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| Idiom | Meaning |
| 1. get a (real) kick out of something 2. do something for kicks 3. jump for joy 4. be floating/ walking on air 5. something makes your day 6. makes all the difference (to something) 7. works/goes/runs like a dream 8. works like magic 9. goes from strength to strength 10. does the trick 11. is the be-all-and-end-all (of something) 12. is / turns out to be a blessing in disguise 13. someone/something is a victim of their/its own success 14. someone doesn't have the ghost of a chance (of doing something) 15. someone/something gives up the ghost 16. someone/something leaves their/its mark (on someone/something) 17. look right/straight through someone 18. leave someone in the lurch 19. give someone a hard/ rough/tough time 20. keep a lid on something 21. let (yourself) go 22. blow something out of (all) proportion 23. be in someone's good books 24. get on like a house on fire 25. keep/get/be/stay in touch with someone 26. make it up to someone 27. take a shine to 28. have a soft spot for 29. be at loggerheads (of two people or groups) 30. be (talking) at cross-purposes (of two people or groups) 31. have it in for someone 32. have it out with someone 33. rub someone up the wrong way 34. two-time someone 35. keep someone/something at bay 36. keep yourself to yourself 37. be on the breadline 38. live in the lap of luxury 39. well off /well-to-do/ well-heeled 40. spend money like water 41. tighten your belt 42. make a killing 43. be a money spinner 44. once in a lifetime 45. once in a blue moon 46. once and for all 47. off and on / on and off 48. from time to time nine times out of ten 49. red tape 50. be in the red 51. catch someone red-handed 52. a red herring 53. take the plunge 54. go back to square one 55. be wide of the mark 56. do something on the spur of the moment (spur = metal on boot which makes horse go faster) 57. be on the cards 58. your best bet 59. when the chips are down (chips = gambling pieces) 60. goes to the dogs 61. let the cat out of the bag 62. put the cat among the pigeons 63. not (enough) room to swing a cat 64. have egg on your face 65. be the best/greatest thing since sliced bread 66. be your bread and butter 67. bear fruit 68. push the boat out 69. rock the boat 70. miss the boat 71. burn one's boats/bridges 72. be in the same boat 73. steer clear of 74. sail close to the wind 75. be plain sailing 76. be in the doldrums (doldrums = area of sea with no wind) 77. put/stick your oar in (oar = long piece of wood used for rowing a boat) 78. show someone the ropes 79. be a nervous wreck (wreck = boat that's been destroyed, e.g. by hitting rocks) 80. clear the decks (deck = flat open area on boat) 81. be (all) at sea 82. put ideas into someone's head 83. get your head (a)round (usually - can't get (my) head (a)round) 84. off the top of your head 85. make/pull a face 86. keep a straight face 87. put a brave face on something 88. take something at face value 89. on the face of it 90. face to face 91. see the light at the end of the tunnel 92. wave a magic wand 93. tie up a few loose ends 94. fall into place 95. don't push your luck! 96. it's the luck of the draw 97. be thrilled to bits 98. be down in the dumps 99. work against the clock 100. play your cards right | 1. very much enjoy doing something 2. do something because it is exciting, usually something dangerous 3. be very happy and excited about something that has happened 4. be very happy about something good that has happened 5. something makes you feel very happy 6. has a very good effect on a situation or a thing 7. works/goes/runs very well indeed 8. works immediately and very well indeed 9. gets better and better 10. solves a problem very well 11. is the most important thing (often used in the negative: not the be-all-and-end-all) 12. has a good effect even 13. their/its success has negative effects as well as or instead of positive ones 14. they have no chance at all 15. they/it stop(s) working or they stop trying to succeed because they know they will not 16. they have / it has an effect (usually negative) that changes someone or something for ever 17. behave as if you do not see someone either because you do not notice them or because you are ignoring them 18. leave someone at a time when they need you to stay and help them 19. make things difficult for someone 20. control the level of something in order to stop it increasing 21. either take less care of your appearance or relax completely and enjoy yourself 22. behave as if something that has happened is much worse than it really is 23. that person is pleased with you possibly only temporarily 24. get on extremely well with someone 25. keep/get/be/stay in contact with someone 26. do something good for someone you have done something bad to in the past 27. like someone immediately (informal) 28. feel a lot of affection for one particular person, often without knowing why 29. disagree strongly with each other 30. not understand each other because they are trying to do or say different things 31. be determined to criticise or harm someone 32. talk to someone about something they have done in order to solve the problem 33. irritate someone 34. have a romantic or sexual relationship with two people at the same time 35. prevent someone/something from coming near or harming you 36. prefer to be on your own and avoid talking with or doing things with other people 37. be very poor 38. live an extremely comfortable life, because you have a lot of money 39. having plenty of money 40. spend too much, often without thinking about it 41. spend less than you did before, because you have less money 42. earn a lot of money very easily 43. be a successful way of making money 44. never likely to happen again 45. very rarely 46. finally and definitely 47. sometimes, but not regularly or continuously 48. sometimes, but not regularly almost always 49. official rules and bureaucracy that make it difficult to do something 50. have a negative amount in your bank balance 51. catch someone at the moment they are doing something wrong 52. something unimportant that takes attention away from the main subject 53. do something important or difficult that you've been thinking of doing for a long time 54. go back to the beginning of a project, because previous attempts have failed 55. be wrong or miss what you were trying to hit 56. do something suddenly, without planning 57. be likely to happen 58. the best thing you can do to achieve the result you want 59. when you are in a difficult situation, especially one which tests whether you can trust people 60. it goes from a good situation/condition to a bad one 61. you accidentally tell people a secret / something you should not tell them 62. you create a crisis or a problematic situation 63. there is very little room or space somewhere 64. be left feeling stupid or embarrassed because of something you did 65. be fantastic (informal) 66. be an activity or job you do to get the money you need 67. produce a positive result 68. spend a lot of money, usually because you are celebrating 69. do or say something that causes problems, usually when you try to change a situation that other people do not want to change 70. be too late to get something you want 71. do something that makes it impossible for you to go back to the situation you were in before 72. be in the same, usually difficult, situation 73. avoid someone or something because it is dangerous for you 74. take risks that could cause problems or danger (usually used in the continuous) 75. be very easy 76. (of a business) be not very successful; (of a person) feel sad and without energy 77. join a discussion when the other participants do not want you to (informal) 78. show someone how to do a job or activity 79. be mentally and physically exhausted 80. get ready for action 81. be confused 82. make someone want to do something they had not wanted to do before (usually something stupid) 83. come to fully accept or understand something (informal) 84. without thinking about it for very long or looking at something that has been written about it 85. show that you do not like something by making an unpleasant expression 86. not to laugh or change your expression even though you want to laugh 87. pretend you are happy about something when you are not happy 88. accept something as it looks without thinking about whether it might, in fact, not be quite what it appears 89. according to the appearance of something 90. with another person in their presence rather than, say, by phone or letter 91. something makes you believe that a difficult and unpleasant situation is coming to an end 92. find an easy way to solve a problem 93. deal with the last fewthings that need to be done before something is completed 94. you understand something that you did not understand before, or everything goes well 95. don't try too hard to get what you want and risk losing what you have achieved. 96. it's a matter of chance and you have no control over it. 97. be very happy and excited 98. depressed / in low spirits 99. work fast because you only have limited time 100. you behave in the right way to achieve what you want |