

ENGLISH IDIOMS

1. **Not let grass grow under feet** -

Meaning - Don't delay in getting something done.

Example - As soon as he finished all the registration formalities, he put the house on sale. He doesn't let the grass grow under his feet.

2. **Dead wood** -

Meaning - People or things which are no longer useful or necessary.

Example - The company bought in a lot of new computers. They no longer want the dead woods.

3. **Golden handshake** -

Meaning - Big sum of money given to a person when they leave a company or retire.

Example - The management of various PSUs wanted to cut down on the man power. They offered a golden hand shake to many of their aged employees.

4. **Separate sheep from goats** -

Meaning - Examining a group of people and deciding their suitability

Example - Audition test was conducted by the director to separate sheep from goats.

5. **Buckle down** -

Meaning - Doing some hard work with determination and full attention.

Example - Getting through the exam for civil services is possible when you have buckled down yourself.

6. **Punch above one's weight**-

Meaning - Performing beyond your ability.

Example - He was not the best swimmer around but he could win the gold medal at the state swimming competition by working hard and punching above his weight in the finals.

7. **Sink your teeth into** -

Meaning - doing something with a lot of energy and enthusiasm.

Example - Marie joined the badminton coaching classes. She sank her teeth into the practice sessions.

8. **Fish out of water** -

Meaning - Feeling uncomfortable in unfamiliar surroundings.

Example - Being a French, I felt like a fish out of water in the group of Japanese

9. **Bee in one's bonnet** -

Meaning - Carrying an idea which constantly occupies your thoughts.

Example - She is not happy in Africa. She has a bee in the bonnet about moving to Dubai.

10. **Keep a stiff upper lip** -

Meaning - Refers to a person who doesn't show off his emotions.

Example - He heard the news about his father's demise but kept a stiff upper lip.

IDIOMS/ PHRASES

1. **White elephant** - Very expensive but of no use.

2. **Shoulder to Shoulder** - Very fast friend or relative in difficult time.

3. **Play Ducks and Drakes** - To Waste money on worthless articles.

4. **Mother Wit** - Common sense.

5. **Long in the Tooth** - Old people (or horses).

6. **In like Flynn** - To be easily successful, especially when sexual or romantic.

7. **High on the Hog** - Living in Luxury.

8. **Give Him The Slip** - To get away from. To escape.

9. **Every Cloud Has A Silver Lining** – Be optimistic, even difficult times will lead to better days.

10. **Dry Run** - Rehearsal.

11. **Buy A Lemon** - To purchase a vehicle that constantly gives problems or stops running after you drive it.

12. **Back Seat Driver** - People who criticize from the side lines, much like someone giving unwanted advice from the back seat of a vehicle to the driver.

13. **A Doubting Thomas** - A skeptic who needs physical or personal evidence in order to believe something.

14. **A Dime A Dozen** - Anything that is common and easy to get.

15. **Charley Horse** - Stiffness in the leg / A leg cramp.

One Word Substitution

1. **Succession of rulers belonging to one family** → Dynasty

2. **To cut something into two pieces** → Sever

3. **Flat metal or porcelain plate fixed on a wall as an ornament or memorial** → plaque

4. **Act of deceiving somebody in order to make money** → fraud

5. **A short poem or speech addressed to the spectators after the conclusion of a drama** → Epilogue

6. **Capable or being understood in either of two or more possible senses, and therefore not definite.** → Ambiguous

7. **A person who is unable to pay his debts** → insolvent

8. **Anything which is no longer in use** → obsolete

9. **A person coming to a foreign land to settle there** → immigrant

10. **Something capable of being done** → feasible

11. **Printed notice of somebody's death** → obituary.

12. **Just punishment for wrong doing** → Nemesis

13. **A pioneer of a reform movement** → Apostle

14. **Wicked to a high degree** → heinous

15. **A small door in a floor or ceiling** → Trapdoor

PERSONALITY TRAITS:

1) **Saboteur** : One who damages things.

2) **Stingy** : One who tries to save money as far as possible.

3) **Pedantic** : One who tries to sound more learned than others.

4) **Distraught** : One who is extremely worried

5) **Incorrigible** : One who cannot be corrected / reformed.

6) **Stubborn** : One who is not flexible in behaviour.

7) **Reverend** : One who deserve respect.

8) **Unpredictable** : One whose behaviour is cannot be predicted.

9) **Hilarious** : funny in behaviour.

10) **Eminent** : Known & respect

11) **Diffident** : One who lacks confidence.

12) **Ambivalent** : Having mixed feeling.

13) **Ambivert** : Neither too extrovert nor too introvert.

14) **Extrovert** : One who share his feelings with other.

15) **Introvert** : One who does not shares his feelings with others.

16) **Benevolent** : One who wards/prays for others.

17) **Capricious** : Unpredictable acentric

18) **Heretical** : Unorthodox

19) **Psychotic** : A person with mental disease in which he feels unreal things present around him.

20) **Misanthrope** : One who hates mankind.

21) **Misogynist** : One who hates women.

22) **Misogamist** : One who hates marriage.

23) **Flamboyant** : (synonym) Showy/Ostentatious/Pompous (antonym) modest/ascetic

24) **Fastidious** : Hard to please (finicky: synonym)

25) **Celibate** : unmarried male (bachelor), unmarried female (spinster)

Animals Eating habits :

a) **Herbivores** : Animals that eats vegetation.

b) **Carnivores** : That eat flesh.

- c) **Omnivores** : Eats both vegetation of flesh.
- d) **Scavenger** : Eats dirt & decay flesh.
- e) **Parasitism** : One is benefited other is harmed. Animals or plants living one another.
- f) **Mutualism** : Both are benefited.
- g) **Commensal** : One is benefited other is not harmed.
- h) **Cannibal** : that eats its own species. The man who eats human flesh.
- i) **Predator** : that runs & catches is prey.
- j) **Decomposer** : That converts complex substances into simpler form.
- k) **Symbiotic** : living together.

Food habits / Human beings :

- a) **Gourmand** : One who eats too much.
- b) **Phagomaniac** : One who is afraid of food/eating.
- c) **Sitophobic** : One who is afraid of food/eating.
- d) **Epicure** : One who is found of eating & drinking.
- e) **Cannibal** : A man who eats human flesh.
- f) **Gourmet** : Specialist in food making.
- g) **Dipsomaniac** : One who is addicted to alcoholic drinks.
- h) **Dipsophobic** : One who is afraid of alcoholic drinks.
- i) **Teetotaler** : One who is not addicted to anything.

1. **A hot potato** - Speak of an issue (mostly current) which many people are talking about and which is usually dispute
2. **Ball is in your court** - It is up to you to make the next decision or step
3. **Burn the midnight oil** - To work late into the night, alluding to the time before electric lighting.
4. **Can't judge a book by its cover** - Cannot judge something primarily on appearance.
5. **Don't put all your eggs in one basket** - Do not put all your resources in one possibility.
6. **Keep something at bay** - Keep something away.
7. **Last straw** - The final problem in a series of problems.
8. **Not playing with a full deck** - Someone who lacks intelligence.
9. **Take with a grain of salt** - This means not to take what someone says too seriously.
10. **Wouldn't be caught dead** - Would never like to do something