

Have you been up a “gum tree”?

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Perhaps. “Gum” (goma) you may know, and “tree” also. Some mortals chew (masticar) gum and the product is “chewing gum” (chicle).

A gumtree (árbol gomero) is a type of tree found in Australia.

There are some expressions using gum. So use your cerebral hemisphere to contemplate these two:

John “is up a gum tree” (= está en un aprieto) about what to buy for Christmas.

He is always “gumming up the works” (metiendo un palo en la rueda) because he is incompetent (Incompetente).

So, have you ever been up a gum tree? Or perhaps you have gummed up the works from time to time (...de vez en cuando)?