



# IDIOMS WITH **BREAK**

- ❑ **(to) break away:** (to go away abruptly; to escape).  
The prisoner broke away from his guards and the police looked on helplessly.
- ❑ **(to) break down:** (collapse: to fail completely). We were watching 'Titanic' on the T.V. when electricity broke down.
- ❑ **(to) break in:** (to train horses). He breaks in horses for the races.
- ❑ **(to) break into:** (to enter violently). The thieves broke into the house in the early hours of the morning.
- ❑ **(to) break news:** (to make something known- especially bad news). He broke the news of the death of his father sometime after his arrival.



# IDIOMS WITH **BRING**

- (to) bring about:** (to cause). Her foolishness brought about the ruin of the whole family.
- (to) bring down:** (to decrease): The Government has not been able to bring down the prices of essential commodities.
- (to) bring forth:** (to produce). The plants bring forth leaves and flowers during spring season.
- (to) bring home:** (to impress; to prove). The Architect brought home the importance of the project to his employer.
- (to) bring off:** (to rescue). He went to the marooned village and brought off a number of women and children.



# IDIOMS WITH CALL

- ❑ **(to) call at:** (to pay a visit). I called at her house last evening but she refused to see me.
- ❑ **(to) call for:** (to require). The situation is very difficult and calls for delicate handling.
- ❑ **(to) call forth:** (to bring out). Foreign aggression calls forth the best in a nation.
- ❑ **(to) call in:** (to send for). The patient is in a coma, please call in the doctor immediately.
- ❑ **(to) call in question:** (to challenge). Elders do not like their decision to be called in question by their offspring.



# IDIOMS WITH **CARRY**

- ❑ **(to) carry:** (to win a motion). The motion was carried by two thirds majority.
- ❑ **(to) carry away:** (to move somebody's feelings greatly). We should not be carried away by slogans.
- ❑ **(to) carry off:** (to cause the death of). Hundreds of persons were carried off by the earth-quake.
- ❑ **(to) carry on:** (to manage). He carried on the good work started by his elders.
- ❑ **to carry out:** (to execute). The plan has to be carried out as early as possible.



# IDIOMS WITH COME

- (to) come about:** (to happen). How did this change about?
- (to) Come by:** (to gain). He came by a fortune after the death of his uncle.
- (to) come off** (to take place). When does the convocation come off
- (to) come out:** (to be published). This magazine comes out every month.
- (to) come round:** (to agree). She has come round to your views after last night's dialogue



# IDIOMS WITH **FALL**

- (to) fall away:** (to revolt). Colonies fall away from Imperial France one by one.
- (to) fall back:** (to retreat). When the police used tear gas shells, the rioters fell back.
- (to) fall back upon:** (to have recourse to). You must have some money regularly to fall back upon in time of need.
- (to) fall flat:** (to fail). All advice fell flat on him.
- (to) fall for:** (to be attracted to). The only flaw in his character is that he falls for money.



# IDIOMS WITH **GET**

- ❑ **(to) get away:** (to escape). The thieves got away with all the cash and jewelry in the house.
- ❑ **(to) get down:** (to write to, dictation). The Manager called the stenographer and asked him to get down the notes quickly.
- ❑ **(to) get in:** (to enter). He snatched the purse from that lady, got in the car and drove off.
- ❑ **(to) get off:** (to escape). Ha used his Contacts and got off with a fine only.
- ❑ **(to) get on:** (to live with). It is very difficult to get on with a jealous wife.



# IDIOMS WITH GIVE

- (to) give away:** (to distribute). The Vice Chancellor gave away the prizes to the prize winners.
- (to) give chase:** (to pursue). The police party gave a hard chase to the robbers and succeeded in arresting them.
- (to) give in:** (to yield). The strikers will not give in easily
- (to) give out:** (to announce). It was given out that the wedding will take place on Monday next.
- Give rise to:** (to cause). Non-serious behaviors give rise to many problems.





# IDIOMS WITH GO

- (to) go by:** (to judge from). We should not go by appearances only.
- (to) go down:** (to decrease in price). Shares of many companies have gone down.
- (to) go for:** (to be sold at). These watches are going for \$200 each.
- (to) go for a song:** (to be sold for much less than the true value). This painting is going for a song.
- (to) go into:** (to examine: to investigate). The Director promised to go into the matter and to do justice to the aggrieved party.



# IDIOMS WITH **HAVE**

- ❑ **(to) have a brush with:** (to have a slight encounter).  
The Speaker of the National Assembly had a brush with one of the speakers.
- ❑ **(to) have clean hands:** (to be a person of integrity).  
She has clean hands in her dealings with everybody.
- ❑ **(to) have in hand:** (to have undertaken a work). I have a big project in hand.
- ❑ **(to) have no backbone:** (to lack vigor) He cannot face up to the situation because he has no backbone.
- ❑ **(to) have too many irons in the fire:** (to be over worked). He cannot handle the situation alone because he has too many irons in the fire.



# IDIOMS WITH **HOLD**

- (to) hold one's head high:** (to bear oneself proudly). He bears himself humbly rather than hold his head high.
- (to) hold one's own:** (to maintain one's position). In spite of forbidding circumstances she held her own.
- (to) hold oneself ready:** (to be prepared). The commander asked his men to hold themselves ready for the final assault.
- (to) hold out:** (to offer resistance), In spite of persistent attacks the rebels held out for over six months.
- (to) hold someone in high esteem:** (to have a high opinion). He holds his teachers in high esteem.



# IDIOMS WITH **KEEP**

- ❑ **(to) keep open house:** (to be hospitable to visitors).  
She keeps open house; she has the wherewithal to do so.
- ❑ **(to) keep someone in the dark:** (to hide something).  
I shall not keep you in the dark about future developments in this regard.
- ❑ **(to) keep something to oneself:** (not to disclose a secret), shall keep your secret to myself.
- ❑ **(to) keep the ball rolling:** (to keep something going)  
She had to say something or the other to keep the ball rolling.
- ❑ **(to) keep within bounds:** (to restrain). It is difficult to keep her within bounds when her passion is roused.



# IDIOMS WITH **MAKE**

- ❑ **(to) make common cause with:** (to cooperate). He made common cause with John to frustrate the efforts of their rivals.
- ❑ **(to) make friends :** (to win friendship). She has the knack of making friends with everyone she meets.
- ❑ **(to) make it up with:** (to settle differences). He can never make up with his wife on account of the difference in temperament.
- ❑ **(to) make one's mark:** (to do something noteworthy). He is a genuine worker and will make his mark one day.
- ❑ **(to) make room:** (to allow space or passage). Everyone was more than willing to make room for her.



# IDIOMS WITH **PLAY**

- (to) play false:** (to be deceitful). We should never play our friends false.
- (to) play one's cards well:** (to make clever use of one's opportunities). He played his card well and achieved success.
- (to) play something down:** (to make it seem unimportant). However hard you try to play it down, his benevolent act will not lose its importance.
- (to) play the game:** (to act fairly). We must play the game and refrain from acting dishonestly.
- (to) play truant:** (to stay away). Students sometimes play truant from their classes.



# IDIOMS WITH PUT

- ❑ **(to) put someone at his ease:** (to make one feel comfortable). We must put our guests at their ease to that they can enjoy their Visit.
- ❑ **(to) put someone in the picture:** (to tell the exact situation). Please put me in the picture before I go to the meeting.
- ❑ **(to) put someone on his guard:** (to warn). You should put him on his guard against the machinations of his partner.
- ❑ **(to) put two and two together:** (to draw a conclusion). I can put two and two together and find out what is going on in my house.
- ❑ **(to) put up with:** (tolerate). I can no longer put up with her impertinence.