

Learning objectives for this lesson

Reading for specific information and to inference the writer's meaning. Reading for the main meaning of each paragraph. Reading for the meaning of unknown words and expressions. Introduction and extension of knowledge and use of business idioms.

- 1 Students read on their own and then discuss the answers in pairs.

Answer

- 1 The author compares them in terms of leadership because in the past business leaders were seen in the same terms as an army general. Also, business is often seen in terms of outsmarting an opponent and in terms of winning and losing.
- 2 Nowadays, the perfect leader isn't associated with a warlike leader but leaders who facilitate change and in some cases let their employees decide the best course of action.

- 2 Students read for the main meaning of each paragraph.

Answers

- a 3
- b 4
- c 1
- d 6
- e 7
- f is the incorrect sentence because the writer doesn't suggest this.
- g 5
- h 2

- 3 Students match the definitions.

Answers

- 1 metaphor
- 2 pin down
- 3 lobbied
- 4 empower
- 5 latter
- 6 military strategist
- 7 outsmarting
- 8 aspiring managers

- 4 Before starting this exercise, ask students to define the meaning of an idiom. Ask them if they know any in English. For example, some of the famous ones such as *Raining cats and dogs*, etc.

Answers

- 1 FLYING
- 2 FOOD
- 3 SPORT (i.e. baseball)
- 4 FLYING
- 5 COLOUR
- 6 FOOD
- 7 COLOUR
- 8 SAILING

Extension

You could ask the students to think of their own sentences using some of the idioms from exercise 4 or ask them questions such as *What's a ballpark figure for your company's services?*

- 5 If some or all of your students are from the same country and have the same native language, they can work in pairs or small groups to think of a few idioms to share with the rest of the class.
- 6 Students find words they think might be helpful to them in their own work. If you have time afterwards, ask for a few students to tell the class which words they chose and explain why.
- 7 Students discuss these questions in pairs and then feedback to the rest of the class.