

Welcome to 100 English Idioms and
their meanings.

By Mo Bahjat.

I hope you enjoy it.

Note: This is the first draft. Expect
some minor errors. I hope you forgive
me.

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1. **Actions speak louder than words.** This means that what someone does is more important than what they say.
2. **Apple of my eye.** This means someone is very important to you.
3. **A penny saved is a penny earned.** This means that it is important to save money.
4. **Birds of a feather flock together.** This means that people who are similar tend to spend time together.
5. **Bite off more than you can chew.** This means to take on too much work or responsibility.
6. **Break a leg.** This is a way of wishing someone good luck.
7. **Break the ice.** This means to start a conversation with someone.
8. **Cash is king.** This means that money is very important.
9. **Catch a cold.** This is a way of saying that someone has become

sick.

10. **Cat got your tongue.** This is a way of asking someone why they are not talking.
11. **Chicken or the egg.** This is a question about which came first, the chicken or the egg.
12. **Cleanliness is next to godliness.** This means that it is important to be clean.
13. **Cloud nine.** This is a way of saying that someone is very happy.
14. **Cool as a cucumber.** This is a way of saying that someone is very calm.
15. **Cost an arm and a leg.** This means something is very expensive.
16. **Cross your fingers.** This is a way of wishing someone good luck.
17. **Cup of tea.** This is a way of saying that you like something.
18. **Cut your losses.** This means to give up on something that is not working.
19. **Dead as a doornail.** This is a way of saying that someone is very dead.
20. **Deaf as a post.** This is a way of saying that someone is very deaf.
21. **Desperation is a stinky cologne.** This means that desperation is not a good thing.
22. **Diamonds are a girl's best friend.** This means that diamonds are very valuable to women.

23. **Dig your own grave.** This means to do something that will cause you to fail.
24. **Don't count your chickens before they hatch.** This means to not assume that something will happen before it actually happens.
25. **Don't judge a book by its cover.** This means to not judge someone based on their appearance.
26. **Easy come, easy go.** This means that money or things that come easily are also likely to go easily.
27. **Elephant in the room.** This is a way of saying that there is something obvious that everyone is aware of but is not talking about.
28. **Empty vessels make the most noise.** This means that people who are not very intelligent often talk the most.
29. **Enough is enough.** This means that you have had enough of something.
30. **Every cloud has a silver lining.** This means that even in bad situations there is always something good to be found.
31. **Experience is the best teacher.** This means that you learn more from your own experiences than from anything else.
32. **Familiarity breeds contempt.** This means that the more you are around someone or something, the less you like them.
33. **First come, first served.** This means that the person who arrives first gets to do something first.
34. **Fish or cut bait.** This means to make a decision or take action.
35. **Fools rush in where angels fear to tread.** This means

- that people who are not careful often make mistakes.
36. **Forgive and forget.** This means to let go of anger or resentment.
 37. **Free as a bird.** This means that someone is very happy.
 38. **Full circle.** This means that something has come back to the beginning.
 39. **Get a life.** This is a way of telling someone to stop being so lazy or unproductive.
 40. **Get your ducks in a row.** This means to get organized.
 41. **Good things come to those who wait.** This means that if you are patient, you will eventually get what you want.
 42. **Haste makes waste.** This means that if you do things too quickly, you are likely to make mistakes.
 43. **He who laughs last laughs best.** This means that if you wait until the end of a situation, you will be the one who is laughing.
 44. **Honesty is the best policy.** This means that it is always the best to be honest, even if it is difficult.
 45. **Hope for the best, prepare for the worst.** This means that you should always hope for the best, but also be prepared for the worst.
 46. **If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.** This means that if you fail at something, you should keep trying until you succeed.
 47. **If wishes were horses, beggars would ride.** This means that if wishes were real, everyone would be happy.
 48. **In for a penny, in for a pound.** This means that if you start

- something, you should finish it.
49. **It never rains but it pours.** This means that when bad things happen, they often happen all at once.
 50. **Keep your chin up.** This means to stay positive and hopeful.
 51. **Know your onions.** This means to be an expert in something.
 52. **Let bygones be bygones.** This means to forgive someone for something they have done in the past.
 53. **Lightning never strikes twice in the same place.** This means that something that happens once is unlikely to happen again.
 54. **Make hay while the sun shines.** This means to take advantage of a good opportunity while it lasts.
 55. **Man proposes, God disposes.** This means that people can make plans, but it is ultimately God who decides what happens.
 56. **Money makes the world go round.** This means that money is very important in the world.
 57. **Never say die.** This means to never give up, no matter how difficult something seems.
 58. **No smoke without fire.** This means that there is usually some truth to a rumor or accusation.
 59. **No use crying over spilled milk.** This means that there is no point worrying about something that has already happened and cannot be changed.
 60. **One swallow does not a summer make.** This means that one good thing does not mean that everything is going to be good.

61. **Out of sight, out of mind.** This means that if you do not see someone or something, you are less likely to think about them.
62. **Practice makes perfect.** This means that the more you do something, the better you will become at it.
63. **Pride comes before a fall.** This means that if you are too proud, you are likely to make a mistake.
64. **Rain or shine.** This means that you will do something regardless of the weather.
65. **Rough seas make good sailors.** This means that difficult experiences can make you stronger.
66. **Seeing is believing.** This means that you will only believe something if you can see it for yourself.
67. **Slow and steady wins the race.** This means that it is better to do something slowly and carefully than to rush and make mistakes.
68. **Some things are better left unsaid.** This means that there are some things that are better not to talk about.
69. **The early bird catches the worm.** This means that if you are the first person to do something, you are more likely to be successful.
70. **The grass is always greener on the other side.** This means that people always think that other people's lives are better than their own.
71. **There's no such thing as a free lunch.** This means that everything has a cost.
72. **Time flies when you're having fun.** This means that time goes by quickly when you are enjoying yourself.

73. **Too many cooks spoil the broth.** This means that if too many people are involved in something, it will not be as good as it could be.
74. **Two heads are better than one.** This means that if two people work together, they are more likely to succeed than if one person works alone.
75. **What goes around comes around.** This means that if you do something bad to someone, they will eventually do something bad to you.
76. **When life gives you lemons, make lemonade.** This means that when you have a problem, try to find a way to make it into something positive.
77. **You can't have your cake and eat it too.** This means that you cannot expect to have two things that are mutually exclusive.
78. **You can't teach an old dog new tricks.** This means that it is difficult to teach someone who is old new things.
79. **Zero sum game.** This means that if one person wins, someone else must lose.
80. **A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.** This means that it is better to have something that is certain than to risk losing it in order to get something that is uncertain.
81. **A stitch in time saves nine.** This means that it is better to deal with a problem early on before it gets worse.
82. **Actions speak louder than words.** This means that what someone does is more important than what they say.
83. **All that glitters is not gold.** This means that not everything that looks good is good.

84. **All roads lead to Rome.** This means that there are many different ways to achieve a goal.
85. **A penny saved is a penny earned.** This means that it is important to save money.
86. **Absence makes the heart grow fonder.** This means that when you are away from someone you love, you miss them more.
87. **Actions have consequences.** This means that what you do will have an effect on your life.
88. **All good things must come to an end.** This means that nothing lasts forever.
89. **Better late than never.** This means that it is better to do something late than not do it at all.
90. **Birds of a feather flock together.** This means that people who are similar tend to spend time together.
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first, the chicken or the egg.

98. **Cleanliness is next to godliness.** This means that it is important to be clean.

99. **Close but no cigar.** This means to be very close to achieving something but not quite succeeding.

100. **Dollars to Donuts.** Means that you are sure of something.