



ACADEMIA DE IDIOMAS

- Tema: Idioms
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Idioms in English

Resumen (Abstract):

In English there are some phrases whose meaning is not literal from looking at them individually.

Idioms in English are analogies and metaphors which are used in everyday communication.

We need to know the real meaning of an idiom in order to understand the context.

Key words: idioms, idiom, idioms in English

Idioms?

Idioms are used frequently in both written and spoken English.

Let's have a review of the most common idioms in the English language and their meaning as well.



Idiom	Meaning	Example
The best of both worlds	You can enjoy two different opportunities at the same time.	She was able to get <u>the best of both worlds</u> , by having a part time job and saving money.
Speak of the devil	This means that the person you're just talking about actually appears at that moment.	Look Pedro is coming, you are <u>speaking to the devil</u> .
See eye to eye	This means agreeing with someone.	Yesterday we were talking about the plans for the party and we <u>saw eye to eye</u> .
Once in a blue moon	An event that happens infrequently.	My sister eats hamburgers <u>once in a blue moon</u> , she doesn't like them much.
When pigs fly	Something that will never happen.	I think I will be millionaire <u>when pigs fly</u> .

Idiom	Meaning	Example
A piece of cake	Something is very easy	The test <u>was a piece of cake.</u>
As stubborn as a mule	Somebody reluctant or unwilling to change a particular opinion, behavior.	Well, I'll try, but sometimes she can be <u>as stubborn as a mule.</u>
Let the cat out of the bag	To reveal a secret by accident.	He <u>let the cat out of the bag</u> about their travelling plans
To feel under the weather	Not feeling well	My brother is really <u>feeling under the weather today;</u> I have a terrible flu."
You can't judge a book by its cover'	To not judge someone or something based solely on appearance.	I thought this no-brand pair of jeans would be horrible; but <u>you can't judge a book by its cover.</u>

Idiom	Meaning	Example
Break a leg	It means 'good luck' (often said to actors before they go on stage).	“ <u>Break a leg</u> Jony, I'm sure your play will be amazing.
To hit the nail on the head	It describes exactly what is causing a situation or problem.	You <u>hit the nail on the head</u> when you said this company needs more privacy.
Call it a day	Stop working on something	My boss said we could <u>call it a day today</u> .
No pain no gain	You have to work hard for something you want.	You need to study to get your dreams, <u>no pain no gain</u> .
Getting a taste of your own medicine	Being treated the same unpleasant way you have treated others.	Your old friend <u>got a taste of his own medicine</u> last night at the restaurant.

Idiom	Meaning	Example
Giving someone the cold shoulder	To ignore somebody	She decided to <u>get him the cold shoulder</u> because he will never change his mind.
The last straw	The final source of irritation for someone to finally lose patience.	This report is <u>the las straw</u> in my life.
The elephant in the room	A matter or problem that is obvious of great importance but that is not discussed openly.	As I told you before you can't see <u>the elephant in the room</u> .
Stealing someones thunder	Taking credit for someone else achievements.	Your friend is <u>stealing your thunder</u> any time he can.
To kill two birds with one stone	To solve two problems at once.	By taking my mom on shopping, I <u>killed two birds with one stone</u> . I got to go away but also spend time with her

Reference

Collins, S. (2009) Practical Everyday English. Book 1 in the Everyday English series. Montserrat Publishing.