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C1-C2 Best Grammar Sheets & Tables

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IDIOMS, PHRASES & VERBS

Axe someone

To fire or dismiss someone, often suddenly or due to costcutting.

- The company axed several employees during the merger.
- The budget cuts resulted in her position being axed.
- His performance reviews were poor, so they finally axed him.

Cut someone loose

To terminate a relationship or affiliation with someone.

- The company had to cut loose several employees to stay afloat.
- They cut him loose after realizing he was causing more harm than good.

Give someone the sack - also get the sack

To fire someone, typically from a job.

- When the sales targets weren't met, the boss gave several employees the sack.
- If you keep skipping meetings, you might get the sack.
- She knew she was going to get the sack after that huge mistake.

Give someone their walking papers

also get your walking orders

To officially inform someone that they are being fired.

- After weeks of underperformance, he was finally given his walking papers.
- She got her walking papers after the department downsized.

be out on your ear

to be forced to leave a job or place, especially because you have done something wrong

- We never objected. We'd have been out on our ears looking for another job if we had.
- If you don't work harder, you'll be out on your ear!

Give someone the boot - get the boot

To fire or dismiss someone from a job or position.

- After repeated violations of the rules, they gave him the boot.
- The new boss gave the underperforming staff the boot.
- His poor attitude finally got him the boot from the team.

Give someone their marching orders

also get your marching orders

To dismiss someone or order them to leave.

- He got his marching orders after the client complained.
- She gave her assistant marching orders after catching them snooping.
- The coach gave the underperforming player marching orders.

Kick someone out

To expel someone from a place, position, or group.

- The landlord kicked the tenants out for not paying rent.
- He was kicked out of the club for breaking the rules.
- The company kicked out the CEO after the scandal.

Let someone go

A polite or indirect way of saying that someone has been fired from their job.

- Due to budget cuts, the company had to let several employees go.
- They let her go because her performance didn't meet the standards.
- The CEO explained they were letting him go due to restructuring.

Make someone redundant

also be made redundant

To dismiss someone from their job due to organizational changes, not because of their performance.

- The manager felt awful about having to make John redundant, but there was no other choice.
- To keep the company alive, half the workforce is being made redundant

Put someone out to pasture/grass

To retire or remove someone from a job, often due to age or being outdated.

- The company put the older manager out to pasture to bring in new leadership.
- He was put out to pasture after the new system replaced his role.

Relieve someone of something - formal

to remove someone from their job or position because they have done something wrong:

- Following the scandal, he was relieved of his post as deputy finance minister.
- The committee's chairperson is to be relieved of her duties.
- The general was relieved of his command in 1941.

Send someone packing

To dismiss someone from a job or situation, often abruptly.

- After showing up late for the fifth time, the manager sent him packing.
- $\bullet\,$ The company sent the interns packing after the project ended.
- When she found out he was lying, she sent him packing.

Show someone the door

To ask someone to leave, often permanently, either from a job or a location.

- She was shown the door after failing to meet expectations for months.
- The rude customer was quickly shown the door by security.