

Study Guide

English Idioms

Abstract

Definition of Idiom:

Idiom is an expression composed of a group of words. It is also called “idiomatic expression”. The characteristic of idiom is that the meaning does not relate to the literal meaning of its words. In other words, idiom implies its true meaning rather than explicitly states.

List of Idioms We Will Introduce:

- Go with the flow
- Read between the lines
- Jump out of [one's] skin
- Wipe the slate clean
- Blow the whistle on

Meaning of Each Idiom:

Idiom	Explanation and Example
Go with the flow	To accept the opinion of others or follow the other people's behaviors (e.g.) He always <u>goes with the flow</u> in the meeting because he is a passive person.
Read between the lines	To perceive the meaning which is hidden or implied in writing or speaking

	<p>(e.g.) You should <u>read between the lines</u> to find the true intention of the author.</p>
Jump out of (one's / the) skin	<p>To be extremely surprised at something</p> <p>(e.g.) Don't push me so suddenly! I nearly <u>jumped out of my skin</u>!</p>
Wipe the slate clean	<p>To forget any bad experiences or mistakes in the past and start new behaviors</p> <p>(e.g.) Let's remake our relationship again <u>wiping the slate clean</u>. Never mind.</p>
Blow the whistle on	<p>To expose any wrong or illegal activity in order not to repeat it again</p> <p>(e.g.) It was revealed that Ted cheated on the last test because some of the classmates <u>blew the whistle on</u> him to the teacher.</p>

Slides we used in class: <https://goo.gl/eJEoea>

Source:

[1] MY ENGLISH PAGES

http://www.myenglishpages.com/site_php_files/vocabulary-lesson-idioms.php

[2] Dictionary.com

<http://dictionary.reference.com>

[3] Cambridge Dictionaries Online

<http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/>