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# IDIOMS FOR LANGUAGE LEARNERS

SET 4



IDIOM EXERCISES  
FOR LANGUAGE LEARNERS





Chip on your shoulder

Egg on your face

Fit as a fiddle

Let the cat out of the bag

On thin ice

Throw in the towel

When pigs fly

# IDIOMS

## contents

Chip on your shoulder

Egg on your face

Fit as a fiddle

Let the cat out of the bag

On thin ice

Throw in the towel

When pigs fly

Example Conversations

Idiom Exercises

Exercise 1

Exercise 2

Advanced Exercise

Exercise Answers





# Chip on your shoulder

## Meaning:

*to be easily offended or always ready for an argument*

## Example:

*He always has a **chip on his shoulder**, ready to argue with anyone who disagrees with him.*



# Egg on your face

## Meaning:

*to feel embarrassed because of a mistake or failure*

## Example:

*I had egg on my face when I tripped and fell in front of everyone at the party.*



# Fit as a fiddle

## Meaning:

*to be very healthy and physical fit*

## Example:

*Even though she is 80 years old, she exercises every day and is **fit as a fiddle**.*



# Let the cat out of the bag

## Meaning:

*reveal a secret*

## Example:

*Don't let the cat out of the bag about the surprise party for Sarah!*



# On thin ice

## Meaning:

*to be in a risky or dangerous situation where one wrong move can lead to trouble*

## Example:

*After being late to work again, he knew he was **on thin ice** with his boss.*



# Throw in the towel

## Meaning:

*to give up*

## Example:

*After struggling for hours with the math problem, I decided to **throw in the towel** and ask for help.*



# When pigs fly

## Meaning:

*express something will never happen*

## Example:

*I'll believe that he will clean his room **when pigs fly!***





## Example Conversations

**Sarah:** "Why does John always argue with everyone?"

**Emily:** "I think he has a chip on his shoulder and gets easily offended."

**Mark:** "I accidentally spilled coffee on my shirt during the meeting."

**Lisa:** "Oh no! You must have felt like you had egg on your face in front of the boss."

**Alex:** "Wow, Rachel looks so healthy and energetic."

**Mike:** "Yes, she exercises regularly and eats well. She's as fit as a fiddle!"



## Example Conversations

**Julie:** "Don't tell Sam about his surprise birthday party."

**Kelly:** "Oops, I've let the cat out of the bag. I have already talked about it to him."

**Tom:** "I missed the deadline for the project again."

**Sarah:** "Be careful, Tom. You're already on thin ice."



## Example Conversations

**Mike:** "I've been trying to fix this computer issue all day, but I can't figure it out."

**Lisa:** "Maybe it's time to throw in the towel and call the IT department for help."

**Emily:** "Do you think Jack will ever go skydiving?"

**Mark:** "No way, when pigs fly, he's terrified of heights."



IDIOM EXERCISES  
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idiom exercise 1

Identify the  
Correct Idiom

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## Delete the incorrect idiom

1. I just found out that my shirt was messy all day, now I have (a chip on my shoulder/ egg on my face).
2. Keep it a secret and don't (let the cat out of the bag / throw in the towel).
3. After being naughty all day, I felt like I was (as fit as a fiddle/ on thin ice) with my teacher.
4. He is always so quick to argue he must have (egg on his face / a chip on his shoulder).



## Delete the incorrect idiom

5. Peter never spends money. He going to buy everyone a meal (when pigs fly / with a chip on his shoulder).

6. We have been waiting for the bus for an hour, better to (be on thin ice / throw in the towel) and go home.

7. I go up the stairs so many times every day, I must be (on thin ice / as fit as a fiddle) by now.



idiom exercise 2

Complete the  
Sentence with the  
Correct Idiom

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## Fill in the Blanks

1. I was really looking forward to seeing Jake's face when he opened his present, but someone \_\_\_\_\_ and he knows what it is already.
2. Don't answer back son, you are already on \_\_\_\_\_.
3. This is impossible I'm \_\_\_\_\_.
4. After making that embarrassing mistake during the presentation, I felt like I had \_\_\_\_\_.



## Fill in the Blanks

5. Mike is quick to argue like he has a \_\_\_\_\_.

6. Despite her age, Grandma exercises regularly and stays healthy. She's as \_\_\_\_\_.

7. We will win the cup \_\_\_\_\_ . (not really)





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

fit as a fiddle

egg on your face

let the cat out of the bag

throw in the towel

when pigs fly

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Example:

She swims every morning she must be as  
**fit as a fiddle.**



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IDIOM  
EXERCISES  
-  
ANSWERS



## Delete the incorrect idiom

1. I just found out that my shirt was messy all day, now I have egg on my face.
2. Keep it a secret and don't let the cat out of the bag.
3. After being naughty all day, I felt like I was on thin ice with my teacher.
4. He is always so quick to argue he must have a chip on his shoulder.



## Delete the incorrect idiom

5. Peter never spends money. He going to buy everyone a meal when pigs fly.
6. We have been waiting for the bus for an hour, better to throw in the towel and go home.
7. I go up the stairs so many times every day, I must be as fit as a fiddle by now.



## Fill in the Blanks

1. I was really looking forward to seeing Jake's face when he opened his present, but someone **let the cat out of the bag** and he knows what it is already.
2. Don't answer back son, you are already on **thin ice**.
3. This is impossible I'm **throwing in the towel**.
4. After making that embarrassing mistake during the presentation, I felt like I had **egg on your face**.



## Fill in the Blanks

5. Mike is quick to argue like he has a **chip on your shoulder**.

6. Despite her age, Grandma exercises regularly and stays healthy. She's as **fit as a fiddle**.

7. We will win the cup **when pigs fly**. (not really)



## examples of idioms in a sentence

She swims every morning she must be as **fit as a fiddle**.

You have **egg on your face** with that bad presentation, you didn't prepare did you?

It is not a secret anymore, he has **let the cat out of the bag**

Don't **throw in the towel** yet, you can still do ok.

I will get my money easily **when pigs fly** from Google, they are so bad to creators.



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