**Idioms And Phrases**

An **idiom** is a **phrase**, saying, or a group of words with a metaphorical (not literal) meaning, which has become accepted in common usage. English **idioms**, **proverbs**, and **expressions** are an important part of everyday English. They come up all the time in both written and spoken English.

1. **Decked up** – put on special clothes to appear particularly appealing and attractive
2. **Doing the rounds** – to be passed from one person to another
3. **Between the cup and the lips** – On the point of achievement
4. **A damp squib** – Complete failure
5. **Put off** – an evasive reply, to delay doing something, especially because you do not want to do it
6. **A dime a dozen** – Anything that is common and easy to get
7. **Cast iron stomach**– Someone who has no problems, complications or ill effects with eating anything
8. **A mare’s nest**– A false invention
9. **Takes a beating** – to be damaged because of performing badly or being criticized
10. **A chip on your shoulder** – Being upset for something that happened in the past
11. **A toss-up** – A result that is still unclear and can go either way
12. **An iron hand** – By force
13. **A taste of your own medicine** – When you are mistreated the same way you mistreat others
14. **At the drop of a hat** – Willing to do something immediately
15. **A man of straw** – A weak person
16. **Bite your tongue** – To avoid talking
17. **An eyewash** – A pretence
18. **At sixes and seven**– Persons who are having different opinions
19. **Bite off more than you can chew**– To take on a task that is way too big to handle
20. **Can’t cut the mustard**– Someone who isn’t adequate enough to compete or participate
21. **Call a spade a spade**– Straight talks
22. **Don’t count your chickens before they hatch**– Don’t rely on it until you sure of it
23. **Dog days of summer**– The hottest day of the summer season
24. **Ever and anon**– Now and then, occasionally
25. **Field day**– An enjoyable day or circumstance
26. **Bits and Pieces**– small things of different types
27. **Kick the bucket**– Die
28. **Know the ropes**– To understand the details
29. **Latin and Greek**– Unable to understand
30. **Like a chicken with its head cut off**– To act in a frenzied manner, crazily