

## IDIOMS LECTURE – 11

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>To keep body and soul together</b> | To manage to live  |
| <b>a slap on the wrist</b>            | a mild reprimand or punishment   |
| <b>To burn one's finger</b>           | To suffer a loss by acting rashly  |
| <b>A shot in the dark</b>             | an attempt to guess something without having any facts or definite ideas             |
| <b>A bull market</b>                  | Market where prices are rising   |
| <b>Take your eye off the ball</b>     | To stop paying attention for a moment  |
| <b>To shake in one's shoes</b>        | To be afraid   |
| <b>To meet one's waterloo</b>         | To be badly defeated in a contest  |
| <b>To be in two minds</b>             | In a dilemma   |
| <b>Slack off</b>                      | To ease pressure on something  |
| <b>To buy a pig in a poke</b>         | to purchase a thing without previously examining it.                                 |
| <b>Over and above</b>                 | In addition to   |
| <b>Ace in the hole</b>                | A major advantage that one keeps hidden until an ideal time                          |
| <b>For old time's sake</b>            | Because of sentimental memories of the past  |
| <b>Dead ringer</b>                    | An exact duplicate   |
| <b>To keep an eye on</b>              | keep a watch on something or someone closely   |
| <b>Green light</b>                    | Got permission to go ahead with something  |
| <b>All and sundry</b>                 | Everyone without distinction   |
| <b>A sea change</b>                   | A profound or notable transformation   |
| <b>Twiddling one's thumb</b>          | Feeling bored/ to do nothing, usually while you are waiting for something to happen. |
| <b>Give cold shoulder</b>             | Ignore, avoid or be unfriendly towards someone                                       |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Armed to the teeth</b>                | Fully armed, having many weapons  |
| <b>To sleep like a dog</b>               | To sleep soundly  |
| <b>Apropos of nothing</b>                | Having no relevance to any previous discussion or situation                                 |
| <b>Lion's mouth</b>                      | A dangerous situation   |
| <b>Neck of the woods</b>                 | Neighbourhood   |
| <b>At daggers drawn with</b>             | To be bitterly hostile towards each other   |
| <b>Zero tolerance</b>                    | A policy of not allowing any violations of a rule or law                                    |
| <b>To bridge the gap</b>                 | To reduce differences and reconcile   |
| <b>Bite the dust</b>                     | To die  |
| <b>Pedal to the metal</b>                | To go full speed, especially while driving a vehicle.                                       |
| <b>High and dry</b>                      | Abandoned   |
| <b>The whole ball of wax</b>             | Everything  |
| <b>Method to my madness</b>              | Strange or crazy actions that appear meaningless but in the end are done for a good reason. |
| <b>Dead lock</b>                         | A state in which progress is impossible   |
| <b>To make one's mark</b>                | To attain success   |
| <b>To lay someone by the heels</b>       | To confine somebody in prison   |
| <b>Have people rolling in the aisles</b> | Make an audience laugh uncontrollably   |
| <b>In the flesh</b>                      | In bodily form  |
| <b>To breast the tape</b>                | To win a race   |
| <b>Good grief</b>                        | An expression of surprise or frustration  |
| <b>To jump out of one's skin</b>         | To jump out of one's skin   |
| <b>Get into hot water</b>                | To get into trouble   |

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Penny wise and pound foolish</b>      | Careless with large amounts, but not small             |
| <b>All bark and no bite</b>              | Full of talk, but low on action                        |
| <b>Appeal to Caesar</b>                  | Appeal to the highest possible authority               |
| <b>A bite at the cherry</b>              | An attempt or opportunity to do something              |
| <b>To make a mountain of a mole hill</b> | To give great importance to trifles                    |
| <b>A beast of burden</b>                 | An animal that carries luggage                         |
| <b>Lose your head</b>                    | to lose control and not act in a calm way              |
| <b>New kid on the block</b>              | a newcomer to a particular place or sphere of activity |
| <b>Cast someone adrift</b>               | To leave someone without any support or purpose        |

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>To the manner born</b>             | To do something as though it is coming naturally |
| <b>To take the veil</b>               | To become a nun                                  |
| <b>Buy a lemon</b>                    | To buy something that is of much less value.     |
| <b>Be my guest</b>                    | Please do it                                     |
| <b>To have a nodding acquaintance</b> | Know somebody/something slightly                 |
| <b>To miss the bus</b>                | To lose an opportunity                           |
| <b>Backseat driver</b>                | A person who offers unsolicited advice.          |
| <b>To play with fire</b>              | To take foolish risk                             |
| <b>As hard as nails</b>               | Physically or mentally tough                     |
| <b>The whys and wherefores</b>        | Reasons  |