Read the paragraphs below, and match the idioms in **bold** with the definitions on the next page.

A. You should always **read between the lines** when you look in a holiday brochure. I chose a hotel that was described as being in a quiet location **a stone's throw** from the beach. That was true to a certain extent, but really they were **pulling a fast one**. You see, the hotel was **in the back of beyond**, and it was on a cliff looking down at the beach two hundred feet below! The only place to go in the evening was the hotel bar, and that was a **pick-up joint**.

B. The brochure told me that the hotel was the best in the area, but to be honest it **fell short of my expectations**. First of all you had to **pay through the nose** for food and service which **wasn't really up to the mark**, and secondly, the manager was a real **misery guts** who complained all the time and kept **laying down the law** ('Don't leave your window open, Don't smoke in your room, Don't make any noise after 10pm, and so on). I met someone who used to stay at the hotel, but he told me it had **gone to the dogs** since a new company had taken it over.

C. Prices for long-haul flights are usually a bit **steep**. However, competition between airlines has **brought prices down** recently, and if you **shop around** you can usually get a **good deal**, especially if you go to a **bucket shop** or search on the Internet. I managed to get a **cut-price** flight to Perth - £350 return! - but the flight left London at **an unearthly hour** and went **round the houses** (we flew via Dubai, Karachi, Colombo, Kuala Lumpur and Jakarta.) before we reached our destination!

D. We had a guest staying at our hotel last week. She was a very **tough customer**, always complaining and **picking holes in everything**. Anyway, when she checked out, she demanded a refund, but our manager calmly and politely explained that this was **out of the question**. She **flew off the handle**, told him to **pull his socks up**, and **stormed out** of the hotel without paying! It's bad enough when you get a **skipper**, but when housekeeping went to clean her room, we also discovered she had **nicked** the towels!

E. I really recommend the restaurant on the corner. You always **get your money's worth**. The **grub** is good and plentiful, and the house **plonk** is **cheap'n'cheerful** (although it might **take the skin off your teeth**). The place is popular with the **natives**, so that's a good sign.

F. The Aphrodite Hotel in Kyrenia is **out of this world**, and if you stay there you'll know that you're **in good hands**. When I was there, the staff **went out of their way** to make me feel welcome, and the manager **fell over himself** to make sure everything was perfect. He knew I was **dog-tired** when I arrived, so asked all his staff to **keep the noise down**, and of course I **slept like a log**!

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| 1. Get something that is worth the amount of money you paid. |
| 3. Very tired. |
| 5. Look for the cheapest prices. |
| 7. Stolen. |
| 9. Did everything possible (two expressions). |
| 11. Local people. |
| 13. Declined in quality. |
| 15. Very near. |
| 17. Very rough tasting. |
| 19. Not being completely honest. |
| 21. Made things cheaper. |
| 23. Very early, or during the night. |
| 25. Finding faults all the time. |
| 27. Wasn't as good as I expected. |
| 29. Decide what somebody really means when they say or write something. |
| 31. (Cheap) wine. |
| 33. Very cheap (but not always very good quality) (two expressions). |
| 35. Very remote, a long way from main towns. |
| 37. A hotel guest who leaves without paying his / her bill. |
| 2. Not possible. |
| 4. Very good / Excellent. |
| 6. A place where men go to try to meet women. |
| 8. Slept very well. |
| 10. Safe and well cared for. |
| 12. Somebody who is always in a bad mood. |
| 14. A place where you can buy cheap travel tickets. |
| 16. Food. |
| 18. Walked out of a room angrily. |
| 20. Somebody who demands the very best quality and service. |
| 22. Telling everyone what to do and how to behave. |
| 24. Became very angry. |
| 26. Wasn't good enough. |
| 28. Pay a lot of money. |
| 30. Be quiet. |
| 32. Make an effort to improve. |
| 34. Something which is very cheap and good value. |
| 36. A very indirect route. |
| 38. Expensive |