

## IDIOMS AND PHRASES

1. A cold blooded murder- An intentional /premeditated murder
2. Put the best foot forward – Start impressively
3. Pay lip service to – Pretend to express loyalty or support
4. Stick one's neck out – To take a risk
5. Bear the palm – Be victorious

Palm leaves-used as a symbol of victory and courage

6. Tread upon other's toe- Hurt one's feelings

E.g.- One should not tread upon other's toe

7. Cock of the walk – One who dominates a group or situation
8. From the horse's mouth- From a reliable source
9. A black ox- Misfortune
10. Fool's errand- Useless undertaking

A task or activity which has no hope

11. Touch and go- Dangerous and uncertain
12. Be hand and foot- in all possible ways, by all means
13. To set at naught- To ruin

E.g.- Despite all the privileges in his life he was set at naught.

14. In the black – In a financially profitable condition
15. Gray matter- Intelligence
16. All Thumps- Awkward and clumsy especially with one's hands

E.g. -The two brothers thump on each other all the time.

17. Be in the swim- To keep oneself informed and up-to-date
18. Feather Brained-Silly or often forgetting things.

Naïve or foolish

19. Hear it on grapevine- To hear rumours about something or someone.
20. Between the cup and the lips- On the point of achievement.
21. Bend over backwards- Do whatever it takes to help, willing to do anything.

Lending all possible efforts in order to assist or help someone.

22. Can't cut the mustard-Someone who is not adequate enough to compete or participate

23. Gall and wormwood- source of irritation

Strong feeling of bitterness and resentment

24. Mumbo Jumbo-Nonsense or meaningless speech

(perplex, confound, flummox, bewilder, mystify, baffle)

25. Funny farm- A mental institutional facility.

26. Get your walking papers – Get fired from the job.

27. Know the ropes- To understand the details.

28. Free and easy- Natural and simple.

29. Level playing field-A fair competition where no side has an advantage.

30. For the time being- Temporarily

Meanwhile, in the mean time

31. From the stem to stern- all the way from the front of a ship to the back.

Stern is the back part of boat or ship

32. Cut short- interrupt

33. Ruffle somebody's feather- annoy somebody

34. Run out of steam-to lose impetus or enthusiasm.

35. A cuckoo in the nest- An unwelcome intruder

36. Capital punishment-death sentence.

37. Wet behind the ears- Young and without much experience

(novice, amateur)

38. Talked over- discussed.

39. Wet one's whistle-have a drink

E.g.- Every weekend I visit the local pub to wet my whistle.

40. Vexed question- controversial.