

American English Idioms

| Idiom | Meaning |
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| 1. She is a peach. | 1. She's sweet and helpful. |
| 2. He's full of beans. | 2. He's not telling the truth. |
| 3. It's not my cup of tea. | 3. I don't care for that. |
| 4. He's full of baloney. | 4. He doesn't know what he's talking about. |
| 5. It's just sour grapes. | 5. They have resentment. |
| 6. That's corny. | 6. It's sentimental. |
| 7. I'm in a pickle. | 7. I'm in a dilemma. |
| 8. He brings home the bacon. | 8. He brings home the family money. |
| 9. She's in a stew. | 9. She's upset. |
| 10. He's the top banana. | 10. He's the headman. |
| 11. He's the salt of the earth. | 11. He's a very good person. |
| 12. She's worth her salt. | 12. She's a valuable employee. |
| 13. They're two peas in a pod. | 13. If you see one you see the other. |
| 14. I'm nuts about you. | 14. I'm in love with you. |
| 15. It's a piece of cake. | 15. It's quite simple. |
| 16. You can't have your cake and eat it too. | 16. You can't use it and save it. |
| 17. He's a real ham. | 17. He's a frustrated actor. |
| 18. It's a hard nut to crack. | 18. It's a difficult problem to solve. |
| 19. Let's talk turkey. | 19. Let's talk seriously. |
| 20. He's a bad egg. | 20. He cannot be trusted. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|--|---|
| 21. We need to break the ice. | 21. Everyone's a little tense - lets be friendly. |
| 22. We'll get a baker's dozen. | 22. We'll get items. |
| 23. He's got a finger in every pie. | 23. He has many deals going. |
| 24. You'll have to take potluck. | 24. Be happy with what we have on hand. |
| 25. She's hard-boiled. | 25. She makes tough deals. |
| 26. He's the apple of my eye. | 26. He's my favorite person. |
| 27. He's a rotten egg. | 27. He is a thoroughly evil person. |
| 28. It's for the birds. | 28. It's a crazy idea. |
| 29. She eats like a bird. | 29. She eats little or nothing. |
| 30. He's a wolf in sheep's clothing. | 30. He's a bad guy pretending to be good. |
| 31. I smell a rat. | 31. Someone has betrayed us. |
| 32. He's chicken-hearted. | 32. He has no courage. |
| 33. I could eat a horse. | 33. I'm extremely hungry. |
| 34. Please don't monkey around. | 34. Get serious and stop playing. |
| 35. We'll kill two birds with one stone. | 35. One solution solves two problems. |
| 36. It's three miles as the crow flies. | 36. It's three miles going straight. |
| 37. Don't cry wolf. | 37. Don't give a false alarm. |
| 38. It has dog-eared pages. | 38. It's a well-used popular book. |
| 39. He's the underdog. | 39. He's not the favorite to win. |
| 40. She's like a fish out of water. | 40. She is not in her area of expertise. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|--|---|
| 41. You'll stir up a hornet's nest. | 41. You'll cause a great deal of new problems. |
| 42. Don't let him get your goat. | 42. Don't let him get you upset. |
| 43. Don't make a mountain out of a molehill. | 43. Don't make big of something insignificant. |
| 44. They are packed like sardines. | 44. There is absolutely no room for even one more. |
| 45. We got a bird's eye view. | 45. We had a very good viewpoint from on high. |
| 46. We're on a wild-goose chase. | 46. We were chasing something that didn't exist. |
| 47. It's raining cats and dogs. | 47. It is the heaviest rain I have ever seen. |
| 48. It's just monkey business. | 48. The business is either his own business or fake. |
| 49. He'll weasel out. | 49. He'll back out of all agreements. |
| 50. She'll go ape. | 50. She'll become very upset. |
| 51. Let's talk turkey. | 51. Let's begin to talk seriously. |
| 52. Don't let the cat out of the bag. | 52. Don't tell our secret. |
| 53. Those are crocodile tears. | 53. Those are false tears. |
| 54. He's a card shark. | 54. He is a professional card player. |
| 55. We had a whale of a time. | 55. We had a great time. |
| 56. He drinks like a fish. | 56. He is a heavy alcohol drinker. |
| 57. I've got a frog in my throat. | 57. I need to clear my throat in order to talk right. |
| 58. He rolled snake eyes. | 58. His dice had two ones. |
| 59. She's pig-headed. | 59. She is very stubborn. |
| 60. It sounds fishy. | 60. It doesn't sound like it's true. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|---|---|
| 61. Don't make a hog of yourself. | 61. Don't take more than your share. |
| 62. Quit horsing around. | 62. Stop being silly and get serious. |
| 63. He's a rat. | 63. He is not to be trusted. |
| 64. He ratted on me. | 64. He informed others about my secrets. |
| 65. She is a stool pigeon. | 65. She informs on everybody. |
| 66. I can't make heads or tails of it. | 66. She is a tough old lady. |
| 67. She's no spring chicken. | 67. I can't understand what you are talking about. |
| 68. She lost her head. | 68. She did something crazy. |
| 69. He can't keep his head above water. | 69. He's too busy with many things. |
| 70. That's just off the top of my head. | 70. Here's an idea without too much thought. |
| 71. She's got her head in the clouds. | 71. Her ideas are not practical. |
| 72. She's levelheaded. | 72. She's always has good practical ideas. |
| 73. He's head over heels in love. | 73. He's so in love he doesn't care about anything. |
| 74. It just goes through my head. | 74. I can't seem to concentrate. |
| 75. You've got rocks in your head. | 75. Your ideas are not realistic. |
| 76. Let's put our heads together. | 76. Let's share ideas. |
| 77. Use your head. | 77. Start thinking about a solution. |
| 78. Her hair will be standing on end. | 78. This solution will distress her greatly. |
| 79. She's up to her head in work. | 79. She has too much to do right now. |
| 80. He's at it tooth and nail. | 80. He's gives the problem all his attention. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|---|--|
| 81. I've got a lump in my throat. | 81. I am emotionally involved and distressed. |
| 82. You'd better save your neck. | 82. You must survive this situation. |
| 83. You better turn the other cheek. | 83. Don't let what they say bother you! |
| 84. Just swallow your pride. | 84. Forget your pride and solve the problem. |
| 85. My lips are sealed. | 85. I will never reveal the secret. |
| 86. It's a slap in the face. | 86. That is an insult to me. |
| 87. You can talk until you're blue in the face. | 87. They aren't listening to you. |
| 88. You must face the music. | 88. Admit your error - solve it and go on. |
| 89. He can't keep a straight face. | 89. Try to keep from laughing at them. |
| 90. He'll fall flat on his face. | 90. He will fail on this thing. |
| 91. That will blow my mind. | 91. I will be totally surprised. |
| 92. I want to pick your brains. | 92. I need and want some ideas from you. |
| 93. He gave me a piece of his mind. | 93. He scolded me for my deficiencies. |
| 94. You get on my nerves. | 94. What you do or say often irritates me. |
| 95. That'll boggle your mind. | 95. This will absolutely amaze you. |
| 96. You've got to get up your nerve. | 96. Don't be afraid of trying something. |
| 97. Don't just shoot off your mouth. | 97. Wait and speak when you've thought about it. |
| 98. Her spirits are low. | 98. She's down in the mouth. |
| 99. Watch your mouth! | 99. You've said something offensive. |
| 100. He put his foot in his mouth. | 100. He said something very stupid. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|---|--|
| 101. She's got a big mouth. | 101. She talks too much and says the wrong things. |
| 102. It's just hand to mouth. | 102. It is a very low cost project. |
| 103. Keep a stiff upper lip. | 103. Keep trying and you can succeed. |
| 104. It makes my mouth water. | 104. I think that is a very attractive idea. |
| 105. It was by word of mouth. | 105. I was told in person. |
| 106. It leaves a bad taste in my mouth. | 106. I don't feel comfortable with that idea. |
| 107. It will melt in your mouth. | 107. You will like this idea. |
| 108. You can save your breath. | 108. They don't listen - they're not open to anything. |
| 109. She takes my breath away. | 109. She's the most wonderful creature I've ever seen. |
| 110. I did it by the skin of my teeth. | 110. I just barely got the job done. |
| 111. It's on the tip of my tongue. | 111. I know it - I just can't say it now. |
| 112. You'll eat your words. | 112. Any thing you say may come back to haunt you. |
| 113. She's got a sharp tongue. | 113. Her words are like a sword - they can hurt. |
| 114. It's my mother tongue. | 114. It is my native language. |
| 115. It was a slip of the tongue. | 115. I didn't intend to say that. |
| 116. He said it tongue in cheek. | 116. He was kidding when he said that. |
| 117. She's tongue-tied. | 117. She's so excited she can't speak. |
| 118. I only have eyes for you. | 118. You are the object of my affection. |
| 119. I never want to lay eyes on you. | 119. Go! I never want to see you again. |
| 120. I've got my eye on you. | 120. I'm watching you - one mistake and you're gone. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|--|--|
| 121. He's making eyes at her. | 121. He is flirting with her. |
| 122. That'll make your eyes pop. | 122. You will be really surprised when this happens. |
| 123. I can't believe my eyes. | 123. What I am seeing is hard to believe. |
| 124. There's more than meets the eye. | 124. You are not telling me all the facts. |
| 125. She's a sight for sore eyes. | 125. We're very happy to see her - we need her. |
| 126. You need to catch his eye. | 126. You must get his attention. |
| 127. His eyes are bigger than his stomach. | 127. He takes more food than he can eat. |
| 128. Feast your eyes on that. | 128. Isn't that a wonderful thing we have here? |
| 129. She will pull the wool over his eyes. | 129. She will fool him every time. |
| 130. It's a highbrow place. | 130. It is a very high-class place. |
| 131. You'll pay through the nose. | 131. It's extremely costly to do that. |
| 132. Don't turn up your nose at me. | 132. Don't think you are better than I am. |
| 133. She's got a nose for news. | 133. She can get a story from almost nothing. |
| 134. She won by a nose. | 134. It was a very close race. |
| 135. You need to lead them by the nose. | 135. You have to tell them every single detail. |
| 136. Keep your nose clean. | 136. Be honest and ethical. |
| 137. It's nothing to sneeze at. | 137. It is a good offer. |
| 138. It's under your nose. | 138. It's right there in front of you. |
| 139. She won by a hair. | 139. She won by just a tiny bit. |
| 140. I'm all ears. | 140. I am listening with great interest. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|---|--|
| 141. It was an ear-splitting sound. | 141. The noise hurt my ears. |
| 142. It goes in one ear and out the other. | 142. He doesn't listen to anyone. |
| 143. Keep your ear to the ground. | 143. Listen everywhere to find what is going on. |
| 144. You'd better prick up your ears. | 144. Pay attention to what is happening. |
| 145. She can wind him around her little finger. | 145. She can manipulate him to do what she wants. |
| 146. He's got a finger in every pie. | 146. He is trying every possible way. |
| 147. My hands are tied. | 147. There is nothing I can do because of regulations. |
| 148. Please lend me a hand. | 148. Help him with this. |
| 149. Give him a hand. | 149. Clap your hand in appreciation. |
| 150. Give him a hand. | 150. Help him. |
| 151. He's got a green thumb. | 151. He is good at gardening. |
| 152. I'm all thumbs. | 152. I am very clumsy. |
| 153. I've got it all at my fingertips. | 153. I have all the right information. |
| 154. He's an old hand. | 154. He has lots of experience at that. |
| 155. She's got her hands full. | 155. She has more things to do than she can handle. |
| 156. I wash my hands of it all. | 156. I want no part of this thing. |
| 157. He was caught red-handed. | 157. He was caught in the act of a crime. |
| 158. Don't let it slip through your fingers. | 158. Don't let this good customer get away. |
| 159. You must get the upper hand. | 159. Get an advantage on your competitor. |
| 160. He's up in arms about it. | 160. He has gotten upset about something. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|--|---|
| 161. I only got hand-me-downs. | 161. What I got was all second-hand stuff. |
| 162. I've got to hand it to you. | 162. I admire what you have done. |
| 163. It's hands off to you. | 163. You are not to do any work on this item. |
| 164. Try to thumb a ride. | 164. Beg for a ride. |
| 165. We are short-handed. | 165. I need your help. |
| 166. You must toe the line. | 166. Everyone must follow all the rules. |
| 167. He's got cold feet. | 167. He's frightened and doesn't think he can do it. |
| 168. He's a heel. | 168. He does not act like a gentleman with ladies. |
| 169. You better shake a leg. | 169. You need to work faster. |
| 170. She's pulling my leg. | 170. She is trying to trick or fool me. |
| 171. You'll foot the bill. | 171. You will have to pay the entire cost. |
| 172. You'll have to put your foot down. | 172. You'll need to assert yourself - be more forceful. |
| 173. You don't have a leg to stand on. | 173. You are not secure in your position. |
| 174. You've got to put your best foot forward. | 174. Go with the best idea that you have. |
| 175. Don't drag your feet. | 175. Don't delay - get to work. |
| 176. You've got to get a foot in the door. | 176. You must get the customers attention. |
| 177. The shoe is on the other foot now. | 177. Now they have the problem not us. |
| 178. You'll step on her toes. | 178. You'll be moving in on her territory. |
| 179. He's got a chip on his shoulder. | 179. He is looking for an excuse to fight. |
| 180. She gave him the cold shoulder. | 180. She is trying to get him to leave her alone. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|--|---|
| 181. Get off my back! | 181. Leave me alone and let me get to work. |
| 182. Get it off your chest. | 182. Tell me exactly what is bothering you. |
| 183. I need some elbowroom. | 183. We are too crowded in this office. |
| 184. He's a thorn in my side. | 184. Everything he does irritates me. |
| 185. Don't turn your back on her. | 185. She can't be trusted. |
| 186. He turns my stomach. | 186. He totally disgusts me. |
| 187. I've got butterflies in my stomach. | 187. I'm very nervous about this deal. |
| 188. She can't stomach it. | 188. She thinks this deal is too rotten to do. |
| 189. He's lily-livered. | 189. He too much a coward to do it. |
| 190. She makes my flesh creep. | 190. She is extremely revolting in her attitude. |
| 191. She's a busybody. | 191. She pays attention to everybody else's business. |
| 192. We need a heart to heart talk. | 192. We need to talk confidentially. |
| 193. You need to learn this by heart. | 193. You need to know this stuff well. |
| 194. Please! Have a heart. | 194. Get some feelings about being nice. |
| 195. My heart is in my mouth. | 195. I'm extremely nervous about this deal. |
| 196. Don't take it to heart. | 196. Don't take this personally - it's just business. |
| 197. She's a hard-hearted woman. | 197. She has no compassion for anyone. |
| 198. She's got a heart of stone. | 198. She makes decisions without regard to people. |
| 199. Eat your heart out. | 199. You are envious of my success. |
| 200. You'll break my heart. | 200. I'll be disappointed about this. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
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| 201. He's our ace in the hole. | 201. When all else fails - he will save us. |
| 202. He's a stuffed shirt. | 202. He is very pretentious. |
| 203. We are ahead of the game. | 203. Right now we are profitable. |
| 204. They're all shook up. | 204. They are upset that we are winning. |
| 205. They're all washed up. | 205. They have been defeated. |
| 206. He's asleep at the switch. | 206. He's not alert to what is going on. |
| 207. He'll do after a fashion. | 207. He'll learn to do better but not well. |
| 208. She's a back seat driver. | 208. She always will criticize any idea. |
| 209. He's a ball of fire. | 209. He's one of best workers. |
| 210. You're barking up the wrong tree. | 210. You have totally the wrong approach. |
| 211. His bark is worse than his bite. | 211. He yells but he doesn't mean anything by it. |
| 212. You've got bats in your belfry. | 212. You are crazy and have ridiculous ideas. |
| 213. She will bawl him out. | 213. She will verbally discipline him. |
| 214. Don't beat around the bush. | 214. Stop talking in circles - speak directly. |
| 215. Beat it. | 215. Go away! |
| 216. I need my beauty sleep. | 216. I need to sleep. |
| 217. It's no bed of roses. | 217. This will not be easy. |
| 218. I'm behind the eight ball. | 218. I am in trouble with the boss. |
| 219. He's beside himself with misery. | 219. He is extremely miserable. |
| 220. It's better late than never. | 220. Being late is bad but it's better than never. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|---|--|
| 221. He's the big cheese. | 221. He is the headman. |
| 222. He's the big wheel. | 222. He's the big boss. |
| 223. He's the big shot. | 223. He is an important man. |
| 224. Don't bite off more than you can chew. | 224. Don't try to do more than you can accomplish. |
| 225. Don't bite the hand than feeds you. | 225. Be loyal to your company that pays you. |
| 226. He'll soon bite the dust. | 226. He soon will be found out and lose. |
| 227. Don't blow your top. | 227. Stay calm. |
| 228. Don't blow your cool. | 228. Remain calm and collected. |
| 229. I've got a bone to pick with you. | 229. You've something that is a problem to me. |
| 230. You should brush up on it. | 230. You need to study and learn this. |
| 231. You need to build a fire under them. | 231. They need to be motivated. |
| 232. You'll need to burn the midnight oil. | 232. You will have to work overtime. |
| 233. Don't break your word. | 233. Do what you have promised. |
| 234. We need to break the news. | 234. We need to tell them the bad news. |
| 235. Let's bury the hatchet. | 235. Let's forget our old fights and hatreds. |
| 236. We won by a hair. | 236. We won a very close victory. |
| 237. By hook or crook we'll do it. | 237. We'll do it whatever it takes. |
| 238. Let's call it a day. | 238. That's enough work for today. |
| 239. Let's call it quits. | 239. Let's stop for now. |
| 240. You call the shots. | 240. You make the decisions. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
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| 241. It's a can of worms. | 241. That is a big bunch of problems. |
| 242. I ride in a car pool. | 242. A group of us ride to work together. |
| 243. Don't chicken out on us. | 243. Don't get scared and leave. |
| 244. He's a chip off the old block. | 244. He is just like his dad. |
| 245. We need to cut our losses. | 245. We must withdraw form a losing situation. |
| 246. You've cooked your own goose. | 246. You are in a problem of your own making. |
| 247. You make me crack up. | 247. I find you extremely funny. |
| 248. You need to crack a book. | 248. Open up a book and learn something. |
| 249. You need to crack a joke. | 249. Don't be so serious all the time. |
| 250. It cramps my style. | 250. You have put too many limits on me. |
| 251. He's the cream of the crop. | 251. He is the best there is. |
| 252. Don't cut corners. | 252. Follow all of the rules. |
| 253. It's a cut and dried situation. | 253. There are no changes or discussions - just do it. |
| 254. We're at a dead stop. | 254. We can't do anything right now. |
| 255. He's dead to the world. | 255. He is so tired he can't function. |
| 256. It will soon die out. | 256. That problem will be gone soon. |
| 257. They're a dime a dozen. | 257. They aren't worth anything. |
| 258. Watch him do a double take. | 258. He will gasp when he sees this. |
| 259. She's down in the dumps. | 259. She is very depressed. |
| 260. She got a dose of her own medicine. | 260. She got just the trouble that she gives others. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
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| 261. Well that's down the drain. | 261. We have completely lost everything on this. |
| 262. That's all down the tubes. | 262. We have totally lost everything on this. |
| 263. Don't drag your feet on this. | 263. Get working and stop the delaying. |
| 264. I'm drawing a blank. | 264. I don't have any idea on this. |
| 265. We need to draw the line here. | 265. We make no more concessions. |
| 266. He drives a hard bargain. | 266. He makes it tough to make much of a profit. |
| 267. It's just a drop in the bucket. | 267. That is just the beginning of the problems. |
| 268. She eats like a bird. | 268. She just picks at her food. |
| 269. She eats like a horse. | 269. She eats like a hungry man. |
| 270. He's at the end of his rope. | 270. He is just about out of ideas and energy. |
| 271. I feel like a million dollars. | 271. I feel wonderful. |
| 272. Finders keepers - losers weepers. | 272. The finders are happy - the losers unhappy. |
| 273. It will fit like a glove. | 273. The two situations work well together |
| 274. They're going to flip their lid. | 274. They are going to be extremely unhappy. . |
| 275. He will fly off the handle. | 275. He will be very upset. |
| 276. Don't fool around with that. | 276. Leave that situation alone. |
| 277. It's a foolproof scheme. | 277. This idea is sure to succeed. |
| 278. This is for keeps. | 278. This is it - no changes - no getting out. |
| 279. You'll need to fork out some dough. | 279. You will have to pay some cash. |
| 280. He's out getting forty winks. | 280. He is taking a quick nap. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|---|--|
| 281. Can they get away with that? | 281. Will they be able to do that without trouble? |
| 282. Let's get down to brass tacks. | 282. Let's do some serious talking. |
| 283. I'll get even. | 283. I will return the bad you did to me. |
| 284. Get off my back. | 284. Stop bothering me and let me do my work. |
| 285. Let's get the ball rolling. | 285. Let's start the work on this. |
| 286. We'll get to the bottom of it. | 286. We will find out exactly what is the problem. |
| 287. He got out of the bed on the wrong side. | 287. The day started bad and hasn't gotten any better. |
| 288. He doesn't have a ghost of a chance. | 288. There is no way he can succeed. |
| 289. He's giving me a hard time. | 289. He is teasing me about that. |
| 290. Give him an inch and he'll take a mile. | 290. Give a little and he takes a lot. |
| 291. Don't give yourself away. | 291. Don't let them know what is your plan. |
| 292. They'll have to give up the ghost. | 292. They will have to give up trying. |
| 293. He's a real globetrotter. | 293. He travels all over the world. |
| 294. They just go around in circles. | 294. They go in all directions without any success. |
| 295. They will go into orbit. | 295. They will be very upset. |
| 296. They can just go jump in a lake. | 296. If they don't like it - too bad. |
| 297. Don't go off the deep end. | 297. Don't go to extremes on this. |
| 298. Grass is greener on the other side of the fence. | 298. Other things always look easier. |
| 299. Just grin and bear it. | 299. Forget the problems - keep working. |
| 300. They often just ham it up. | 300. They like to get very dramatic. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|---|---|
| 301. You must hang in there. | 301. Keep trying. |
| 302. She has a lot of hang-ups. | 302. She has a lot of irrational objections. |
| 303. I can see the handwriting on the wall. | 303. I can sense the mood of people. |
| 304. Go and have a ball. | 304. Go and enjoy yourself. |
| 305. We will have the last laugh. | 305. They are winning now but in the end we will win. |
| 306. Hold on to your hat. | 306. Be patient. |
| 307. Hold on to your horses. (Hold your horses) | 307. Don't get too excited. |
| 308. Have your own way. | 308. OK! Do what you want. |
| 309. You've got two strikes against you. | 309. One more mistake and you are out! |
| 310. He's got one foot in the grave. | 310. He is too old. |
| 311. We had a high time. | 311. We had a good time. |
| 312. You hit the nail on the head. | 312. That is exactly the situation. |
| 313. They will hit the ceiling. | 313. They will be extremely upset. |
| 314. That is a hit below the belt. | 314. That is not playing fair or honest. |
| 315. I'm going to hit the sack. | 315. I'm going to bed. |
| 316. She's going to hit the hay. | 316. She is going to bed. |
| 317. That just won't hold water. | 317. That idea just won't work. |
| 318. He can't hold down a job. | 318. He has lost every job he ever had. |
| 319. Don't horse around. | 319. Don't play around - be serious. |
| 320. Keep them in the dark. | 320. Don't let them know what is going on. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|---|--|
| 321. That's it in a nutshell. | 321. That is a short summary of the situation. |
| 322. She's often in my hair. | 322. She is often in my way. |
| 323. We've got one thing in the hole. | 323. One thing is on our side. |
| 324. They are in the same boat. | 324. We both have the same problem. |
| 325. We are in full swing now. | 325. We are all working full time on this. |
| 326. We have more irons in the fire. | 326. We have many other things to do. |
| 327. He's a jack-of-all-trades. | 327. He has many talents. |
| 328. Don't jump down my throat. | 328. Don't criticize me so severely. |
| 329. It's just what the doctor ordered. | 329. That is an excellent solution. |
| 330. You keep the ball rolling. | 330. Keep up your good efforts. |
| 331. Now keep that under your hat. | 331. Don't tell this to anyone. |
| 332. You keep plugging away. | 332. Keep working to solve this. |
| 333. That's a kick in the pants. | 333. That is a good encouragement. |
| 334. Knock it off! | 334. Stop doing that! |
| 335. He's about to kick the bucket. | 335. He is about to die. |
| 336. He knows the ropes. | 336. He knows what he is doing. |
| 337. That is the last straw. | 337. He has made one error too many. |
| 338. You need to let off some steam. | 338. Don't contain all your anger. |
| 339. Don't lie down on the job. | 339. Keep working - don't slow down. |
| 340. She is a long shot to win. | 340. She is not the most likely winner. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|--|--|
| 341. He's a long-winded talker. | 341. He talks and talks. |
| 342. She looked daggers at him. | 342. She gave him a look of disapproval. |
| 343. Don't look down on them. | 343. Don't think you are better than they are. |
| 344. You'll lose your shirt doing that. | 344. You will lose everything. |
| 345. That is a lost cause. | 345. You cannot succeed. |
| 346. We'll lower the boom on them. | 346. We will soundly defeat them. |
| 347. That'll make the fur fly. | 347. That will get their attention. |
| 348. She can't make ends meet. | 348. She spends more than she makes. |
| 349. Make yourself at home. | 349. Act as if this was your home. |
| 350. He's a man of his word. | 350. He always keeps promises. |
| 351. It's a matter of life and death. | 351. This is a very serious situation. |
| 352. Your name is mud. | 352. You will be thought of as a loser. |
| 353. It's like looking for a needle in a haystack. | 353. It is a difficult thing to find. |
| 354. She's an old flame. | 354. She's a past girlfriend. |
| 355. It happens once in a blue moon. | 355. It will never happen. |
| 356. It's on the house. | 356. You do not need to pay for it. |
| 357. Be on the lookout for her. | 357. Watch for her. |
| 358. He's on the bandwagon. | 358. He has joined our side of the argument. |
| 359. She's on the ball. | 359. She is very perceptive. |
| 360. He's out of date. | 360. He is living in the past. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|--|---|
| 361. That is out of the question. | 361. That idea is not acceptable. |
| 362. Don't go out on a limb. | 362. Don't make any commitments on that. |
| 363. We'll paint the town red. | 363. We will go out to party. |
| 364. He'll just pass the buck. | 364. He will blame someone else. |
| 365. He passed out at the party. | 365. He was so drunk he lost consciousness. |
| 366. A penny for your thoughts. | 366. What were you thinking just now? |
| 367. He'll just pick a fight. | 367. He will provoke you into a fight. |
| 368. I'm on pins and needles waiting. | 368. I'm anxious to find out something. |
| 369. We won't play second fiddle to them. | 369. We will not be in second place. |
| 370. You've got to pull yourself together. | 370. Get organized and not so emotional. |
| 371. He'd pinch pennies. | 371. He is too careful with money. |
| 372. It's just a play on words. | 372. The meaning is not what the words say. |
| 373. Everybody must pitch in. | 373. All must help. |
| 374. We'll polish them off. | 374. We will defeat them all. |
| 375. Will you pop the question? | 375. Will you ask her to marry you? |
| 376. He's an apple polisher. | 376. He tries to hard to please the boss. |
| 377. I can pull strings. | 377. I have some connections with the right people. |
| 378. It's just puppy love. | 378. It is just infatuation. |
| 379. Put on your thinking cap. | 379. Give this some serious thought. |
| 380. Let's put your cards on the table. | 380. Let's be honest with each other. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|--|--|
| 381. You put the cart before the horse. | 381. Put first things first. |
| 382. That will put a feather in his cap. | 382. This will be a credit to him. |
| 383. Don't put all your eggs in one basket. | 383. Don't depend on just one thing. |
| 384. It's raining cats and dogs. | 384. It is a heavy rain. |
| 385. You've got to read between the lines. | 385. Look at what they mean not what they say. |
| 386. That rings the bell. | 386. Now I remember. |
| 387. Don't rob the cradle. | 387. She's too young for you. |
| 388. He'll just rock the boat. | 388. He will get everyone upset. |
| 389. We've got lots of red tape. | 389. All the government regulations are difficult. |
| 390. It's just a rip off. | 390. They will cheat you. |
| 391. He rubs me the wrong way. | 391. I do not like his attitude. |
| 392. As a rule of thumb I refuse. | 392. Generally I refuse. |
| 393. It's pretty run down. | 393. It is in bad condition. |
| 394. He needs a security blanket. | 394. He always needs reassurance. |
| 395. Seeing is believing. | 395. I only believe what I can see. |
| 396. That'll separate the men from the boys. | 396. We will find out who is serious. |
| 397. You've got them shaking in their boots. | 397. They are afraid now. |
| 398. You'll have to sink or swim. | 398. It will be win all or lose all now. |
| 399. We are sitting pretty. | 399. We are in a good position. |
| 400. She slays me with that nonsense. | 400. She disgusts me with those silly ideas. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|--|---|
| 401. Everything is ship shape. | 401. Everything is in good order. |
| 402. Why don't you sleep on it? | 402. Think about it tonight - let me know tomorrow. |
| 403. We just made small talk. | 403. We didn't talk about anything serious. |
| 404. Go ahead and sound off. | 404. Say what you think. |
| 405. He's spaced out. | 405. He is on drugs. |
| 406. It will spread like wildfire. | 406. This idea will be very popular. |
| 407. They have stacked the deck. | 407. We are not playing under even conditions. |
| 408. They have stacked the cards. | 408. They have cheated us to their advantage. |
| 409. We will need to start from scratch. | 409. We need to start at the beginning. |
| 410. I don't want to steal his thunder. | 410. I will let him break the good news. |
| 411. She tried to steal the spotlight. | 411. She wants undeserved attention. |
| 412. You must stick to your guns on that. | 412. Your idea is good - stay with it. |
| 413. He's just a stick-in-the-mud. | 413. He is too old fashioned. |
| 414. You won't strike it rich. | 414. This idea won't make you rich. |
| 415. You need to strike while the iron is hot. | 415. Do it while the opportunity is right. |
| 416. We won't take a back seat to them. | 416. We won't be in second place to them. |
| 417. We're in the driving seat. | 417. We control the situation. |
| 428. Our new project will soon take off. | 428. It will be a great success. |
| 419. You have to take your medicine. | 419. If you did wrong you must pay. |
| 420. You can take the floor. | 420. It is your turn - speak. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|--|---|
| 421. You run with it. | 421. The project is yours to make it a success. |
| 422. Take your hat off to no one. | 422. You are as good as anyone else. |
| 423. We won't take sides. | 423. We will be neutral on this. |
| 424. That is a tall story. | 424. I don't believe your explanation. |
| 425. We'll throw the book at them. | 425. If they did wrong they must pay. |
| 426. We will throw in the towel. | 426. We give up. |
| 427. We'll throw in the sponge. | 427. We give up. |
| 428. We'll throw a party. | 428. We will have a party. |
| 429. She'll throw a fit. | 429. She will be extremely upset. |
| 430. We'll hold them to the letter. | 430. They will have to follow all the rules. |
| 431. Remember that time marches on. | 431. You are wasting time. |
| 432. I think they will tie the knot. | 432. They will get married. |
| 433. We're tickled to death about it. | 433. We are very pleased. |
| 434. We had the time of our life. | 434. We had a good time. |
| 435. It will be touch and go for a while. | 435. We won't know if we succeed or fail. |
| 436. We will need to touch up things. | 436. We need to solve some little problems. |
| 437. It will be to the tune of a million. | 437. It will cost about a million dollars. |
| 438. It's part of the tricks of the trade. | 438. It is one of my secret solutions. |
| 439. It's time to turn in. | 439. It's time to go to sleep. |
| 440. We will turn the tables on them. | 440. We will reverse the situation. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|---|--|
| 441. She had better turn over a new leaf. | 441. She needs to change her ways. |
| 442. He's got me turned on. | 442. He has me excited about that. |
| 443. Don't just twiddle your thumbs. | 443. Get to work! |
| 444. I put her under your wings. | 444. She will report to you. |
| 445. He is up to something. | 445. He is doing something secretly. |
| 446. Don't get up in arms. | 446. There is no need to get excited or upset. |
| 447. He'll upstage us. | 447. He'll do better than us. |
| 448. We won't wait on them. | 448. We are going ahead and not wait for them. |
| 449. They'll walk all over you. | 449. They will take advantage of you. |
| 450. He's walking on air. | 450. He is really excited. |
| 451. You're walking on thin ice. | 451. You may fail at any moment. |
| 452. He will just warm the bench. | 452. He will sit by while we work. |
| 453. Don't wash your dirty linen in public. | 453. Don't tell your bad points to others. |
| 454. You'll just be wasting your breath. | 454. Don't bother, they won't listen. |
| 455. The wear and tear will defeat us. | 455. The effort is not worth the rewards. |
| 456. You'll wear out your welcome. | 456. Don't stay too long. |
| 457. I'll pay you when my ship comes in. | 457. When I get rich I'll pay you. |
| 458. We just have to weather the storm. | 458. Keep working in rough times. |
| 459. I can see the writing on the wall. | 459. I can sense that thing may be bad. |
| 460. Let's wind up this problem. | 460. We need to finish this. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|--|--|
| 461. We will agree word for word. | 461. We agree exactly. |
| 462. Just a word to the wise - Shut up! | 462. Listen to me! |
| 463. You just zip your lip. | 463. Stop talking so much. |
| 464. Keep your shirt on. | 464. Don't get so impatient. |
| 465. They are pulling your leg. | 465. They are playing a trick on you. |
| 466. She is rolling in the dough. | 466. She has lots of money. |
| 467. He's stinking rich. | 467. He's very wealthy. |
| 468. We'll make him the fall guy. | 468. We will put the blame on him. |
| 469. He will take the rap. | 469. He will be the guilty one. |
| 470. It's a bum rap. | 470. He is innocent. |
| 471. You need to bend over backwards. | 471. You need to try very hard. |
| 472. You need to bite the bullet. | 472. You need to endure a difficult situation. |
| 473. They will bite the dust. | 473. They will go down to defeat. |
| 474. Has the cat got your tongue? | 474. Can't you talk? |
| 475. They will have to cough up the money. | 475. They will have to willingly come up with money. |
| 476. It's different strokes for different folks. | 476. Everyone has different interests and tastes. |
| 477. She's dressed to kill. | 477. She's wearing her finest clothes. |
| 478. He's driving me up the wall. | 478. He is annoying me greatly. |
| 479. That's duck soup. | 479. That is very easy. |
| 480. What is eating you? | 480. What is annoying you? |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|---|--|
| 481. Someone is feeding you a line. | 481. Someone is deceiving you. |
| 482. We can get it for a song. | 482. We can get it for very little money. |
| 483. We can get away clean. | 483. We can escape punishment. |
| 484. Don't get in her hair. | 484. Don't bother her. |
| 485. She will get the ax. | 485. She will be fired. |
| 486. We need to get the jump on them. | 486. We need to get an advantage on them. |
| 487. You should give it your best shot. | 487. You should try your hardest. |
| 488. We will give them the slip. | 488. We will escape. |
| 489. He will go to bat for you. | 489. He will support you all the way. |
| 490. She is going to the dogs. | 490. She is becoming rundown. |
| 491. She's got the world by the tail. | 491. She's happy and successful. |
| 492. That's a horse of a different color. | 492. That's an entirely different situation. |
| 493. If the shoe fits - wear it. | 493. If you are wrong admit it. |
| 494. Don't jump the gun. | 494. Don't be hasty. |
| 495. Let's kick up our heels. | 495. Let's celebrate. |
| 496. This will knock their socks off. | 496. This will enthuse and excite them. |
| 497. We won't leave them high and dry. | 497. We won't abandon them. |
| 498. It is a lemon. | 498. It is defective. |
| 499. We need to make a splash. | 499. We need to be successful and get their attention. |
| 500. Money talks. | 500. Money can influence people. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|---|---|
| 501. They don't have a leg to stand on. | 501. They have no defense for their actions. |
| 502. We'll put that on ice. | 502. We'll save that one for the future. |
| 503. We are not out of the woods. | 503. We are not out of danger. |
| 504. He is on his last legs. | 504. He is sick and failing fast. |
| 505. We will play this one by ear. | 505. We will improvise as we go along. |
| 506. Put your money where your mouth is. | 506. You must follow through with what you say. |
| 507. They will raise a stink. | 507. They will protest strongly. |
| 508. We will have to scratch their back. | 508. We will have to do them a favor. |
| 509. They will sell you down the river. | 509. They will betray you. |
| 510. Don't sell them short. | 510. Don't underestimate them. |
| 511. You must shape up or ship out. | 511. You must behave or leave. |
| 512. Let's just shoot the breeze. | 512. Let's just chat informally. |
| 513. We are sitting pretty. | 513. We are in a fortunate position. |
| 514. They gave us a snow job. | 514. It was insincere talk. |
| 515. Don't spill the beans. | 515. Don't reveal our secret. |
| 516. Don't spread yourself too thin. | 516. Don't become involved in too many things. |
| 517. Don't stick your neck out on this. | 517. Don't take too much risk. |
| 518. This is straight from the horse's mouth. | 518. It is from a reliable source. |
| 519. You must take the bull by the horns. | 519. You must take decisive action. |
| 520. You are talking through your hat. | 520. You are making foolish statements. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|---|---|
| 521. I said it tongue in cheek. | 521. I didn't say it seriously. |
| 522. What do they have up their sleeve? | 522. What facts have they concealed? |
| 523. She is a wet blanket. | 523. She's boring and spoils everyone's fun. |
| 524. She is tooting her own horn. | 524. She is boasting. |
| 525. Above all to thy own self be true. | 525. First be honest to yourself. |
| 526. After all's said and done, more is said than done. | 526. In the end there's more talk than action. |
| 527. He has fallen afoul of the law. | 527. He is in conflict with the law. |
| 528. It is all up in the air. | 528. It is not been decided. |
| 529. Be on the alert for danger. | 529. Watch for danger. |
| 530. That is up his alley. | 530. It is compatible with his ability. |
| 531. In that she stands alone. | 531. She is unequalled. |
| 532. They will be along soon. | 532. They will be here soon. |
| 533. I will be able to get along. | 533. I will be able to manage successfully. |
| 534. All along I knew they would fail. | 534. From the beginning I knew they would fail. |
| 535. That will cost you an arm and a leg. | 535. It will cost an extravagant amount. |
| 536. They welcomed us with open arms. | 536. They were very cordial. |
| 537. I will get around to it soon. | 537. I will be able to deal with it. |
| 538. It is sold as is. | 538. It's sold with no guarantees. |
| 539. Don't turn your back on them. | 539. Don't reject them. |
| 540. Don't go back on your word. | 540. Don't fail to keep your promise. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|---|---|
| 541. It is in the bag. | 541. We are assured of a successful outcome. |
| 542. They arrived bag and baggage. | 542. They arrived with all their belongings. |
| 543. Keep on the ball. | 543. Be alert, competent and efficient. |
| 544. He is off base. | 544. He is badly mistaken. |
| 545. Right off the bat they fought. | 545. Immediately they fought. |
| 546. We will go to bat for them. | 546. We will assist them. |
| 547. Bear in mind their finances. | 547. Remember their finances. |
| 548. We will need to tighten our belt. | 548. We must become thriftier. |
| 549. You bet we will go. | 549. Certainly we will go. |
| 550. Between you and me they won't do it. | 550. In strictest confidence, they won't do it. |
| 551. He is big on meat and potatoes. | 551. He likes meat and potatoes. |
| 552. We expect to make it big. | 552. We expect to be very successful. |
| 553. It will fill the bill. | 553. It will meet all our requirements. |
| 554. We did it bit by bit. | 554. We did it little by little. |
| 555. They will try to put the bite on us. | 555. They will try to borrow money from us. |
| 556. We are now in the black. | 556. We are now profitable. |
| 557. The company is on the block. | 557. The company is for sale. |
| 558. They are blowing hot and cold. | 558. They are changing their minds. |
| 559. He is just blowing off steam. | 559. He is just venting his anger. |
| 560. It came from out of the blue. | 560. It was totally unexpected. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|---|---|
| 561. The new changes are across the board. | 561. It will affect all divisions and groups. |
| 562. I feel it in my bones. | 562. I have a premonition about this. |
| 563. That is one for the books. | 563. That is something entirely new. |
| 564. He has been hitting the bottle. | 564. He has begun to drink (alcohol) to excess. |
| 565. That is out of bounds. | 565. That is beyond your limits. |
| 566. Don't burn the bridges behind you. | 566. Keep the possibility of retreat. |
| 567. He had money to burn. | 567. He had lots of money. |
| 568. We will go by and by. | 568. We will go in a little while. |
| 569. By and large they are honest. | 569. For the most part they are honest. |
| 570. That was a close call. | 570. It was a narrow escape. |
| 571. He burns the candle at both ends. | 571. He spends too much energy in all directions. |
| 572. She can't hold a candle to her friend. | 572. She is not nearly as good as her friend. |
| 573. Put your cards on the table. | 573. Be frank about your motives and intentions. |
| 574. He's got a card up his sleeve. | 574. He has a secret plan in reserve. |
| 575. It is just not in the cards. | 575. It is not likely to occur. |
| 576. Try to catch your breath. | 576. Rest so you can continue. |
| 577. We will chalk up that one to experience. | 577. We will credit that to experience. |
| 578. We chewed the fat for a short while. | 578. We talked casually for a while. |
| 579. Next week we will clean house. | 579. Next week we will get rid of anyone undesirable. |
| 580. You must come clean. | 580. You must confess your error. |

| Idiom | Meaning |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 581. She is in the clear. | 581. She is free from danger or suspicion. |
| 582. We need to clear the air. | 582. Let's ignore emotional tensions and differences. |
| 583. She has her head in the clouds. | 583. She is not in the real world. |
| 584. He killed her in cold blood. | 584. He killed her without any feeling, or remorse. |
| 585. He was left out in the cold. | 585. He got nothing. |
| 586. They were acting in concert. | 586. They were acting together. |
| 587. They left him to cool his heels. | 587. He was left waiting. |
| 588. They asked her to cool it. | 588. She was asked to calm down and relax. |
| 589. He tried to cut corners. I | 589. It's a dangerous, possibly illegal solution. |
| 590. We are up a creek. | 590. We are in a difficult or unfortunate position. |
| 591. She is bent out of shape. | 591. She is upset about something. |
| 592. I'm fed up with him. | 592. I have no patience with him. |
| 593. I'm flat broke. | 593. I have no money. |
| 594. She is a blabbermouth. | 594. She talks all the time. |
| 595. We are antsy about that. | 595. We are not confident about it. |
| 596. It will cost you a bundle. | 596. It will be quite expensive. |
| 597. Give it some elbow grease. | 597. You need to go to work. |
| 598. I'm beat. | 598. I am very tired. |
| 599. You need to cut that out. | 599. Stop doing that. |
| 600. It's as easy as pie. | 600. It is very simple. |