

- Rob:** Hi! I'm Rob. And this is Helen!
- Helen:** Hello.
- Rob:** Now come on Helen, we've no time to waste. This jumble sale has nearly finished and we haven't got any bargains yet.
- Helen:** Yes, all I've bought is an old teddy bear and a hat with a hole in it. A jumble sale is a great place to pick up some second-hand goods but make sure they are things you want! So what are you looking for Rob?
- Rob:** Some antique pots and vases. Then I can sell it to someone else and I'll be quids in!
- Helen:** What? *Quids in*? What a strange saying.
- Rob:** It means I'll be in profit – or I will have made or saved some money through some kind of financial transaction.
- Helen:** I like the sound of that. But did you say squids in – like the creature in the sea – a squid?
- Rob:** No Helen, the word is quids – it's a slang word for pounds. A quid is £1. You might hear people talking about it like this:

Examples

I'm broke so can you lend me a quid to buy a cup of tea – please?

Come on ladies, who wants these lovely strawberries? Only two quid a box.

Rob: So a quid is a pound and if I am *quids in* it means I will have made some extra pounds sterling.

Helen: Ah! Why didn't you say? *Quids in* means you could be rich!

Rob: Possibly. Let's hear some other people who are hoping to be quids in:

Examples

If we complete this deal, we'll be quids in!

With such a good exchange rate you'll be quids in when you go abroad on holiday.

I paid £50 for it but sold it for £60 so I'm quids in!

Helen: OK Rob, if we're going to be quids in today we need to get buying things.

Rob: Did I say 'we'? Anyway, look at this old vase – it's only £10. I could clean it up and sell it for £20.

Helen: Sounds fantastic. We really would be quids in then. Come on then let's buy it.

Rob: Right OK, I've got my bargain for today, let's go home.

Helen: Rob watch that step!

Rob: Whoa! Oh no, my vase – it's broken.

Helen: Oh! Do you think you'll be able to get £20 for it now?

Rob: No, I won't even get a penny.

Helen: Rob won't be making a profit on selling his old vase now it's broken. He'll be quids out!

Rob: Sorry, what did you say?

Helen: Is there such an expression as being *quids out*?

Rob: No there isn't! But there is an expression about being *out of pocket*.

Helen: Hmm, I think we'll leave that for another day. Come on Rob I'll buy you a drink to cheer you up.

Rob: Thanks Helen. See you next time on The English We Speak. Bye.

Helen: Bye!