to: to do something, often something that other people would disapprove of
4. got out of: to avoid doing something that you do not want to do, especially by giving an excuse
5. got along: If two or more people get along, they like each other and are friendly to each other
6. get at: to reach or obtain something, especially something that is difficult to get
7. got down to: to start to direct your efforts and attention towards something
8. get away with: to succeed in avoiding punishment for something

**Unit 13**

**Ex. D:**

1. picking holes on someone scheme: finding fault with
2. kicked up a fuss: made a big deal out of something silly
3. raised the roof: got so angry
4. stick to your guns: maintain your attitude
5. take sides: be with or against
6. pass the buck: pass the responsibility
7. missed the boat: to lose an opportunity to do something by being slow to act
8. sit on the fence: be neutral
9. hit the headlines: to appear in the news suddenly or receive a lot of attention in news reports
10. pull her punches: to speak in an honest way without trying to be kind

**Ex. F**

1. a figment of his imagination: a figment of somebody's imagination something which seems real but is not
2. on the verge of tears : about to cry
3. haven’t the faintest idea: haven’t any idea
4. part and parcel of: to be a necessary feature of a particular experience, which cannot be avoided
5. turned sour: become unpleasant or unfriendly
6. in my wildest dreams: to a degree or in a way you had never thought possible
7. scared stiff: terrified
8. got the gist of: the most important pieces of information about something, or general information without detail
9. few and far between: not happening or existing very often
10. bit off more than he could chew: to try to do something which is too difficult for you

**Unit 15**

**Ex A**

1. engaged in: involved in
2. absolve everyone from blame: to free someone from guilt, blame or responsibility for something
3. let the lecturer off the hook: escape from a difficult situation
4. respect for
5. responsible for
6. look down on: disrespect, despise
7. indifferent to : not caring about or interested in someone or something:
8. common with
9. contempt for: despise, scorn, disrespect, resentment
10. faced with
11. on the brink of: about to

(the point where a new or different situation is about to begin:

Extreme stress had driven him **to the brink of** a nervous breakdown.

Scientists are **on the brink of** (= extremely close to) a major new discovery)

1. lay off
2. on reflection: after serious and careful thought
3. influence…on

**Ex. D**

1. a blessing in disguise: something that seems bad or unlucky at first, but results in something good happening later

2. a blot on the landscape: something such as an ugly building that spoils a pleasant view

3. a drop in the ocean: a very small amount compared to the amount needed

4. the gift of the gab: the ability to speak easily and confidently in a way that makes people want to listen to you and believe you

5. a tower of strength: a person who gives you help and support when you are in a difficult situatio

6. a pack of lies: to be completely untrue

7. a stone’s throw: a very short distance

8. the tip of the iceberg: a small noticeable part of a problem, the total size of which is really much greater

Ex. E

1. a. except for: with the exception of

b. but for: without, OR if it hadn’t been for

2. a. in the light of: as a result of

b. on account of: because of

3. a. assuming : accepting as true without question or proof

b. considering: used to mention a particular condition or fact about something, usually a disadvantageous one

4. a. in view of: because of a particular thing, or taking a particular fact into consideration

b. in case : for fear that

5. a. at the behest of: upon someone’s request

b. on the part of:

6. a. thereby: as a result of this action:

b. whereby: by which way or method, in which

EX. G

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

Sentences and definitions

* 1. tortuous: complex and involving a lot of twists in the details
  2. tempting: appealing, luring
  3. breezy: cheerful
  4. promiscuous: having a lot of different sexual partners or sexual relationships, or (of sexual habits) involving a lot of different partners
  5. pointless: useless
  6. flawed: defective , faulty
  7. risible: ridiculous
  8. irresistible: cannot be stopped or resisted
  9. listless: tired and lacking in energy, indolent, sluggish, languid
  10. sloppy: done in a careless way, slapdash, slipshod