

DINA DESTARI



Be Familiar with

English in Focus 3



**ENGLISH**



**Idioms in Use for EFL**

**EDITOR:  
ERAWATI WIYONO PUTRI**

*Be Familiar with*  
*English in Focus 3*

**English Idioms in Use for EFL**

**DINA DESTARI**

## UU No. 28 Tahun 2014 tentang Hak Cipta

### **Fungsi dan Sifat Hak Cipta Pasal 4**

Hak Cipta sebagaimana dimaksud dalam Pasal 3 huruf a merupakan hak eksklusif yang terdiri atas hak moral dan hak ekonomi.

### **Pembatasan Pelindungan Pasal 26**

Ketentuan sebagaimana dimaksud dalam Pasal 23, Pasal 24, dan Pasal 25 tidak berlaku terhadap:

- i. penggunaan kutipan singkat Ciptaan dan/atau produk Hak Terkait untuk pelaporan peristiwa aktual yang ditujukan hanya untuk keperluan penyediaan informasi aktual;
- ii. penggandaan Ciptaan dan/atau produk Hak Terkait hanya untuk kepentingan penelitian ilmu pengetahuan;
- iii. penggandaan Ciptaan dan/atau produk Hak Terkait hanya untuk keperluan pengajaran, kecuali pertunjukan dan Fonogram yang telah dilakukan Pengumuman sebagai bahan ajar; dan
- iv. penggunaan untuk kepentingan pendidikan dan pengembangan ilmu pengetahuan yang memungkinkan suatu Ciptaan dan/atau produk Hak Terkait dapat digunakan tanpa izin Pelaku Pertunjukan, Produser Fonogram, atau Lembaga Penyiaran.

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2. Setiap orang yang dengan tanpa hak dan/atau tanpa izin Pencipta atau pemegang Hak Cipta melakukan pelanggaran hak ekonomi Pencipta sebagaimana dimaksud dalam Pasal 9 ayat (1) huruf c, huruf d, huruf f, dan/atau huruf h untuk Penggunaan Secara Komersial dipidana dengan pidana penjara paling lama 3 (tiga) tahun dan/atau pidana denda paling banyak Rp500.000.000,00 (lima ratus juta rupiah).

*Be Familiar with*

*English in Focus 3*

**English Idioms in Use for EFL**

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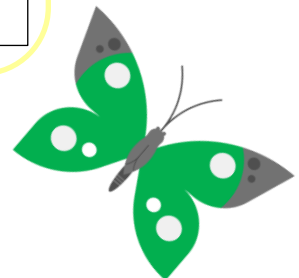


"Such a cool book, this teaches everyday English in an easy language with pictures that could be comprehended easily by the English learners." (*Melanesia Brigitte Boserren*)

"A fun introduction to the quirks of the English language for non-native English speakers. Comes with images to help convey the messages of the text." (*Andrew Lim*)

"Plenty of examples make this book useful and absolutely positive especially for EFL. I am unconditionally and irrevocably in love with this book **Be Familiar with English in Focus 3: English Idioms in Use for EFL.**"

(*Kuldeep Kajal*)



**Be Familiar with English in Focus 3**  
**English Idioms in Use for EFL**

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Sumber:  
**www.insancendekiamandiri.co.id**

Penata Letak:  
**Ulfa Nur Halizah**

Proofreader:  
**TIM ICM**

Ukuran:  
**ix, 94 hlm., 17,6x25 cm**

ISBN:  
**978-623-348-116-8**

Cetakan Pertama:  
**Mei 2021**

Hak Cipta 2021, pada **Dina Destari**

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## **PREFACE**

The e-book *Be Familiar with English in Focus 3–English Idioms in Use for EFL Learners* is addressed to offer EFL learners about English idioms in fun ways to create meaningful learning that can be put directly in daily life activities. Perhaps, this e-book can improve learners' proficiency in using English idioms with a plethora of expression. I hope this e-book has purposeful for everyone, particularly non-native students.

The necessity of English as one of the foreign languages studied in Indonesian schools brings this book forward. In this opportunity, the writer has made some endeavour to develop the students' understanding of English idioms use through this e-book. Perhaps, these contents are able to build their receptive and productive skills as well as explore their creative thinking to apply English idioms as the media of communication, both in verbal and written. The clear and up-to-date colour photos assist the learners to learn idioms in their natural context which makes it easier to remember them in every single topic of idioms that they have learned.

Overall, this e-book discusses both my experiences and how the well-known idioms use in everyday life. You will find this e-book is worth learning as a challenge for EFL learners who are eagerly studying English idioms with a great sense of enjoyment structure and lively images. Definition in each idiom and how to use it properly are already covered systematically in this e-book. I hope a simple method of English idioms in this e-book will be revealed which you can easily learn to use as EFL learners.

**Dina Destari**





## Definition of Idioms

Seidl and McMordie (1988) define an idiom as “a number of words which, when taken together, have a different meaning from the individual meanings of each word.” Whereas McCarthy and O’Dell (2010) clarify that idioms are “fixed combination of words whose meaning is often difficult to guess from the meaning of each individual word.” In another word, idiom is groups of words which create different meaning when becoming one. We cannot directly define it as a separate word but we need an understanding to know the meaning behind those words.





 **ABSENT-MINDED**

**Meaning**

Often forget things, not paying attention to what happening near them.



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dhana often lost his wallet because he is an <b>absent-minded</b> person.</li> <li>2. How could Rana forget to bring her bag. She is really <b>absent-minded</b>.</li> </ol>	



## A CATNAP



Photo by Photosforyou from Pixabay

### Meaning

Short sleep during the day.



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. One of Nana's unique habits is that she could do a <b>catnap</b> anywhere.</li> <li>2. I am easy to fall asleep. I can do <b>a catnap</b> wherever and whenever.</li> </ol>	



## AS (GENTLE) AS A LAMB



Photo by [Kat Jayne](#) from [Pexels](#)

### Meaning

Someone who is caring, pleasant, calm, and composed.

Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A kindergarten teacher should be <b>as gentle as a lamb</b> toward the children.</li> <li>2. My husband's attitude toward her mother is <b>as gentle as a lamb</b>.</li> </ol>	



## A GREY AREA



Photo by eraputri23

### Meaning

Something unclear.



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. They didn't want to make any judgement about the case since they are still in <b>a grey area</b>.</li> <li>2. I don't want to give any comments on the election result because it's still in <b>a grey area</b>.</li> </ol>	





## A HEART BEAT



Photo by Karolina Grabowska from Pexels

### Meaning

Immediately. This is especially used in hypothetical situations.



### Usage:

1. I will accept Rio's proposal **a heartbeat** when he asks me to marry him.
2. My oldest brother will come in **a heartbeat** when I am in trouble.

### My Note:



## ALL EARS



Photo by [Alexandr Podvalny](#) from [Pexels](#)

### Meaning

Listening willingly



Usage:	My Note:
<p>Yuni: I am going to tell you a secret. Are you ready for listening to my story?</p> <p>Nisa : Yes, <b>I'm all ears.</b></p>	



## A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK



Photo by [Harry Cooke](#) from [Pexels](#)

**Meaning**  
A hard time.



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I am in <b>a needle in a haystack</b> to find my lost purse.</li> <li>2. Rani is in <b>a needle in a haystack</b> to finish all of her tasks.</li> </ol>	



Photo by [Ihsan Aditva](#) from [Pexels](#)



## AT THE DROP OF A HAT

### Meaning

Without any hesitation; instantly.



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Just call Aisyah when you need a help. She will come to your house <b>at the drop of a hat</b>.</li> <li>2. If you have a problem to operate the computer, please call me. I will come to help you <b>at the drop of a hat</b>.</li> </ol>	



## BACK AND FORTH



Photo by [Fauzels](#) from [Pexels](#)

### Meaning

Dialogue, negotiations



### Usage:

We need to have the **back and forth** before deciding which design to use for our book cover.

### My Note:



## BAG OF TRICKS



Photo by [Grabowska](#) from [Pexels](#)

### Meaning

A set of methods or resources.



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. When a child encounters a complex problem in life, there will come a mother with her <b>bag of tricks</b> to solve the problem.</li> <li>2. When you have a complex problem within your emotion that you cannot tell anybody around you, go and see psychiatric. The psychiatric may have <b>bag of tricks</b> to help you.</li> </ol>	



## BEAT AROUND THE BUSH



Photo by [Grabowska](#) from [Pexels](#)

### Meaning

Avoiding a subject by talking about irrelevant things



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why Andi always <b>beat around the bush</b> when I ask him to give my money back.</li> <li>2. A liar always <b>beat around the bush</b> when being asked to tell the truth.</li> </ol>	



## BETTER LATE THAN NEVER



Photo by Cats Coming from [Pexels](#)

### Meaning

It implies that a belated achievement  
Better than not reaching a goal at all.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>1. I almost forget to congratulate you on your achievement as the best graduated student. Even so, <b>better late than never</b>, right?</p> <p>2. You may have just started your dream at this age but that's okay. <b>Better late than never.</b></p>	





## BIG FISH



Photo by Nadia Chiesi from [Pexels](#)

### Meaning

Important person



### Usage:

1. Since Yani is the **big fish** in this company, you have better ask her an advice to solve your problem.
2. Every teacher always follows Mr. Hendra instruction since he is the **big fish** in this school.

### My Note:



## BOOK WORM



Photo by eraputri23

### Meaning

Someone who reads a lot.




Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Satyo is called a <b>bookworm</b> by his friends because he really loves to read many books.</li> <li>2. My hobby is reading many kinds of books. Therefore, my friend is named me a <b>bookworm</b>.</li> </ol>	




## BRAINSTORM

**Meaning**  
To generate many ideas quickly.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>To decrease your nervousness during to the speaking contest, you should better <b>brainstorm</b> your speech topic.</p>	



Photo by [Andrea Piacquadio](#) from Pexels

 **BREAK A LEG**

**Meaning**  
Good Luck.

Usage:	My Note:
<p>1. <b>Break a leg</b> for your final examination, Ahmad.</p> <p>2. Rena: Today you will a have a job interview, will you? Sinta: Yes, I will. I am little bit nervous but I hope that everything will be okay. Rena: <b>Break a leg</b> for your job interview Sinta. I know you can do it well.</p>	



## BREAK THE BANK



Photo by [Mohamad Trilaksono](#) from Pixabay

### Meaning

To be very expensive or too expensive, to cost a lot of money.



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Let's eat at the new restaurant next to Islamic Centre. Don't worry about the price because it won't <b>break the bank</b>.</li> <li>I cannot afford buying a dress in that store because it may <b>break the bank</b>.</li> </ol>	



## BREAK THE ICE



Photo by Pixabay from [Pexels](#)

### Meaning

To get something started, particularly through a social introduction or conversation



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It hard to <b>break the ice</b> with person that you have just met at the first day of school.</li> <li>2. It will not be easy to <b>break the ice</b> with introvert person.</li> </ol>	



**CALL IT A DAY**



Photo by Eraputri23

**Meaning**

To stop working on something



**Usage:**

You have worked very hard to finish your thesis these few days. How about **calling it a day** for today?

**My Note:**



Photo by Vlad Chetan from Pexels



## CHASE RAINBOWS

### Meaning

To pursue unrealistic goals.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>1. Even if it seems like <b>chasing rainbows</b> to become a pilot, Asma will never give up her dream.</p> <p>2. My dream to work on American embassy seems like <b>chasing rainbows</b> but who know it might be coming true.</p>	





## CHILL OUT



Photo by Thought Catalog from [Pexels](#)

### Meaning

Do something that helps them to calm down and relax for a while



Usage:	My Note:
<p>1. Don't worry! Just <b>chill out</b>. Regretting over something that already happening won't solve any problem.</p> <p>2. Just <b>chill out</b>! You won't fail. Believe me.</p>	

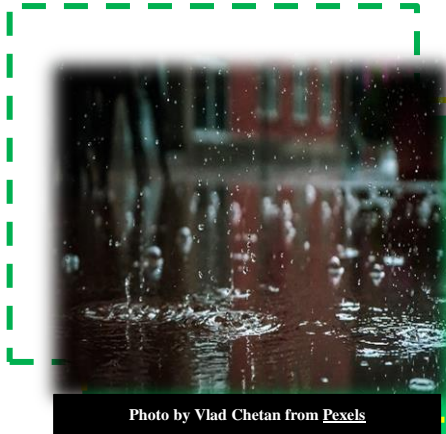


Photo by Vlad Chetan from [Pexels](#)



## COME RAIN OR SHINE

### Meaning

Do regularly, whatever the circumstances



Usage:	My Note:
<p>1. I always go to library every Saturday, <b>come rain or shine</b>.</p> <p>2. Maria always comes to her office on time, <b>come rain or shine</b>.</p>	



Photo by Jeff Stapleton from Pexels



## COME WHAT MAY

### Meaning

No matter what happens.



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Come what may</b>, I need to tell Sarah the truth.</li> <li>2. <b>Come what may</b>, we couldn't hurt other people.</li> </ol>	



## COST AN ARM AND A LEG



Photo by Karolina Grabowska from Pexels

### Meaning

When something is very expensive.



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The dress that Ella bought from a famous designer <b>costs an arm and a leg</b>.</li> <li>Don't dare to touch the painting because it <b>costs an arm and a leg</b>.</li> </ol>	



Photo by Tamba Budiarsarna from Pexels



## COUCH POTATO

### Meaning

A lazy person who doesn't do much exercise and spends a lot of time on the sofa watching television.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>After being fired from his company, Indra becomes <b>a couch potato.</b></p>	



## DOWN TO EARTH



Photo by Artem Beliaikin from Pexels

### Meaning

If someone is down to earth, they are practical and sensible.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>1. Maudy Ayunda is a <b>down to earth</b> and generous actress. Therefore, her fans love her.</p> <p>2. Even though Musa has become a successful person, he is still <b>down to the earth</b>.</p>	



Photo by Eraputri23

**DOWN THE ROAD****Meaning**

In the future (in your lifetime).



Usage:	My Note:
<p>1. You will regret your decision <b>down the road</b> if you do not carefully think about it now.</p> <p>2. If you aren't working hard in your youth, you will regret <b>down the road</b>.</p>	



**EARLY BIRD**



Photo by Flo Maderebner from Pexels

**Meaning**

Someone who does something before the usual time, or someone who gets up early.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>We need to be hurried to get Ramadan sale items because the <b>early bird</b> will quickly buy all the items that we want to buy.</p>	




**EYE CATCHING**


Photo by Gustavo Fring from Pexels

**Meaning**

Tending to attract attention,  
visually attractive, striking



Usage:	My Note:
<p>1. The dresses displayed on storefront of the store are <b>eye catching</b>.</p> <p>2. The new appparent of the Samarinda coffee shop is really <b>eye catching</b>.</p>	



**FIGURE OUT**



Photo by Skitterphoto from Pexels

**Meaning**

Be able to understand something or solve a problem; understand what someone is like and why they behave in the way they do.



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I couldn't <b>figure out</b> your decision on why you stop working.</li> <li>2. He divorces with her wife because he couldn't <b>figure out</b> her wife's character.</li> </ol>	



## FIND YOUR FEET

### Meaning

To become familiar with and confident in a new situation.

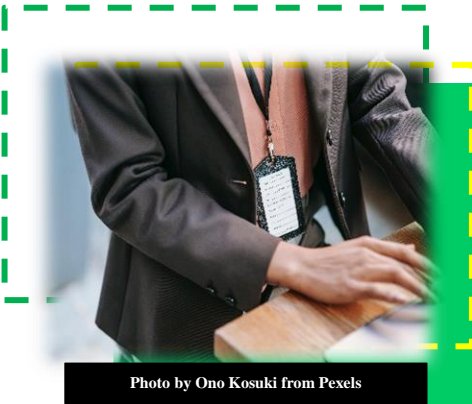


Photo by Ono Kosuki from Pexels



Usage:	My Note:
<p>Is it still hard for you to <b>find your feet</b> in the new office?</p>	



## FREAK OUT



Photo by Andrea Piacquadio from Pexels

### Meaning

A wildly irrational reaction.



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. My twin sister will <b>freak out</b> when she knows that I lost her favourite book.</li> <li>2. The fact that I was announced as the winner of the International English Competition totally <b>freaks me out.</b></li> </ol>	



## GET THE AXE



Photo Lukas from Pexels

**Meaning**  
Lose the job.



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. He <b>gets the axe</b> from his company for only a small mistake.</li><li>2. Gina <b>gets the axe</b> because of her bad attitude.</li></ol>	



Photo by Roman Odintsov from Pexels



## GOOD EGG

### Meaning

A likeable person.



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Do you know my classmate Yusuf? He is a <b>good egg</b>.</li> <li>2. Almost all of my college friends are <b>good eggs</b>.</li> </ol>	



## HANG IN THERE



Photo Cottonbro from Pexels

### Meaning

Be patient, things will work out.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>Raihan: I can't believe that I mess my presentation.</p> <p>Salma : <b>Hang in there</b>, Han. I believe that everything will be okay. I think you are not as bad as you think.</p>	



Photo by Alexandr Podvalny from Pexels



## HAVE A BLAST

### Meaning

Have a very good time.



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Have a blast</b> for your holiday to Bali, Mr. Hilman.</li> <li>2. <b>Have a blast</b> for your visit to Samarinda.</li> </ol>	





## HAVE BUTTERFLIES IN YOUR STOMACH



Photo by Pixabay from Pexels

**Meaning**  
Excited and nervous.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>1. I <b>have butterflies in my stomach</b> since it was my first experience of travelling abroad without my family.</p> <p>2. I <b>have butterflies in my stomach</b> for being able to present my paper at the International Conference.</p>	



## HEAD IN THE CLOUDS

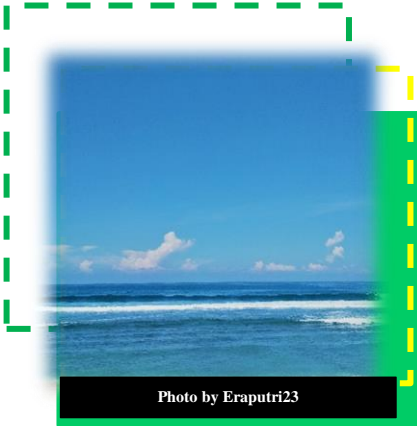


Photo by Eraputri23

### Meaning

Not in touch with the ground realities.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>She has a <b>head in the clouds</b> to think of working in the Garuda Indonesia airline.</p>	



Photo by [Oziel Gómez](#) from Pexels



## HIT THE BOOKS

### Meaning

To study, especially with a particular intensity.

It is used as a verb – **hit** the books.



### Usage:

The reason behind her failure is because she didn't **hit the books** when she should.

### My Note:



## HIT THE JACKPOT



Photo by [Pixabay](#) from Pexels

### Meaning

Do something that brings great success



Usage:	My Note:
<p>Agus invests in SAMSAN Tech company recently. He told me that he <b>hit the jackpot</b>.</p>	

## Idioms beginning with letter I

**I COULD EAT A HORSE**

Photo by Annisa Shinta Resti

**Meaning**

Extremely Hungry.

**Usage:**

1. I'm so glad you ordered an extra-large chicken soup and Satay, **I could eat a horse**.
2. I feel **I could eat a horse** for waiting so long. Could I have two bowls of chicken noodle?

**My Note:**



**IT NEVER RAINS BUT IT POURS**



Photo by [Andrea Piacquadio](#) from Pexels

**Meaning**

Bad luck and bad things tend to happen at the same time.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>I couldn't believe that they fired me. They fired me because I came late to the office. The reason for being late is because I got into an accident. However, they didn't believe me. <b>It never rains but it pours!</b></p>	



## IN TOUCH

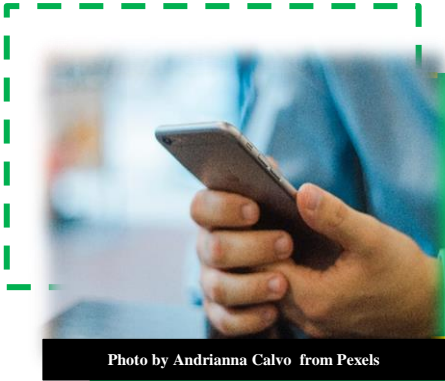


Photo by Andrianna Calvo from Pexels

**Meaning**  
In contact.



Usage:	My Note:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Even you are far away I hope we will be still <b>in touch</b>.</li> <li>2. When you move into another country don't forget to text me and keep <b>in touch</b>.</li> </ol>	

 **JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER**



Photo by Dessy Zulya

**Meaning**

Not making judgments based on appearance.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>1. Don't <b>judge a book by its cover</b>. I know Adam seems like a cold-hearted person, but he is actually a kind-hearted person.</p> <p>2. When we first meet someone, we shouldn't <b>judge a book by its cover</b>. How can we judge someone when we only meet, he/she once?</p>	





**KILL TIME**



Photo by Pixabay from Pexels

**Meaning**

To do something which is not very useful or interesting to pass the time



**Usage:**

1. In my spare time, I often **kill time** by watching some movies.
2. I am just lying on my bed when I am alone at home.

**My Note:**

Blank area for personal notes.

 **KILL TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE**



Photo by Andrianna Calvo from Pexels

**Meaning**

Act in such a way as to produce two desirable effects.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>I visit Malang to have a vacation, while there, I <b>kill two birds with one stone</b> and visit my family.</p>	



## KNOW WHAT'S WHAT

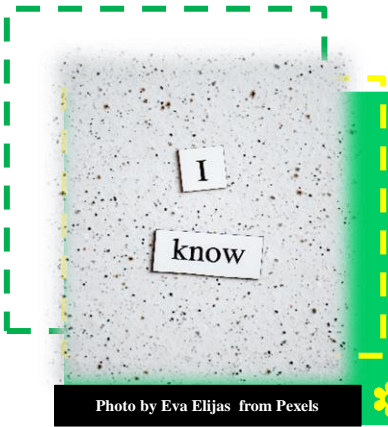


Photo by Eva Elijas from Pexels

### Meaning

Know the important facts about a situation.



Usage:	My Note:
Hana better <b>knows what's what</b> before blaming Dava for causing trouble.	



## LET ONE'S HAIR DOWN



Photo by Lina Kivaka from Pexels

### Meaning

To relax and enjoy themselves.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>1. I can't <b>let my hair down</b> at Zahra's party because I am not really close with anybody.</p> <p>2. I could only <b>let my hair down</b> when I am with my best friends.</p>	



## ME TIME



Photo by Eraputri23

### Meaning

Activities are undertaken for one's enjoyment, free from responsibilities to others.



### Usage:

After working hard in the weekdays, weekends are my chance for having **me time**. Doing whatever I want to do and relax myself.

### My Note:



## MISS THE BOAT



Photo by Ahmad Syahrir from Pexels

### Meaning

Miss an opportunity.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>We should have bought the ticket a week before the show. Now it is too late we <b>miss the boat</b> to watch the show.</p>	



## NO PAIN, NO GAIN



Photo by Inzmam Khan from Pexels

### Meaning

You need to suffer or work hard to get what you want or deserve.



### Usage:

Sarah: I can't stand it anymore to learn to ride a motorcycle. It is difficult for me. I am so tired.

Nina : Don't give up. You can do it. Remember, **no pain, no gain!**

### My Note:



## NO SPRING CHICKEN



Photo by Wildan Zainul Faki from Pexels

### Meaning

To say that someone is no spring chicken means that they are quite old or well past their youth.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>I can't do heavy work anymore because I'm <b>no spring chicken</b>.</p>	





**ON A ROLL**



Photo by Pixabay from Pexels

**Meaning**

Having a consistent run of success.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>Dhana is <b>on a roll</b> for winning the math competition, then becoming the best student in his school, and now he gets a scholarship to continue his study at a top university. He is lucky.</p>	



## ONCE IN A WHILE



Photo by Eraputri23

**Meaning**  
Occasionally.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>1. My father likes to drink coffee but not often only <b>once in a while</b>.</p> <p>2. When the holiday comes, we go to Balikpapan <b>once in a while</b>.</p>	



**ON CLOUD NINE**



Photo by Eraputri23

**Meaning**  
Very happy.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>1. I was <b>on cloud nine</b> when he asks me to marry him.</p> <p>2. I am <b>on cloud nine</b> when winning a free ticket to visit Korea.</p>	

**ON POINT**

Photo by Cottonbro from Pexels

**Meaning**  
Well Done.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>Your performance in drama theatre yesterday was <b>on point</b>. I really love how you get into your role.</p>	



**ON THE SPOT**



Photo by Cottonbro from Pexels

**Meaning**

Immediately, with no intervening time.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>She gives me money <b>on the spot</b> when I ask her to lend some money. That's maybe because I had helped her back then when she was in a difficult time.</p>	

**OUT OF WORK**

Unemployed

Photo by Anna Tarazevich from Pexels

**Meaning**  
Unemployed.

Usage:	My Note:
<p>1. I have just graduated from my university so I am still <b>out of work</b>.</p> <p>2. Uncle Fahri is <b>out of work</b> even though he has been finished his study for a long time ago.</p>	



## PIECE OF CAKE



Photo by Eraputri23

### Meaning

Having a consistent run of success.



### Usage:

Question number one is really **piece of cake**. As soon as I see it, I directly know the answer.

### My Note:



Photo by Markus Spiske from Pexels



## PUT THE BRAKES ON

### Meaning

Slow something down.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>The decrease of public purchasing power and consumption <b>put the brakes on</b> the economic growth in Indonesia.</p>	





**RAINING CATS AND DOGS**



Photo by Karolina Grabowska from Pexels

**Meaning**

Raining very heavily.



**Usage:**

My father has just washed his car, and suddenly the weather turns into **raining cats and dogs** outside.

**My Note:**



## RING A BELL



Photo by Mike from Pexels

**Meaning**  
Sound Familiar.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>Have we met before because your name <b>rings</b> me <b>a bell</b>? I remember hearing it somewhere.</p>	



## ROUND THE BEND



Photo by Andrea Piacquadio from Pexels

### Meaning

Crazy: Insane



Usage:	My Note:
<p>You act strange whole the day. Don't tell me you become <b>round the bend</b> because of breaking up with your girlfriend.</p>	

## RUN THE TABLE



Photo by Olenka Sergienko from Pexels

### Meaning

Win every game or contest



Usage:	My Note:
<p>If our team <b>runs the table</b> for all national competitions, we will have a chance to be selected as the representative candidate for the international competition.</p>	



## SEE EYE TO EYE

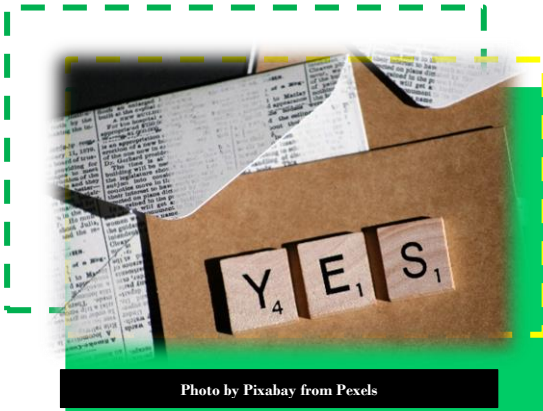


Photo by Pixabay from Pexels

### Meaning

Agree or have a similar attitude



### Usage:

Putra is really glad that he **sees eye to eye** with me about the topic of our group assignment.

### My Note:



Photo by Moto Moto from Pexels



## SELLING POINT

### Meaning

An attractive feature of something for sale.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>One of the <b>unique selling points</b> of handmade batik is its making process. The pattern in handmade batik made using a tool called canting.</p>	



## SHED LIGHT ON (SOMETHING)



Photo by Kehn Hermano from Pexels

### Meaning

Revealing information about something or to clarify something.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>When the accident happened, you were there, right? Could you <b>shed light on</b> what was happening?</p>	



## SICK AS A PARROT



Photo by Andrea Piacquadio from Pexels

**Meaning**  
Verry Dissapointed



Usage:	My Note:
<p>I was <b>sick as a parrot</b> when both of my best friends were hanging out together without inviting me in.</p>	





## SMALL POTATOES



Photo by Pixabay from Pexels

**Meaning**  
Unimportant



Usage:	My Note:
<p>His presentation starts leading to a non-sense talk. Could he just focus on his important points rather than talking about <b>small potatoes</b> things?</p>	



## SOAK UP THE SUN



Photo by Eraputri23

### Meaning

To enjoy the sun.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>1. Let's go to Samarendah park and <b>soak up the sun</b>.</p> <p>2. Beach is a good place for <b>soaking up the sun</b>.</p>	



## SPILL THE BEANS



Photo by Andrea Piacquadio from Pexels

### Meaning

Revealing secret information.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>Please don't <b>spill the beans</b>!</p> <p>Widya want to make a surprise on Nia graduation party.</p>	



## SPLASH OUT



Photo by Andrea Piacquadio from Pexels

### Meaning

Spending a lot of money on something.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>1. We <b>splash out</b> on paying the transportation fees for our holiday in Derawan island last month.</p> <p>2. I regret for <b>splashing out</b> on online shopping. Now I cannot save my money at all.</p>	



## SPLIT UP



Photo by Kehn Hermano f

### Meaning

End a relationship



Usage:	My Note:
<p>After ten years together, I can't believe that my sister had finally <b>split up</b> with her boyfriend.</p>	



## STATE OF THE ART



Photo by Junior Teixeira from Pexels

### Meaning

If something is state-of-the-art, it's the latest and best example of something, or it shows the most recent developments in its field.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>I have just bought a new laptop and I recently found out that it has <b>state-of-the-art</b> feature where not available in other laptops.</p>	



## STEP ON SOMEONE'S TOES



Photo by Keira Burton from Pexels

### Meaning

Causing pain, to offend or insult someone



Usage:	My Note:
<p>Please don't <b>step on her toes</b> and make the condition becoming worse. She had just lost her brother.</p>	



TAKE YOUR TIME

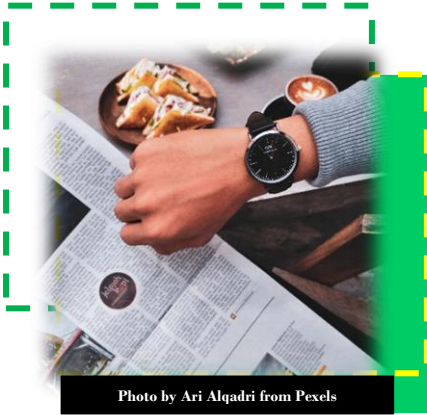


Photo by Ari Alqadri from Pexels

Meaning

Don't hurry, work at a relaxed pace.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>Just <b>take your time</b> to capture the scenery. We still have much time before continuing to the next destination.</p>	






## TAKE IT EASY



Photo by Thirdman from Pexels

**Meaning**

When you relax or do things at a comfortable pace, you take it easy.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>Just <b>take it easy</b> and don't be rush. We still have much time to finish this project.</p>	



## THE TIP OF THE ICE BERG



Photo by Thirdman from Pexels

### Meaning

A small part of a problem that is known about when there is a much larger part that is not known about.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>The information you got from your friend is only <b>the tip of the iceberg</b>. You better call the contact person written in the pamphlet to get more information about the competition.</p>	



## THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX

THINK  
ABOUT  
THINGS  
DIFFERENTLY

Photo by Ivan Bertolazzi from Pexels

### Meaning

Try to solve a problem originally; think creatively.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>Fried rice is food that we can find anywhere in Samarinda. Therefore, if we want to sell fried rice, we must <b>think outside the box</b> and make our food different from other foods.</p>	



## THROW IN THE TOWEL



Photo by Anna Shvets from Pexels

**Meaning**  
To give up, admit defeat.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>I have tried to make the nastar cookies all day. However, in the end, it's burnt. It makes me want to <b>throw in the towel</b> if I should start to make it</p>	



## TIE THE KNOT



Photo by Deden Dicky Ramdhani from Pexels

**Meaning**  
Get Married.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>I think we have reached the right time to <b>tie the knot</b>. We are mature enough and we also already have a good job.</p>	




## TIME IS MONEY



Photo by Karolina Grabowska from Pexels

**Meaning**  
 Time is valuable, so don't waste it.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>Why do you take so long? Do you know, <b>time is money</b>? You can't waste my precious time like this for the next time.</p>	



## TOP BANANA



Photo by Andrea Piacquadio from Pexels

### Meaning

The most important person  
in an organization or group..



### Usage:

A: Who is the **top banana** in this class?  
B: It is, of course, our class captain because he is good at sport and good in the lessons. Almost all teachers like him.

### My Note:



## TWO PEAS IN A POD



Photo by Victoria Borodina from Pexels

### Meaning

Two people who have similar interests, thoughts, tastes, appearances, etc.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>You and Zakia seem really like to watch thriller movies. You are both indeed <b>two peas in a pod</b>.</p>	





**UNDER THE WEATHER**



Photo by Pixabay from Pexels

**Meaning**  
Feeling ill.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>May I go home earlier? I am <b>under the weather</b>. I cannot focus on the lesson.</p>	



## UP IN ARMS



Photo by Freestocks.org from Pexels

### Meaning

Angry about something.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>The public is <b>up in arms</b> with the mayor for changing a green space into a shopping centre..</p>	

 **UP THE AIR**



Photo by Robert Nagy from Pexels

**Meaning**

Something has not been resolved, finished, or answered yet. It usually refers to a plan or a decision that has not been decided or being uncertain.

Usage:	My Note:
<p>At first, we plan to have a vacation to Biduk-biduk. However, now everything is <b>up in the air</b> because Sarah is busy.</p>	



**WAIT AND SEE**



Photo by Felipe Cespedes from Pexels

**Meaning**

You wait to see what happens before doing or deciding something.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>You must <b>wait and see</b> until your swab test result come out before going to Balikpapan.</p>	



## WHITE LIE



Photo by Victoria Borodina from Pexels

### Meaning

Innocent lie to protect another person's feelings.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>It was a <b>white lie</b> when I told Dita that her brownie cake is delicious. She spent much time making it. I didn't have the heart to see her sad.</p>	



## WITH BELLS ON (ONE'S TOES)

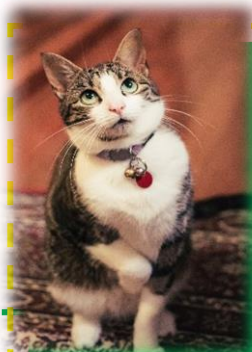


Photo by Luan Oosthuizen from Pexels

### Meaning

Eagerly, willingly, and on time.



Usage:	My Note:
<p>My little sister immediately runs to me with <b>bells on</b> as soon as I get out of the car because she really misses me.</p>	



## YOUNG AT HEART



Photo by Eraputri23

### Meaning

Having a youthful outlook, regardless of age.



### Usage:

Although grandma Ami is almost 70, she is **young at heart**. She is still energetic.

### My Note:

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## AUTHOR PROFILE

Dina Destari is a mother of two teenagers, wife, poet, lecturer, and trader. A dedicated hard-working teacher and compassionate educational professional who concern with the field of English for non-native speaking countries. Innovative, creative, and supportive who is committed to helping her students make the most of their abilities through effective and engaging teaching practices. Skilled at developing lesson plans to suit her students' varied interests and boost their confidence. Her passion for writing EFL books through her empirical experience as a teacher for about 20 years has been shown by her ideas from the series book **Be Familiar with English in Focus 1, 2, and 3**.

She focuses on integrated skills of EFL learners most simply, fun, and covers a valuable investment to less common issues in teaching and learning English. She is a talented communicator, able to create effective learning plans that develop and improve reading, writing, listening, and communication skills in her courses. Her books are good at encouraging a love of English in EFL learners as it meets the students' needs.



# ENGLISH



## *Idioms in Use for EFL*

Idioms are phrases or expressions that have hidden meaning and if you take them word by word, they might not make much sense. Idioms share some common features and most of which cannot be understood literally. It is culturally specific aspects of given a language, we need to have in mind the idea of it since the idioms have their own characteristics.

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Kind regards,

Dina Destari



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**IKAPI**  
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ISBN 978-623-348-116-8



9 786233 481168