

Chapter 8: Cut Him Some Slack

I am having a hard time dealing with my co-worker Daniel. Initially, I thought he might be a slow learner, so I decided to **cut him some slack** and hoped he would **get the hang of** how things were done at the office. However, he made a big mistake during a meeting with one of our biggest clients last week. I **raised this matter** with my boss, but he just said it would take time and be patient. I guess I **see where he is coming from**, so I will try to remain calm and see how things go. The part that bothers me the most is not just the fact that Daniel is inept, but he also has a nonchalant attitude. I don't want to **piss** my boss **off**, but I might have to go over his head to get this situation resolved. I'll keep you posted on what I decide to do.

Breakdown

A) Cut Someone Some Slack: This means to treat someone less severely than would typically be expected.

1) I can't **cut you any more slack**. This has gone on for far too long.

2) I know he has been struggling, but let's **cut him some slack**. If he is still having difficulty after another month, then we should explore some other options.

3) I can't **cut you any more slack**. You have been warned about being late, but it seems not to be working.

B) To get the hang of Something: This means to get used to or familiar with something.

1) It will take another month or so **to get the hang of** working in a fast-paced environment again.

2) The boss told me he was pleased with how quickly I could **get the hang of the job**. It inspired me to work harder.

3) I know that you have recently been promoted to this job and that it will take some time **to get the hang of** things around here. Please don't feel like you have to rush it.

C) Raise The (This) Matter: To bring up a topic or issue for discussion.

1) I think that you should **raise the matter** during the meeting tomorrow. We need to discuss this with Jim.

2) Thanks for **raising the matter** this morning. I appreciate it.

D) To See Where Someone Is Coming From:

This means to be clear on someone's point of view or position on an issue. Also, you can use this to disagree with someone.

1) I **see where you are coming from**; however, I don't think it would be possible for us to deal at present.

2) Thanks for clarifying that for me. I now **see where you are coming from**, and the deal makes sense.

E) Piss Someone Off: This is a commonly used slang expression that you should use only in informal situations to express anger.

1) When he told me that I wasn't going to be working on the campaign, it **pissed me off**.

2) He always brings that issue up because he knows that **pisses me off**. I have to stay calm.

3) When he said it was his idea, it **pissed me off**. I had been working on the proposal for at least one month.