

## IDIOMS LECTURE – 15

<b>Lily-livered</b>	weak and cowardly
<b>To kick the bucket</b>	to die
<b>Miss the boat:-</b>	to miss an opportunity
<b>To bell the cat</b>	To face risk
<b>A storm in a teacup</b>	A situation in which people are very angry or upset about something that is not important.
<b>Sharp practice</b>	Crafty or deceitful dealings, especially in business.
<b>Rule to roost</b>	To dominate
<b>Keep someone at arm's length</b>	to not allow someone to become too friendly with you.
<b>To tie someone (up) in knots</b>	to confuse someone and make them unable to explain something clearly
<b>Scrape the barrel</b>	To do something that you do not want to do because you have no other option.
<b>A dime a dozen</b>	Very common and of no particular value
<b>Beat about the bush</b>	To avoid getting to the point of an issue.
<b>To prime the pump</b>	stimulate the growth or success of something by doing something, usually, supplying it with money.
<b>Back against the wall</b>	Be in a difficult situation from where escape is difficult
<b>To walk on the air</b>	to feel extremely excited or happy
<b>Bad iron</b>	Bad luck
<b>By the skin of your teeth</b>	Just barely/ by a very narrow margin; only just.
<b>Through thick and thin</b>	under all circumstances, no matter how difficult.
<b>Blessing in disguise</b>	Something that seems bad or unlucky at first but causes something good to happen later
<b>To be in two minds</b>	To be uncertain
<b>Fall foul of</b>	to get into trouble because of failing to do what is

	required by (the law, a rule, etc.
<b>Gift of the gab</b>	the ability to speak with eloquence and fluency
<b>Get into a scrape</b>	Involved in a problem
<b>A bolt from the blue</b>	A complete surprise /an unexpected disaster.
<b>Blow something out of proportion</b>	to treat a particular event or problem far too seriously:
<b>To go to the dogs</b>	To become worse
<b>Up the creek</b>	In trouble, in a serious predicament.
<b>Back to the drawing board</b>	to plan it all over again
<b>Jumped the gun</b>	to do something too soon, especially without thinking carefully about it:
<b>Be on the ball</b>	to be quick to understand and react to things./ be alert to new ideas, methods, and trends.
<b>Stir up a hornets' nest</b>	To make trouble, cause a commotion
<b>Face the music</b>	Get reprimanded / be punished
<b>To rain cats and dogs</b>	raining very heavily
<b>To take a bull by the horns</b>	To deal with a difficult situation in a very direct or confident way
<b>Call it a day</b>	stop working
<b>Once in a blue moon</b>	Very rare
<b>Under the cloud</b>	Viewed with suspicion, distrust, or disapproval.
<b>A perfect storm</b>	The worst possible situation
<b>Bad blood</b>	Enmity/angry feeling
<b>As dead as a doornail</b>	completely obsolete/ Totally or assuredly dead
<b>Catch a tarter</b>	to encounter with someone that proves more powerful or troublesome

<b>Cut corners</b>	to do something in the easiest, cheapest, or fastest way
<b>Hit the jackpot</b>	to win the largest prize in a competition or game./ to achieve great success
<b>True colours</b>	true personality./ the kind of person someone really is rather than what the person seems to be:
<b>Bird's eye view</b>	the ability to look at something from a very high place so that you see a large area below you
<b>Take something with a grain of salt</b>	to understand that something is likely to be untrue or incorrect.
<b>Get up on the wrong side of the bed</b>	start the day in a bad mood, which continues all day long.
<b>Speak one's mind</b>	to say what you think about something very directly:
<b>Pass the buck</b>	shift the responsibility for something to someone else
<b>Chew the cud</b>	to think slowly and carefully about something:
<b>Apple pie order</b>	In perfect order
<b>Pipe dream</b>	an idea or plan that is impossible or very unlikely to happen

<b>At cross purposes:</b>	Disagreeing with each other's ideas
<b>Play/Do something by the ear</b>	to decide what to do when you know what is happening, rather than planning in advance
<b>You snooze, you lose</b>	If you are not alert, you are likely to miss opportunities
<b>Out of the blue</b>	Unexpectedly
<b>Tread/Skate on thin ice</b>	To be in a dangerous risky position
<b>No smoke without fire/where there's smoke there's fire:</b>	there is always some truth behind a rumour or bad thing
<b>In a soup</b>	In trouble
<b>Familiarity breeds contempt</b>	used to say that if you know someone very well you stop respecting them because you have seen all of their bad qualities
<b>To throw/pour cold water on</b>	To criticize someone's opinions or ideas and stop people believing them or being excited about them
<b>First and foremost</b>	most importantly; more than anything else.
<b>A hard nut to crack</b>	a problem that is difficult to solve
<b>Dance attendance</b>	to do everything that someone asks you to and treat them in a special way