

Idioms – A Closer
Lesson 3
Couch potato



Part A

- ▶ Couch potato
- ▶ Crack a book
- ▶ Cream of the crop
- ▶ Crocodile tears
- ▶ Cry wolf
- ▶ Curry favor
- ▶ Dawn on
- ▶ Days are numbered
- ▶ Dead to the world (1)
- ▶ Dead to the world (2)
- ▶ Deep water
- ▶ Devil to pay
- ▶ Dicey
- ▶ Didn't bat an eye
- ▶ Ditch class

An idiom may be listed multiple times due to multiple definitions and signs that may be possible.

Couch potato

Crack a book

Cream of the crop

Crocodile tears

Cry wolf

Curry favor

Dawn on

Days are numbered

Dead to the world (1)

Dead to the world (2)

Deep water

Devil to pay

Dicey

Didn't bat an eye

Ditch class

Lesson 03 - A



Someone who spends too much time watching TV
You're a real **couch potato**. You need to get more exercise!



To open a book in order to study
Shaniqua did not **crack a book** until the night before the exam.



The best of a group; top choice
The students had drawn many good pictures, and the teacher chose the **cream of the crop** to hang up when the parents came to visit.



Fake tears
When his rich uncle died, leaving him with his money, Lester shed **crocodile tears**.

Someone who spends too much time watching TV
You're a real **couch potato**. You need to get more exercise! (Lazy Sitting)

To open a book in order to study
Shaniqua did not **crack a book** until the night before the exam. (Study)

Try to learn as much as possible in a very short time
Sidney did well on the test because he **crammed** for it. However, he probably won't remember any of the information a couple of days from now. (Best Top)

Fake tears
When his rich uncle died, leaving him with his money, Lester shed **crocodile tears**. (Cry Fake)

Lesson 03 - A



To give a false alarm
The general said that the candidate was just **crying wolf** when he said that the army was too weak to defend the country.



To flatter or serve someone to get his help or friendship
He tried to **curry favor** with his new boss by trying to anticipate her every whim.



To become clear
It **dawned on** Fred that he would fail the course if he did not study harder.



Does not have long to live or stay
The **days are numbered** for the old school building.

To give a false alarm

The general said that the candidate was just **crying wolf** when he said that the army was too weak to defend the country. (Warn, Fake)

To flatter or serve someone to get his help or friendship

He tried to **curry favor** with his new boss by trying to anticipate her every whim. (Butter Up / Flatter)

To become clear

It **dawned on** Fred that he would fail the course if he did not study harder. (Thought pop up)

Does not have long to live or stay

The **days are numbered** for the old school building. (Time Limit)

Lesson 03 - A



Fast asleep
Tim went to bed very late and was still **dead to the world** at 10 o'clock this morning.



Fast asleep
Tim went to bed very late and was still **dead to the world** at 10 o'clock this morning.



Serious trouble or difficulty
When Dad tried to take Mom's place for a day, he found himself in **deep water**.



Great trouble
There'll be the **devil to pay** when the teacher finds out who broke the window.

Fast asleep (head crashed on pillow)

Tim went to bed very late and was still **dead to the world** at 10 o'clock this morning. (Sleep, Crash)

Fast asleep (deep sleep)

Tim went to bed very late and was still **dead to the world** at 10 o'clock this morning. (Laying Bed)

Serious trouble or difficulty

When Dad tried to take Mom's place for a day, he found himself in **deep water**. (Trouble)

Great trouble

There'll be the **devil to pay** when the teacher finds out who broke the window. (Trouble)

Lesson 03 - A



Uncertain: taking too much of a chance
A friend of mine says I can make a lot of money if I buy stock in his company, but I think it's too **dicey**.



To not show surprise
When Larry's wife first told him she was pregnant, he **didn't bat an eye**.



Missing class without permission
She was warned not to **ditch class** any more this year, or she will be expelled.



Uncertain; taking too much of a chance

A friend of mine says I can make a lot of money if I buy stock in his company, but I think it's too **dicey**. (Iffy)

To not show surprise

When Larry's wife first told him she was pregnant, he **didn't bat an eye**. (Surprise Not)

Missing class without permission

She was warned not to **ditch class** any more this year, or she will be expelled. (Miss)

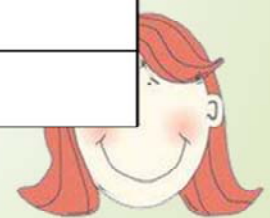
Body Idioms



Idiom

Meaning

keep an eye on	
learn by heart, know by heart	
let one's hair down	
(my) lips are sealed	
to powder your nose.	



Body Idioms

Keep an eye on

take care of, watch in order to protect

Learn by heart, know by heart

Memorize

Let one's hair down

relax, have fun

(my) lips are sealed

promise to keep a secret

To powder your nose

going to the toilet

Body Idioms



Idiom	Meaning
all ears	
to point the finger.	
cold feet	
cost an arm and a leg	
skeleton in the closet / cupboard.	

Body Idioms

All ears

Fulling listening

To point the finger

To accuse someone of being responsible for something bad that has happened

Cost an arm and a leg

Be very expensive

Skeleton in the closet / cupboard

You have / are hiding a shocking secret about yourself.

Body Idioms



Idiom

Meaning

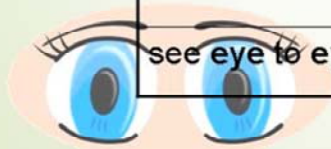
(an) old hand

toe the line

pat on the back

pull one's leg

see eye to eye



Body Idioms

(an) old hand

An experienced person

Toe the line

To conform to certain rules or standards

Pat on the back

Recognition or a thank-you

Pull one's leg

Joke or tease someone

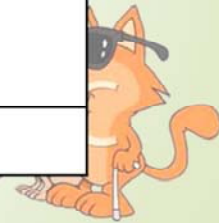
See eye to eye

agree

Body Idioms



Idiom	Meaning
(my) flesh and blood	
turn a blind eye.	
to jump down someone's throat.	
a slip of the tongue.	
head over heels	



Body Idioms

(my) flesh and blood

Relative

Turn a blind eye

To ignore something that you know is wrong

To jump down someone's throat

To react angrily to something that someone says or does

A slip of the tongue

When you say something which you did not mean to say

Head over heels

Deeply in love

Body Idioms



Idiom

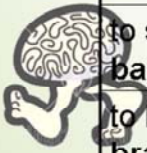
Meaning

stick your neck out



sweet tooth

to break your back.



to scratch someone's back.

to be all brawn and no brain.

weet
oth



Body Idioms

Stick your neck out

Help someone a lot with possible bad consequences for oneself

Sweet tooth

A love of sugar or sweet things

To work To break your back

extremely hard

To scratch someone's back

To offer to help someone if they help you

To be all brawn and no brain

To be physically strong but not very intelligent

Lesson 03 - A

A - Handshape

1. To turn down
2. None of one's business
3. Firm, won't change one's mind; won't budge
4. Unskilled; no expertise
5. Back up
6. To worsen; deteriorate
7. To fall behind
8. To burn out



A - Handshape

1. To turn down
2. None of one's business
3. Firm, won't change one's mind; won't budge
4. Unskilled; no expertise
5. Back up
6. To worsen; deteriorate
7. To fall behind
8. To burn out

"BLAME-ME, ALWAYS, THEY"

- ▶ They're always blaming me!
- ▶ They're always finding fault with me!
- ▶ They're always accusing me of something.



"BLAME-ME, ALWAYS, THEY"

They're always blaming me!

They're always finding fault with me!

They're always accusing me of something.

"BLOOD-FILL-FACE"

- ▶ (Use curved handshape to show a blushing face)
- ▶ Your face is as red as a beet!



"BLOOD-FILL-FACE"

(Use curved handshape to show a blushing face)
Your face is as red as a beet!

"CUT IT!"

- (Scissors in front of mouth)
- Stop talking!
- That's enough talking!



"CUT IT!"

(Scissors in front of mouth)
Stop talking!
That's enough talking!

Lesson 03 - A

"DISGUSTED, ME"

- ▶ I am completely disgusted!
- ▶ (Use rough "C" handshape, fingers on chest, moving in circles with varying degrees to show how disgusted you are)



"DISGUSTED, ME"

I am completely disgusted!

(Use rough "C" handshape, fingers on chest, moving in circles with varying degrees to show how disgusted you are)

Lesson 03 - A

"DON'T CARE, ME"

- It's OK, but I don't really care for it.
- I'm not crazy about that.
- (Anything near the nose is often a derogatory gesture)



"DON'T CARE, ME"

It's OK, but I don't really care for it.

I'm not crazy about that.

(Anything near the nose is often a derogatory gesture)

Part B

- ▶ Do-or-die
- ▶ Dog and pony show
- ▶ Dog days of summer
- ▶ Don't count your chickens before they hatch
- ▶ Don't lay a finger on
- ▶ Down in the dumps
- ▶ Down your alley
- ▶ Down-to-earth
- ▶ Dressed to kill
- ▶ Ears burn
- ▶ Eat my words
- ▶ Eat your heart out
- ▶ Eke out
- ▶ Elbow grease
- ▶ End of your rope

An idiom may be listed multiple times due to multiple definitions and signs that may be possible.

Do-or-die
Dog and pony show
Dog days of summer
Don't count your chickens before they hatch
Don't lay a finger on
Down in the dumps
Down your alley
Down-to-earth
Dressed to kill
Ears burn
Eat my words
Eat your heart out
Eke out
Elbow grease

Lesson 03 - B



Strongly decided: very eager and determined
With a real **do-or-die** spirit, the team scored two touchdowns in the last five minutes of the game.



Put on a good performance to impress someone
The actress put on a **dog and pony show** to obtain a part in the play.



Very hot days in July and August
The roofers were forced to work in the blistering heat of the **dog days of summer**.



Don't assume you have something until you really have it
Janene insisted she didn't have to do homework to pass the class. But her mother warned her **not to count her chickens before they hatched**.

Strongly decided; very eager and determined

With a real **do-or-die** spirit, the team scored two touchdowns in the last five minutes of the game. (Motivated)

Put on a good performance to impress someone

The actress put on a **dog and pony show** to obtain a part in the play. (Look Look Me Brag)

Very hot days in July and August

The roofers were forced to work in the blistering heat of the **dog days of summer**. (Hot Sweat Wow)

Don't assume you have something until you really have it

Janene insisted she didn't have to do homework to pass the class. But her mother warned her **not to count her chickens before they hatched**. (See Future Cant)

Lesson 03 - B



To not touch or bother, even a little
Don't you dare **lay a finger on** the vase!



Depressed; "blue"
I don't know what's wrong, but I feel kind of **down in the dumps**.



Suited to one's tastes and abilities
Baseball is right **down your alley**.



Practical; showing good sense
The committee's first plan for the party was too fancy, but the second was more **down-to-earth**.

To not touch or bother, even a little
Don't you dare **lay a finger on** the vase! (Touch NO NO)

Depressed; "blue"
I don't know what's wrong, but I feel kind of **down in the dumps**.
(Discouraged)

Suited to one's tastes and abilities
Baseball is right **down your alley**. (Match Perfect)

Practical; showing good sense
The committee's first plan for the party was too fancy, but the second was more **down-to-earth**. (Nice Friendly)

Lesson 03 - B



To make yourself look really good by wearing your best clothes
She had bought a new outfit and was **dressed to kill**.



To be the subject of conversation
No, we were not talking about you. Why? Were your **ears burning**?



To take back something you have said; admit something is not true
I had called Enrique a coward, but the boys made me **eat my words** after he bravely fought a big bully.



Make one envy
You will **eat your heart out** when you see my new BMW.

To make yourself look really good by wearing your best clothes
She had bought a new outfit and was **dressed to kill**. (Preppy/Elegant/Sharp
Wow You)

To be the subject of conversation
No, we were not talking about you. Why? Were your **ears burning**? (Inside
Feel Gossip Connect Me)

To take back something you have said; admit something is not true
I had called Enrique a coward, but the boys made me **eat my words** after he
bravely fought a big bully. (Admit Wrong)

Make one envy
You will **eat your heart out** when you see my new BMW. (Jealous)

Lesson 03 - B



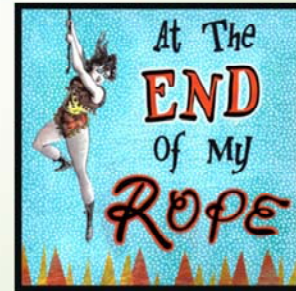
To do with difficulty; to get little by hard work
Sara worked for five weeks on the report and **eked out** a C.



Hard work; effort
Yes, the car is pretty dirty, but it'll look nice again with a little **elbow grease**.



The end of trying or imagining; the end of ability, or ideas of how to do more
You lost your job and your girlfriend on the same day? You must be at the **end of your rope**.



To do with difficulty; to get little by hard work

Sara worked for five weeks on the report and **eked out** a C. (Frugal/Barely)

Hard work; effort

Yes, the car is pretty dirty, but it'll look nice again with a little **elbow grease**.
(Work)

The end of trying or imagining; the end of ability, or ideas of how to do more
You lost your job and your girlfriend on the same day? You must be at the **end of your rope**. (No Idea do do do)

Body Part's Idioms



To have your head in the clouds

To be daydreaming and not paying attention to what is happening or being said.



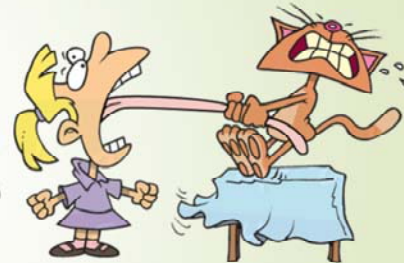
Put your foot in your mouth

To say something inappropriate.



Zip your lip! – Zip it!

Keep your mouth shut and don't say anything.



Cat got your tongue?

It is similar to saying: Have you nothing to say?

Body Part's Idioms

To have your head in the clouds

To be daydreaming and not paying attention to what is happening or being said.

To be out of touch with the everyday world and to be unrealistic because of it.

To have impractical ideas or dreams.

Put your foot in your mouth

To say or do something that offends, upsets or embarrasses someone else.

To say something inappropriate.

Zip your lip! – Zip it!

Keep your mouth shut and don't say anything.

Close your mouth and be quiet.

Keep quiet about ... (something).

Cat got your tongue?

This idiom is used to compel someone to speak, say something or give a response when they are (unusually) quiet.

It is similar to saying: Have you nothing to say?