

Unit 3 Wordpower

Idioms: Landscapes

A Work in pairs. Make idioms for the definitions. Use the words in the box and add any extra words you may need.

drop bogged slope get land lie out not ocean
get slippery struggle swamped down uphill woods

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|---|-------------------------|
| 1 assess the situation | 5 a difficult process |
| 2 get stuck on a particular point and not make progress | 6 still having problems |
| 3 a series of events which create worse problems | 7 not nearly enough |
| 4 be overwhelmed by too much work | |

B Work with your partner. Read about Bert and his problems, and complete the text using the correct form of the idioms in Activity A.



Bert, the new owner of The Sunshine Language School, needs your advice. The school has hardly any students and is in debt. If they don't get some money soon, they will be on a ¹_____ to bankruptcy. The school saved a little money by cutting teachers' salaries, but this was just a ²_____ and they are ³_____ yet.

One problem is that Bert has to arrange everything on his own – the timetable, the testing, student enquiries, and so on – so he is often absolutely ⁴_____ with paperwork.

As well as this, he is also ⁵_____ lots of new government rules and regulations.

He knows that it will be an ⁶_____, but once he has ⁷_____, things should start to improve.

C Discuss and agree on three pieces of advice for Bert.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____