

OnlineInteractiveBooklet



Idioms2Booklet

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magazine

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Interactive Books: Idioms2

Introduction

Welcome to the Interactive Idioms booklet. Idioms are a complex but highly important area of language. Hot English has a unique approach to teaching them with five key features:

1 Key language

- The language in these booklets has been carefully-selected so you'll only learn the most useful Idioms.

2 Images

- The photos and illustrations will help you understand the Idioms by creating a link between the images and the idioms.

3 Audio files

- The recorded audio files will help you with the pronunciation of the idioms. Listening to the example sentences will also help you remember the idioms, especially if you hear them over and over again.

4 Topic areas

- The Idioms have been divided up into topic areas. This is good for you because by organising language, it's easier for you to memorise it.

5 Example sentences

- The example sentences will give you a clear example of how the idioms are used. Plus, they'll help you memorise the idioms. Remember, for effective learning, you should always learn language in phrases or sentences – never as individual words or expressions!

Idioms are a colourful, fun aspect of language. They're often used in both spoken and written English so it's important for you to be able to understand and recognise them. Idioms can also help you learn something about the culture of English-speaking countries as their origins are often based on the history, humour, cuisine, geography, psychology, ethics and values of a nation. Idioms can be used to add humour to your conversation, or can be used to convey subtle meanings. They're also often an effective means of summing up a mutually-understood situation or feeling.

We hope you enjoy learning these idioms!

How to use the material

- Before reading or listening to the material, look at the images. They'll help you understand the idioms. Later, you can refer to the pictures while you're reading and listening to the definitions and example sentences. This will also help you remember the language.
- Read and listen to the audio files. This will help you understand the language, remember it and hear how it's pronounced. Later, you can listen to the audio files on their own (without the text) while you're in the car, jogging in the park, lying on the sofa, walking in the street... This will really help you memorise the idioms.
- Listen and repeat the example sentences. This will help with your pronunciation of the language, and will also help you memorise it.

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Good luck, and we know you'll learn a lot with this booklet.

Thanks,

The Hot English Team.



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WORM IDIOMS

UNIT 1



Worm your way out of something

IF YOU "WORM YOUR WAY OUT OF SOMETHING", YOU MANAGE TO AVOID HAVING TO DO THAT THING. "She was supposed to come to work on Saturday morning, but she managed to worm her way out of it."



Worm your way into something / worm your way to a place

IF SOMEONE "WORMS THEMSELF INTO" A POSITION OF TRUST, THEY DO IT BY TRICKING PEOPLE OR MAKING PEOPLE BELIEVE THEY'RE HONEST. "He managed to worm his way to the top of the company."



Open up a can of worms

IF YOU "OPEN UP A CAN OF WORMS", YOU CREATE UNNECESSARY COMPLICATIONS OR PROBLEMS. "We offered to discuss working hours, but that just led to even more arguments and really opened up a can of worms."



The early bird catches the worm

IF YOU WANT TO BE SUCCESSFUL, YOU SHOULD DO SOMETHING IMMEDIATELY. "If you see an apartment you want that's advertised in the classified section of the newspaper, you should get in touch with them as soon as possible. As they say, the early bird catches the worm."



Bookworm

SOMEONE WHO LOVES READING BOOKS AND WHO READS ALL THE TIME.

"She's a real bookworm - she reads everything and anything whenever she can."



A worm's eye view

A VIEW OF SOMETHING FROM AN INFERIOR POSITION. IF YOU HAVE A "WORM'S EYE VIEW OF SOMETHING", YOU ONLY KNOW OR UNDERSTAND A PART OF IT. THE OPPOSITE IS A "BIRD'S-EYE VIEW".

"We've only got a worm's eye view of the situation. We need to speak to more people to get a better perspective."

ANIMAL IDIOMS IV UNIT 5



Have a Cow

TO BECOME VERY ANGRY OR UPSET ABOUT SOMETHING.

"I thought Jim was going to have a cow when I told him I'd lost his key."



Hit/score a bull's eye

IF YOU "SCORE A BULL'S EYE", SOMETHING YOU DO IS VERY SUCCESSFUL.

"Sally really hit the bull's eye with her invention, and now she's super-rich."

[A "bull's-eye" is a small circular object that you shoot a gun, etc. at.]



Stag party/night

A PARTY FOR A MAN WHO IS GOING TO GET MARRIED. THE GUESTS ARE USUALLY ONLY HIS MALE FRIENDS.

"Bob had to wear a silly costume for his stag night."



Hen party/night

A PARTY FOR A WOMAN WHO IS GOING TO GET MARRIED. THE GUESTS ARE USUALLY ONLY HER FEMALE FRIENDS.

"For Sally's hen night, they went out for dinner. After that, they went to a nightclub."



Badger someone

TO ANNOY SOMEONE BY REPEATEDLY ASKING THEM A LOT OF QUESTIONS.

"I left my job three months ago, but since then they've been badgering me to go back."



Make a mountain out of a molehill

IF YOU "MAKE A MOUNTAIN OUT OF A MOLEHILL", YOU MAKE A MINOR ISSUE APPEAR TO BE A VERY SERIOUS PROBLEM.

"You did one bad exam. Stop worrying about it. You're making a mountain out of a molehill."

[A mole is a small animal with black fur.]

ANIMAL IDIOMS V UNIT 6



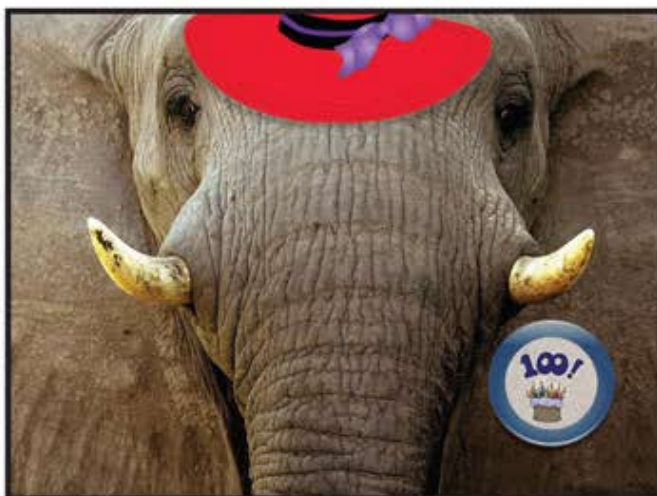
Come out of your shell

IF A SHY OR TIMID PERSON "COMES OUT OF THEIR SHELL", THEY BECOME MORE CONFIDENT.
"Joining that drama group really helped Paul come out of his shell."



Shed/weep crocodile tears

TO ACT AS IF YOU'RE SAD; TO PRETEND TO CRY; TO PRETEND TO FEEL PITY FOR SOMEONE.
"The politicians were shedding crocodile tears for the soldiers' deaths, but they continued to support the war."



Have a memory like an elephant

TO BE VERY GOOD AT REMEMBERING THINGS.
"She's over 98, but she's got a memory like an elephant."



Feed/throw somebody to the lions

IF YOU "FEED SOMEONE TO THE LIONS", YOU PUT THEM IN A SITUATION IN WHICH THEY CAN BE CRITICISED STRONGLY OR TREATED BADLY.
"They asked me to give a speech on the proposed changes, but no one told me that people were so opposed to it. I really felt like I'd been fed to the lions."



Paper tiger

A COUNTRY OR ORGANISATION THAT SEEMS TO BE POWERFUL BUT ISN'T REALLY.
"Their disastrous military campaign showed that they're just a paper tiger."



Eager beaver

SOMEONE WHO IS VERY KEEN AND EXCITED ABOUT DOING SOMETHING; SOMEONE WHO WORKS VERY HARD.
"She came in over the weekend to finish off the work and paint the walls. She's a real eager beaver."
[Literally, a beaver is an animal that lives in rivers and that builds dams (barriers).]