

Synonyms: marine, naval, maritime

NETTLE: To irritate or provoke - *nettled* by his critics.

Synonyms: vex, pique, goad

NOCTURNAL: Pertaining to, or occurring in, the night - awakened by the sounds of a *nocturnal* prowler.

Antonym: diurnal

NOISOME: Foul-smelling; harmful-the swamp gave off a *noisome* odor.

Synonyms: malodorous, fetid, disgusting; noxious, deleterious

Antonym: salubrious

NONCHALANT: Unmoved or indifferent; casual - reacted to the news in a *nonchalant* manner.

Synonym: apathetic

Antonyms: enthusiastic, zealous

NOSTALGIA: Homesickness - felt *nostalgia* for the old homestead.

NOTORIOUS: Widely known (in a bad sense) - a *notorious* gambler.

NOVICE: A beginner - conducted himself in politics like a *novice*.

Synonyms: tyro, neophyte

Antonym: virtuoso

OBDURATE: Hard-hearted; stubborn - an *obdurate*, unrepentant criminal.

Synonyms: adamant, unyielding, inflexible

Antonyms: submissive, docile, compliant

OBLIVIOUS (noun: OBLIVION): Forgetful; absent-minded - walking *oblivious* of his surroundings.

Synonyms: unmindful, heedless, abstracted

OBSESSION: A persistent feeling, idea, activity, etc., which dominates a person; the state of being exclusively preoccupied by a fixed idea - Now that he has learned bowling, it has become his *obsession*.

Synonyms: mania, infatuation (a foolish passion), monomania

OBSOLETE: No longer in use - an *obsolete* word, not even included by most dictionaries.

Synonyms: archaic, antiquated

OBTRUSIVE (verb: OBTRUDE): Thrusting oneself or itself into undue prominence - made himself obnoxiously *obtrusive*.

Synonyms: intrusive, aggressive

OBVIATE: To prevent, dispose of, or make unnecessary by appropriate actions - an act which *obviated* all objections.

Synonyms: preclude, forestall

OMNIPOTENT: All-powerful - an *omnipotent* despot.

ONUS: Burden; duty; obligation - bore the *onus* of his difficult office creditably.

OSTENSIBLE: Apparent; pretended - his *ostensible*, though not actual, purpose.

Synonyms: professed, plausible (that is, appearing true, reasonable, or fair), specious

OSTRACIZE: To banish; to exclude from public favor or privileges - a former premier *ostracized* by popular vote.

Synonym: outlaw

PANACEA: A remedy for all ills - seeking a *panacea* to cure our social troubles.

Synonym: nostrum

PANEGYRIC: A speech or writing of extravagant praise - delivered a *panegyric* at his friend's testimonial dinner.

Synonyms: eulogy, adulation, tribute, laudation (adj. laudatory), encomium

Antonyms: censure, disparagement, derogation, castigation, depreciation

PARADOX: A self -contradictory statement; something 'that appears to be absurd and yet may be true - "Life is too important a matter to be taken seriously." - a *paradox* by Oscar Wilde.

Synonym: anomaly

PARAPHRASE: To restate the meaning of a passage in other words - *paraphrased* the poem in a few lines of prose.

PARODY (noun): A humorous imitation of an author's style and mannerisms - wrote a *parody* on Kipling's "GungaDin."

Synonym: burlesque

(verb): To write a parody - parodied the popular authors of the (lay to his audience's amusement.

Synonym: Mimic

PECCADILLO: A petty fault-possesses one *peccadillo* among his many virtues.

Synonyms: frailty, foible, flaw, blemish

PECUNIARY: Pertaining to money - involved in *pecuniary* difficulties.

Synonyms; financial, fiscal, monetary

PEDANT (adj.: PEDANTIC): One who proudly shows off his learning or who overrates his knowledge - like *apedant* glorying in his scholarly trifles.

PENSIVE: Sadly thoughtful - softly sang his *pensive* song.

Synonyms: reflective, meditative, contemplative, musing

PEREMPTORY: Positive in expressing an opinion - gave a *peremptory* judgment.

Synonyms: decisive, resolute, imperious, positive, dogmatic

Antonyms: indecisive, tentative

PERTINACIOUS: Clinging doggedly to an opinion or purpose - *pertinacious* in his efforts.

Synonyms: obdurate, tenacious, persistent, persevering, intractable, inflexible

PERUSE: To read carefully - *perused* the important letter.

PERVERSE: Willfully bent on doing the wrong thing - a *perverse* lad, always disobeying his parents.

Synonyms: headstrong, forward, refractory, wayward, fractious

PETRIFY: To paralyze with horror, fear, or surprise - *petrified* by the enemy bombardment.

Synonyms: stupefy, stun, bewilder, amaze

PLAGIARISM. Adopting and reproducing, without acknowledgment, the writings or ideas of another and passing them off as one's own - denied the charge of deliberate *plagiarism*.

PLATITUDE: A dull and commonplace remark - bored people by his pompous phrases and *platitudes*.

Synonyms: bromide, truism, axiom

PLEBEIAN: Pertaining to the common people; hence, common or vulgar - *plebeian* in his tastes and outlook.

Antonyms: patrician, aristocratic

PLEBISCITE. A direct vote by the people - The decision to confederate was ratified by *plebiscite*.

POIGNANT:

(1) Gripping and moving the feelings powerfully - a *poignant* grief.

(2) Piercing, biting, pointed - a poignant cry; *poignant* wit.

PONDEROUS: Very heavy; clumsy; dull - a *ponderous* speech, extremely boring.

PRECARIOUS: Uncertain or risky - earning a *precarious* livelihood, providing no luxuries.

PRECIPITOUS:

(1) Very steep - a *precipitous* cliff.

(2) Descending rapidly - a *precipitous* decline in popularity.

PRECOCIOUS: Remarkable for early mental development a *precocious* genius.

PREDATORY:

(1) Inclined to plunder or rob; - *predatory* bands roaming the countryside.

(2) Preying on, others - **predatory** animals prowling about.

Synonyms: predacious, looting, pillaging

PREDILECTION: Partiality or preference for; a favorable opinion arrived at beforehand - a **predilection** for theatricals.

Synonyms: prepossession, proclivity, predisposition, penchant

Antonyms: aversion, antipathy, repugnance

PRELUDE: An introduction, forerunner, or preliminary step - a short **prelude** to the play.

Synonyms: preface, prologue, preamble.

Antonym: epilogue

PREROGATIVE: A privilege or power attaching to a position - It is a woman's **prerogative** to refuse to tell her age.

Synonym: license

PRESTIGE: Esteem or influence accorded for recognized achievements or reputation - As Senator he enjoyed great **prestige**.

Synonym: distinction

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PRESUMPTION:

(1) Something taken for granted - acted on a reasonable *presumption*.

(2) Going beyond proper bounds; impudent boldness - His question was downright *presumption*.

Synonyms: effrontery, forwardness, arrogance

PREVARICATE: To disguise or conceal the truth to lie - *prevaricated* in order to avoid detection.

Synonyms: quibble, equivocate; (adj.) mendacious

Antonyms: (noun) veracity, verity; (adj.) forthright

PROCRASTINATE: To postpone or put off to another time - missed his opportunity by *procrastinating* too long.

Synonyms: defer, delay

PROGNOSTICATE (noun: PROGNOSIS): To forecast - The Weather Bureau *prognosticates* daily.

Synonyms: presage, portend, augur, forebode

PROLETARIAT: The wage-earning class - a truck man, humble member of the *proletariat*.

PROMONTORY: A cliff - an imposing *promontory* along the coast.

Synonyms: headland, precipice

PROMULGATE: To publish or proclaim; to spread abroad The President *promulgated* a decree.

Synonym: disseminate

PROTUBERANT: Bulging or swelling out - a *protuberant* jaw.

Antonyms: receding, recessive

PROVISIONAL: Temporary; for the time being - a *provisional* plan until a permanent decision is reached.

Synonym: tentative

PROXIMITY: Nearness-worked in close *proximity* to his home.

Synonyms :propinquity, vicinity

Antonym: remoteness

PSEUDONYM: A false name assumed by a writer - concealed his identity by a *pseudonym*.

Synonyms: alias, pen name, nom de plume

PUNITIVE: Inflicting, or concerned with, punishment - took *punitive* measures against deserters.

QUASH: To crush; to render void - *quashed* a rebellion; *quashed* an indictment.

Synonyms: suppress, extinguish, quell; annul

QUERULOUS: Given to fault-finding and complaining - Her *querulous* nature estranged many people.

Synonyms: fretful, whining, captious, carping, peevish, petulant

Antonym: affable

QUIXOTIC: Extravagantly romantic or idealistic; highly impractical - a *quixotic* scheme that can never materialize.

Synonyms: utopian, visionary, fantastic

RACONTEUR: A skilled storyteller - held spellbound by a superb *raconteur*.

RADICAL (noun): One who advocates extreme basic changes - The reform movement was led by a *radical*.

(adj.): Thorough, extreme - *radical* measures adopted to meet the emergency.

Antonym:(noun and adj.) conservative

RAMIFICATION: A branching; sub-division - studied the subject in all its *ramifications*.

RAZE: To tear down completely- *razed* the old building.

Synonyms: level

Antonym: rear

RECAPITULATE: To restate in a brief, concise form; to sum up - *recapitulated* the main ideas.

RECIPROCAL: Mutual; done in return for something received - held each other in *reciprocal* esteem.

RECUMBENT: Lying down; leaning back or down - resting in a *recumbent* position.

REDOLENT:

(1) Fragrant - a room *redolent* of roses.

Synonym: aromatic

(2) Reminiscent of - *redolent* of olden times.

REDOUBTABLE: Commanding fear or respect - cringing before a *redoubtable* enemy.

Synonym: formidable

REFUTE: To prove incorrect or false-*refuted* his opponent's argument.

Synonyms: rebut, confute

Antonyms: substantiate, confirm, corroborate

REITERATE: Repeat (several times) - *reiterated* his story once more.

REMUNERATIVE: Profitable - a *remunerative* job.

Synonyms: lucrative, gainful

RENEGADE: One who forsakes political or party principles or his religious faith - a *renegade* from his former allegiance.

Synonyms: turncoat, apostate, recreant, traitor

REPRISAL: Injury inflicted in turn for one received - took action in *reprisal* against his neighbor.

Synonym: retaliation

RESENTMENT: Feeling of displeasure or indignation resulting from mistreatment or abuse - showed *resentment* at what he considered an unwarranted insult.

Synonyms: umbrage, dudgeon, animosity

RESILIENT: Elastic; light-hearted; possessing power of recovery - a *resilient* Spirit, refusing to admit defeat.

Synonyms: flexible, pliable, supple, limber

RESPITE:

(1) Temporary deferment or cessation of work or pain - a brief *respite* from labor.

Synonym: surcease

(2) A temporary delay in the execution of -a sentence - granted the doom man a temporary *respite*.

Synonym: reprieve

RETRIBUTION: The reward or punishment exacted for an injury, wickedness, or other action - suffered just *retribution* for his folly.

Synonyms: requital, nemesis

RETRIEVE:

(1) To make good -*retrieved* a mistake.

(2) To recover -*retrieved* the suitcase left at the station.

(3) To restore - *retrieved* his lost fortunes.

REVERBERATE: To echo - a shot *reverberating* through the valley.

Synonym: resound

RUDIMENTARY: In an early stage of development - possessing only a *rudimentary*, knowledge of physics.

Synonym: incipient

RUE (adj.: RUEFUL): To be sorry for-He will *rue* the day he left home.

Synonyms: regret, repent

SACROSANCT: Very holy - a shrine. regarded as *sacrosanct*.

Synonyms: consecrated, inviolable, hallowed

SAGACIOUS (noun: SAGACITY): Wise; shrewd - proved to be *sagacious* in his judgment.

Synonyms: perspicacious, astute, sapient, discerning, sage

SALLOW: Sick - a *sallow* complexion.

Synonym: pallid

Antonyms: rubicund, ruddy, florid

SALLY: (verb): To rush forth suddenly - *sallied* out to meet the enemy.

(noun): A Witty remark - amused the audience with his *sallies* against his opponent.

Synonyms: quip, banter

SANCTIMONIOUS: Pretending to be religious - showed his hypocrisy in a *sanctimonious* display of piety.

SANGUINARY: Bloody - a *sanguinary* battle.

Synonym: gory

SANGUINE: Of a hopeful disposition; blood-red in color - a perennial optimist, *sanguine* in temperament.

Synonyms: buoyant, ardent

SARTORIAL: Pertaining to a tailor or clothes - a picture of *sartorial* perfection.

SATELLITE:

(1) An attentive or flattering follower - a prince surrounded by many *satellites*.

Synonyms: lackey, toady, disciple, adherent; adj., fawning, obsequious, partisan

(2) A country influenced or controlled by another - Freedom is conspicuously absent, in the Soviet *satellites*.

(3) A body (natural or artificial) which revolves around a larger body, generally a planet - The moon is the only natural *satellite* of the earth, but in recent years it has been joined by many artificial *satellites*.

SCINTILLA: A trace; a particle - not a *scintilla of* convincing evidence.

Synonyms: iota; vestige

SCOURGE (*verb*): To punish severely; to afflict; to whip - a disease that *scourged* the country.

Synonyms: excoriate, flay

(*noun*): A whip or other means *of* punishment; a cause of affliction - The Black Plague was a dreadful *scourge* of the Middle Ages.

Synonym: tribulation

SCRUTINIZE: To examine carefully - *scrutinized* the contents of the letter.

SHIBBOLETH: A party slogan - a *shibboleth* designed to attract votes.

SIMPER (*verb*): To smile in a silly or affected way *simpered as* he greeted each guest.

(*noun*): An affected or silly smile - stood nervously, a *simper* on his face.

Synonym: (*verb and noun*) smirk

SINECURE: Employment entailing little or no responsibility or labor - His job was a *sinecure*.

SINISTER: Threatening or showing evil; dishonest - the *sinister* look of a gangster.

SLEAZY: Flimsy and cheap - *sleazy* cloth which is used only in cheap garments.

Synonym: unsubstantial

SLOVENLY: Untidy-severely criticized the student's *slovenly* appearance.

Synonyms: slipshod, slatternly, frowzy

SOPORIFIC: Tending to induce sleep - a poorly written novel, *soporific* in effect.

SORDID: Mean and base; filthy - *Sordid* motives breed selfish actions.

Synonyms: degraded, vile, ignoble

SOVEREIGN: Supreme in power and authority; independent of the control of any other government - possessing sovereign powers; a *sovereign* state.

Synonyms: autonomous, imperial, majestic, paramount

SPORADIC: Occurring singly, at irregular intervals; scattered - *sporadic* cases of illness.

SPURN: To refuse or reject with contempt - an offer that was *spurned* instantly.

Synonyms: repel, snub

STOIC: Indifferent, calm in bearing pain or pleasure; practising remarkable self-control over emotions - maintained a *stoic* attitude despite all his trials.

Synonyms: stolid, impassive

STRINGENT: Strict; compelling, constraining *stringent* regulations; *stringent* requirements.

Synonyms: exacting, rigid

Antonym: lax

STUPENDOUS: Amazing by, virtue of its immense size, force, or any quality in exceptional degree - The circus is a *stupendous* spectacle.

Synonyms: astounding, prodigious, monstrous, marvelous, colossal, awful

SUCCULENT: juicy - a *succulent* steak.

Antonyms: desiccated, vapid

SULTRY: Close, hot, and moist - *sultry* tropical weather.

SUPINE:

(1) Lying flat on the back - resting in a *supine* position.

Antonym: erect

(2) Inert, inactive, averse to taking action - a *supine*, ineffective administrator.

Synonyms: listless, torpid

TANGIBLE: Real; actual - *tangible* gains which may be seen. and counted.

Synonyms: material, veritable, perceptible, substantial

TANTAMOUNT: Equivalent - an act that is *tantamount* to treason.

TAUNT (verb). To reproach with contempt - *taunted* him with the charge of failure to act promptly.

Synonyms: mock, twit, gibe, sneer, deride

(noun): An insulting, jeering, or bitter remark - hurled *taunts* at his foes.

TEEMING: In abundance, fertile, highly productive - the *teeming* tropics, rank with vegetation.

Synonyms: swarming, fruitful, fecund, abounding

TEMERITY: Unwise or reckless boldness - leaped into battle with thoughtless *temerity*.

Synonyms: audacity, presumptuousness, effrontery, rashness; (*adj.*) temerarious, foolhardy, venturesome

Antonyms: prudence, circumspection, wariness

TEMPORAL: Worldly, as opposed to spiritual; existing for a time only - a man preoccupied with *temporal* matters.

Synonyms: mundane, secular, civil

TEMPORIZE: To delay or refuse to commit oneself in order to gain time - *temporized* while his friends hurried to his aid.

Synonym: equivocate

TENET: A principle of belief held as true - a *tenet* of religion which he maintained loyally.

Synonyms: creed, doctrine, dogma

TENUOUS: Slender; not substantial; of slight importance - clung desperately to his *tenuous* hope.

TRANQUIL: Calm; peaceful - a *tranquil* summer night.

Synonyms: placid, serene

Antonyms: perturbed, ruffled, turbulent

TRANSGRESS: To break a law or command; to violate a moral principle; to overstep a moral bound or limit - *transgressed* the bounds of decency; transgressed the law.

TREMULOUS: Trembling - *tremulous* with fright.

Synonym: quivering

TRIVIAL: Of little - importance - a *trivial* offense.

Synonym: paltry

Antonyms: gross, momentous

TRUCULENT (noun: TRUCULENCE): Cruel, fierce; harsh; threatening or intimidating savagely - a dispute marked by a *truculent* attitude on both sides.

TURGID:

(1) Swollen, inflated - *turgid* rivers overflowing their banks.

Synonyms: bloated, distended

(2) Using big or high-sounding words - a *turgid* prose style.

Synonyms: pompous, bombastic, prolix

UBIQUITOUS: Existing everywhere - The common cold is a *ubiquitous* complaint.

Synonyms: omnipresent, universal

UNTENABLE: Incapable of being defended or held - withdrew the argument as *untenable*.

UTILITARIAN (adj.): Materially or practically useful - beautiful, but not *utilitarian*.

VANQUISH: To subdue or conquer -an army *vanquished* with heavy losses.

VAUNT: To boast - proudly *vaunted* his strength.

Synonyms: brag (noun: braggadocio, braggart), proclaim

VENEER: A superficial appearance or show designed to impress one with superiority - pierced beneath his thin *veneer* of elegance.

Synonym: gloss

VENERABLE: Deserving respect or reverence because of age - a *venerable* leader.

VERNAL: Pertaining to spring-an array of *vernal* flowers.

Antonym: hibernal (wintry)

VERSATILE: Able to do many things skillfully - *versatile* in all the arts.

VICARIOUS: Taking the place of another; felt, received, or done in place of another - took *vicarious* pleasure in his brother's victory.

VICISSITUDE: A change from one condition to another, often unexpected - suffered many *vicissitudes* of fortune.

VIRAGO: A scolding or ill-tempered woman - My neighbor's wife is a *virago*.

Synonyms: shrew, termagant, vixen

VITUPERATE (noun: VITUPERATION; adj.: VITUPERATIVE): To scold or blame loudly, find fault with in abusive language - an angry man, *vituperating* the world.

Synonyms: berate, revile

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WAIVE: To give up (privileges, etc.); to do without - *waived* his rights to the property.

Synonyms: relinquish, forgo, forsake

WHIM (adj.: WHIMSICAL): A sudden notion or passing fancy - frequently acted on the *whim* of the moment.

Synonyms: caprice, vagary, crotchet

WRITHE: To twist about (usually with pain) - *writhed in* agony on the floor.

Synonyms: contort, squirm

ZEALOUS (noun: ZEALOT: fanatic): Full of enthusiasm or eagerness - a *zealous* student, first in his class.

Antonym: perfunctory

ZENITH: The highest point - the *zenith* of his career.

Synonyms: acme, apex, culmination, summit

Antonym: nadir

ENGLISH PROVERBS EXPLAINED

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Between the devil and the deep sea

✓ *To choose between two equally bad alternatives in a serious dilemma.*

Where there's a will there's a way

✓ *When a person really wants to do something, he will find a way of doing it.*

A burnt child dreads fire

✓ *A bad experience or a horrifying incident may scar one's attitude or thinking for a lifetime.*

First come, first served

✓ *The first in line will be attended to first.*

A friend in need is a friend indeed

✓ *A friend who helps when one is in trouble is a real friend.*

Discretion is the better part of valor

✓ *If you say discretion is the better part of valor, you mean that avoiding a dangerous or unpleasant situation is sometimes the most sensible thing to do.*

A hungry man is an angry man

✓ *A person who does not get what he wants or needs is a frustrated person and will be easily provoked to rage.*

Empty vessels make the most noise

✓ *Those people who have a little knowledge usually talk the most and make the greatest*

A man is as old as he feels

fuss.

- ✓ *A person's age is immaterial - it is only when he thinks and feels that he is ageing that he actually becomes old.*

Great talkers are little doers

- ✓ *Those people who talk a lot and are always teaching others usually do not do much work.*

An idle brain is the devil's workshop

- ✓ *One who has nothing to do will be tempted to do many mischievous acts.*

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An ounce of discretion is worth a pound of wit

- ✓ *It is better to be careful and discrete than to be clever.*

Faint heart never won fair lady

- ✓ *To succeed in life one must have the courage to pursue what he wants.*

A penny saved is a penny gained

- ✓ *By being thrifty one will be able to save up.*

A rolling stone gathers no moss

- ✓ *A person who never settles in one place or who often changes his job will not succeed in life ; one who is always changing his mind will never get anything done.*

As you sow, so you shall reap

- ✓ *One will either enjoy or suffer the consequences of his earlier actions or inactions.*

Barking dogs seldom bite

- ✓ *Those who make loud*

Better late than never

threats seldom carry them out.

- ✓ *To do something that is right, profitable, or good a little late is still better than not doing it at all*

A bird in hand is worth two in the bush

- ✓ *Something that one already has is better than going after something seemingly more worthwhile that one may not be able to get.*

Birds of a feather flock together

- ✓ *People of the same sort of character or belief always go together.*

Call a spade a spade

- ✓ *If you say that someone calls a spade a spade, you mean that they speak frankly and directly, often about embarrassing or unpleasant subjects; an informal expression.*

Charity begins at home

- ✓ *A person's first obligation should be to help the member of his own family before he can begin thinking of talking about helping others.*

Dead men tell no lies

- ✓ *(often used as an argument for killing someone whose knowledge of a secret may cause*

A great talker is a great liar

one loss or get into serious trouble.)

✓ *A smooth and persuasive talker may be a good liar.*

Every cloud has a silver lining

✓ *If you say that every cloud has a silver lining, you mean that every sad or unpleasant situation has a positive side to it. If you talk about silver lining you are talking about something positive that comes out of a sad or unpleasant situation.*

All that glitters is not gold

✓ *Do not be deceived by things or offers that appear to be attractive.*

Eat to live, but do not live to eat

✓ *Man was created for a divine purpose and he has a destiny with his Creator - he was not born just to enjoy food.*

Don't put all your eggs in one basket

✓ *One should not risk everything he has in a single venture.*

Every dog has its day

✓ *Everyone will get a period of success or satisfaction during his lifetime.*

Every one can find fault, few can do better

✓ *It is easier to find fault in other people's actions or methods than to do it properly or correctly.*

Any time means no time

✓ *When an event is not decided on or planned earlier it will never take place.*

Fair exchange is no robbery

✓ *A contract is fair as long as both the parties understand and agree to the conditions willingly; after a deal is closed neither side can turn around and say that he was unfairly treated.*

Fire is a good servant but a bad master

✓ *Fire, like any other manmade tool or device, will serve man well only when it is controlled and used wisely.*

Actions speak louder than words

✓ *Children usually learn more from the examples set by their elders than from what they are told ; a person's character is judged by the thing she does and not by what he says; actions give evidence or proof of.*

Fortune knocks once at every man's door

✓ *Everyone gets at least one good opportunity in his lifetime; everyone has the opportunity to be successful in life.*

Give the devil his due

✓ *Be just and fair-minded , even to the one who does not deserve much or who is unfriendly or unfair;*

God helps those who help themselves

we should punish a person according to his wrongdoings.

✓ *God only helps those people who work hard and make an honest effort.*

It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good

✓ *A bad or evil occurrence.*

Great minds think alike

✓ *Wise people will normally think and behave alike in certain situations.*

Habit is second nature

✓ *An act done repeatedly and often enough will sooner or later become a habit or second nature.*

He laughs best who laughs last

✓ *A person who does his best is the one who will get the greatest satisfaction in the end.*

Never do things by halves

✓ *One should not do an incomplete or imperfect job - certain tasks must not be left half done; they must be done away with immediately.*

Great haste makes great waste

✓ *If one does things hastily he will make a lot of mistakes - he will need to spend a lot of time correcting those mistakes later.*

It's never too late to mend

✓ *It is never too late to correct one's mistakes or faults.*

It's no use crying over spilt milk

✓ *It is pointless to*

feel remorseful over a thing lost that can never be found or a mistake done that can never be corrected or rectified.

Still waters run deep

✓ *One who is usually silent and goes about his business quietly may be a very wise person.*

Jack of all trades and master of none

✓ *Is a person who can do almost anything, but he rarely excels in any of them.*

Let bygones be bygones

✓ *One should consider forgiving one's enemies and forget all the bad deeds done by others.*

Let not the pot call the kettle black

✓ *A person who has a fault should not point out the same fault in another; do not criticize another person as you may have the same weakness.*

Let sleeping dogs lie

✓ *One should preferably avoid discussing issues that are likely to create trouble.*

No news is good news

✓ *When there is no news, it is likely that everything is all right.*

Look before you leap

✓ *Avoid acting hastily, without considering the possible consequences.*

Necessity is the mother of invention

✓ *When a person is in great need of*

One man's meat is another man's poison

something, he will find a way of getting it.

✓ *No two persons are alike - every one has his own preferences, likes and dislikes.*

Once bitten twice shy

✓ *If a person has been tricked once he will more be careful and alert the next time.*

Like father, like son, like mother, like daughter

✓ *(used to describe a child's behavior when he or she acts like the father or mother)*

Practice makes perfect

✓ *It is believed that if one practices a certain skill often, he will excel in it*

Prevention is better than cure

✓ *It is better to be careful beforehand than to try to solve a problem after it has arisen.*

Rome was not built in a day

✓ *Any great plan or big dream cannot be achieved overnight or easily.*

Robbing Peter to pay Paul

✓ *(this is quoted when one takes another loan to pay off an earlier loan) taking from one to give another.*

Spare the rod and spoil the child

✓ *A child who is not punished and showed the error of his ways will become unruly.*

Speech is silver, silence is golden

✓ *Talk may be beneficial, but sometimes acquiescence*

It takes two to make a quarrel

may be the best option to take.

✓ *Both parties in a quarrel should share the blame or take responsibility for it; no one can start a quarrel all by himself.*

Strike while the iron is hot

✓ *Seize a good opportunity as quickly as possible.*

There's no smoke without fire

✓ *Rumors do not spread unless there is some element of truth in them.*

Time and tide wait for no one

✓ *Time is precious, once it is past no one can go back and claim it thus everyone should be mindful of how his time is spent.*

To err is human, to forgive divine

✓ *It is only normal for man to make mistakes and do wrong, but for one to forgive another for his wrong is indeed great and gracious act.*

What's done can't be undone

✓ *In life there are some things once done or decisions once made cannot be changed; malicious words once uttered or harmful actions once done cannot be taken back.*

Two heads are better than one

✓ *It is always better to get the view of another than to rely entirely*

When in Rome do as the Romans do

on one's own judgment.

✓ *When one is in a new place, country or situation he must adapt himself to the new manners and customs.*

When the cat is away the mice will play

✓ *When law enforcers are not present, certain public members will take the opportunity to break the law*

Absence makes the heart grow fonder

✓ *One usually desires another more when he or she is far away.*

A bad workman always blames his tools

✓ *A careless or unskilled worker blames bad work on his tools rather than himself.*

A new broom sweeps clean

✓ *A person newly appointed is always eager and enthusiastic in his work.*

Don't judge a book by its cover

✓ *Do not be deceived by appearances.*

Blood is thicker than water

✓ *Family ties are stronger than any other.*

Don't count your chickens before they are hatched.

✓ *Do not make plans based on something that has not happened.*

Don't make a mountain out of a molehill

✓ *Do not make a big fuss or issue over something minor or small*

Experience is the best teacher

✓ *The best way to learn a job is to do it.*

The last straw that broke the camel's back

✓ *The final thing that, when added to a bad or unpleasant situation, causes failure or ruin.*

Look at the bright side
Make hay while the sun shines
Out of sight, out of mind

- ✓ *Be optimistic*
- ✓ *Seize opportunities*
- ✓ *You will soon forget friends you do not meet or keep in contact with.*

A leopard cannot change its spots

- ✓ *A person's nature cannot change.*

There are two sides to every question

- ✓ *There are always two ways of looking at something*

Too many cooks spoil the broth

- ✓ *Too many people doing the same thing at the same time will not be successful*

We never miss the water till the well runs dry

- ✓ *You only realize the importance of something when it is gone*

To put the cart before the horse

- ✓ *To do something in an incorrect order*

Bite off more than one can chew

- ✓ *To try to do something one is unable to do or incapable of doing.*

Half a loaf is better than none

- ✓ *It's better to have or receive less than one desires than to have or receive nothing at all.*

Have an old head on young shoulders

- ✓ *Youngsters who possess qualities of wisdom one would only expect to find in experienced older people.*

Have eyes in the back of one's head

- ✓ *An ability to know what is happening not within the scope of one's vision.*

If it's not one thing it's another

- ✓ *The troubles seem to go on and on without*

The sky is the limit

end.

A trouble shared is a trouble halved

- ✓ *There is no upper limit to something*
- ✓ *Your troubles seem half as great when you discuss them with someone else*

A watched pot never boils

- ✓ *If you watch or wait for something to get done or to happen it seems to take forever*

Worship the ground somebody walks on

- ✓ *Very much in love with somebody*

Between a rock and a hard place

- ✓ *To be in a difficult situation from which there seems to be no escape*

Cleanliness is next to Godliness

- ✓ *To be clean and tidy is just as important as being spiritually good and religious.*

Money is the root of all evil

- ✓ *Crimes and wickedness are associated with money.*

Two's company, three's a crowd

- ✓ *It is always fun while there are only two people whereas the third person is an unwelcome intrusion.*

It takes all sorts to make a world

- ✓ *You should not expect everyone to think and act as you do.*

Jump from the frying pan into the fire

- ✓ *To go from a bad position to a worse one.*

Go from the sublime to the ridiculous

- ✓ *Move from one situation which is wonderful or perfect to another which is absurd*

One swallow doesn't make a summer

or awful

✓ *One success doesn't guarantee complete success*

Truth is stranger than fiction

✓ *Real life can be more incredible than anything which can be imagined*

You can't have your cake and eat it

✓ *You must choose between two things as it is impossible to have both at the same time*

A miss is as good as a mile

✓ *Something that one already has is better than something that one may not be able to get*

As you make your bed so must you lie on it

✓ *You must accept the consequences of your act*

Cut your coat according to your cloth

✓ *Live within your income; don't be too ambitious in your plans*

All's fish that comes the net

✓ *When something comes our way we should consider how it might be useful or benefit us.*

An apple a day keeps the doctor away

✓ *It means that apples are so nutritious they keep you in the peak of health.*

Be on the safe side

✓ *To take special precautions to avoid making a mistake*

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder

✓ *What is beautiful to one person may not be beautiful to others.*

Beggars can't be choosers

✓ *Someone in need should*

The blind leading the blind

be grateful for what is given to him -- even if it's not what he wants or expects

- ✓ *A person helping or advising someone knows as little about the subject as the person who is being advised.*

The buck stops here

- ✓ *It means final decision or total responsibility for an action*

Burn the candle at both ends

- ✓ *Those who are always busy and seem to get little rest*

Buy a pig in a poke

- ✓ *Buy something without examining it for faults or checking to see if they are really getting what they believe they have purchased*

Catch as catch can

- ✓ *To do anything or use any means to achieve an aim or reach a goal.*

Children should be seen and not heard

- ✓ *To stop a child from asking questions, talking, or making unnecessary noise.*

Christmas comes but once each year

- ✓ *An excuse to indulge in food and drink and spend money during the Christmas season.*

Cry over spilled milk

- ✓ *It's pointless to get upset or feel regret about a loss or mistake that can't be undone*

Curiosity killed the cat

- ✓ *To warn people not to show too much interest*

Cut off your nose to spite your face

in affairs that don't concern them.

✓ *When people are dissatisfied or angry, they sometimes react by doing foolish things that prove harmful to themselves.*

The devil finds work for idle hands

✓ *Unless one keeps busy doing useful or constructive things he could be tempted into mischief or evil.*

The devil has the best tunes

✓ *To do something unworthy because it gives you pleasure*

Dog eat dog

✓ *In competitive situations where each person has his own interests at heart, it is usually the strong and the determined who succeed.*

An exception to the rule

✓ *Something does not conform to or agree with a rule*

Fling/throw mud at someone

✓ *To say evil or bad things about someone and in doing so, to damage his or her reputation.*

A fool and his money are soon parted

✓ *A person who spends his money foolishly will soon be penniless*

Forgive and forget

✓ *Excusing or pardoning someone for doing something*

Give someone enough rope and he

✓ *If we allow someone to*

will hang himself

continue in his bad ways he'll eventually bring about his own downfall or ruin.

Grin and bear it

✓ *To put up with discomfort or a bad situation without complaining.*

He who pays the piper calls the tune

✓ ***He who pays the piper calls the tune***

Hide your light under a bushel

✓ *Concealing your talents, skills or abilities*

Hitch one's wagon to a star

✓ *To Move forward in a way to improve your chances of achieving success.*

Home is where the heart is

✓ *No matter where you are, 'home' is where you feel most comfortable and content.*

If wishes were horses, beggars would ride

✓ *If we could get all the things we wanted just by making a wish, everyone would have all he ever wanted.*

If you can't kick them, join them

✓ *If you cannot defeat an opponent or get him to change his ideas, plans or way of doing things, the best thing is to change your ideas, plans, etc.*

In for a penny, in for a pound

✓ *If we decide to do something, we should commit ourselves to it boldly and completely.*

A job worth doing is a job worth doing well

Keep the wolf from the door

Laugh and the world laughs with you

Least said, soonest forgotten

A chicken and egg question

You can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink

Life is just a bowl of cherries

Like a bull in a china shop

Lock the stable door after the horse has bolted

The longest day must have an end

Losers weepers, finders keepers

Love me, love my dog

✓ *When you do something you should do it as well as you can.*

✓ *To avoid hunger and poverty*

✓ *When someone is in a happy, cheerful mood, people like being with him.*

✓ *The less we say about it the sooner the incident will be forgotten.*

✓ *A mysterious question which can't be answered*

✓ *We can help, show or encourage someone to do something but we can't make him do what he is unwilling or unable to do*

✓ *Life is full of happiness and pleasure*

✓ *A clumsy or tactless person*

✓ *Once a mistake has been made or an error committed, it's too late to take precautions to prevent it from happening.*

✓ *All difficult jobs or situations also have an end.*

✓ *If someone loses something, he weeps -- but if someone finds it, he keeps it.*

✓ *If we want a person's*

Many hands make light work

friendship we must accept him totally, faults and all.

✓ *Many people sharing a job or tasks make easier work of it.*

The mountain labors and brings forth a mouse

✓ *To work hard and long on a project that turns out to be pretty useless.*

Opportunity only knocks once

✓ *Seize an opportunity when it occurs for it may never happen again.*

An ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure

✓ *It is even better to be cautious and prevent a misfortune or an accident from happening.*

Possession is nine points of the law

✓ *In disputes over property ownership, the person in possession of something is sometimes said to have nine-tenths a chance of winning it in a legal argument*

Promises are like pie crust

✓ *Most promises cannot be kept*

Put a quart into a pint pot

✓ *Doing something that's impossible*

The rain falls on the just and the unjust alike

✓ *No matter how good or bad a person, he must still face the everyday problems that confront us all.*

The sins of the fathers will be visited upon the children

✓ *People will be punished for the wrongs committed by their*

Someone's bark is worse than his bite

*parents, forefathers,
or those who have
preceded them.*

✓ *People sometimes bark
but in time we learn
they're not always as
frightening as they
seem.*

The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak

✓ *To do something
unworthy just because
it gives you the
pleasure*

A stitch in time saves nine

✓ *By taking immediate
action we can prevent a
fault, damage or
trouble from getting
worse*

A straw will show which way the wind blows

✓ *A small incident can
reveal an important
event*

Teach an old dog new tricks

✓ *It is impossible to
change someone's ways
or habits, especially
if he is old and
resists change*

That's where the shoe pinches

✓ *That's the source or
cause of a problem or
an annoyance*

There are none so blind as those that will not see

✓ *People ,who never
admit they might be
wrong, refuse to listen
to the opinions or
ideas of anyone*

There are none so deaf as those who will not hear

✓ *People sometimes hear
only what they want to
hear*

There's more than one way to skin a cat

✓ *There is more than one
way of getting a job
done*

The thin end of the wedge

✓ *That something can appear to be small and of no particular importance - yet it can turn out to be the beginning of a major problem.*

A thing of beauty is a joy forever

✓ *It means that though something beautiful may not last, the happy memory of it will live forever.*

Time heals old wounds

✓ *The passing of time helps us to forget things that have caused us pain or made us unhappy.*

The truth will out

✓ *Truth about something will eventually be discovered or made known*

Turn up like a bad penny

✓ *Something or someone disliked just won't go away*

Two wrongs do not make a right

✓ *If a person does something to harm or offend us, that's wrong. If we do something to harm them back, that's wrong too.*

Uneasy is the head that wears the crown

✓ *Notable or important people are often concerned about losing their positions.*

Waste not, want not

✓ *If we're careful and waste nothing we'll never go without things we need.*

The way to a man's heart is

✓ *Most men love to eat*

through his stomach

*so feed your husband
well and he will always
love you.*

Wear out one's welcome

✓ *One is no longer
welcome, usually
because he has become a
nuisance*

When poverty comes in the door,
love flies out the window

✓ *As soon as a happily
married couple begin
having financial
problems and the bills
pile up their love will
disappear.*

Who keeps company with wolves,
will learn to howl

✓ *If we associate with
bad companions we, too,
will become bad*

You pay your money and you take
your chances

✓ *A humorous way of
saying that we
sometimes must trust in
luck when buying
something.*

Prosperity makes friends, adversity
tries them

✓ *If you are rich and
successful, you will
attract many friends,
but if you should
suffer hardship or have
misfortune (adversity
) , your friends will
quickly depart.*

A constant guest is never welcome

✓ *We are apt to grow to
dislike friends who
visit us too often*

Catch not at the shadow and lose
the substance

✓ *We should not waste
time on trivial aspects
of a matter and neglect
the essential matter
itself.*

If the blind lead the blind, both
shall fall into the ditch

✓ *Those without
knowledge should not*

Kindle not a fire you cannot put out

try to teach the ignorant.

✓ *Do not start something you cannot control or resolve*

Do unto others as you would others do unto you

✓ *Treat others as you would like them to treat you.*

Fools rush in where angels fear to tread

✓ *Foolish people tend to act too hastily and do things that wise people would avoid.*

A contented mind is a perpetual feast

✓ *Contentment of mind is the cause of lasting happiness.*

History tends to repeat itself

✓ *What has happened once is liable to happen again.*

Cross the stream where it is shallowest

✓ *Don't make things difficult for yourself; always find the simplest means of achieving your objective.*

It is useless to flog a dead horse

✓ *It is no use spending your time and energy on an activity or belief that is already widely rejected or outdated.*

Every oak must be an acorn

✓ *Everything has to have a small beginning*

A good name is sooner lost than won

✓ *It takes a long time to build up a good reputation which can be easily destroyed by misconduct.*

Do not cross a bridge till you come to it

✓ *Do not worry about something before it has happened*

The best fish swim near the bottom

You cannot make a silk purse out of a sow's ear

It never rains but it pours

A house divided against itself cannot stand

The darkest hour is that before dawn

Variety is the spice of life

Do not have too many irons in the fire

A light purse makes a heavy heart

The pen is mightier than the sword

A nod is as good as a wink

**Do not ride the high horse
Even Homer sometimes nods**

There is no place like home

- ✓ *The best things are hard to come by*
- ✓ *You cannot change a person's real character*
- ✓ *Events, especially misfortunes, always come together and not one at a time.*
- ✓ *Discord breaks up families.*
- ✓ *Even when things seem at their very worst, they may shortly improve.*
- ✓ *Life becomes very monotonous without some break or change in the daily routine.*
- ✓ *If we attempt to do too much at once, we shall not do anything properly*
- ✓ *We cannot be cheerful when we have financial problems.*
- ✓ *The written word is more to be feared than physical violence*
- ✓ *A hint or suggestion can be accepted and acted upon without further elaboration.*
- ✓ *Do not be arrogant*
- ✓ *Even the best of us are liable to make mistakes.*
- ✓ *Even a simple home is the best place in the*

**A rose by any other name would
smell just as sweet**

*world for the people
who live in it.*

✓ *It is not what a thing
is called that matters,
but what it is.*

Every flow must have its ebb

✓ *Life has its ups and
downs, neither good
fortune nor ill fortune
lasts forever.*

A cat may look at a king

✓ *Anyone has the right
to look at or speak to
anyone else without
having to worry about
status, position,
upbringing etc.*

**A chain is no stronger than its
weakest link**

✓ *The success of a group
or team depends on the
full commitment of
every member*

A closed mouth catches no flies

✓ *It is better not to
say anything than to
say something that
might get you into
trouble*

**A drowning man will clutch at a
straw**

✓ *A desperate person
will do anything to
save himself*

A friend to all is a friend to none

✓ *A person who makes
himself close to
everyone probably
cannot be trusted by
any one*

**A good beginning makes a good
ending**

✓ *Something that starts
off right will probably
succeed all the way and
end on the right note*

A good name is better than riches

✓ *A good reputation is
precious, difficult to*

A little knowledge is a dangerous thing

earn and cannot be bought

✓ *Knowing only a little about something can cause you to distort the truth or overestimate, misunderstand something*

A loaded wagon makes no noise

✓ *People who are very rich do not feel the need to speak about their wealthy as they do not feel threatened in any way*

A man is known by the company he keeps

✓ *You can tell about a person by observing who he spends time with*

A man is ruled by his passions

✓ *Your character, personality, attitude etc can be overtaken by your emotions if they are strong enough*

A man's home is his castle

✓ *You feel most secure, free and in control in your own home*

A pot of milk is ruined by a drop of poison

✓ *Something bad no matter how small can ruin all your plans, successes etc.*

A small leak will sink a great ship

✓ *Small problems are worth the time to fix as they can eventually cause great damage*

A wise man changes his mind sometimes, a fool never

✓ *It is wise to reconsider your plans, ideas, actions in the light of new information rather than*