

# Idioms

**Idioms** are expressions that native English speakers use to express a feeling, an emotion, or an opinion. **Idioms** are often difficult for English language learners to understand. However, **idioms** are commonly used in everyday conversation, in movies, and on TV. So, a good understanding of **idioms** will help improve real, everyday English skills.

## PART 1: MATCHING

**Directions:** Match the idiom (*left side*) with its meaning (*right side*). Then, go to [www.allthingstopics.com](http://www.allthingstopics.com) (*scroll down to "100 Idiom Challenge"*) to check your answers.

Idiom	Meaning
1. get (have) butterflies___	A. study hard
2. be a chicken___	B. regularly drink a lot of alcohol
3. up in the air___	C. not as good at something because of old age
4. crazy about___	D. very clear and easy to understand
5. once in a blue moon___	E. see something or someone you know in an unexpected or faraway place
6. pigs (will) fly___	F. very rarely; not often
7. have a ball___	G. die
8. turn over a new leaf___	H. make a positive change or start a new good habit
9. feel like a fish out of water___	I. really like; have a strong interest in something
10. hit the books___	J. feel very nervous
11. written in black and white___	K. feeling uncomfortable in an unfamiliar situation
12. drink like a fish___	L. very, very unlikely to happen
13. It's a small world___	M. not decided yet
14. kick the bucket___	N. have a really fun time
15. over the hill___	O. scared or having no courage

## PART 2: FILL-IN

**Directions:** Use the idioms from the front page to fill in the blanks.

1. I am late for class \_\_\_\_\_. I am usually on time.
2. We \_\_\_\_\_ on vacation last summer. It was so fun!
3. All students must \_\_\_\_\_ before final exams.
4. I said "Wow, \_\_\_\_\_" when I met my teacher in Hawaii during winter vacation.
5. At forty years old, the soccer play is \_\_\_\_\_. He should retire.
6. Billy is terrible at math. I think \_\_\_\_\_ before he gets an A+ on a math test.
7. Sanjay is \_\_\_\_\_ Harry Potter. He has read all the books and seen every movie.
8. Ralph \_\_\_\_\_. He is 25 years old but he is still afraid of the dark!
9. Why did you break the rule? The rules are \_\_\_\_\_. They are clearly displayed in the book.
10. My grandfather \_\_\_\_\_ when he was 103 years old!
11. Georgie \_\_\_\_\_. He drinks six beers every night!
12. When Vinny studied abroad in Mexico, he \_\_\_\_\_.
13. Jose university decision is \_\_\_\_\_. He might go Harvard or MIT.
14. Dina \_\_\_\_\_ in her stomach because of the English test.
15. I decided to \_\_\_\_\_ and quit smoking in the New Year.

**PART 3: DIALOGUE**

**Directions:** Write a conversation with your partner which includes **four idioms**. You can use idioms from the first page or any idiom from [www.allthingstopics.com](http://www.allthingstopics.com) (scroll down to "100 Idiom Challenge").

A: \_\_\_\_\_

B: \_\_\_\_\_

**PART 4: MEMORIZE & PRESENT**

**Directions:** Now, memorize and practice the dialogue with your partner. You will present the dialogue in front of the class.

## Answers

- |      |                                  |
|------|----------------------------------|
| 1. J | 1. once in a blue moon           |
| 2. O | 2. had a ball                    |
| 3. M | 3. hit the books                 |
| 4. I | 4. it's a small world            |
| 5. F | 5. over the hill                 |
| 6. L | 6. pigs will fly                 |
| 7. N | 7. crazy about                   |
| 8. H | 8. is a chicken                  |
| 9. K | 9. written in black and white    |
| 10.A | 10.kicked the bucket             |
| 11.D | 11.drinks like a fish            |
| 12.B | 12.felt like a fish out of water |
| 13.E | 13.up in the air                 |
| 14.G | 14.has butterflies               |
| 15.C | 15.turn over a new leaf          |