

IDIOMS/PHRASES

1. **Break Down - Collapse**
The Engine of my car broke down when I went to Delhi.
2. **Break into - enter by force**
The robbers broke into the bank yesterday.
3. **Break off - Stop talking suddenly**
He broke off in the middle of a speech.
4. **Break out - Spread**
The plague broke out in 1856 in Bengal.
5. **Break with - Quarrel**
Two brothers broke with only yesterday.
6. **Call in - Summon**
Please call in the doctor.
7. **Call off - cancel**
The meeting was called off.
8. **Put off - Postpone**
The meeting was put off for next month.
9. **Carry away - Deprived him of self control.**
He was carried away by the performance of the artist.
10. **Fall out - Quarrel**
Two brothers have already fallen out.
11. **Give in - Yield**
Though he had been defeated he will not give in.
12. **Put by - Save**
She had put some money by for a rainy day.
13. **Get off - Dismount**
He got off his bicycle and went into the house.
14. **Get over - Surmount**
The boys got over the garden wall and escaped.
15. **Come about - Happen**
How did it come about?
16. **Put on - Wear**
Please put on this shirt.
17. **Get about - move from place to place.**
Why are you getting about the city?
18. **Put out - Extinguish**
Please put out the light.
19. **Look down upon - Humiliate**
She looks down upon her poor parents.
20. **Make out - Guess**
I can't make out your intentions.
21. **Tell upon - Affect**
He is telling upon his teacher.
22. **Come off - take place**
When does Diwali come off?
23. **Deal in; Do business of (deal out - distribute)**
He deals in electronics items.
24. **Call out - Speak aloud**
Dara sing called out Tarzan for a fight.
25. **Carry on - Keep progress (go on)**
Carry on your efforts to get success.
26. **Carry off - Kill**
Cholera had carried off half of the people of the village.
27. **Carry out - Execute/fulfill**
He did not have the ability to carry out the plan.
28. **Cave in - Save**
You will have to cave in some money for a rainy day.
29. **Come across - Meet by chance**
Ramesh came across me in the market.
30. **Come by - Get**
How did you come by this purse?
31. **Come down upon - Rebuke**
Why did you not come down upon him?
32. **Come on - Progress**
He is coming on the Matter.
33. **Cut in - Interrupt one's talk**
You have cut in my opinion.
34. **Cut down - Reduce**
You should cut down your expenditure.
35. **Drop in - Come casually**
Please drop in when you are in town.
36. **Drop out - Disappear**
Many students who do not study drop out.
37. **Egg on - Urge**
He egged his friend on to steal the radio.
38. **Ask for - Demand**
He asked for an explanation.
39. **Account for - Explain**
You will have to account for your negligence.
40. **Back out - To evade a commitment**
You should not back out from your words.
41. **Bring up - Nourish**
Kabir was brought up by a weaver.
42. **Build up - to cover with Building**
The shopping center had not still been built up in our city.
43. **Call on/call upon - Appeal/Order**
The judge called upon the witness to appear in the box.
44. **Fix up - Adhere to**
You will have to fix up your mind first.
45. **Get back - Return**
He has got back form his long Journey.
46. **Get in - Enter**
Don't stand at the door, please get in.
47. **Give up - Abandon**
I gave up my share of the Property.

IDIOMS/PHRASES

48. **Go by - Pass**
Years go by much faster as you got older.
49. **Go over - review**
I often go over my speech before speaking.
50. **Hand in - to put into the care for**
I handed in the key to Ramesh.
51. **Hush up - suppress**
My hopes were hushed up by my father.
52. **Keep back - Conceal**
I will keep nothing back from you.
53. **Let down - Disappoint**
Don't let him down at the time of his failure in the Examination.
54. **Let out - Do not consider**
My ideas are often let out by him.
55. **Lay Aside - Put away**
He lays aside all his manners while speaking.
56. **Look after - Care for**
Look after your children well.
57. **Look for - Search**
I am looking for my purse.
58. **Look in to - Examine**
The custom officer looked into our suitcase.
59. **Make out - Guess**
I can't make out your intentions.
60. **Make up - Determine**
I have made up my mind to go to Jaipur.
61. **Put aside - Reject**
You cannot put aside his request for forgiveness.
62. **Put down - Suppress**
My hopes were put down by my father.
63. **Run into - Meet Suddenly**
When I was going to market I ran into one of my old friends.
64. **Run out - come to an end**
The lease of this house runs out next year.
65. **Run up - Build**
They run up those houses in a few months.
66. **See-through/Go through - Examine**
I am going through this case carefully.
67. **Send for - Call**
The Dr. was sent for immediately.
68. **Set aside - Reject**
The court has set aside my application.
69. **Set in - Establish**
I have to set in my business very soon.
70. **Set out/Set about - Begin**
I sat out my journey early in the morning.
71. **Stand by - Support**
She stood by him in the sun and shower.
72. **Take After - Resemble**
Sapna takes after her mother.
73. **Turn down - Refuse**
His application for a license was turned.
74. **Turn up - Appear/Arrive**
When did you turn up in this village?
75. **Veer round - To change direction/opinion suddenly**
You have to veer round your opinion.
76. **Wait on/Wait upon - Serve**
Mephistopheles will wait on Dr. Faustus.
77. **Set Apart - Make somebody different**
Ritika's style sets her apart from her sister.
78. **Back up - Support**
He backed me up when I was in crisis.
79. **Bear out - Confirm**
He bore out the news.
80. **Blow out - extinguish a flame by blowing**
He blew out the candle.
81. **Break in - Interrupt someone**
When he broke in the conversation, everybody started looking at him.
82. **Bring round - persuade someone to accept a view**
He brings him round to accept his view.
83. **Call at - Visit a place for a short time**
I called at the bank and collected my cash.
84. **Cut down - Reduce in size**
The prices got cut down.
85. **Cut off - Disconnect**
You have to cut off all his associations.
86. **Cut out for - Be fitted to be**
Our teacher is cut out for a clown.
87. **Do away with - abolish**
The government should do away with the regulations.
88. **Get about - Move or travel in a general sense**
He always got about the streets and did nothing meaningful.
89. **Get through - Pass**
You have to get through the exam.
90. **Give out - announce verbally**
The anchor, then, gave out the names of the winners.
91. **Go through - Examine**
He went through the plan and gave his consent.
92. **Hand out - Distribute**
All the papers were handed out to the clerk.
93. **Hand over - Surrender**
I handed over all the material.

IDIOMS/PHRASES

94. **Hold on - Wait**
You have to hold on till he arrives.
95. **Keep off - Refrain from walking of**
keep off the grass.
96. **Knock down - hit someone so hard that he falls**
The boxer knocked him down in the end
97. **Let down - Disappoint someone**
Students should not let down their parents by cheating them.
98. **Live up to - Maintain a certain standard**
The bride said to her husband that she would live up to the expectations of his family.
99. **Look on - Regard**
He looked on him as my son.
100. **Make for/ leave for - Travel towards**
He made for Paris. He left for Paris.
101. **Pull down - Demolish**
The Church was pulled down.
102. **Pull through - Recover from illness**
We thought she was going to die but her own willpower pulled her through
103. **Pull up - scold**
The student was pulled up for his misbehavior.
104. **Put in for - Apply for a job**
He put in for the post of receptionist.
105. **Run away with - Become uncontrollable**
Don't let your emotions run away with.
106. **Run over/ through - Revise quickly**
You should run over/ run through the matter
107. **Set up - achieve/establish**
He set up his business in Paris.
108. **Look forward to - Expect with pleasure**
He looked forward to good news from his wife.
109. **Take off/take out - Remove**
He took off his shirt like Salman.
110. **Take to - Begin a habit**
He was taken to drinking at an early age.
111. **Turn down - Refuse**
His all demands were turned down.
112. **Turn on/off - Switch on/off**
Please turn on the fan.
113. **Wear away - Gradually reduce**
Most of the letters of this inscription have been worn away.
114. **Wear off - Disappear gradually**
The effects of drugs soon started wearing off.
115. **Wear out - Use till no longer serviceable**
Children wear out their shoes quickly.
116. **Wind up - Bring to come to an end**

He wound up the meeting and came outside.

117. **Work out - Find by calculation**

He worked out the sum very quickly.

Important Idioms

1. **To have a fit of the blues**
Meaning : To be in low spirits/to be gloomy
Usage:- A good sportsman can't afford to have a fit of the blues before the game.
2. **An utopian idea**
Meaning : Idea that is not realistic but only imaginary
Usage:- His utopian idea was entertaining but not acceptable.
3. **Getting into a row.**
Meaning: Providing or giving unnecessary advice.
Usage:- He has the habit of getting into a row over trivial matters.
4. **A small fry**
Meaning : unimportant
Usage:- The idea proposed is nothing but a small fry.
5. **Lose head in public.**
Meaning : be embarrassed
Usage:- Do not lose your head in public.
6. **Egged on**
Meaning : to encourage somebody to do something
Usage:- What egged you on to become social worker?
7. **Not fit to hold a candle**
Meaning : Someone is not as good as somebody
Usage:- Many politicians in India are not fit to hold a candle to Mahatma Gandhi.
8. **Paying through the nose**
Meaning : paying too much
Usage:- She must be paying through the nose for the face left.
9. **Putting the cart before the horse.**
Meaning : to put or do things in the wrong order.
Usage:- He is putting the cart before the horse by purchasing furniture before buying a house.
10. **Casting pearls before swine**
Meaning : To give or offer valuable things to people who do not understand their value.
Usage:- Unpleasant person never understands the value of good advises.

IDIOMS/PHRASES

- 11. Fish in troubled waters**
Meaning : to involve oneself in a difficult, confused or dangerous situation, especially with a view to gaining an advantage/make a profit out of disturbance.
Usage:- A good man does not try to fish in troubled waters./ Agents find a way to fish in troubled waters.
- 12. Keep the wolf from the door**
Meaning : to have enough money to avoid going hungry/to stop somebody from feeling hungry.
Usage:- The poor have to do hard work to keep the wolf from the door.
- 13. Break the ice**
Meaning : to say or do something that makes people feel more relaxed, especially at the beginning of a meeting, party
Usage:- Jim organized a few party games to break the ice when people first arrived.
- 14. Null and Void**
Meaning : having no legal force/not valid.
Usage:- The contract was declared null and void./ The policy has been declared to be null and void.
- 15. To play second fiddle**
Meaning : to be treated as less important than somebody or something/to have a less important position than somebody or something.
Usage:- I am not going to play second fiddle to anyone.
- 16. Face the music**
Meaning : to accept and deal with criticism or punishment for something you have done
Usage:- The others all ran off, leaving me to face the music.
- 17. Call a spade a spade**
Meaning : to say exactly what you think without trying to hide your opinion
Usage:- Villagers always call a spade a spade.
- 18. Out of wits**
Meaning : to be confused
Usage:- I am out of my wits and therefore cannot find a way to solve the problem.
- 19. Jumping down my throat**
Meaning : to react very angrily to somebody.
Usage:- Salman is jumping down my throat.
- 20. For good/For good and all**
Meaning : permanently
- 21. Achilles heel**
Meaning : a weak point of fault in somebody's character, which can be attacked by other.
Usage:- Weak batting order is an Achilles heel of our team.
- 22. Blow his own trumpet/horn**
Meaning : to tell other people how good and successful you are
Usage:- He is always blowing his own trumpet.
- 23. Cut the Gordian knot**
Meaning : solve a very complex problem in a simple way remove the difficulty/to solve a problem boldly and decisively
Usage:- He cut the Gordian knot by practicing what he preached.
- 24. A leap in the dark**
Meaning : Something you do without being certain what will happen as a result
Usage:- Doing a job in this company is like a leap in the dark.
- 25. In the long run**
Meaning : over a period of time
Usage:- Hard work pays in the long run.
- 26. A fish out of water**
Meaning : a person who feels uncomfortable or awkward because he or she is in surroundings that are not familiar
Usage:- Lee was a fish out of water in Los Angeles.
- 27. Apple of discord**
Meaning : anything causing trouble, discord
Usage:- This building is an apple of discord.
- 28. Let the grass grow under their feet**
Meaning : to waste time by delaying doing something
Usage:- The construction remains unfinished and the workers have let the grass grow under their feet.
- 29. Smell the rat**
Meaning : to suspect that something is wrong about a situation
Usage:- The police smelt the rat behind the death of the girl.
- 30. A live wire**
Meaning : a person who is lively and full of energy
Usage:- Superman is a real live wire.
- 31. Cool his heels**

IDIOMS/PHRASES

- Meaning** : to have to wait for somebody or something
Usage:- He spent an hour cooling his heels in the waiting room./don't cool your heels, you should go now.
32. **Bury the hatchet**
Meaning : to stop being unfriendly and become friends again
Usage:- After not speaking to each other for years, the two brothers decided to bury the hatchet.
33. **Wet (his/your/one's) whistle**
Meaning : to have drink, take a drink
Usage:- He wets his whistle in the party./ You should wet your whistle.
34. **Through thick and thin**
Meaning : even when there are problems or difficulties
Usage:- He has supported the team for over ten years through thick and thin./In marriage, you have to stick together through thick and thin.
35. **Let sleeping dogs lie**
Meaning : to avoid mentioning a subject or something that happened in the past, in order to avoid any problems or arguments.
Usage:- I am not going to complain because I decided let sleeping dogs lie.
36. **Be born with silver spoon in your mouth**
Meaning : having rich parents
Usage:- Stars' kids are born with silver spoon in their mouth.
37. **A man of straw**
Meaning : a weak man and easy to defeat
Usage:- His army looks like men of straw./He looks like a man of straw.
38. **Look a gift horse in the mouth**
Meaning : to refuse or criticize something that is given to you for nothing
Usage:- I am never on to look a gift horse in the mouth.
39. **A cakewalk**
Meaning : something that is extremely easy to do
Usage:- Hitting the ball out of the boundary is just a cakewalk for Dhoni.
40. **Back to square one**
Meaning : back to the beginning/a return to the situation you were in at the beginning of a project, task etc. because you make no real progress.
- Usage:-** Our army should back to square one.
41. **Apple pie order**
Meaning : very well organized/the state of being very carefully and neatly arranged
Usage:- I always put my desk in apple-pie order.
42. **A closed book**
Meaning : a mystery/a subject or person that you know nothing about
Usage:- Aliens are a closed book for us.
43. **In a month of Sundays**
Meaning : used to emphasize that something will never happen
Usage:- You won't find it, not in a month of Sundays.
44. **To drive home**
Meaning : to give special importance to someone or something/to emphasize
Usage:- The teacher repeated the point three times just to drive it home.
45. **To be above board**
Meaning : legal and honest/in a legal and honest way
Usage:- If you do everything above board, you will have to pay tax on your earnings.
46. **To cry wolf**
Meaning : to call for help when you do not need it, with the result that when you do need it people do not believe you
Usage:- The boy who always cried wolf was a liar and didn't need the help when he actually needed it.
47. **On the wrong side of 30 (40, 50, 60, 70)**
Meaning : more than 30 (40, 50, 60, 70)
Usage:- I don't know his exact age but I should say he is on the wrong side of fifty.
48. **An axe to grind**
Meaning : to have private reasons for being involved in something or for arguing for a particular cause
Usage:- She had no axe to grind and was only acting out of concern for their safety. These criticisms are commonly voiced by those who have some political axe to grind.
49. **Beat about/around the bush**
Meaning : to talk about something for a long time without coming to the main point
Usage:- Stop beating about the bush and tell me what you want.
50. **Fight shy of something**

IDIOMS/PHRASES

- Meaning** : Unwilling to accept something or do something and try to avoid it to attempt of avoid a thing or a person.
Usage:- Successive governments have fought shy or such measures.
51. **Yeoman service**
Meaning : excellent service/efficient or useful help in need
Usage:- The minister has performed yeoman service.
52. **To cut a sorry figure**
Meaning : to be ashamed/to create a bad impression
Usage:- Leader cuts a sorry figure in his service.
53. **Had butterflies (in my stomach)**
Meaning : to have a nervous feeling in your stomach before doing something
Usage:- She always has butterflies in her stomach before the English test.
54. **Work against time/clock**
Meaning : to work very fast because you know you only have a limited period of time to do something.
Usage:- Scientists were working against the time to collect specimens before the volcano erupted again.
55. **In high dudgeon**
Meaning : in an angry or offended mood and showing other people that you are angry
Usage:- Slamming the door in his face, she drove off in high dudgeon.
Minister got down in high dudgeon.
56. **By the skin of teeth**
Meaning : If you do something by the skin of your teeth, you only just manage to do it/Just succeed in doing something.
Usage:- He escaped defeat by the skin of his teeth./We win by the skin of our teeth.
57. **To go the whole hog**
Meaning : to do something thoroughly or completely
Usage:- I don't know more about this system, I think I should go the whole hog.
58. **Feel the pulse**
Meaning : to try to know someone's views
Usage:- Reporters try to feel the pulse of the public on voting.
Teachers should feel the pulse of students.
59. **Take to task**
- Meaning** : to criticize somebody strongly for something they have done
Usage:- The local newspaper has been taking the city council to task over its transport policy.
The teacher took Mohan to task for his bad behaviour.
60. **Have something up one's sleeve**
Meaning : to keep a plan or an idea secret until you need to use it
Usage:- USA has something up its sleeve.
61. **Ruled the roost**
Meaning : to be the most powerful member of a group/to be the boss or manager
Usage:- My mom rules the roost at my home.
62. **Eat humble pie**
Meaning : to say and show that you are sorry for the mistake that you made
Origin:- From a pun on the old word umbles, meaning 'offal', which was considered to be food for poor people.
Usage:- You made a mistake and I hope you have to eat humble pie.
63. **Cock-sure**
Meaning : very sure and certain/marked by overconfidence; to sure
Usage:- You are always so cocksure about everything.
64. **Dog in the manager**
Meaning : a person who prevents others from enjoying what he cannot
Usage:- Stop being such a dog in the manager and let your sister ride your bike if you are not using it.
65. **Give up the ghost**
Meaning : die, pass away/to stop working (of a machine)
Usage:- He gives up the ghost.
66. **Have a brush with something**
Meaning : to have an encounter/to have an experience with something.
Usage:- I have a brush with death.
67. **Hit the nail on the head**
Meaning : to do the right thing at right time/to do something in the most effective and efficient way
Usage:- Team India has won the match, captain dhoni hits the nail on the head.
Police have caught the robbers, they hit the nail on the head.
68. **Fall flat**

IDIOMS/PHRASES

- Meaning** : to have no effect/fail to amuse somebody
Usage:- Without Jam, the whole evening would have fallen flat./Your acts have fallen flat.
69. **Cheek by jowl**
Meaning : close together, very close to somebody or something/side by side
Usage:- The guest, packed cheek by jowl, parted as he entered.
70. **Pull all the stops out/pull out all the stops**
Meaning : to make every effort to achieve something/to make the greatest effort possible to achieve something
Usage:- Candidates are pulling out all the stops to get the job.
71. **Developed cold feet/Get or have cold feet**
Meaning : became nervous/to suddenly become nervous about doing something that you had planned to do
Usage:- We were getting cold feet when we decided to go to foreign.
72. **A damp squib**
Meaning : totally unimpressive/an event that is disappointing because it is not as exciting or impressive as expected an event which people think will be exciting but which is disappointing when it happens
Usage:- The celebrations were a bit of a damp squib.
73. **Ins and outs of**
Meaning : details and complexities/all the details, especially the complicated or difficult ones
Usage:- Common man does not understand the ins and outs of politics.
74. **To talk through one's hat**
Meaning : to talk nonsense/to say silly things while you are talking about a subject you do not understand
Usage:- Why are you talking through one's hat.
75. **Hot/hard on the heels of something**
Meaning : very close behind something or somebody, very soon after something/closely following
Usage:- He ran ahead, with the others hot on his heels.
76. **Off and on**
Meaning : occasionally
Usage:- We slept off and on last night.
77. **Take to one's heel/Take to your heels**
Meaning : to run away/to run away from somebody/something
Usage:- Robber had taken to one's heel when police came.
78. **To keep up one's appearances**
Meaning : to talk about something for a long time without coming to the main point
Usage:- He is in a habit of keeping up one's appearances.
79. **Turn over a new leaf**
Meaning : to work on a novel idea/to change your way of life or work to become a better, more responsible person
Usage:- He has forgotten his past life and turned over a new leaf.
80. **Dark horse**
Meaning : an unexpected winner/someone or something whose abilities, plans, or feelings are little known to others
Usage:- It is difficult to predict who will win the prize- there are two or three dark horses in the tournament.
81. **On/In the cards**
Meaning : anticipated, likely to happen/in future
Usage:- I am expecting some holiday on the cards.
82. **To cast aspersions on**
Meaning : to make unpleasant remarks
Usage:- Don't cast aspersion on me.
83. **Come off with flying colours**
Meaning : achieve creditable success/to be victorious
Usage:- When soldiers achieve creditable success, they would come with flying colours or flying flags.
84. **Come off**
Meaning : to take place, to happen
Usage:- Ram has been finally selected as he comes off with flying colours.
85. **Make hay while the sun rises**
Meaning : take benefit of condition/to do something while the situation or conditions are right
Usage:- Our leaders know how to make hay while the sun rises.
86. **Puts a spoke in one's wheel**
Meaning : to obstruct one's progress/to prevent somebody from putting their plans into operation

IDIOMS/PHRASES

- Usage:-** We should not put a spoke in somebody's wheel.
87. **Hold a brief for another**
Meaning : to speak on another's behalf/to support or be in favour of somebody or something
Usage:- Public hold a brief for Congress party.
88. **Out of the frying pan into the fire**
Meaning : from bad to worse
Usage:- I got out of the frying pan into the fire when I lost my job.
89. **Draw on his fancy**
Meaning : use of imagination
Usage:- The poet drew on his fancy in his poem.
90. **Give someone a piece of my mind**
Meaning : to reprimand him/to speak angrily to someone because they have done something wrong
Usage:- If he phones again, I am going to give him a piece of my mind.
91. **To stave (something) off**
Meaning : to prevent/to delay something bad
Usage:- Soldiers staved citizen off hunger.
92. **Take after**
Meaning : resembles/to be like or to look like someone in your family
Usage:- Ramesh takes after his father.
93. **Make no bones about**
Meaning : did not have any hesitation in/to say clearly what you think or feel about something
Usage:- He made no bones about how bad he thought the food was.
94. **Heads will roll**
Meaning : used to say that some people will be punished because of something that has happened/transfers will take place
Usage:- It is evident from the minister's statement that heads will roll in the Secretariat.
95. **Make a clean breast of (thing)**
Meaning : confessed with reserve/to confess fully there is the seat of the one's emotions and secrets; one's 'heart'. To disclose this openly was to clean one's heart of impurity.
Usage:- The criminal made a clean breast of everything he had done.
96. **Rest/Sit on their/your/one's laurels**
Meaning : to stop trying because one is satisfied with one's past achievements/to feel so satisfied with what you have already achieved that you do not try to do any more/to be complacent
- Usage:-** Very ambitious people do not like to rest on their laurels.
97. **Bad blood (between)**
Meaning : unfriendly relation/a feeling of intense hatred or hostility
Usage:- There is bad blood between India and Pakistan.
98. **At one with (somebody)**
Meaning : completely agree with somebody/of the same opinion
Usage:- They are at one with their leader.
99. **Gift of the gab**
Meaning : The ability to speak easily and to persuade other people with your words.
Usage:- Obama has the gift of the gab.
100. **At one's wits' end/At your wit's end**
Meaning : to be so worried by a problem that you do not know what to do next/completely confused
Usage:- He is at his wits' end and does not know what to do./In exams time, students are at their wit's end.
101. **Blow hot and cold in the same breath/Blow hot and cold**
Meaning : to change your opinion about something often/said something and contradicted it immediately
Usage:- You are always blowing hot and cold on my questions.
102. **Strike a chill to the heart**
Meaning : arouse fear
Usage:- Robbers struck a chill into the heart.
103. **Hew from same rock**
Meaning : of similar kind of courage
Usage:- Superman and Spiderman hew from same rock.
104. **Kick your heels**
Meaning : to have nothing to do while you are waiting for somebody/kept waiting
Usage:- I am not in habit of kicking my heel.
105. **Deliver the goods/Come up with the goods**
Meaning : to do what you have promised to do or what people expect or want you to do
106. **Keep the promise**
Meaning : to do what one said one would definitely do
Usage:- Team Indian failed to deliver the good.
107. **Tighten your/one's belts**

IDIOMS/PHRASES

- Meaning** : to spend less than you did before because you have less money/to manage to spend less money be frugal
Usage:- We should tighten our belt for a higher price.
108. **Hard-up**
Meaning : greatly in need of something, especially money/short of money
Usage:- He was so hard up, that he could not afford to buy anything.
 I am hard up, I can't buy a car.
109. **Grey/gray matter**
Meaning : intelligence/power of thought
Usage:- Use your grey matter.
110. **Feather your (own) nest**
Meaning : to provide for the future/to make a lot of something for yourself to make yourself richer, especially by spending money on yourself that should be spend on something else
Usage:- Officers are feathering their nest doing corruption.
111. **Bring the house down**
Meaning : received great applause/to entertain people very successfully/to excite the audience
Usage:- Joker brought the house down with his comedy.
112. **In a tight corner/spot**
Meaning : in a difficult situation
Usage:- Team India is in a tight corner.
113. **On the rack**
Meaning : having great anxiety./feeling extreme pressure, anxiety or pain
Ans:- Rack is an instrument of torture, used in the past for punishing and hurting people.
Usage:- People are on the rack in meeting for the questions of tickets.
114. **To be on his last legs**
Meaning : to be on the verge (border) of failure/to be going to die soon/to be very tired
Usage:- My father is on his last legs.
115. **Play second fiddle**
Meaning : busy over trifles/to be treated as less important than somebody or something
Usage:- Labours work as playing second fiddle to the officers.
116. **Lie up**
Meaning : to abstain from work/to stay in bed
Usage:- I am very tired today, I want to lie up.
117. **Once in a blue moon**
Meaning : not frequent, seldom/very rarely
- Usage:-** Once in a blue moon, she appears.
118. **Cut off without a shilling/penny**
Meaning : disinherited/to prevent somebody, especially your son or daughter, from receiving your money or property after your death
Usage:- His parents cut him off, without a shilling/penny.
119. **Fall through**
Meaning : failed
120. **Has/Have too many irons in the fire**
Meaning : is engaged in too many enterprises at the same time/has many activities underway at one time
Usage:- They had too many irons in the fire and missed some important parties.
121. **Let the cat out of the bag**
Meaning : tell someone about it unintentionally/to tell people secret information/to tell a secret carelessly or by mistake
Usage:- I wanted it to be a surprise, but my sister let the cat out of the bag.
122. **Read between the lines**
Meaning : find more or hidden meaning than the words appear to express
Usage:- You will understand her, if you read between the lines.
123. **Throw down the glove or gauntlet/Take one's gloves off**
Meaning : gave a challenge/ to invite someone to argue, fight, or compete with you
Usage:- Throwing down the glove/gauntlet, he is ready to argue.
124. **To/Until the bitter end**
Meaning : carried on a contest regardless of the consequences continuing until you have done everything you can, or until something is completely finished, despite difficulties and problems.
Usage:- They were prepared to fight to the bitter end for their rights.
125. **To catch up with**
Meaning : to compete with
Usage:- India wants to catch up with China.
126. **The man in the street**
Meaning : the homeless man
Usage:- Beggars are men in the street.
127. **Put one's foot down**
Meaning : asserted his authority/to tell someone in a strong way that they must do

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something or that they must stop doing something

Usage:- The boss put her foot down and refused to accept any more changes to the plan.

128. Storm/Tempest in a teacup

Meaning : commotion over a trivial matter/a lot of anger or worry about something that is not important

Usage:- Why are you taking so much tension, it is just a storm in a teacup.