

JUMP IN IDIOMS

*A Fabulous Collection of the Most Common Idioms,
Slangs and Proverbs in English*

(Second Edition)

Mustapha Hajebi

In the Name of God

The compassionate, the merciful

Jump in Idioms

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عامیانه و ضرب المثلهای

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JUMP IN IDIOMS

**A Fabulous Collection of the Most Common Idioms, Slangs and Proverbs
in English**

(Second Edition)

Mustapha Hajebi

THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED

To my pretty wife, Fatemeh. Thank you for your boundless love and support.

To my daughter, Mona for her endless smile!

To my beloved parents who taught me that to be successful is not in reaching the destinations, but in enjoying the every step we take.

To all those professors, teachers and students who try their best to improve the any Language standards to serve the country and people.



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A truly heartfelt with special thanks goes to my best friends, confidants and shoulders, who have always been the driving forces behind my perseverance in everything I do, my mother, my father and my wife.

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*BaQer Khandel

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PREFACE

If you speak English more like a native, it's time to *roll up your sleeves*. One of the key elements of speaking like a native is to use and understand slangs or idioms.

You cannot find idioms, slangs and proverbs easily in standard books. You will probably hear them frequently in everyday conversations, some books or TV shows.

Language, without idioms has no exciting aspects. Idiom gives color and life to language. This book will help you to understand and use idioms and other casual expressions better.

This book contains the most common idioms used by native speakers. The present book is designed for easy use by English speakers, as well as new English learners.

Good luck by adding idioms to your everyday speech. Enjoy speaking English much more. *Like a native!*

Mustapha Hajebi ; January,2018

E-Mail : Hajebi2020 @ Gmail.Com

TO THE READER

PURPOSE AND LEVEL OF THE BOOK

The purpose of this book is to teach idioms mainly used in the United States and to a better understanding of movies. This book is an appropriate source for intermediate and advanced students and is designed for either self-study or teaching as a supplementary book in Idioms and Expressions Courses.

FORMAT AND PRECEDURE

The content of this book includes around 300 idioms, slangs, proverbs, etc. each containing a key word. These key words are organized based on the alphabetical order. For example, in the idiom *walk on AIR*, the key word is *AIR* and due to its initial letter it is placed in section A of the dictionary.

AT THE END

After you have finished the book that will be a great idea to check and review your understanding through the exercises embedded at the end of the book.

Oxford Dictionary of English

BASIC DEFINITIONS

What is IDIOM?

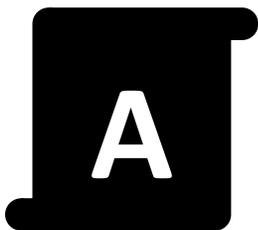
1. A group of words established by usage as having a meaning not deducible from those of the individual words.
2. A characteristic mode of expression in music or art.

What is SLANG?

A type of language consisting of words and phrases that are regarded as very informal are more common in speech than writing, and are typically restricted to a particular context or group of people.

What is PROVERB?

A short, well-known pithy saying, starting a general truth or piece of advice!



Torn between **A and B**: troubled by a choice or dilemma

- *I can't really choose the best choice. Actually, I'm torn between A and B!*

From **A to Z**: 1. almost everything

2. over the entire range

- *Children all follow their parents from A to Z*

From **A to B**: from one place to another

- *The city is very crowded these days and it takes a long time to travel from A to B.*

Play your **ACE**: use your best resources to get an advantage in a situation

- *If you play your ace, you'll be able to do great things and relish your life.*

ACT your age: behave properly and more maturely

- *Don't talk anymore and act your age! Don't be such a baby, Kate.*

AFTER while (crocodile)!: good bye; see you later

- The word crocodile is used is used only for the sake of the rhyme. It's also the response *to see you later, alligator.*

Get **AHEAD**: achieve success, often in your work or in society

- *You've got to take risks if you really want to get ahead in your business.*

Walk on **AIR**: feel happy and excited

- *I was walking on air when I won the final match.*

Put on **AIRS**: exaggerate one's importance; act superior

- *The nice thing about Prof. Hajebi is that, in spite of being so knowledgeable, he doesn't put on any airs.*

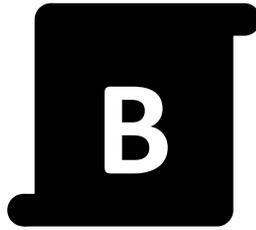
(Be) **ALL** there: be aware of something

- *Are you all there? I'm talking to you.*

ALL or nothing: 1. everything or nothing at all

2. time to choose to do something or not to do it

- *Mona didn't accept only part of the money. She wanted all or nothing.*



Get off my **BACK**: leave me alone; stop picking on me

- *I'm really tired of your words, Kate, get off my back! Will you?*

Take someone **BACK**: make someone remember

- *Your face takes me back to my school days.*

Talk behind someone's **BACK**: gossip about someone without that person's knowledge.

- *Sarah usually talks behind her friends' backs.*

My **BAD**: used when you've made a mistake and you accept it

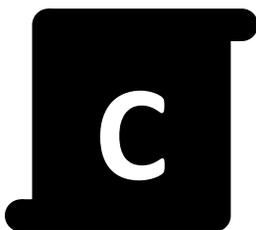
- *Oh Jesus! I left my wallet in the restaurant, my bad!*

BAG your face: be quiet; shut up and go away

- *Can I borrow your phone again? Bag your ace, Paul!*

Drop the **BALL**: make a mistake; fail in some way *US Informal*

- *You can't lean on Sara to answer the questions. She is always dropping the ball.*



A piece of **CAKE**: very easy

- *Learning English is like a piece of a cake, you should practice more.*

CAN it: be quiet; stop talking *US Slang*

- *What are you doing? Can it! I'm just studying, can't you see?*

In the **CAN**: completed and available for use; already decided or arranged

- *She offered me to start working in their company so I think it's in the can.*

Who **CARES?**: used to say that you do not think something is important

- *Are they getting divorced? Who cares?*

On the **CARPET**: 1. (of a topic, problem, etc.) under discussion 2. (of a person) being severely criticized or reprimanded by someone in authority

- *Nuclear energy is the main issue which is already on the carpet.*

CAT got your tongue?: why don't you speak?

- *Why are you silent? Cat got your tongue?*



Fix someone`s **WAGON**: act against someone; punish someone

- *John reported me to daddy, but I fixed his wagon later.*

Be a **WAKE**-up: be fully alert or aware

- *When you`re driving, you must be a wake-up.*

WALK your talk: suit your actions to your words *Chiefly US*

- *If you learn how to walk your talk in your life, you will get ahead and more people will trust you.*

Test the **WATER**: to check people`s reaction to a plan before you decide to use it

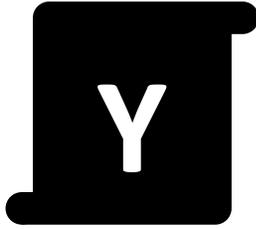
- *The teacher is clearly testing the water to know student`s reactions to their project.*



X-rated: if something is x- rated, it's not suitable for children.

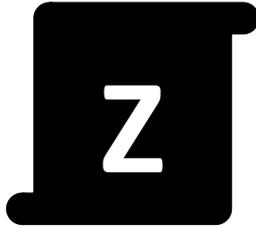
- *Look at the expired date. This food is out of date.*

That's x rated!



A **YES** man: a person who agrees with everything their employer, leader, etc. says in order to please them and gain some advantage

- *John is a yes man in the company. He always does what his boss tells.*



Catch some **Z`s**: get some sleep; take a nap

- *I'm drowsy now. I should catch some Z`s.*

ZERO in on something: focus directly on something

- *I'd like to zero in on an important problem in the society which is drug trafficking.*

Know **ZIP** about something: know nothing about something

- *Anita knows zip about the trip. She'll be surprised.*

PROVERBS

BIRDS of a feather flock together: people of the same type seem to gather together well

Kill two **BIRDS** with one stone: achieve two aims at once

Let **BYGONES** be bygones: forget the unpleasant things happened in the past

More **CATHOLIC** than the pope: a person who shows excessive concern about something in a way which is crafty; excessively pious

Run around like a **CHICKEN** with its head cut off: act in a panic-stricken and aimless manner; be very active but with no direction or organization

CRY over spilled milk: express regret about something that has already happened or cannot be changed

CURIOSITY killed the cat: said to warn someone not to ask too many questions about something

You can't teach an old **DOG** new tricks!: it is very difficult to teach someone new skills or to change their habits or character

Let sleeping **DOGS** lie: don't search for trouble and leave well enough alone

TESTS

IDIOMS PRACTICE:

THE FOLLOWING PART GIVES YOU AN OPPORTUNITY TO TEST YOURSELF ON THE CONTENT OF THE DICTIONARY.

A. Fill in the blank with the missing word:

1) I recommend that you go to a football match in Madrid. The players are always the cream of the_____

- a) crop b) cake c) drink

2) Mary got a job in Hormoz Hotel? _____deal!

- a) small b) long c) big

3) I can't believe that Nina gave me the _____ shoulder. She was my pal.

- a) hot b) warm c) cold

4) Someone who can do many different jobs is a _____ of all trades.

- a) John b) Jim c) Jack

5) If something is very easy to understand, it`s easy as _____

- a) cake b) pie c) water

THE FOLLOWING PART GIVES YOU AN OPPORTUNITY TO TEST YOURSELF ON THE CONTENT OF THE DICTIONARY. DO THIS AFTER YOU HAVE COMPLETELY FINISHED IDIOM GATEWAY.

1- If you want to tell somebody to go away, you can say “go on your “

A- bike B- car C- hat

2- If you understand what somebody means, even if they do not say it directly, you take the

A- picture B- hint C- point

3- If somebody is criticizing you for a fault that they have themselves, you can say, the pot calling kettle

A- red B- black C- blue

4- If you deal with a difficult or dangerous situation in a direct and brave way, you take the bull by the

A- head B- horn C- eye

5- If you see someone very rarely, you see them once in a blue

A- sun B- night C- moon

6- A place which is remote and isolated is off the

A- mind B- map C- life

7- If you criticize someone severely, you perform a job on them.

A- hatchet B- great C- Spartan

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