



# English Idioms

General English 'A'

Stream - Course 6

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✓ Hit the books :

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Meaning - To study.

Example: Sorry I cannot watch the movie with you tonight as I have to hit the books.

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## ✓ Twist someone's arm :

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Meaning - Convince someone of something which one doesn't want to do.

Example: I did not want to attend the concert, but he twisted my arm into it.



✓ **Once in a blue moon :**

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**Meaning - Rarely.**



**Example: He comes to office on time once  
in a blue moon.**



✓ **Let the cat out of the bag :**

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**Meaning - Reveal a secret accidentally.**

**Example: He let the cat out of the bag  
about Jim's surprise for his parents.**

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✓ Hit the sack/hay :

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Meaning - Go to bed.

Example: It's time for me to hit the sack, I am so tired.



✓ Up in the air :

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Meaning - Uncertain.

Example: Tia felt that her future is up in the  
air.



✓ Stab someone in the back :

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Meaning - Betray.




Example: Don't trust George, he is known to



stab people in the back.



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## ✓ Lose your touch :

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Meaning - Lose your ability or talents that you once had.

Example: The goalkeeper hasn't lost his touch and its good to see him play.

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✓ Pitch in :

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Meaning - Contribute or help or assist.

Example: When I bought this house, all my friends pitched in to help fix it up.



✓ **Go cold turkey :**

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Meaning - Suddenly giving up addiction.

Example: He went cold turkey on his drinking habit two years ago and hasn't had a drink since.

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✓ Face the music :

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Meaning - Face the unpleasant results.

Example: He has been cheating us out of our money and now it's time for him to face the music.

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## ✓ On the ball :

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Meaning - Very quick to understand certain things.

Example: This mess wouldn't have happened had you been on the ball.

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## ✓ Raise a red flag :

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Meaning - Warn of trouble ahead.

Example: The fact that your accountant used to be a drug dealer, raised a red flag in my mind.



✓ **Out of the blue :**

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**Meaning - Unexpected.**

**Example: Ram called me yesterday out of  
the blue.**

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✓ Call it a day :

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Meaning - Stop doing something.

Example: I have a question for you, then I think you can call it a day.