

alps academy



# IDIOMS FOR LANGUAGE LEARNERS



IDIOM EXERCISES  
FOR LANGUAGE LEARNERS





## IDIOMS

*Break a leg*

*Break the ice*

*Don't cry over spilled milk*

*Don't put all your eggs in  
one basket*

*Get a taste of your own  
medicine*

*Get cold feet*

*Hit the nail on the head*

A decorative header featuring the word "IDioms" in large, colorful, blocky letters (I: pink, D: purple, I: red, O: purple, M: yellow, S: blue) on a white background. Below the letters, the word "contents" is written in a large, black, sans-serif font.

# contents

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# Break a Leg

## Meaning:

*wish someone good luck like  
before a show*

## Example:

*John, good luck with your piano  
recital tonight, **break a leg!***



# Break the Ice

## Meaning:

*be the first to start a conversation*

## Example:

*Sarah decided to **break the ice** by asking her classmates about their weekend plans.*



# Don't cry over spilled milk

## Meaning:

*don't be upset about something that cannot be changed and is now in the past*

## Example:

*I made a mistake on the test, but I won't **cry over spilled milk**.*





# Don't put all your eggs in one basket

## Meaning:

*do not risk everything on one single option*

## Example:

*Before investing all your money, remember not to **put all your eggs in one basket***



# *Get a taste of your own medicine*

## **Meaning:**

*experience the same negative treatment that you gave*

## **Example:**

*After teasing others for weeks, the bully finally got a **taste of his own medicine**.*



# *Get cold feet*

## **Meaning:**

*feel nervous about doing something*

## **Example:**

*Mary was excited about the trip but **got cold feet** at the last moment and decided not to go.*



# *Hit the nail on the head*

## **Meaning:**

*identifying the exact meaning of what is said*

## **Example:**

*When discussing the problem, the team **hit the nail on the head** by identifying the lack of communication.*





## Example Conversations

**Samantha:** "I can't wait for the school play tonight. Break a leg, Tim!"

**Tim:** "Thanks, Samantha! I hope everything goes well."

**Johnny:** "I'm a bit nervous about talking to the new student in class."

**Dad:** "Just break the ice by introducing yourself and ask them about their interests."

**Amy:** "I lost my wallet at the park today."

**Friend:** "Don't cry over spilled milk, Amy. Let's retrace your steps and see if we can find it."



## Example Conversations

**Mom:** "We're planning our family vacation. Should we go to the beach or the mountains?"

**Sarah:** "Let's not put all our eggs in one basket. We can spend a few days at the beach and a few days in the mountains."

**Teacher:** "Tommy, you look upset. Are you okay?"

**Tommy:** "I was going to audition for the school play, but I got cold feet and decided not to go."



## Example Conversations

**Sara:** "I can't believe Jake was spreading rumours about me."

**Brother:** "Don't worry, Sara. He'll get a taste of his own medicine when others realize he's a liar."

**Pam:** Did you see Sarah's presentation? She really hit the nail on the head.

**Alex:** Absolutely! Her points were clear and concise. She nailed it!





IDIOM EXERCISES  
FOR LANGUAGE LEARNERS

# IDIOM EXERCISES FOR LANGUAGE LEARNERS



IDIOMS

## idiom exercise 1

# Identify the Correct Idiom

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## Delete the incorrect idiom

1. You have an important audition tomorrow, so (get cold feet/break a leg) and practice your lines.
2. I'm going to the party tonight to (break the ice/break a leg) and meet new people.
3. You shouldn't (break the ice/cry over spilled milk) when facing a small setback. Keep a positive attitude.
4. When it comes to investing, remember (don't put all your eggs in one basket/don't hit the nail on the head) and diversify your portfolio.



## Delete the incorrect idiom

5. He's always making fun of others, but now it's time for him to (get a taste of your own medicine/break a leg) and experience what it feels like.

6. He planned to propose to his partner, but at the last moment, he (got cold feet/didn't cry over spilled milk) and decided to wait for a better time.

7. The detective's deduction skills were exceptional; she always managed to (put all the eggs in one basket/hit the nail on the head) and solve the case.



idiom exercise 2

Complete the  
Sentence with the  
Correct Idiom

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## Fill in the Blanks

1. It's just a small mistake, there's no need to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. It's always wise to diversify your investments and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The host tried to \_\_\_\_\_ by telling a funny joke.
4. She was excited about the trip, but as the departure date approached, she started to \_\_\_\_\_.



## Fill in the Blanks

5. She had been practicing for weeks and was ready to \_\_\_\_\_ on stage.
6. He was known for his pranks, but this time he \_\_\_\_\_ from his friends.
7. That is exactly right you have \_\_\_\_\_.







IDIOMS

advanced idiom exercise

# Use the Idiom

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## IDIOMS

Give an example of how you use the following idioms in a sentence

Break the Ice

Don't cry over spilled milk

Don't put all your eggs in one basket

Get cold feet

Hit the nail on the head

Example:

Although none of the students wanted to talk, someone had to **break the ice**.



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