

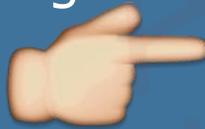


# Idiomatic Expressions-Part II

B2-C1

Module 6

Here's What We  
Will Be Learning  
in this  
Presentation:



# SUMMARY

- More Idiomatic Expressions.
- Exercises.

There are thousands of idioms occurring frequently in all languages. The English language itself is estimated to have at least twenty-five thousand idiomatic expressions. Idioms fall into the category of formulaic language and *one can easily lose their head* trying to remember all of them. However, we can still try to learn the meaning and usage of some more. Here they are to tease your brain cells:



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**'The best of both worlds'** – means you can enjoy two different opportunities at the same time.

E.g. "By working flexible hours, she spends more time with her kids. She has the best of both worlds."



**'Speak of the devil'** – this means that the person you're just talking about actually turns up at that moment.

E.g. "Hi Tom, speak of the devil, I was just telling Sara about your new car."

**'See eye to eye'** – this means agreeing with someone.

E.g. "They finally saw eye to eye on the business deal."



Once in a blue moon

**'When pigs fly'** – something that will never happen.

E.g. "When pigs fly she'll tidy up her room!"



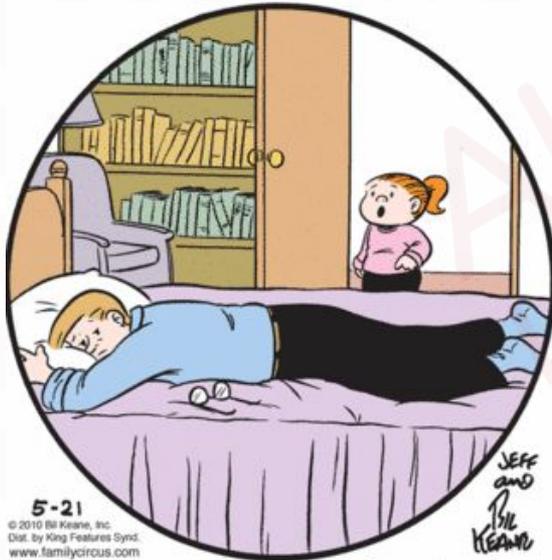
**'Once in a blue moon'** – an event that happens infrequently.

E.g. "I go to the cinema once in a blue moon!"



**'To cost an arm and a leg'**—something is very expensive.

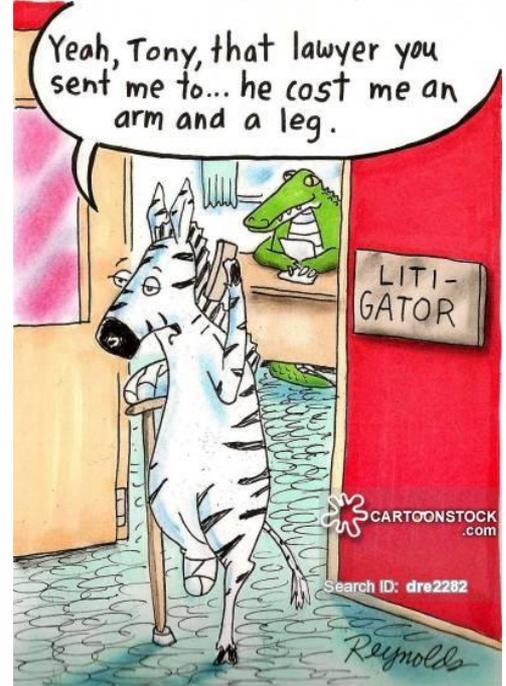
E.g. "Fuel these days costs an arm and a leg."



"Daddy, are you feelin' under the weather or over the weather?"

**'To feel under the weather'**—to be unwell.

E.g. "I'm really feeling under the weather today; I have a terrible cold."



**'To kill two birds with one stone'** – to solve two problems at once.

E.g. "By taking my dad on holiday, I killed two birds with one stone. I not only had a chance to get away, but also spend some family time."



**'To cut corners'** – to do something badly or cheaply.

E.g. "They really cut corners when they built this bathroom; the shower is leaking."

**'To add insult to injury'** – to make a situation worse.

E.g. "To add insult to injury the car drove off without stopping after knocking me off my bike."



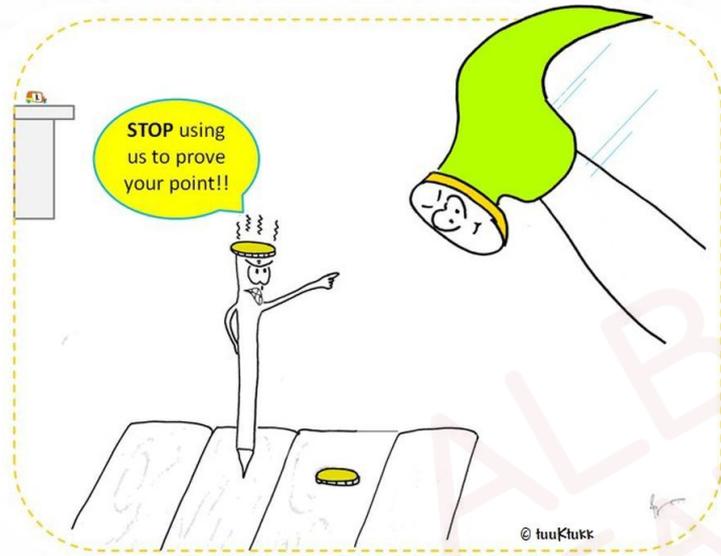
"SO, STONE, PIP YOU OR PIP YOU NOT KILL TWO BIRPS?"



**'You can't judge a book by its cover'**—to not judge someone or something based solely on appearance.  
E.g. "I thought the movie would be horrible; turns out you can't judge a book by its cover."



**'Break a leg'**—means 'good luck' (often said to actors before they go on stage).  
E.g. "Break a leg Sam, I'm sure your performance will be great."



**'To hit the nail on the head'** – to describe exactly what is causing a situation or problem.

E.g. "He hit the nail on the head when he said this company needs more HR support."

**'Beating around the bush'** - Avoiding the main issue.

E.g. "Stop beating around the bush and tell me exactly where you were yesterday evening!"

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" Let's get down to beating around the bush. "

# Exercises-Part I

## I) Fill in the blanks with the appropriate idioms:

(The best of both worlds, Speak of the devil, See eye to eye, Once in a blue moon, When pigs fly, To cost an arm and a leg, under the weather.)

1. Ha! John has been promising to paint the house for five years.... Maybe when \_\_\_\_\_.
2. I can't afford this purse! It \_\_\_\_\_. I won't be able to pay my rent!
1. My mother visits the spa \_\_\_\_\_.
1. Wow, she found her dream man and now has landed an amazing job. She really does have \_\_\_\_\_!

5. So we're going to London, then Munich, then we will fly out of Athens, right? Great. I'm so glad to be traveling with someone I \_\_\_\_\_ with.
5. Jane is just never on time to work, it's really annoying. O wow! \_\_\_\_\_ here she comes...
5. Mark has been \_\_\_\_\_ lately because of his erratic travel schedule.

**II).** Have you heard any of these idioms before, possibly in your native tongue? Write down examples of those idioms..

# Exercises-Part II

## Fill in the blanks with the appropriate idioms:

(To cut corners, kill two birds with one stone, hit the nail on the head, beat around the bush, add insult to injury, don't judge a book by its cover, break a leg)

1. John was simply \_\_\_\_\_ because he couldn't tell Claire the truth about what happened to the car.
  2. Kelly's speech about effective parenting \_\_\_\_\_.
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1. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ just to finish the project before time. We might lose the customer for life.
  2. Good luck for the exam Bill. \_\_\_\_\_!

5. Don't \_\_\_\_\_ most people who come out insensitive, often feel the deepest emotions within.
5. Do not \_\_\_\_\_ by laughing at my expense!
5. By putting the vegetables and pot-roast in the oven together, you are essentially \_\_\_\_\_.

# Exercises-Part III

Form sentences of your own using all or at-least seven of the idiomatic expressions covered in this presentation.



"That's 3 votes for 'When Hell Freezes Over'...  
now, a show of hands for 'When Pigs Fly'."