

## **IDIOMS - I**

## First 50 idioms every learner should know:

(En önemli 50 İngilizce deyim)

- 1. **Break the ice** to relieve tension or get conversation started in an awkward situation.
- 2. Bite the bullet to endure a painful or unpleasant task courageously.
- Hit the nail on the head to describe exactly what is causing a situation or problem.
- 4. Let the cat out of the bag to reveal a secret, often unintentionally.
- 5. Kill two birds with one stone to achieve two aims with a single effort.
- 6. Barking up the wrong tree to pursue a mistaken or misguided course of action.
- 7. **Piece of cake** something very easy to do.
- Cost an arm and a leg to be very expensive.
- 9. Cut corners to do something poorly or cheaply.
- 10. Under the weather feeling unwell or sick.
- 11. The ball is in your court it's your turn to take action or make a decision.
- 12. Back to square one to have to start over again.
- 13. A blessing in disguise something that seems bad at first but turns out to be good.
- 14. A dime a dozen very common and of little value.
- 15. Beat around the bush to avoid talking about what's important.
- 16. Better late than never it's better to do something late than not do it at all.
- 17. Bite off more than you can chew to take on more responsibility than you can manage.
- 18. Actions speak louder than words what people do is more important than what they say.
- 19. Apple of my eye someone who is cherished above all others.
- 20. His bark is worse than his bite someone's threats are worse than their actions.
- 21. **Burn bridges** to destroy one's relationships or opportunities.
- 22. Call it a day to stop working on something.
- 23. Cry over spilled milk to be upset about something that cannot be changed.
- 24. **Devil's advocate** someone who argues a point for the sake of debate.
- 25. Every cloud has a silver lining every bad situation has some positive aspect.
- 26. **Get out of hand** to become uncontrolled.
- 27. Give the benefit of the doubt to choose to believe someone's statement, without proof.
- 28. Hit the sack to go to bed.
- 29. In the blink of an eye very quickly; in a very short time.
- 30. Jump on the bandwagon to join others in doing something that is currently popular.
- 31. Keep your chin up to remain cheerful and hopeful in difficult circumstances.
- 32. Let sleeping dogs lie to avoid interfering in a situation that is currently causing no problems.
- 33. Miss the boat to miss an opportunity.
- 34. Off the cuff without preparation; spontaneously.
- 35. Once in a blue moon very rarely.
- 36. Out of the blue unexpectedly; without warning.
- 37. **Pull someone's leg** to tease or joke with someone.
- 38. On the ball alert, knowledgeable, and competent.
- 39. **On thin ice** in a risky or precarious situation.
- 40. Rain on someone's parade to spoil someone's plans or enjoyment.
- 41. Rome wasn't built in a day important things take time to complete.
- 42. Saved by the bell rescued from a difficult situation at the last moment.
- 43. The best of both worlds enjoying two desirable but normally incompatible things at once.
- 44. Through thick and thin in both good times and bad.
- 45. Time flies when you're having fun time seems to pass quickly when you're enjoying yourself.
- 46. **Twist someone's arm** to persuade someone to do something they're reluctant to do.
- 47. Up in the air undecided or unresolved.
- 48. When pigs fly something that will never happen.
- 49. You can't judge a book by its cover you shouldn't judge someone or something by appearance alone.
- 50. Your guess is as good as mine I have no more idea than you do.

www.atillakadak.com Atilla Kadak © 2025