

Fun

with

English





Idioms!

Idioms:

are common phrases or terms whose meaning is not real, but can be understood by their popular use.

Idioms:

are not the same as slang. Idioms are made of normal words that have a special meaning known by almost everyone. Slang is usually special words that are known by a particular group.

Idioms:

The English language has about 25,000 idioms!



Let's learn
some idioms!

Break a leg

A way to wish someone good luck.

It is typically said to actors and musicians before they go on stage.



To live it up

To enjoy life.

Live it up you're on vacation!



To kick the bucket

To die.

Did Mr. Smith kick the bucket?



Shape up or ship out

Something you say in order to tell someone that if their behavior does not improve, they will have to leave.

Be quite in class. Either shape up or ship out.



To spill the beans

To tell a secret.

Tara spilled the beans about her roommate's boyfriend.



It's raining cats and dogs

It's raining hard.

Bring your umbrella. It's raining cats and dogs.



Top dog

Leader.

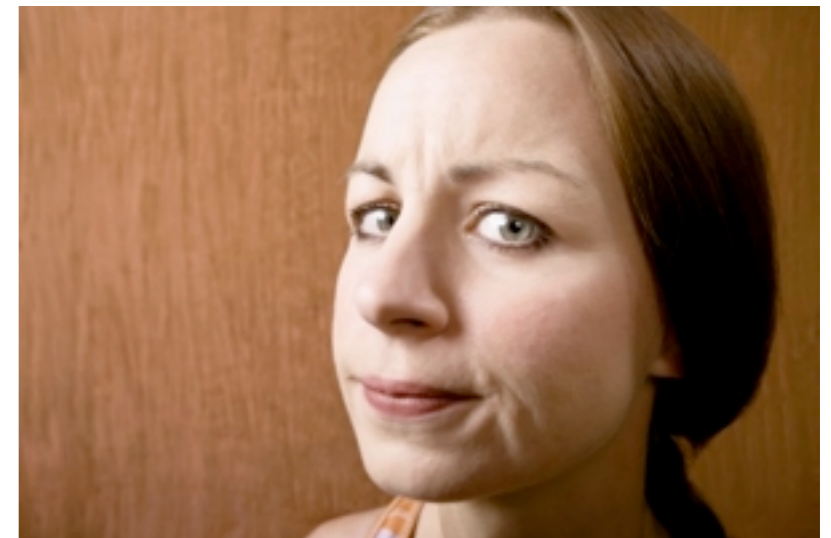
Sara always works hard.
She's top dog in our office.



To smell a rat

To think that something is wrong.

She told me her story but I smell a rat.



To chicken out

Not doing an activity because of fear.

I wanted to skydive but I chickened out.



To eat like a horse

To eat a lot.

Did you see how much food Mike ate?
He eats like a horse!



To break someones heart

To cause someone to feel sad.

When my girlfriend broke up with me
it broke my heart.



Burn the midnight oil

To work studiously late into the night.

University students often
burn the midnight oil.





Let's review!

English Idioms

Break a leg

A way to wish someone good luck.

To live it up

To enjoy life.

To kick the bucket

To die.

Shape up or ship out

When you tell someone if their behavior does not improve they will have to leave.

To spill the beans

To tell a secret.

It's raining cats and dogs

It's raining hard.

Top dog

The leader.

To smell a rat

To think that something is wrong.

To chicken out

Not doing an activity because of fear.

To eat like a horse

To eat a lot.

To break someones heart

To cause someone to feel sad.

Burn the midnight oil

To work studiously late into the night.



I'm off now!

(Idiom for good bye!)