

# Concept of Root Words:

Words are formed from different origins , A root word is **a basic word with no prefix or suffix added to it** (a prefix is a string of letters that go at the start of a word; a suffix is a string of letters that go at the end of a word). By adding prefixes and suffixes to a root word we can change its meaning.

## **Use the Roots-Prefixes-Suffixes method:**

One of the approaches to vocabulary building is to identify word 'parts' roots, prefixes, and suffixes -- and - understand how these parts can go together to form different words. You will find this approach useful, because it helps you understand how several words are formed (at least half of the words in the English language are derived from **Greek and Latin roots**), and this can often be of help in figuring out a word's meaning from its context.

Let's consider the examples of a few familiar words:

Let's start with **philosophy**'. Simply put, 'phil' is the Greek root for 'love', while '**sopho**' is the Greek root for knowledge'. Thus we have love of knowledge'. When we come across other words with the same roots, we can make a reasonably good assessment of what they could mean

Some common and important Roots are below:

- acri - bitter (acid, acrimony, acidity)
- astro - star (astronaut, astronomy, astrophysics)
- aud - hear (audience, audible, audio)
- auto - self (autonomy, autocrat, automatic)
- bene - good (benefactor, benevolent, beneficial)
- carn - flesh (carnal, carnivorous, reincarnate)
- altus [high, deep] altimeter, exalt, altitude, alto
- **am, amer** [love, liking] amiable, amorous, enamored
- **anim** [mind, will unanimous, animosity, equanimity, magnanimous, animal
- **anni**, annu, enni [year] anniversary, annually (yearly), centennial (occurring once in 100 years), per annum, annuity
- **anthrop** [man] anthropoid (man-like, e.g, an ape], anthropology (study of mankind), misanthrope (hater of mankind), philanthropic (love of mankind)
- **antico** [old] antique, antiquated, antiquity
- **arch** [chief, first, rule] archangel (chief angle), architect (chief worker), archaic (first; very early), archieves, monarchy (rule by one person), matriarchy (rule by the mother), patriarchy (rule by the father), archaeology.

- **fid**, fide, feder [faith, trust] fidelity, confident, confidante, infidelity, infidel, fiduciary (held in trust, confidential), perfidy (breaking faith), bona fide (in good faith), federal, confederacy, Fido
- **fix** [fix] fix (a difficult position), transfix (to hold motionless), fixation (the state of being attached), fixture, affix, prefix
- **flu, fluc**, fluv [flowing] influence (to flow in), fluctuate (to wave in an unsteady motion), fluviograph (instrument for measuring the flow of rivers), fluid, flue, flush, fluently, affluent
- **form** [form, shape] form, uniform, conform, deform.
- **reform**, pe:form, formative, formation, formal, formula
- **fort, forc** [strong] fort, fortress (a strong point, fortified). fortify (make strong), forte (one's strong point), forte (strong, loud in music), fortitude (strength for endurance), force, effort, comfort, pianoforte, force (power)
- **fract, frag** [break] fracture (a break), infraction, fragile (easy to break), fraction (result of breaking a whole into equal parts), refract (to break or bend, as a light ray). refractive, fragment
- **fum** [smoke] fuma (smoke; odour) fumigate (destroy germs by smoking them out), perfume gam [marriage] bigamy (two marriages), monogamy.
- **polygamy** (lit., many marriages), exogamy, endogamy
- **graph, gram** [write, written] graphy, graphic (written; , autograph (self-writing, signature), photography (light-writing) graphite (carbon used for a gramophone (sound-writing), bibliography, monograph (writing on one subject), telegram (for writing), epigram. diagram, cablegram, monogram, seismography, cartography
- **grat** [pleasing] congratulate (express pleasure over success), gratis (as a favor, free), gratuitous (gratis), gratuity (mark of favor, a tip), grateful, gracious. ingrate (not thankful; hence, unpleasant), ingratiate
- **grav** [heavy, weighty] grave, gravity, aggravate, gravitate
- **hab, habit** [have, live] habitat (the place in which one lives), inhabit to live in; to establish as residence), rehabilitate, habitual
- **hemotoxic** (causing blood poisoning), hemorrhage,
- hemoglobin, hemophilia, hematoma
- **hydr, hydro, hydra** [water] dehydrate (take water out of; dry), hydrant (water faucet), hydraulic (pertaining to water to liquids), hydraulics, hydrogen, hydrophobia, hydroelectric
- **jur, jus** [law] justice (a just judgement; as justice must be served), conjure (to swear together; to imagine; to entreat; as, conjure the king to be merciful), juror, jurisdiction
- **juven** [young] juvenile, juvenescent (becoming young), rejuvenate (to make young again)
- **leg law legal** (lawful; according to law), legislate (to enact a law), legislature (a body of persons who can make laws), legitimise (make legal), legacy

- **letter, lit, liter, litera (letters)** litany (prayer consisting of invocations and responses), literary (concerned with books and writing), literature (the best works written during the century), literal, alliteration, obliterate

**log, logo, ology** [word, study, speech] Logo (the word, Jesus), logic (orig.. speech: then reasoning), prologue, epilogue, dialogue, catalogue, logorrhea (a flux of words; excessively wordy), zoology (animal study), psychology (mind study), theology (god study)

**magn [great]** magnify (make great, enlarge). magnificent, magnanimous (great of mind or spirit), magnate, magnitude, magnum

**mand** [command] mandatory (commanded), remand (order back). Writ Of Mandamus (written order from a court), countermand (order against, cancelling a previous order), mandate

**mania** [madness] mania (insanity; craze; excessive craving), monomania (mania on one idea), kleptomania (thief mania; abnormal tendency to steal). pyromania (insane tendency to set fire) dipsomania (uncontrollable craving for alcoholic drink), manic, maniac

**matri, matro, matric** [mother] matrimony (state of wedlock), maternal (relating to the mother), matriarchate (rulership of a woman), matris (mother goddess of the named with Hindu deities), matron, metropolis (the mother city)

**medi** [half, middle, between, halfway] mediate (come between, intervene), medieval (pertaining to the middle ages), Mediterranean (lying between lands). medium (a person having the faculty to make contact with the super natural), mediocre

**omni [all every]** omnipotent (all powerful), omniscient (all knowing), omnipresent (present everywhere), omnivorous (all eating), omnibus, (covering all things)

**ortho [straight, correct]** orthodox (of the correct or accepted opinion), orthodontist (tooth straightener), orthopedic (originally pertaining to straightening a child).

**pan** [all Pan American, panacea (cure all), pandemonium (place of all the demons; wild disorder), pandemic, panchromatic (sensitive to all colors), pantheism (all-god belief; belief that God is all and all is God), pantheon (temple of all gods)

**pater, part** [father] patriarch (the head of the tribe family), patron (a wealthy person who supports as would a father) paternity (fatherhood, responsibility, etc.) patriot

**path, pathy** [feeling, suffering] pathos (feeling of pity sorrow), pathetic, sympathy, antipathy (against feeling). apathy (without feeling), empathy (feeling or identifying with another), telepathy (far feeling: through transference), pathogenic (disease being born; causing suffering or disease)

**pedo [child]** orthopedic, pedagogue (child leader, teacher), pedant (narrow-minded teacher), pediatrics (medical care of children)

phan, phen, [show, appear] phantom, phenomenal, fantasy

**phemi [speak]** euphemism (speak well of), prophet

**phil [love]** philosophy (love of wisdom), philanthropy, philharmonic, bibliophile, Philip, Philadelphia (city of brotherly love)

**phobia (fear)** phobia (abnormal fear), claustrophobia (fear of closed places), acrophobia, (fear of high places), photophobia (fear of light), aquaphobia (fear of water). pyrophobia (fear of fire)

**phon [sound]** phonograph, phonetic (pertaining to sound), phonology, symphony (sounds with or together), polyphonic (having many sounds or tunes), dictaphone, euphony (pleasing sound)

**photo [light]** photograph (light-writing), photoelectric, photoflash, photogenic (artistically suitable for being photographed), photometer (light meter), photon (a quantum of light energy), photosynthesis (action of light on chlorophyll to make carbohydrates)

**techni [skill, art]** technician (one who is mechanical arts), pyrotechnics (display of fireworks), technique, technology in the

**tele [far]** telephone (far sound), telegraph (far writing). telegram, telescope (far look), television (far seeing). telephoto (far photograph), telecast, telepathy (far feeling). teletype, teleprompter

**tempo [time]** tempo (rate of speed), protem (for the time being), extemporaneously, contemporary (those who live at the same time), temporary, temporal

**ten, tin, tain [hold]** tenacious (holding fast), tenant. tenure, untenable, detention, retentive, content, pertinent, continent, abstinent, abstain, contain, pertain, detain, obtain, maintain

**peri [around]** perimeter (measurement around an area), periphery, periscope, pericardium, period

**poly [many]** polygon (figure having many angles or sides), polygamy, polyglot, polychromé

**post [after]** postpone, postwar, postscript, postseason

**pre [before]** prowar, preview, precede, prevent, praconition

**pro [forward]**, in favor of project (throw forward). progress, pro-abortion, promote, prohibition

**pseudo [false]** pseudonym (false or assumed name),

**re [back, again]** reclaim, revive, revoke, rejuvenate, retard, reject, return

**retro [backwards]** retrospection (looking backwards), retroactive, retrorocket, retrocession

**SUFFIXES**

**able, ible** [able, can do] capable, agreeable, edible, visible (can be seen).

**ad, ade** [result of action] monad (a unit, an individual). blockade (the result of a blocking action), lemonade

**age** [act of, state of, collection of ] salvage (act of saving), storage, forage  
**ad, ade** [result of action] monad (a unit, an individual). blockade (the result of a blocking action), lemonade

**age** [act of, state of, collection of ] salvage (act of saving), storage, forage  
**ard, art** [one who] drunkard, dullard, braggart

**ary, ery, ory** [relating to, quality, place where] dictionary, dietary, bravery, dormitory (a place where people sleep)

**asis, esis, osis** [action, process, condition] genesis, hypnosis, neurosis  
**cian** [having a certain skill or art] logician, musician, beautician, magician, physician

**cide** [kill] homicide, pesticide, genocide (killing a race of people)

**cule, ling** [very small molecule, ridicule, duckling (very small duck), sapling]

### some important Synonyms & Antonyms.

S.No.	Words	Synonyms	Antonyms
1.	Acumen	Awareness, brilliance	Stupidity, Ignorance
2.	Adhere	Comply, observe	Condemn, disjoin
3.	Abolish	Abrogate, annul	Setup Establish
4.	Abash	Disconcert, rattle	Uphold, Discompose
5.	Abound	Flourish, proliferate	Deficient, Destitute
6.	Abate	Moderate, decrease	Aggravate
7.	Abject	Despicable, servile	Commendable, Praiseworthy

8.	Abjure	Forsake, renounce	Approve, Sanction
9.	Abortive	Vain, unproductive	Productive
10.	Absolve	Pardon, forgive	Compel, Accuse
11.	Accord	Agreement, harmony	Discord
12.	Acrimony	Harshness, bitterness	Courtesy, Benevolence
13.	Adamant	Stubborn, inflexible	Flexible, Soft
14.	Adherent	Follower, disciple	Rival, Adversary
15.	Adjunct	Joined, Added	Separated, Subtracted
16.	Admonish	Counsel, reprove	Approve, Applaud
17.	Adversity	Misfortune, calamity	Prosperity, Fortune
18.	Alien	Foreigner, outsider	Native, Resident
19.	Allay	Pacify, soothe	Aggravate, Excite
20.	Alleviate	Abate, relieve	Aggravate, Enhance
21.	Allure	Entice, fascinate	Repulse Repel
22.	Ascend	Climb Escalate	Descend, Decline
23.	Amplify	Augment, deepen	Lessen, Contract
24.	Arraign	Incriminate, indict	Exculpate, Pardon
25.	Audacity	Boldness, Courage	Mildness, Cowardice
26.	Authentic	Accurate, credible	Fictitious, unreal
27.	Awkward	Rude, blundering	Adroit, clever
28.	Axiom	Adage, truism	Absurdity, Blunder
29.	Baffle	Astound, Faze	Facilitate, Clarify
30.	Bewitching	Alluring, charming	Repulsive, Repugnant
31.	Bleak	Grim, Austere	Bright, Pleasant

32.	Brittle	Breakable, crisp	Tough, Enduring
33.	Bustle	Commotion, Tumult	Slowness, Quiet
34.	Barbarous	frustrated, perplexed	Civilized
35.	Baroque	Florid, gilt	Plain, unadorned
36.	Barren	Desolate, Sterile	Damp, Fertile
37.	Barrier	Barricade, Obstacle	Link, Assistance
38.	Base	Vulgar, Coarse	Summit, Noble
39.	Batty	Insane, silly	Sane
40.	Bawdy	Erotic, Coarse	Decent, Moral
41.	Befogged	Becloud, Dim	Clear-headed, Uncloud
42.	Benevolent	Benign, Generous	Malevolent, Miserly
43.	Benign	Favorable, friendly	Malignant, Cruel
44.	Bind	Predicament	Release
45.	Bleak	Austere, Blank	Bright, Cheerful
46.	Blunt	Dull, Insensitive	Keen, Sharp
47.	Boisterous	Clamorous, rowdy	Placid, Calm
48.	Bold	Adventurous	Timid
49.	Busy	Active, Engaged	Idle, Lazy
50.	Calculating	Canny, Devious	Artless, honest
51.	Calamity	adversity, misfortune	Fortune
52.	Callous	obdurate, unfeeling	Compassionate, Tender
53.	Calumny	defamation, aspersion	Commendation, Praise
54.	Capable	competent, able	Incompetent, Inept
55.	Captivate	Charm, fascinate	Disillusion offend

56.	Captivity	imprisonment, confinement	Freedom, Liberty
57.	Cease to	terminate, desist	Begin, Originate
58.	Chaste	virtuous, pure	Sullied, Lustful
59.	Chastise	punish, admonish	Cheer, encourage
60.	Compassion	kindness, sympathy	Cruelty, Barbarity
61.	Comprise	include, contain	Reject, lack
62.	Concede	yield, permit	Deny, reject
63.	Concur	approve, agree	Differ, disagree
64.	Consent	agree, permit	Object Disagree
65.	Consequence	effect, outcome	Origin, Start
66.	Consolidate	solidify, strengthen	Separate, Weaken
67.	Conspicuous	prominent, obvious	Concealed, hidden
68.	Contempt	scorn, disregard	Regard, Praise
69.	Contradict	deny, oppose	Approve, Confirm
70.	Contrary	dissimilar, conflicting	Similar, Alike
71.	Calm	Harmonious, unruffled	Stormy, turbulent
72.	Callous	Insensitive, indurated	Kind, merciful
73.	Camouflage	Cloak, disguise	Reveal
74.	Candid	Blunt, bluff	Evasive
75.	Captivate	Beguile, bewitch	Repel
76.	Carnal	Earthly, fleshly	Spiritual
77.	Catholic	Generic, liberal	Narrow- minded
78.	Celebrated	Acclaimed, lionized	Unknown, Inglorious



79.	Cement	Plaster, mortar	Disintegrate
80.	Censure	Rebuke, reprimand	Praise, Acceptance
81.	Cheap	Competitive, Inexpensive	Dear, unreasonable
82.	Clandestine	Covert, fruitive	Open, Legal
83.	Classic	Simple, Typical	Romantic, Unusual
84.	Coarse	Bawdy, Boorish	Fine, Chaste
85.	Comic	Clown, Jester	Tragic, tragedian
86.	Compact	Bunched, thick	Loose, Diffuse
87.	Compress	Abbreviate, Shrink	Amplify, Expand
88.	Conceit	Egotism, Immodesty	Modesty
89.	Concord	Agreement, accord	Discord
90.	Condemn	Castigate, Chide	Approve, Praise
91.	Confident	Bold, Undaunted	Diffident, cowardly
92.	Consolidate	Centralize, Fortify	Weaken
93.	Courtesy	Generosity, Reverence	Disdain, Rudeness
94.	Creation	Formation, foundation	Destruction
95.	Cunning	Acute, Smart	Nave, Coarse
96.	Decay	Collapse, decompose	Flourish, Progress
97.	Deceit	deception, artifice	Veracity, Sincerity
98.	Decipher	interpret, reveal	Misinterpret, distort
99.	Defile	contaminate, pollute	Purify, sanctity
100.	Defray	spend, pay	Disclaim, Repudiate

## Important Idioms & Phrases

	Idioms Meaning
Beat around the bush	To avoid talking about what's important
Get your act together	Get organized and do things effectively
Hit the sack	Go to sleep
Your guess is as good as mine	I do not know
Good things come to those who wait	To have patience
Back against the wall	Stuck in a difficult circumstance with no escape
Up in arms	Being grumpy or angry about something
Scrape the barrel	Making the most of the worst situations or things because you can't do anything about it
Burn your boats/bridges	Doing something that makes it impossible to go back to the original state.
Break fresh/ new ground	Doing something that has never been done before
Sell like hot cakes	Quick sellout
Run around in circles	Putting efforts into something that is not a worthwhile result
On cloud nine	Being very happy
Left out in the cold	Being ignored
Blow hot and cold	Alternate inconsistently between moods and actions
Cut corners	Doing something in an easier and least expensive manner
Boil the ocean	Taking up an almost impossible or overly ambitious project
Keep an ear to the ground	Staying informed and updated about everything
Eat like a horse	Eating too excessively
A snowball effect	The aspect of momentum in every event and how they build upon each other

### 21. In for a penny, in for a pound

**Meaning:** That someone is intentionally investing his time or money for a particular project or task.

**Example:** When Athlead was booming, Jim was **in for a penny and in for a pound**, that's how much dedicated he was.

### 22. A bird in the hand is better than two in the bush

**Meaning:** An opportunity in hand, currently, is better than a prospect in the future, because time never repeats itself.

**Example:** The detective apprehended 3 criminals and saw other one running but didn't chase him, because she knew **a bird in one hand is better than two in the bush**.

### 23. Chip off the old block

**Meaning:** That a person is similar in behaviour or actions like his parents.

**Example:** When grandmother saw her grandson collecting coins like her son used to do, she knew he was a **Chip off the old block**.

#### **24. Do unto others as you would have them do unto you**

**Meaning:** Treat people the same way you want to be treated.

**Example:** I felt Peter was a little cold today towards that homeless man, he should **do unto others as he would have them do unto him**, because who knows about time.

#### **25. Don't cry over spilt milk**

**Meaning:** Don't cry over what has happened as it can not be fixed.

**Example:** Walter failed his examination but his dad came and said just one thing, "Son, **Don't cry over spilt milk**."

#### **26. Every cloud has a silver lining**

**Meaning:** Bad things one day eventually lead to good things.

**Example:** See, yesterday you were so morose as your phone was stolen but look at you today, you got a promotion. Is it rightly said that **every cloud has a silver lining**.

#### **27. Beside yourself with joy**

**Meaning:** To be extremely happy.

**Example:** I can see that you are **beside yourself with joy** on being selected for the job, congratulations.

#### **28. Fair and square**

**Meaning:** Being direct or fair.

**Example:** To tell you **fair and square**, I did everything that I was meant to do, but I still feel unfulfilled.

#### **29. Having an Ace up the sleeve**

**Meaning:** Have an advantage that is currently being withheld for future purposes.

**Example:** Brian kept quiet at the board meeting, who knew he had an **Ace hidden up his sleeve** the whole time.

#### **30. A black sheep**

**Meaning:** Being a disgrace for the family.

**Example:** They don't talk about Olive anymore, turns out he was the **Black sheep** for the family, he married someone else while he was still arranged to his fiancé.

### 31. Hook, line and sinker

**Meaning:** Doing something or trying to achieve something with thoroughness and passion.

**Example:** I have set my mind to go through the spreadsheets by Monday and I am working for it **Hook, line and sinker**.

### 32. Looking to your laurels

**Meaning:** Not be lost in your achievements and losing the sight of what is supposed to happen.

**Example:** **Look to your laurels** but do not rest on it.

### 33. Bear a grudge

**Meaning:** To continue to feel angry or unfriendly for someone or something because of a particular past incident.

**Example:** I **Bear a grudge** against him for not taking me into confidence.

### 34. By the skin of your teeth

**Meaning:** To just barely get by or make it.

**Example:** Lester made the dance team **By the skin of his teeth**, you see the audition gates were about to get closed.

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### 35. Down for the count

**Meaning:** Tired; giving up.

**Example:** My pet dog is **down for the count** after playing the whole day with the frisbee.

### 36. Draw the line

**Meaning:** To stop before a point where something okay gets not okay.

**Example:** Hey buddy, that's enough, **Draw the line** before someone comes and beats you to a pulp.

### 37. Easier said than done

**Meaning:** Not as easy as it appears to be.

**Example:** Listen, losing weight is **easier said than done**, many people lack commitment.

### **38. Break a leg**

**Meaning:** Saying good luck to someone.

**Example:** Hey Barry, it's time for you to get on the stage and present your monologue, **break a leg**.

### **39. Up a creek without a paddle**

**Meaning:** In an unlucky situation.

**Example:** Dan tried to dine and dash yesterday at a Chinese place but he was stopped by the waiters, guess he was **up a creek without a paddle** yesterday.

### **40. Give it a whirl**

**Meaning:** To give something a try.

**Example:** I am absolutely terrified of skydiving, but I think once in my life, I will **give it a whirl**.

### **41. Fish out of water**

**Meaning:** To be out of your comfort zone.

**Example:** Tom felt like a **fish out of water** when his girlfriend took him to a Star Wars convention in LA.

### **42. In the fast lane**

**Meaning:** A life filled with excitement.

**Example:** When Chris turned forty, he decided to live his life **in the fast lane** and quit his job for his hobbies.

### **43. Go the extra mile**

**Meaning:** To make an extra effort.

**Example:** He was willing to **go the extra mile** for the love of his life, Mia.

### **44. Snug as a bug in a rug**

**Meaning:** Warm and cosy.

**Meaning:** The baby looks **as snug as a bug in a rug** next to her mother.

### **45. Step up your game**

**Meaning:** To start performing better

**Example:** Jennifer **better step up her** game if she wants to make big in Basketball.

Idioms are used as a figurative language, i.e. the use of words in an imaginative and unusual manner. **Take a look at more idioms with examples.**

#### **46. To not see the wood for the trees**

**Meaning:** To be so involved in trivial matters that you don't get the important facts.

**Example:** He always argues on the silliest topics, it's like **he can't see wood for the trees**.

#### **47. Lose your marbles**

**Meaning:** To go insane.

**Example:** Our mailman has **lost his marbles**, every day he drops Mr. Smith's mail on our door.

#### **48. Straight from the Horse's mouth**

**Meaning:** Directly from the person involved.

**Example:** Listen to the news **straight from the horse's mouth**, his factory burned down right in front of his eyes.

#### **49. Crying Wolf**

**Meaning:** To ask for help when you don't need it.

**Example:** You have **cried Wolf** so many times that no one believes you now.

#### **50. Palm off**

**Meaning:** Pass off something as genuine when it is spurious.

**Example:** This shopkeeper always **palms off** old stock to the customers.

#### **51. Has bigger fish to fry**

**Meaning:** Has more important work to do.

**Example:** Please don't bother me today with any calls, I **have bigger fish to fry**.

#### **52. Look before you leap**

**Meaning:** Calculate the risks before advancing towards a possibility.

**Example:** You can't just sell all of your shares when the market is low, **look before you leap**, Trump is coming tomorrow, it is possible the shares will grow.

### 53. On thin ice

**Meaning:** In a precarious or risky situation.

**Example:** Andy played hooky from work for a week saying he was sick, now his boss said that he is **on very thin ice**.

### 54. Play devil's advocate

**Meaning:** To argue, just for the sake of it.

**Example:** He was not agreeing to back off, as if he was **playing devil's advocate**.

Besides, knowing about various idioms with examples, a good vocabulary can take you to places in the competitive exams as well as in life. **Here's our blog on 50 difficult words with meanings for you to master your speaking skills now!**

### 55. Rain on someone's parade

**Meaning:** To spoil a moment.

**Example:** He told his wife that he doesn't want to **rain on her parade**, but they had to shift their vacation dates.

### 56. Take a rain check

**Meaning:** Postpone a plan.

**Example:** He asked me whether I would like to have dinner with his family, but I had a thing so I said, **rain check**.

### 57. Take it with a grain of salt

**Meaning:** Don't take it too seriously.

**Example:** She tells great tales but we take whatever she says with **a grain of salt**.

### 58. Like a cakewalk

**Meaning:** So easy task.

**Example:** Everyone took hours to write the code but Adam did it **like a cakewalk**.

### 59. Throw caution to the wind

**Meaning:** Take a risk.

**Example:** The caretaker **threw caution to the wind** by taking a sick baby outside.

### 60. Penny wise and Pound foolish

**Meaning:** Careful in trivial matters but wasteful or extravagant in large matters.

**Example:** That man eats Ramen noodles daily for dinner but for his dog, he threw a big party. He is indeed **penny wise and pound foolish**.

### 61. The whole nine yards

**Meaning:** Everything, all the way.

**Example:** I want to know everything there is to know about this merger, **the whole nine yards** of the deal.

### 62. The best thing since sliced bread

**Meaning:** A really good invention.

**Example:** Bluetooth is officially **the best thing since sliced bread**.

Source: Pinterest

It is important to note that idioms itself do not create complete sentences and they require additional context to give them a sense. **Take a look at some more idioms with examples and their meanings:**

### 63. Bite off more than you can chew

**Meaning:** Take on a difficult work that is beyond your capabilities.

**Example:** Andrew told his boss that he will triple the sales but in reality, he **bit off more than he can chew** and now all of us are in trouble.

### 64. Play by the ear

**Meaning:** To improvise.

**Example:** I just went to Canada and did everything **by the ear**, no itinerary, no schedules.

### 65. Ignorance is bliss

**Meaning:** You are better off not knowing some things.

**Example:** His wife always asked him what it was he did late at night, turned out, he was insider trading. But she knew nothing about this so she won't be convicted, sometimes **ignorance is bliss**.

### 66. Put something on ice

**Meaning:** To put something on hold.

**Example:** As per the boss' order, Michael has **put his personal matters on ice**.



### **67. You can say that again**

**Meaning:** That's absolutely true.

**Example:** "The Earth is bleeding", **you can say that again, pal.**

### **68. Bite the bullet**

**Meaning:** To get something over with because it is inevitable.

**Example:** Vik was diagnosed with second stage cancer but he didn't want to get chemotherapy. By the will of his wife, he **bit the bullet.**

### **69. Go back to the drawing board**

**Meaning:** Start over.

**Example:** It is not too late to **go back to the drawing board** and assess your mistakes.

### **70. Call it a day**

**Meaning:** Stop working on something.

**Example:** Ah! So what we didn't complete the puzzle today, let's **call it a day** and come back again tomorrow.

### **71. Beating Around the Bush**

**Meaning:** To talk about unnecessary things.

**Example:** When I asked my secretary about the missing file and documents, she was **beating around the bush.**

### **72. Be in a Tight Corner.**

**Meaning:** Being in a difficult situation.

**Example:** Radha's low grades despite her constant efforts has put her in a very **tight corner.**

### **73. At the 11th Hour**

**Meaning:** At the last moment.

**Example:** While leaving for Shimla, Harshit kept his mobile phone charger in the bag at the 11th hour.

### **74. Swan Song**

**Meaning:** The last piece of work of an artist before his/her death.

**Example:** This painting was M.F Hussain's swan song.

## 75. Wild Goose Chase

**Meaning:** Futile Chase

**Example:** Catching the two thieves together on a jam-packed road was no less than a **wild goose chase** for the policeman.

## 76. Bury the Hatchet

**Meaning:** Ending a quarrel to make peace.

**Example:** My father **buried the hatchet** by equally dividing the pasta between me and my sister.

## 77. To Bell the Cat

**Meaning:** To face a risk.

**Example:** He belled the cat when he was trying to escape the prison.

## 78. Turn a deaf ear

**Meaning:** To ignore what someone is saying.

**Example:** Whenever her mother complained of her excessive use of mobile phone, Anu turned a deaf ear.

## 79. At Sea

**Meaning:** Confused

**Example:** I was **at sea** while choosing a lehenga for my sister's wedding at Manish Malhotra's store.

## 80. To be in the doldrums

**Meaning:** To be in a low spirit

**Example:** When I got to know about the increasing cases of COVID 19 in my area, I was **in the doldrums**.

## 81. Hit the books

**Meaning:** Going to study

**Example:** I won't be able to come for dinner as I have to **hit the books** for my half-yearly examinations.

## 82. Twist someone's arm

**Meaning:** To convince someone

**Example:** I was not planning to come to the party but by remaining me of all the good food you **twisted my arm!**

### **83. Stab someone in the back**

**Meaning:** To betray a close person

**Example:** My uncle trusted his driver so much but he **stabbed him at the back** when he saw all the money bags.

### **84. Go cold turkey**

**Meaning:** To quit or stop addictive or dangerous behaviour

**Example:** No one could believe that my father left eating sweets! He went **cold turkey** when the doctors told him that he has diabetes.

### **85. Ring a bell**

**Meaning:** Sounds familiar

**Example:** Why does this name **ring a bell** in my head? Was this girl in my school?

### **86. Cut to the chase**

**Meaning:** Getting to the important point

**Example:** As the submissions were to be made tonight, boss **cut to the chase** and asked us to start working.

### **87. Blow off steam**

**Meaning:** Experiencing strong feelings like anger or stress

**Example:** Shina went running to **blow off steam** as she had a huge fight with mother.

### **88. Face the music**

**Meaning:** Face the reality

**Example:** Shikha asked her husband to not run away from the problem and just **face the music** once!

### **89. To have sticky fingers**

**Meaning:** Thief

**Example:** The cashier **had a sticky finger**, he stole around \$2000 and ran away from the bank.

### **90. Break the bank**

**Meaning:** To be very expensive

**Example:** I had to **break the bank** to buy these shoes!

### **91. Face the music**

**Meaning:** Confront the unpleasant consequences of one's actions.

**Example:** We have done it and now it's time to **face the music**!

### **92. It is always darkest before the dawn**

**Meaning:** Things will get better

**Example:** I know you have gone through the worst, but remember **it is always darkest before the dawn**.

### **93. Jump the gun**

**Meaning:** To act on something promptly before the right time

**Example:** I think I **jumped the gun** by sending the e-mail before they tell the time.

### **94. Wear your heart on your sleeve**

**Meaning:** Expressing yourself too openly

**Example:** She **wears her heart on her sleeve** and often gets hurt.

### **95. Cut no ice**

**Meaning:** Fail to make an impact

**Example:** Your poetry **cuts no ice** with me.

### **96. Light at the end of tunnel**

**Meaning:** Seeing signs of improvement in the future

**Example:** I see the **light at the end of the tunnel** for my relationship with her.

### **97. Through thick and thin**

**Meaning:** Through good and bad times

**Example:** Books and music stay by your side **through thick and thin**.

### **98. Cry for the moon**

**Meaning:** To ask for something that is rather difficult

**Example:** You are **crying for the moon** for this concert's tickets!

### **99. Read between the lines**

**Meaning:** Understanding the real message behind something

**Example:** If you try to **read between the lines**, her song is actually about me.

#### **100. Pour out one's heart**

**Meaning:** To express openly

**Example:** I can't **pour my heart out to you** if you are too distracted by everything around yourself.