



Describe someone who helped you in a big decision in your life

Who he/she was

When you first met him/Her

How he/she helped you

Why you think he helped you

Throughout my life, I've always had a lot of mentors who'd show me what path to choose as life's all about big decisions and changes. There have also been times when I decided to **(1) put** as much **trust** as possible **in** fate and do stuff **(2) willy nilly** but true to form, it always **(3) landed me in** the wrong direction. One thing I couldn't actually **(4) take** any **chances on** was the matter of my education. When I was around 18 I had this feeling that studying won't actually **(5) do** me any **good**. I used to ask myself, 20 years down the road am I gonna be successful or I better start up a business instead while I still have the time on my side? To make sure that I wasn't being **(6) impulsive**, I decided to **(7) take the matter up with** my uncle since he was believed to **(8) have a way with** making tough decisions. We were close as I'd known for my entire life but I was always **(9) walking on eggshells** when I was around him, well what can I say he was full of wisdom and I would **(10) get the heebie jeebies** sometimes to be honest because I always had to make sure whatever I did **(11) was on the up and up**. I remember quite clearly, I went to him and said, I'm gonna **(12) drop out** and I need **(13) your take on** this. **(14) To the best of my recollection**, he kept talking to me for about 2 hours non-stop telling me about how big the mistake I was making actually was. I don't wanna lie but at first I thought he was only trying to **(15) talk me out if it** because he thought it was the right thing but when he **(16) gave me the account of his own life** that he had dealt with the same **toss up** I believed him. I was **(17) itching** to know why he **(18) took such a special interest in** my problem that he spent 2 hours explaining everything so I asked him. He replied, well boy, family comes first I don't want you to regret your decision.

Collocations and useful phrases:

1. **put/place your trust in somebody/something to trust sb or sth**
You shouldn't put your trust in a man like that
2. **Willy-nilly**

- A) **If something happens willy-nilly, it happens whether you want it to or not:**
He found himself drawn, willy-nilly, into the argument.
- B) **without planning, organization, or control:**
Companies were accused of raising prices willy-nilly.
3. **To land somebody in trouble/hospital/court etc to cause someone to have serious problems or be in a difficult situation:**
A. Connie's going to land herself in big trouble if she keeps arriving late for work.
B. She developed pneumonia which landed her in hospital.
4. **To take a chance to do something that involves risks:**
The rope might break, but that's a chance we'll have to take.
After losing \$20,000 on my last business venture, I'm not taking any chances this time.
take a chance on
A. He was taking a chance on a relatively new young actor.
B. He decided to take his chances in the boat.
5. **do some good/do somebody good to have a useful effect:**
A. She works for a small charity where she feels she can do some good.
B. I'll talk to him but I don't think it will do any good.
6. **Impulsive someone who is impulsive does things without considering the possible dangers or problems first**
A. Rosa was impulsive and sometimes regretted things she'd done.
In a burst of impulsive generosity, I offered to pay.
—**impulsively** adverb:
'Oh, Anne, I do love you!' he said impulsively.
—**impulsiveness** noun [uncountable]
7. **take something 'up with somebody to speak or write to somebody about something that they may be able to deal with or help you with**
They decided to take the matter up with their MP.
8. **have a way with somebody/something to be good at dealing with somebody/something**
He has a way with small children
9. **walk on eggs/eggshells**

If you are walking on eggs /eggshells , you are being very careful not to do anything wrong

When my mother is staying at our house , I feel like I'm walking on eggshells.

10. To get the heebie jeebies

to be nervous or act in a nervous way

11. be on the up and up

a) British English informal to be becoming more successful:

a brilliant young player who is on the up and up

b) American English spoken if a person or business is on the up and up, they are honest and do things legally

12. To drop out

to leave a school or university before your course has finished
drop out of

Bill dropped out of college after his first year.

13. take on something (informal)

the particular opinion or idea that somebody has about something

What's his take on the plan?

14. To the best of my recollection

To the best of my recollection (= if I remember correctly) I was not present at the meeting.

15. give an account (of someone or something) (to someone)

And give someone an account of someone Or something

to tell a narrative about someone or something to someone.

Please give an account of your day to my secretary. Give me an account of every minute.

16. Toss-up

a situation in which either of two choices, results, etc. is equally possible

'Have you decided on the colour yet?' 'It's a toss-up between the blue and the green.'

17. To itch

(often used in the progressive tenses) to want to do something very much

He's itching to get back to work.

18. take an interest in something (=be interested in something)

Jacky first took an interest in golf when he was about six years old.