Toppers' Wisdom

1600 +

IDIOMS & PHRASES

With Origin/tricks & Picture

For- SSC, Bank, Defence Exams





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PRASHANT SOLANKI ENGLISH

Toppers' Wisdom.....

PRASHANT SOLANKI SIR

ENGLISH EXPERT (SSC CPO AIR-29)

Sub-Inspector (Delhi Police)

TOPPERS' VOCAB

A Backseat Driver



Someone who gives unnecessary advice – बेवजह निर्देश देने वाला व्यक्ति

Origin/Tricks - Yeh Idiom 1920s ke samay America mein mashhoor hua. Us waqt cars sadak par nayi-nayi aayi thi. Aksar aisa hota tha ki Backseat par baithe huye passengers driver ko baar-baar tokte the— "Right modo," "Speed kam karo," "Arre! Saamne dekho!" Driver ko isse bahut chidh hoti thi kyunki actual control toh uske haath mein tha, par peeche baitha insaan 'expert' banne ki koshish kar raha tha. Dheere-dheere yeh 'Real-life driving' se hatkar unnecessary interference ke liye is temall hone laga.

A Bad Egg



Someone who is dishonest and unreliable – परिवार या समूह का बदनाम सदस्य

Origin/Tricks - Is muhavare ki shuruat 19th century (1800s) ke beech mein hui thi. Iska origin ek bahut hi simple si baat se juda hai: Jab aap bazaar se anda (egg) kharidte hain, toh woh bahar se bilkul saaf aur safed (clean) dikhta hai. Aap dekh kar bilkul nahi bata sakte ki woh andar se kaisa hai. Lekin jab aap use phodte (crack) hain, tab pata chalta hai ki woh andar se sada hua (rotten) hai aur usme se gandi badbu aa rahi hai.Theek isi tarah, kuch log upar se bahut shareef aur acche dikhte hain, lekin jab unka asli chehra saamne aata hai, tab pata chalta hai ki woh dhokhebaaz hain. Isliye unhe 'Bad Egg' kaha jaane laga.

A Bad Patch



A period of time when a person faces lots of troubles – बुरा दौर/कठिन समय

Origin/Tricks - Is phrase ka Origin gardening aur farming (kheti) se juda hai: "Patch" ka matlab hota hai zameen ka ek chota tukda. Farmers ke liye, unka pura khet (field) toh bahut bada hota hai, lekin kabhi-kabhi us khet ka ek chota sa hissa ya "patch" kharab ho jata hai—ya toh wahan ki mitti kharab hoti hai ya wahan keede lag jate hain. Baki pura khet hara-bhara hota hai, lekin woh ek "bad patch" unki mehnat par pani pher deta hai. Wahin se yeh metaphor aaya ki jaise khet mein ek bura hissa hota hai, waise hi insaan ki lambi zindagi mein ek bura samay (a bad patch) aata hai jo temporary hota hai.

A Baker's Dozen



A group of 13 – तेरह/13

Origin/Tricks - Iska origin Medieval England (13th Century) se juda hai aur yeh kafi darr wala maamla tha: Us waqt England mein ek kanoon tha jise 'Assize of Bread and Ale' kehte the. Is kanoon ke mutabiq agar koi baker (roti bechne wala) apne grahak ko kam wazan (weight) ki bread bechta tha, toh use bahut bhari fine bharna padta tha ya kadi saza milti thi. Bakers hamesha dare huye rehte the kyunki bread bake hote waqt kabhi-kabhi thodi sikud (shrink) jati thi, jisse uska wazan kam ho sakta tha. Isliye, kisi bhi risk se bachne ke liye, jab koi grahak ek dozen (12) bread maangta tha, toh baker apni taraf se ek extra bread (13th loaf) free mein daal deta tha taaki wazan hamesha kanoon ke hisaab se zyada hi rahe.

A Ball of Fire



An active and energetic person – बहुत ऊर्जावान व्यक्ति/इंसान

Origin/Tricks - Is phrase ki shuruat late 1800s ya early 1900s ke aas-paas hui thi. Sochiye, ek "Ball of Fire" (aag ka gola) kaisa dikhta hai? Woh bahut chamakdar hota hai, usme dher saari energy hoti hai, aur woh bahut tezi se move karta hai. Dheere-dheere logon ne is term ko aise insaan ke liye use karna shuru kar diya jo kabhi thakta nahi hai aur hamesha naye-naye ideas aur josh ke saath kaam karta hai. Jaise aag ka gola rukta nahi, waise hi yeh insaan bhi kabhi sust (lazy) nahi padta.

A Bear Garden



A place of noise and disturbance – शोर-शराबे वाली जगह

Origin/Tricks - 16th aur 17th Century England mein "Bear-baiting" (bhaluon ki ladayi) logon ka pasandida khel tha. London mein khas taur par "Bear Gardens" banaye gaye the jahan ek bhalu (bear) ko khambhe se baandh diya jata tha aur kayi saare shikari kutton ko us par choda jata tha.Wahan ka mahol kaisa hota hoga, imagine kijiye—bhalu ki dahaad, kutton ka bhonkna, aur wahan baithe hazaron logon ka zor-zor se chillana aur shartein (bets) lagana. Woh jagah itni zyada noisy aur chaotic hoti thi ki log darr jate the.

A Beast of Burden



An animal that carries luggage – बोझ ढोने वाला पशु

Origin/Tricks - Puraane waqt mein jab trucks, trains ya delivery vans nahi thi, tab saara heavy saaman ek jagah se dusri jagah le jaane ke liye jaanwaro ka istemaal hota tha. Donkeys (gadhe), Camels (unnt), aur Oxen (bail) ko khaas taur par is kaam ke liye paala jata tha."Burden" ka matlab hota hai 'wazan' ya 'bojh', aur "Beast" ka matlab hota hai 'jaanwar'. Isliye aise jaanwaro ko "Beast of Burden" kaha gaya. Dheere-dheere yeh term un logo ke liye use hone laga jo office mein ya ghar mein sabse zyada kaam karte hain aur kabhi shikayat nahi karte.

A Bed of Nails/Thorns



A problematic situation/ Full of difficulties – कष्टदायक स्थिति

Origin/Tricks - A Bed of Nails: Iska connection aksar Ancient India ke sadhu-santon se joda jata hai. Woh apni mansik shakti (mental strength) aur bhakti dikhane ke liye kilgon (nails) par lete the. Aam aadmi ke liye yeh 'penance' (tapasya) ya bahut badi takleef ka kaam tha. Wahin se yeh phrase ban gaya—kisi aisi situation ke liye jo sehni bahut mushkil ho.

A Bed of Thorns: Yeh ek natural metaphor hai. Purane zamane mein aur literature (jaise Shakespeare ke waqt) mein phoolon ki sej ko 'luxury' kaha jata tha, toh kanto (thorns) ki sej ko 'painful' aur 'unpleasant' mana gaya. Yeh Biblical references (Crown of thorns) se bhi juda ho sakta hai, jo dard ka prateek (symbol) hai.

A Bed of Roses



Pleasant condition of life – आरामदायक/सुखद स्थिति

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane ke kavi (poets) apni feelings express karne ke liye gulab ke phoolon ka istemaal karte the. Christopher Marlowe naam ke ek mashhoor poet ne ek poem likhi thi— "The Passionate Shepherd to His Love". Usme unhone apni mehbooba se vada kiya tha ki woh uske liye gulab ke phoolon ka bistar (a bed of roses) banayenge. Tab se "A Bed of Roses" ek metaphor ban gaya aisi life ke liye jo sirf khushiyon aur araam se bhari ho.

A Belly Laugh



A loud and unrestrained laugh – दिल खोलकर हँसी

Origin/Tricks - Is phrase ka istemaal early 20th century mein mashhoor hua. Science ke hisaab se, jab hum halka sa muskuraate hain, toh sirf face muscles kaam karti hain. Lekin jab hum bahut zor se haste hain, toh hamara Diaphragm (jo phephadon aur pet ke beech hota hai) tezi se move karta hai. Isse aisa lagta hai jaise hasi seedha pet (belly) se nikal rahi hai. Hollywood aur purane comic books mein jab koi character zor se hasta tha, toh uska pet hilte huye dikhaya jata tha, wahin se yeh term "A Belly Laugh" ban gaya.

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush



It is better to have something small but certain rather than the more possibility of a greater one – निश्चित लाभ, अनिश्चित बड़े लाभ से बेहतर

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin purane zamane ke shikaar (hunting) se juda hai, khaas taur par Falconry (baaz ke saath shikaar karna) se: Medieval times mein, agar ek shikaari ke haath mein ek chidiya (bird) aa gayi hai, toh woh pakki hai—yani uska khana fix hai. Lekin agar woh dekhta hai ki jhaadiyon (bush) mein do aur chidiyan baithi hain, toh woh unhe pakadne ke liye haath wali chidiya ko chhod sakta hai. Lekin risk yeh hai ki jaise hi woh jhaadi ki taraf jayega, woh do chidiyan udd jayengi aur jo ek haath mein thi, woh toh pehle hi ja chuki hai. Isliye kaha gaya ki haath wali ek chidiya un do chidiyon se behtar hai jo abhi sirf jhaadi mein dikh rahi hain.

A Bird's Eye View



A cursory look/Aerial view – सरसरी नजर

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin 16th ya 17th century se juda hai aur iska logic bahut hi simple hai: Sochiye ek panchi (bird) jab aasmaan mein bahut unchai par udta hai, toh use zameen ka har ek chota kankar (stone) toh nahi dikhta, lekin use poora shehar, raaste, nadiyan aur khet ek saath dikh jate hain. Pehle iska use sirf Maps (naqshe) banane ke liye hota tha, jinhe "Bird's-eye maps" kaha jata tha kyunki woh aise dikhte the jaise kisi udte huye panchi ne dekhe hon. Baad mein, yeh business aur daily life mein use hone laga—jab hum kisi project ki gehrayi (details) mein jaye bina uska poora plan samajhte hain.

A Bite at the Cherry



An attempt or opportunity to do something – फिर से मौका मिलना

Origin/Tricks - Ek Cherry (phal) size mein bahut choti hoti hai. Itni choti ki use ek hi baar mein poora khaya ja sakta hai.
Purane zamane mein mana jata tha ki cherry ko ek hi "bite" mein khatam karna chahiye. Agar koi insaan ek hi cherry ko do baar mein khane ki koshish karta, toh log kehte the ki woh "second bite" le raha hai, yani woh ek hi cheez ko phir se karne ka mauka dhoond raha hai. Dheere-dheere yeh phrase business aur sports mein mashhoor ho gaya—jab kisi ko koi target achieve karne ka mauka (bite) milta hai.

A bitter pill to swallow



A difficult or unpleasant fact or situation that has to be accepted – कड़वा सच/ मुश्किल बात स्वीकार करना

Origin/Tricks - 16th aur 17th century mein aaj ki tarah advance dawaiyan nahi hoti thin jo "sugar-coated" hon. Us waqt ki goliyan (pills) asli jadi-bootiyon se banti thin aur bahut zyada kadwi (bitter) hoti thin. Patient ko theek hone ke liye unhe nigalna (swallow) hi padta tha, chahe uska mann ho ya na ho. Wahin se yeh metaphor aaya ki jaise bimaari theek karne ke liye kadwi goli nigalni padti hai, waise hi zindagi mein aage badhne ke liye kabhi-kabhi humein bahut buri aur kadwi sachaiyan accept karni padti hain.

A black plum is as sweet as a white



People should not be judged by their appearance – बाहरी रूप नहीं, अंदर की गुणवत्ता मायने रखती है।

Origin/Tricks - Iska logic nature (prakriti) se liya gaya hai. Plum (ek phal jise hum alu-bukhara ya jamun ki category mein rakhte hain) do tarah ke hote hain—ek gehre rang ka (black/purple) aur ek halke rang ka (white/yellowish). Kuch log shayad sochein ki jo dikhne mein saaf ya 'white' hai, wahi meetha hoga. Lekin haqiqat yeh hai ki kaala plum bhi utna hi raseela aur meetha hota hai. Yeh phrase logon ke beech ke bhed-bhaav (discrimination) ko khatam karne ke liye banaya gaya tha.

A Black Sheep



A disgrace for the family – घर का बदनाम सदस्य

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein, bhedon (sheep) ki kheti unki ऊन (wool) ke liye ki jati thi. Zyadatar bhed safed hoti thin kyunki safed wool ko kisi bhi rang mein ranga (dye) ja sakta tha, isliye uski keemat zyada hoti thi.Lekin kabhi-kabhi genetic wajah se ek kaali bhed (black sheep) paida ho jati thi. Uska wool kisi kaam ka nahi hota tha kyunki use dye nahi kiya ja sakta tha. Farmers ke liye woh black sheep ek nuksaan (disadvantage) thi aur use "bekaar" ya "ashubh" maana jata tha. Wahin se yeh term aise insaan ke liye use hone laga jo apne "safed" (shareef/safar) group mein ek "kaala dhabba" ho.

A Blessing in Disguise



Bad thing that turns out to be good – छिपा हुआ बरदान/बुराई में भलाई

Origin/Tricks - "Blessing" ka matlab hai 'dua' ya 'aashirwad', aur "Disguise" ka matlab hai 'bhesh badalna' ya 'mukhauta pehenna'. Is phrase ka sabse pehla bada zikr ek angrezi kavi (poet) James Hervey ne 1746 mein kiya tha.
Iska logic yeh hai ki kismat kabhi-kabhi humein acchi cheezein dene se pehle thoda pareshan karti hai. Jaise koi superhero bhesh badal kar aata hai taaki koi use ehchan na sake, waise hi ek accha mauka (blessing) kabhi-kabhi dukh ka bhesh badal kar aata hai. Jab woh dukh ka waqt khatam hota hai, tab humein samajh aata hai ki woh hamare bhale ke liye hi tha.

A Blind Alley



A situation in which no further progress can be made – ऐसा रास्ता/विचार जिसका कोई समाधान/अंत न हो

Origin/Tricks - "Alley" ka matlab hota hai ek patli gali, aur "Blind" ka matlab yahan 'andhi' nahi balki 'band' (closed at one end) hai. Purane zamane mein shehron mein aisi galiyan hoti thin jo aage se band hoti thin. Agar koi unme ghalti se ghus jaye, toh use wapas hi aana padta tha kyunki aage koi rasta nahi hota tha.Dheere-dheere, logon ne ise metaphorically use karna shuru kar diya. Agar koi scientist kisi aisi research par kaam kar raha hai jiska koi result nahi nikalne wala, toh use kaha jata hai ki he is in a "Blind Alley".

A blind spot



An area in your range of vision that you cannot see properly but which you really should be able to see – कमजोर पहलू/क्षेत्र

Origin/Tricks - Har gaadi (car ya truck) mein kuch aise angles hote hain jo na toh driver ki aankhon se seedhe dikhte hain aur na hi side mirrors mein nazar aate hain. Agar koi choti gaadi ya cycle us "blind spot" mein aa jaye, toh accident ka khatra badh jata hai. Dheere-dheere, psychologist aur aam logon ne ise Personality ke liye use karna shuru kar diya—yani kisi insaan ki woh kami jo use khud kabhi nazar nahi aati.

A bolt from the blue



An unexpected event – बिना चेतावनी के अचानक घटना/खबर

Origin/Tricks - "Bolt" ka matlab hota hai 'lightning bolt' (bijli ki kadak), aur "Blue" ka matlab yahan 'blue sky' (saaf neela aasmaan) hai.Normaly, bijli tab kadakti hai jab aasmaan mein kale baadal (dark clouds) hon aur toofan (storm) ka mahol ho. Aise mein hum mentaly taiyar hote hain. Lekin imagine kijiye ki aasmaan bilkul saaf hai, dhoop khili hai (blue sky), aur achanak wahan se bijli gir jaye! Yeh bilkul unexpected aur shocking hoga. Wahin se yeh idiom aaya—kisi aisi cheez ke liye jo bina kisi warning ke ho jaye.

A Bone of Contention



A cause of dispute – झगड़े की वजह/विवाद का मुद्दा

Origin/Tricks - ""Bone" ka matlab hai 'haddi' aur "Contention" ka matlab hai 'vivaad' ya 'jhagda'.Imagine kijiye do bhookhe kutton (dogs) ko. Agar aap unke beech sirf ek haddi fenk denge, toh kya hoga? Dono kutton ko wahi ek haddi chahiye. Woh tab tak ghurrayenge aur ladenge jab tak koi ek haar na maan le. Woh haddi un dono ke beech jhagde ki wajah hai. 16th century ke aas-paas se log ise metaphorically use karne lage—jab koi property, koi award, ya koi baat do logon ke beech us "haddi" jaisi ban jati hai jis par jhagda khatam nahi hota.

A bone to pick



Angry about something and want to discuss it – शिकायत/झगड़ा करने की बात

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye ek kutta hai jise ek haddi mili hai. Woh us haddi ko tab tak chabata rehta hai (picking at it) jab tak usme se ek-ek tinka mass (meat) khatam na ho jaye. Woh usme poori tarah se dooba rehta hai.Isi tarah, jab humein kisi se koi shikayat hoti hai, toh hum us "shikayat ki haddi" ko tab tak pakde rehte hain jab tak hum us par behas karke use khatam na kar dein. 16th century mein log kehte the "to pick a bone with someone," jiska matlab tha kisi purani narazgi ko khuredna aur use suljhana.

A Bosom Friend



A very close friend – जिगरी दोस्त/परम मित्र

Origin/Tricks - "Bosom" ka purana matlab hota hai 'insaan ki chhaati' (chest/breast). Purane zamane mein, chaati ya seene ko insaan ki feelings, raaz (secrets) aur dil ka ghar maana jata hai.Sochiye, jab hum kisi ko gale lagate hain (hug karte hain), toh hamara "bosom" unke "bosom" se touch hota hai. Isliye, jo dost aapke itne kareeb ho ki woh aapke dil ki baat bina kahe samajh jaye aur aapke sabse gehre raaz jaanta ho, use "Bosom Friend" kaha jaane laga. Yeh term 16th century se literature aur aam bolchal mein kaafi popular hai.

A Bowl of Cherries



Life is wonderful and pleasant – बहुत सुखद स्थिति

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase mashhoor gaane se popular hua jiska naam tha—"Life Is Just a Bowl of Cherries". America mein Great Depression (bahut badi arthik mandi) chal rahi thi, aur log bahut pareshan the. Aise waqt mein yeh gaana aaya jisne logon ko sikhaya ki cherries (phal) meethi hoti hain, sundar dikhti hain aur unhe khana ek luxury hai. Agar aapke saamne ek poora bowl cherries ka rakha hai, toh iska matlab hai ki aapka waqt bahut accha chal raha hai. Dheere-dheere yeh ek metaphor ban gaya 'perfect life' ke liye.

A Broken Reed



A weak or unreliable support – कमजोर सहारा/ जिस पर भरोसा न हो

Origin/Tricks - Yeh The Bible (Isaiah 36:6) se aata hai: "Reed" ek patla aur khokhla (hollow) pani ka paudha hota hai (jaise baans ya sarkanda). Purane zamane mein log chalte waqt sahara lene ke liye inka istemaal karte the. Agar reed mazboot hai, toh theek hai, lekin agar woh "Broken" (tooti hui ya kamzor) hai aur aap us par poora bhaar (weight) daal dein, toh woh na sirf toot jayegi balki uske nukile kinare aapke haath mein chubh bhi sakte hain. Wahin se yeh metaphor aaya—kisi aise insaan ke liye jo bahar se "sahara" dikhta hai, par asliyat mein bilkul unreliable hota hai.

A Broth of a Boy



A lively, energetic and young person – लंबा-तगड़ा/हृष्ट-पुष्ट लड़का

Origin/Tricks - Yahan "Broth" ka matlab 'soup' nahi hai. Purane samay mein Ireland mein "the broth of something" ka matlab hota tha "the essence of something" (kisi cheez ka asli saar ya nichod).Jaise ek gaadha aur garam soup (broth) taqat aur nutrients se bhara hota hai, waise hi ek aisa ladka jo poori tarah se "fit" aur "happy" ho, use "A Broth of a Boy" kaha jaane laga. Iska sabse pehla zikr 18th century ke aas-paas milta hai jab log kisi ki taqat aur achhe mizaaj (nature) ki tarif karna chahte the.

A brown study



A mood in which you are paying attention to own thought – गहरी सोच में डूबा होना

Origin/Tricks - Shuruat mein, jab koi insaan bahut udaas hokar chupchap kuch sochta rehta tha, toh use "Brown Study" kaha jata tha. Dheere-dheere "Udaasi" wala part hat gaya aur iska matlab sirf "Gahri Soch" reh gaya. Jaise jab aap bahut focus hokar kuch sochte hain, toh aapki aankhon ke samne ek 'andhera' ya 'dhundh' chha jati hai kyunki aap bahar ki duniya ko dekhna band kar dete hain—bas wahi "Brown" state hai.

A bull in a China shop



A clumsy person in a delicate situation – अनाड़ी जो नुकसान कर दे

Origin/Tricks - Yahan "China" ka matlab 'desh' nahi, balki "China Clay" (porcelain) hai, jisse bahut hi mehnge aur naazuk mitti ke bartan, cups, aur plates banti hain.Imagine kijiye ek aisi dukan (shop) jahan har taraf kaanch aur mitti ke keemti bartan rakhe hon. Ab agar wahan ghalti se ek "Bull" (saand) ghus jaye, toh kya hoga? Bull ek bahut bada aur bhari jaanwar hota hai jo apni ek dum hilane se hi saare keemti bartan tod dega. Woh jaan-bujhkar nahi todega, par uska size aur nature us shop ke liye bilkul galat hai. 19th century se log ise aise logon ke liye use karne lage jo naazuk baaton ko handle nahi kar paate.

A bull market



Market where prices are rising – शेयर बाजार में लगातार बढ़त/तेजी

Origin/Tricks - Jab ek Bull kisi par hamla karta hai, toh woh apne seeng (horns) ko neeche se oopar (upwards) ki taraf uchhalta hai.Is upward movement ki wajah se, jab share market ke graphs upar ki taraf jane lagte hain, toh use "Bull Market" kaha jata hai. Wahin iska ulta hota hai "Bear Market" (bhalu), kyunki bhalu apne panje se oopar se neeche (downwards) hamla karta hai.

A cake walk



Easy task – बहुत आसान काम

Origin/Tricks - African-American culture se juda hai:
Purane zamane mein ek tarah ka dance competition hota tha jise "Cakewalk" kaha jata tha. Isme log jodon (couples) mein ek line mein chalte the aur sabse zyada "graceful" aur stylish tarike se chalne ki koshish karte the.
Jo couple sabse accha chalta tha, unhe prize mein ek "Cake" diya jata tha. Kyunki yeh sirf ek stylish "walk" thi (koi bhaari mehnat wala kaam nahi), isliye dheere-dheere "Cakewalk" ka matlab ban gaya koi bhi aisa kaam jo bahut smoothly aur bina kisi mushkil ke ho jaye.

A catch 22 situation



A difficult situation in which the solution to a problem is impossible – ऐसी उलझन जिसमें कोई रास्ता न बचे

Origin/Tricks - Yeh term Joseph Heller naam ke ek writer ke novel se aaya hai, jiska naam tha "Catch-22". Yeh kahani World War II ke ek pilot ki hai. Novel mein ek rule hota hai: Agar koi pilot pagal (insane) hai, toh woh udan (flight) bharne se mana kar sakta hai. Lekin rule mein ek "Catch" (shart) hoti hai—agar koi pilot
apni jaan bachane ke liye udan bharne se mana karta hai, toh iska matlab hai ki woh darr raha hai aur uska dimaag sahi kaam kar raha hai (woh pagal nahi hai). Toh logic yeh bana: Agar woh udta hai toh woh pagal hai, par agar woh udne se mana karta hai toh woh dimaag se theek hai aur use udna hi padega! Is uljhan ka koi tod nahi tha, isliye ise Catch-22 kaha gaya.

A catch-all



Something that includes or covers everything – सब समेटने वाली

Origin/Tricks - Shuruat mein, ek "Catch-all" ek physical thaila (bag) ya bartan hota tha jisme log ghar ki har woh choti-moti cheez daal dete the jiska koi fix thikana nahi hota tha. Dheere-dheere, yeh language mein istemaal hone laga. Jab hum kisi ek aise bade 'Label' ya 'Category' ki baat karte hain jo 10 alag-alag tarah ki problems ya cheezon ko ek saath represent kare, toh hum use "Catch-all term" kehte hain. Yeh phrase 19th century ke baad se kafi popular hua.

A cat's paw



A person used as a tool by another – किसी के हाथों इस्तेमाल होने वाला मोहरा

Origin/Tricks - The Monkey and the Cat
Kahani mein ek chatur bandar (monkey) aur ek bholi billi (cat) hoti hai. Bandar ko aag mein bhunte huye Chestnuts (ek tarah ka phal) dikhte hain. Use woh khane hain, par woh darta hai ki uska haath jal jayega. Woh billi ko fusalata (persuade) hai ki woh apne panje (paw) se un chestnuts ko aag se bahar nikale. Billi bechari bandar ki baaton mein aa jati hai aur chestnuts nikalne lagti hai. Is chakkar mein billi ka panja jal jata hai aur bandar saare chestnuts chat kar jata hai. Billi ko kuch nahi milta, sirf dard milta hai. Wahin se yeh term ban gaya—jab aap kisi ke liye "aag mein haath daalte" hain aur fayda uska hota hai.

A change of heart



Changed opinion about someone or something – मन बदल जाना

Origin/Tricks - Hazaron saal pehle, logon ka manna tha ki hamara "Dimaag" (Brain) nahi, balki hamara "Dil" (Heart) hamari soch aur emotions ka centre hai. Agar koi apni baat badalta tha, toh log kehte the ki uska "Dil badal gaya" hai.
Literature mein, khaas kar 13th century ke aas-paas, jab koi dushman dost ban jata tha ya koi gusse wala insaan naram ho jata tha, toh use "A Change of Heart" kaha jane laga. Aaj bhi hum ise use karte hain jab koi apna faisla (decision) achanak badal le

A Charley horse



Cramp or stiffness in a muscle – मांसपेशियों में ऐंठन/खिंचाव

Origin/Tricks - Baseball stadiums mein puraane waqt mein ek ghadha (horse) hota tha jiska naam tha "Charley". Woh stadium ki ghaas kaatne wali machine ya roller khinchta tha. Woh thoda langda (lame) hokar chalta tha. Jab koi player injured ho jata aur langda kar chalta, toh baaki players mazaak mein kehte, "Dekho, yeh toh Charley horse ki tarah chal raha hai."

A child's play



An easy task – बच्चों का खेल/बहुत आसान

Origin/Tricks - Duniya mein sabse aasaan kaam kya hota hai? Khelna (Playing). Aur sabse simple games kaun khelta hai? Bache (Children). Bache jab khelte hain, toh unhe koi complex strategy ya bahut zyada dimaag lagane ki zarurat nahi hoti. Unke khel simple aur tension-free hote hain. Isliye, jab koi bada insaan kisi mushkil dikhne wale kaam ko bahut aaram se kar leta hai, toh log kehte hain ki yeh uske liye "Child's Play" hai—yani itna aasaan jaise kisi bache ka khilonon se khelna.

A chip off the old block



A person who is similar to one's parents in behaviour or looks – हूबहू माता-पिता जैसा

Origin/Tricks - Imagine kijiye lakdi ya patthar ka ek bada sa tukda (jisey "Block" kehte hain). Agar aap us bade block mein se ek chota sa tukda ("Chip") kaat kar nikaalte hain, toh woh chota tukda bilkul usi material, rang aur texture ka hoga jaisa woh bada block tha.Wahin se yeh logic aaya—ki bacha (chip) apne maa-baap (old block) ka hi ek hissa hai, isliye usme wahi saari khoobiyan ya khamiyan hongi jo uske parents mein hain.

A clean slate



Situation in which you can start again – नई शुरुआत (पुरानी बातें मिटाकर)

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein (aur aaj bhi kai schools mein), bache kaanch ya patthar ki "Slates" (takhti) par chalk se likhte the. Agar bacha kuch galat likh deta ya uska sawal galat ho jata, toh woh ek geele kapde se use saaf kar deta tha. Saaf hone ke baad slate bilkul nayi jaisi dikhti thi—jis par phir se likha ja sake. Isi tarah, purane zamane mein hotel ya dukanon mein udhaar (debt) ka hisaab bhi slates par likha jata tha. Jab koi apna poora karza chuka deta, toh dukan-dar slate ko saaf kar deta tha. Wahan se yeh metaphor bana ki ab purana kuch nahi bacha, sab "Clean" hai.

A close shave



A narrow escape from any danger or disaster – बाल-बाल बचना

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein log 'Straight Razors' (ustara) ka istemaal karte the. Agar koi barber (nai) bahut hi "Close Shave" karta tha, toh uska matlab tha ki razor bilkul skin ke paas se ja raha hai. Agar thoda sa bhi balance bigda, toh skin kat sakti thi.Wahin se yeh metaphor bana—ki aap khatre ke itne kareeb the ki woh aapko 'touch' toh kar gaya par 'zakhmi' nahi kar paya. 19th century se ise har tarah ke narrow escapes ke liye use kiya jane laga.

A closed book



A mystery – ऐसा व्यक्ति/विषय जिसके बारे में कुछ पता न हो।

Origin/Tricks - Jab ek kitab (Book) khuli hoti hai, toh aap uske pannon ko padh sakte hain aur jaankari le sakte hain. Lekin agar koi kitab Closed (band) hai, toh aapko pata hi nahi chalega ki uske andar kya likha hai—chahe woh koi gehra raaz ho ya koi kahani.Dheere-dheere, 19th century ke aas-paas se log ise insaanon ke liye use karne lage. Agar koi insaan apne mann ki baat kisi se share nahi karta aur chup-chap rehta hai, toh woh dusron ke liye ek "Closed Book" ban jata hai

A close-fisted person



A miserly person – कंजूस व्यक्ति

Origin/Tricks - "Close" ka matlab hai 'band' aur "Fisted" ka matlab hai 'mutthi'. Imagine kijiye ki aapne apne haath mein kuch coins (sikke) pakde hain. Agar aapki mutthi khuli hai, toh coins aasani se nikal sakte hain ya aap kisi ko de sakte hain. Lekin agar aapne apni mutthi ko zor se band kar rakha hai (close-fisted), toh ek rupaya bhi bahar nahi nikal payega. Wahin se yeh metaphor bana—ki jo insaan paise kharch nahi karta, uski mutthi hamesha band rehti hai.

A cog in the machine



Very small part of a big organisation – किसी बड़े सिस्टम का छोटा सा हिस्सा

Origin/Tricks - "Cog" ka matlab hota hai kisi gear ya pahiye (wheel) ka woh ek daanta (tooth) jo dusre pahiye se judkar use ghumata hai. Imagine kijiye ek bahut badi factory ki machine, jisme hazaron gears aur pahiye lage hain. Har pahiye mein senkdon "cogs" hote hain. Agar ek chota sa cog toot bhi jaye, toh shayad poori machine na ruke, ya phir use turant replace kiya ja sake. 19th century mein logon ne ise un workers ke liye use karna shuru kiya jo badi factories mein din-raat kaam karte the par unki pehchan ek 'insaan' ke bajaye sirf ek 'machine ke purze' jaisi reh gayi thi.

A cold comfort



Very little satisfaction – कमजोर दिलासा

Origin/Tricks - Yahan "Cold" ka matlab sirf 'thanda' nahi hai, balki iska matlab hai 'lack of warmth' (jisne dil ko na chhua ho). Jab koi hamein sache dil se console karta hai, toh hum use "Warm words" kehte hain. Lekin jab koi aisi baat kahe jo logically toh sahi ho par us waqt hamare kisi kaam ki na ho, toh woh "Cold" ho jati hai.Sochiye, agar aapko bohot thand lag rahi hai aur koi aapko 'thanda' kambal (cold blanket) de de, toh kya woh aapko sukoon dega? Bilkul nahi! Wahi se yeh metaphor aaya.

A cold day in July



A time or event that seems unlikely or will never come to pass – बहुत असंभव बात

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin America aur Europe (Northern Hemisphere) se juda hai: Wahan July ka mahina saal ka sabse garam mahina hota hai (Peak Summer). Wahan July mein thand hona lagbhag namumkin hai. Isliye 19th century ke aas-paas logon ne ise ek muhavre ki tarah use karna shuru kar diya.Agar koi aapse kahe ki "Main tumhe July ki thand mein milunga," toh iska matlab hai ki woh kabhi nahi milne wala. Yeh idiom aksar "It will be a cold day in July when..." ke format mein use hota hai.

A cry in the wilderness



An unheeded warning – अनसुनी चेतावनी

Origin/Tricks - "Wilderness" ka matlab hota hai ek sunsaan registan ya jungle jahan koi rehta na ho. Bible mein 'John the Baptist' ke liye kaha gaya tha ki woh ek aisi awaaz hain jo "wilderness" mein pukaar rahi hai. Iska logic yeh hai ki agar aap kisi bhari hui sabha mein chillayenge, toh log sunenge. Lekin agar aap kisi sunsaan jungle (wilderness) mein jaakar chillayein, toh bhale hi aap kitni hi zaruri baat kyun na keh rahe hon, wahan sunne wala koi nahi hoga. Wahin se yeh metaphor bana—un logon ke liye jo society ko sudhaarne ya kisi aane wali musibat ke baare mein chillate rehte hain, par baaki log unhe pagal samajh kar ignore kar dete hain.

A cuckoo in the nest



An intruder or outsider in a group or situation – बाहरी/अनचाहा व्यक्ति

Origin/Tricks - Cuckoo (Koyal) ek aisi chidiya hai jo apna ghosla (nest) khud nahi banati. Woh bahut chatur hoti hai; woh dusri chidiyon (jaise kauwa ya warbler) ke ghosle mein apna anda de deti hai.Jab cuckoo ka bacha nikalta hai, toh woh aksar ghosle ke asli bachon se bada aur taqatwar hota hai. Woh asli bachon ko ghosle se niche gira deta hai taaki saara khana use hi mile. Bichari host chidiya ko pata hi nahi chalta ki woh kisi "ghuspaithiye" ko pal rahi hai. 16th century se log ise unlogon ke liye use karne lage jo kisi group mein ghuskar kabza kar lete hain

A cup of Joe



A term for a common fellow, guy, or chap – साधारण

Origin/Tricks - The Navy Theory (1914): US Navy ke Secretary ka naam tha Josephus "Joe" Daniels. Unhone Navy ki ships par sharab (alcohol) ban kar di thi. Ab bechare sailors ke paas peene ke liye sirf sabse 'strong' cheez coffee hi bachi thi. Gusse aur mazaak mein unhone coffee ko "Cup of Josephus" kehna shuru kiya, jo baad mein chota hokar "Cup of Joe" ban gaya.

A cup of tea



Something one likes/excels in – पसंद की चीज

Origin/Tricks - England mein "Tea" (chai) sirf ek drink nahi, balki ek jazbaat hai. Woh log har situation mein chai peena pasand karte hain. Shuruat mein, agar koi insaan unhe bahut accha lagta tha, toh woh use "my cup of tea" kehte the.Dheere-dheere, 20th century tak aate-aate, log ise objects aur activities ke liye use karne lage. Agar aapko koi kaam pasand hai, toh woh aapki "cup of tea" hai. Lekin agar koi cheez aapko bore karti hai ya mushkil lagti hai, toh aap kehte hain— "It's not my cup of tea."

A cut above something



Superior to – दूसरों से बेहतर

Origin/Tricks - Tailoring : Jab koi master tailor kapda kaatta hai, toh uske kaatne ka tarika itna sateek (precise) hota hai ki woh ordinary kapde ko bhi royal look de deta hai. Woh "cut" baaki darziyon ke kaam se upar hota tha.
Meat : Janwar ke shareer mein kuch hisse (cuts) aise hote hain jo sabse mehnge aur swadisht hote hain (jaise Prime Rib). Woh "cuts" baaki meat se "above" (upar) maane jaate the.

A dab hand at something

Skilled in a particular area – किसी काम में माहिर



Origin/Tricks - "Dab" word "Adept" (mahir) ka hi ek short form hai. Purani English slang mein "Dab" ka matlab hota tha—ek halka, tezi se aur sateek (precise) tarike se lagaya gaya haath ya touch.
Sochiye ek painter ko jo sirf ek halki si "dab" (touch) se poori painting ko perfect bana deta hai. Ya ek master chef jo bas ek chutki namak sahi waqt par daal kar swad badal de. Woh "halka par sateek" haath hi aapko "Dab Hand" banata hai.

A damsel in distress

A helpless woman – मुसीबत में फँसी लड़की



Origin/Tricks - "Damsel" ek purana English word hai jiska matlab hota hai—ek jawan, kunwari ladki. Aur "Distress" ka matlab hai—dard ya bhari musibat. Purane zamane ki 'Knight and Dragon' wali kahaniyon mein aksar ek raajkumari (damsel) ko koi darinda ya dushman pakad leta tha, aur phir ek bahadur sipahi (knight) use bachane aata tha. 17th century se yeh term bohot popular hua, aur aaj kal ise mazaak mein ya kisi ki help karne ke context mein use kiya jata hai.

A dark horse

An unexpected winner – अप्रत्याशित विजेता



Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein, horse racing mein kuch ghode bahut mashhoor hote the aur log unpar daanv (bet) lagate the. Lekin kabhi-kabhi ek aisa ghoda race mein laya jata tha jiske baare mein kisi ko pata nahi hota tha—na uski speed ka, na uski training ka.Kyunki woh "unknown" hota tha, use "Dark Horse" kaha jata tha (yahan 'dark' ka matlab kala rang nahi, balki 'unknown' ya 'rahasyamayi' hai). Jab woh anjaan ghoda achanak saare mashhoor ghodon ko peechhe chhod kar race jeet jata, toh log hairan reh jate. Benjamin Disraeli (ek British Prime Minister aur writer) ne 1831 mein apni ek book mein is phrase ko pehli baar use kiya tha.

A dead duck

A person or thing that is useless – नाकाम



Origin/Tricks - Imagine kijiye ek shikari (hunter) ne ek Duck (batakh) ka shikar kiya. Ek baar jab duck mar jati hai, toh woh na ud sakti hai, na tair sakti hai, aur na hi wapas zinda ho sakti hai. 19th century mein log ise un politicians ya projects ke liye use karne lage jo 'active' toh dikhte the par andar se khatam ho chuke the. Agar koi scheme "A dead duck" hai, toh iska matlab hai ki us par paisa lagana bekar hai kyunki woh kabhi kamyab nahi hogi.

A dead heat

A close contest that ends in a tie – बराबरी की टक्कर



Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein, ek race ko "Heat" kaha jata tha. Aksar badi races "Best of three" heats mein hoti thi. Agar kisi race (heat) mein do ghode bilkul ek saath line cross karte the, toh us race ka koi result nahi nikalta tha—yani woh race "vyanth" (useless) ho jati thi.Kyunki us race se koi winner nahi milta tha, isliye use "Dead" (jisne koi result paida nahi kiya) kaha jane laga. Wahan se term bana— "Dead Heat". Aaj kal jab Olympic races mein 'Photo Finish' hota hai aur do athletes ke beech milliseconds ka bhi farak nahi hota, toh use 'Dead Heat' kehte hain.

A dead letter

No longer effective – बेअसर कानून/नियम



Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein jab koi khat (letter) apne sahi address par nahi pahunch pata tha aur use bhejne wale (sender) ke paas bhi wapas nahi bheja ja sakta tha, toh use "Dead Letter Office" bhej diya jata tha. Woh khat ab kisi kaam ka nahi rehta tha..

A dead lock

A state in which progress is impossible – गतिरोध/अटकाव



Origin/Tricks - "Dead" ka matlab hai 'sthir' ya 'bezyaan' (motionless) aur "Lock" ka matlab hai 'bandh'.Imagine kijiye ek purana lohe ka taala (lock) jo itna jam chuka hai ki chaabi ghumane par bhi woh hil nahi raha. Woh "dead" ho chuka hai. 18th century ke aas-paas, logon ne ise politics aur business meetings ke liye use karna shuru kiya. Jab do leaders kisi agreement par sign karne se mana kar dete hain aur meeting ghanton tak chalti rehti hai par faisla zero nikalta hai, toh use "Deadlock" kaha jata hai.

A dead loss

Completely useless – एकदम बेकार/अनुपयोगी



Origin/Tricks - "Loss" ka matlab hota hai nuksan. Lekin jab hum uske aage "Dead" laga dete hain, toh iska matlab hai ki woh nuksan ab 'zinda' nahi hai—yani use recover karne ka koi raasta nahi bacha.Purane zamane mein, agar samundari jahaz (ship) se koi saaman gir jata ya kharab ho jata aur use wapas pana namumkin hota, toh use "Dead Loss" kehte the. Dhire-dhire, log ise aise logon ke liye bhi use karne lage jo koi kaam dhang se nahi karte aur sirf bojh (burden) ban kar reh jate hain.

A diamond in the rough



Someone or something whose good qualities are hidden – कच्चा हीरा/छुपी प्रतिभा

Origin/Tricks - Jab zameen se asli Diamond (heera) nikala jata hai, toh woh bilkul chamakdar nahi dikhta. Woh ek ordinary patthar jaisa lagta hai jise hum "Rough Diamond" kehte hain. Uski asli chamak tab bahar aati hai jab ek johri (jeweler) use sahi tarike se kaatta aur polish karta hai.

A dead ringer



An exact duplicate – हूबहू

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein, log beimaani karne ke liye ek tez daudne wale ghode ko ek sust ghode ki jagah race mein utaar dete the. Us ghode ki shakal sust ghode jaisi banayi jati thi taaki koi pehchan na sake. Is nakli ghode ko "Ringer" kaha jata tha.Yahan "Dead" ka matlab 'mara hua' nahi hai, balki iska matlab hai 'exact' ya 'bilkul sahi' (jaise hum kehte hain— Dead Center ya Dead Right). Toh "Dead Ringer" ka matlab hua—ek aisi nakal jo bilkul asli lage.

A dime a dozen



Common and easily available – बहुत आम होना

Origin/Tricks - America mein "Dime" ka matlab hota hai 10 cents ka ek sikka (jaise hamare yahan 10 paise ka sikka hota tha). Aur "Dozen" ka matlab hota hai 12 (ek darjan). Uss zamane mein agar koi phal (fruits) ya sabziyan bahut sasti hoti thi, toh dukan-dar 12 cheezein sirf ek dime (10 cents) mein bech dete the. Iska matlab tha ki woh cheez itni zyada hai aur itni aam hai ki uski koi khaas value nahi rahi. Wahin se yeh muhavra bana—un logon ya cheezon ke liye jo har jagah mil jate hain.

A dog's breakfast



Something that is messy or poorly done – एकदम अस्त-व्यस्त स्थिति

Origin/Tricks - Imagine kijiye purane zamane mein log kutton ko kya khilate the? Ghar ka bacha-kucha saaman, basi roti, bachi hui sabzi aur haddiyan—sab ek hi katori mein mix kar diya jata tha. Woh dekhne mein bilkul bhi accha nahi lagta tha, bas ek "muddle" (gad-bad) hota tha. Wahin se yeh phrase aaya—ki agar koi project ya koi kamra itna messy hai ki usme kuch samajh nahi aa raha, toh woh bilkul ek kutte ke nashte (Dog's breakfast) jaisa dikh raha hai.

A dry run

A rehearsal – अभ्यास



Origin/Tricks - Jab firefighters practice karte the, toh woh do tarah ke drills karte the:
Wet Run: Jisme asli pani (water) ka use hota tha.
Dry Run: Jisme woh sirf ladders (seedi) aur hoses (pipe) ko tezi se lagane ki practice karte the, par pani ka use nahi karte the ("Dry").Wahin se yeh term popular hua—ki jab aap bina "asli result" ke sirf practice kar rahe hon, toh woh ek Dry Run hai.

A face like thunder

Very angry – बहुत गुस्से में होना



Origin/Tricks - Jab toofan (storm) aane wala hota hai, toh aasman kaala ho jata hai aur bijli kadakne (Thunder) ki awaaz aati hai jo kaafi daraoni hoti hai. Purane zamane se hi log "Stormy weather" ko gusse aur ghamand se jodte aaye hain.
Toh, agar kisi ka chehra "Thunder" (garajne wale badal) jaisa hai, toh iska matlab hai ki uske andar gusse ka toofan chal raha hai aur woh kabhi bhi blast ho sakta hai.

A far cry

To be very distant, to be completely different from something – बिल्कुल अलग होना



Origin/Tricks - Purane waqt mein jab koi phone nahi hota tha, toh log "pukar" (Cry) ka use karte the. "A cry" ek aisi duri mani jati thi jitni dur tak ek insaan ki chilla kar kahi gayi baat sunayi de sake.Agar koi cheez "A far cry" thi, toh iska matlab tha ki woh itni dur hai ki wahan tak pukar pahunch hi nahi sakti. Dhire-dhire, "duri" (distance) ka yeh matlab "antar" (difference) mein badal gaya. Aaj hum ise "physical distance" ke liye nahi, balki "quality" ya "situation" ke antar ke liye use karte hain.

A fat cat

Opulent/Rich – एक अमीर और प्रभावशाली व्यक्ति



Origin/Tricks - Sochiye ek aisi billi (cat) ke baare mein jo itni moti (Fat) hai ki woh khud shikar nahi karti, balki bas baith kar maze se khana khati hai jo doosre laate hain. Wahin se yeh term popular hua—un logon ke liye jo system ka fayda utha kar maze kar rahe hain.

A feather in one's cap



An achievement to be proud of – गर्व की बात; एक बड़ी उपलब्धि

Origin/Tricks - Pichli sadiyon mein, kai cultures mein yeh rivaj tha ki jab koi soldier jung mein kisi dushman ko harata tha, toh woh apne sar par pehni hui topi (Cap) mein ek par (Feather) laga leta tha. Jiske paas jitne zyada feathers hote the, woh utna hi bada aur bahadur yoddha mana jata tha. Wahin se yeh phrase aaya— ki har naya feather ek nayi jeet ka nishaan hai.

A fine state of affairs



An unpleasant situation – एक बुरी या विकट स्थिति

Origin/Tricks - "State of affairs" ka matlab hota hai— "halaat" ya "kaam-kaaj". 18th aur 19th century mein log ise normal tarike se use karte the. Lekin dhire-dhire, jab cheezein bigadne lagi, toh log taana maarne ke liye kehne lage— "This is a fine state of affairs!" (Yani— "Bohot badhiya halaat hain!"—par unka asli matlab hota tha ki halaat bohot gande hain).

A finger in every pie



To be involved in a large and varied number of activities or enterprises – एक साथ कई काम करना

Origin/Tricks - Imagine kijiye ki ek bada sa bhojan (feast) ban raha hai aur wahan bahut saari Pies (ek tarah ki kachori ya mithai) rakhi hain. Agar koi insaan har pie ko chakhne ke liye usme apni ungli (Finger) daalta rahe, toh iska matlab hai ki woh har cheez mein ghusna chahta hai.
Famous writer Shakespeare ne bhi apni play Henry VIII mein isi tarah ka ek phrase use kiya tha.

A fire in someone's belly



One who is energetic and enthusiastic about something – कुछ कर दिखाने का जुनून/दृढ़ संकल्प

Origin/Tricks - Duniya ki kai sanskritiyon (cultures) mein, pet (Belly) ko insaan ki energy aur emotions ka centre mana jata hai. Jab hum darrte hain, toh pet mein "butterflies" (titliyan) udti hain, aur jab hum gusse mein ya pur-josh hote hain, toh mana jata hai ki pet mein ek "Aag" (Fire) jal rahi hai jo humein aage badhne ka fuel deti hai.

A flash in the pan



Something that is successful for short time – क्षणिक सफलता

Origin/Tricks - Pehle ki bandookon mein goli chalane ke liye ek chota sa bartan (pan) hota tha jisme barood (gunpowder) rakha jata tha. Kabhi-kabhi jab trigger dabaya jata, toh us 'pan' mein rakha barood sirf chamakta (Flash) tha par asli goli nahi chalti thi.Dekhne waale ko lagta ki bada dhamaka hua, par natija kuch nahi nikalta tha. Wahin se yeh term aaya—un logon ke liye jo shuru mein bahut "shining" lagte hain par baad mein flop ho jate hain.

A fly on the wall



An unperceived observer – किसी घटना को चुपचाप/ गुप्त रूप से देखने वाला

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye, jab ek kamre mein koi bahut private ya secret meeting chal rahi hoti hai, toh wahan sirf insaan hote hain. Lekin deewar par baithi ek Makkhi (Fly) ko koi notice nahi karta. Woh makkhi wahan reh kar sab kuch sun sakti hai aur dekh sakti hai kyunki woh itni choti aur aam (unnoticeable) hai.

A flying visit



A visit that last for only a very short time – थोड़ी देर के लिए मिलना

Origin/Tricks - "Flying" ka matlab yahan hawai jahaz se nahi, balki tezi (speed) se hai. Purane zamane mein jab koi cheez bahut jaldi hoti thi, toh use "Flying" kaha jata tha (jaise Flying start). Agar aap kisi se milne gaye aur aapke paas itna bhi waqt nahi hai ki aap baith kar chai pi sakein, toh log kehte the ki aapne ek "Flying visit" ki hai—yani aap bas ek parinde (bird) ki tarah aaye aur ud gaye.

A fool and his money are easily parted



Stupid individuals don't know how to save their cash – मुर्ख अपने पैसे को बहुत जल्दी खो देता है।

Origin/Tricks - Ek British kavi (poet) the Thomas Tusser, unhone apni ek book mein likha tha— "A foole and his money be soone at debate." (Yani murkh aur uske paise ke beech hamesha ladai rehti hai aur wo alag ho jate hain). Baad mein 17th century tak yeh phrase bilkul badal kar waisa hi ho gaya jaisa aaj hum use karte hain. Yeh duniya bhar ki sabse purani aur sabse sachhi financial advice mani jati hai.

A foul play



Unfair or dishonest behaviour – बेईमानी

Origin/Tricks - Khel mein jab koi khiladi niyam todta hai ya dusre ko galat tarike se girata hai, toh use "Foul" kaha jata hai. 16th century ke aas-paas log ise 'sports' se nikaal kar 'zindagi' mein use karne lage. Agar kisi business deal mein dhokha ho, ya kisi ki maut natural na lage, toh ise "Foul Play" kaha jane laga—yani ek aisa "khel" jahan rules tode gaye hain.

A French leave



An unauthorised leave – बिना सूचना के चले जाना

Origin/Tricks - 18th century mein English aur French logon ke beech ki purani dushmani aur unke alag-alag "Social Manners" se juda hai: Uss zamane mein France mein ek rivaj tha ki agar koi mehman party se jaldi jana chahta hai, toh woh host (mezbaz) ko disturb nahi karta tha aur chupchaap nikal jata tha. Angrezon (English) ko yeh baat bahut badtameezi wali lagti thi, isliye unhone ise mazak mein "French Leave" kehna shuru kar diya.

A gentleman at large



A man without a job – जिसके पास कोई निश्चित काम न हो

Origin/Tricks - Uss waqt "At large" ka matlab hota tha "azaad" ya "kisi bandhan mein na hona" (jaise aaj bhi police kehti hai— The criminal is still at large). Lekin jab "Gentleman" ke saath "At large" lagaya gaya, toh iska matlab badal gaya. Yeh un logon ke liye use hone laga jo kisi office, khet ya shop par kaam nahi karte the. Woh "at large" (unattached) the, yani unhe subah kahin pahunchne ki jaldi nahi hoti thi. Aaj kal ise thoda mazaak mein un logon ke liye use kiya jata hai jo acche kapde pehen kar bas waqt bitate hain.

A glass ceiling



Something that prevents someone from getting a more important position in their organization (usually used for women) – एक अदृश्य बाधा जो प्रगति को रोकती है।

Origin/Tricks - Imagine kijiye aap ek bahut badi building ke ground floor par hain. Aap upar ki taraf dekhte hain aur aapko upar ki manzilein (top positions) saaf dikhayi deti hain kyunki chhat Glass (kaanch) ki bani hai. Lekin jab aap upar jane ki koshish karte hain, toh aapka sar us invisible glass se takra jata hai. Aap dekh toh sakte hain ki top par kya hai, par wahan pahunch nahi sakte. Yeh "Glass" asmaan se nahi, balki samaj aur companies ki un "bhedbhav" (discrimination) wali neetiyon se bana hai.

A go getter

A real achiever – ऊर्जावान और महत्वाकांक्षी व्यक्ति

Origin/Tricks - Yeh do simple words se milkar bana hai— "Go" (Jana) aur "Get" (Pana/Lena). Iska matlab hai woh insaan jo bahar jata hai aur jo use chahiye woh lekar aata hai. 1920s ke business world mein aise logon ki bahut demand hoti thi jo sust nahi hote the, balki "order lane waale" (salesmen) hote the. Wahin se yeh term har us insaan ke liye fix ho gaya jo life mein bahut fast aur ambitious hota hai.



A god's ape

A born fool – जन्मजात मूर्ख

Origin/Tricks - Uss zamane mein logon ka manna tha ki har cheez Bhagwan (God) ne banayi hai. "Ape" (bandar ya langoor) ko aksar insaan ki nakal karne wala jeev mana jata tha jo samajhta kuch nahi hai.
Toh, agar koi insaan bahut hi zyada "simple" ya murkh hota tha, toh log kehte the ki yeh toh "God's ape" hai— yani ise upar wale ne hi aisa banaya hai jo bas doosron ki nakal karta hai par jisme apni akal nahi hai.

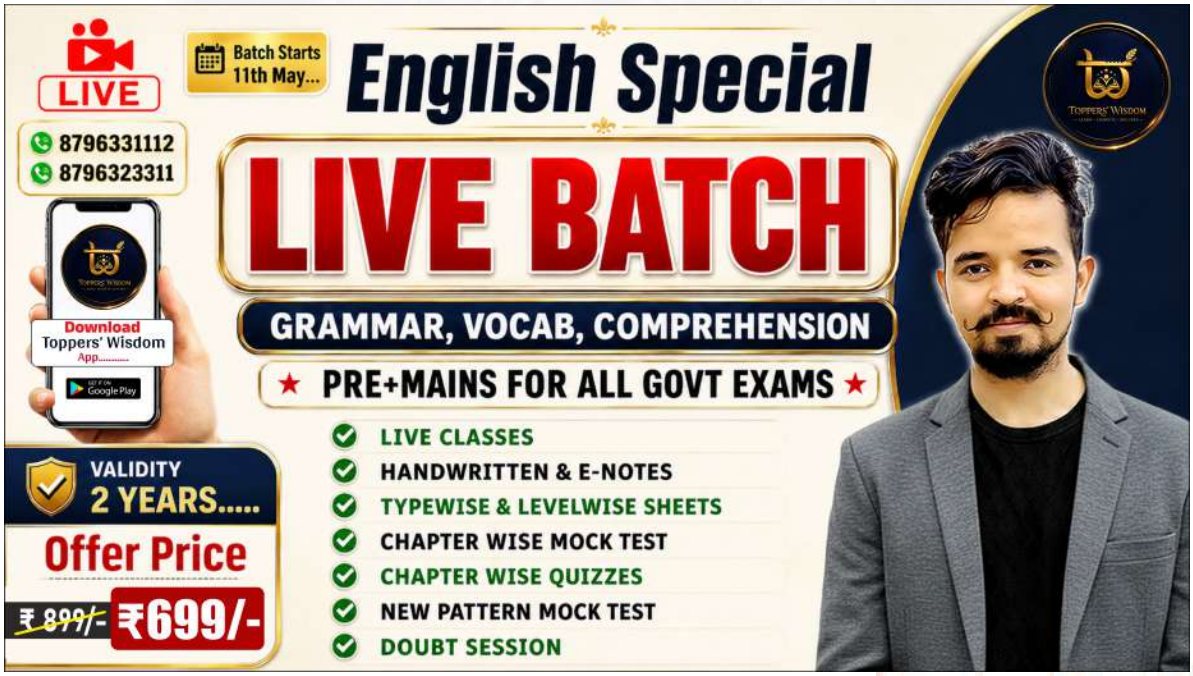


A golden mean

Middle course between two extremes – बीच का रास्ता

Origin/Tricks - Aristotle ka manna tha ki har "accha" kaam (virtue) do buraiyon ke beech mein hota hai. Jaise— Bahut darpok (Cowardly) hona bura hai, aur Bin soche khatra mol lena (Reckless) bhi bura hai.In dono ke beech ka rasta hai Bahaduri (Bravery).Isi "sahi raste" ko unhone "Golden Mean" kaha, kyunki sona (gold) sabse keemti hota hai, waise hi "beech ka raasta" sabse keemti aur sahi hota hai.





A good turn

A helpful act – किसी की भलाई करना

Ex - Rahul really did me a good turn by lending me his notes when I was sick.

Origin/Tricks - Ek bahut purani kahawat hai — "One good turn deserves another" (Yani— Ek bhalaai ke badle doosri bhalaai honi chahiye).



A good grief

An expression of surprise or frustration – आश्चर्य या झुंझलाहट

Ex - You spent 5,000 rupees on a single t-shirt? Good grief!

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein, log "God" (Bhagwan) ka naam bina wajah lena paap samajhte the (Taking God's name in vain). Isliye, jab unhe "Good God!" kehna hota tha, toh woh "God" ki jagah usse milta-julta shabd "Grief" bolne lage taaki unhe paap na lage.



A good samaritan

A person who selflessly helps others, especially those in distress – नेक इंसान

Ex - I lost my wallet at the station, but a Good Samaritan found it and mailed it back to my house.



A grass widow

A woman whose husband is away from home frequently or for a long time, a separated mistress – वह महिला जिसका पति लंबे समय के लिए घर से बाहर हो

Ex - Ever since he took that job in Dubai, his wife has been a grass widow in Delhi.

Origin/Tricks - Jab Bharat mein bahut zyada garmi padti thi, toh British officers apni patniyon ko thandi jagahon (Hill Stations jaise Shimla ya Mussoorie) par bhej dete the taaki woh bimaar na hon. Patniyan upar pahadon mein hari ghas (Grass) wale maidanon mein rehti thi, jabki unke pati garmi mein neeche maidanon (Plains) mein kaam karte rehte the. Toh, jo mahila "Grass" (hills) par akele reh rahi hoti thi, use mazaak mein "Grass Widow" kaha jane laga. Woh asli vidhwa (widow) nahi hoti thi, par pati ke door hone ki wajah se akele rehti thi.



A green horn



An inexperienced person – अनुभवहीन व्यक्ति

Ex - The team lost because they had too many greenhorns on the field who couldn't handle the pressure.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein, jab kisi young bail (ox) ya hiran (deer) ke naye-naye seeng (Horns) nikalte the, toh unhe "Green" kaha jata tha. Yahan "Green" ka matlab rang (color) nahi, balki "Kacha" (Raw) ya "Naya" hota hai.

A grey area



An unclear situation – अस्पष्ट स्थिति

Ex - "The referee's decision was a grey area because the foul happened exactly on the penalty line."

Origin/Tricks - Black matlab galat ya bura.
White matlab sahi ya saccha.
Lekin jab aap Black aur White ko milate hain, toh banta hai Grey. Grey rang na toh poora kala hai aur na hi safed—yeh beech ka rang hai. Isliye 20th century mein logon ne ise aisi situations ke liye use karna shuru kiya jahan koi saaf jawab nahi milta.

A Herculean task



A job that requires a large amount of physical strength – अत्यंत कठिन कार्य

Ex - Cracking the SSC CGL exam with a top rank is a Herculean task, but with consistency, it is possible.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh kahani hai Hercules (Heracles) ki, jo apni takat ke liye poori duniya mein mashhoor tha. Use saza ke taur par 12 aise kaam diye gaye jo kisi insaan ke liye karna namumkin tha—jaise ki ek khatarnak sher (Nemean Lion) ko maarna ya ek bahut bade gande astabal (Augean stables) ko ek din mein saaf karna. Hercules ne apni takat aur dimaag se un saare "namumkin" kaamo ko poora kiya. Tabhi se, har woh kaam jo bahut zyada mushkil hota hai, use "Herculean Task" kaha jane laga.

A Hobson's choice



A choice forced upon someone – विकल्प न होना

Ex - At the small roadside dhaba, it was a Hobson's choice: either eat the dal-roti or go hungry.

Origin/Tricks - Thomas Hobson Cambridge (England) mein ek stable (astabal) chalata tha jahan woh ghode (horses) kiraye par deta tha. Uske paas 40 se zyada ghode the. Log hamesha sabse acche aur tez ghode maangte the, jisse woh thak jate the.Iska hal nikalne ke liye Hobson ne ek niyam banaya— "Jo ghoda gate ke sabse kareeb hai, wahi lo... ya fir koi ghoda mat lo!" Customers ko lagta tha unhe ghoda mil raha hai, par unke paas choice zero thi. Wahi se yeh phrase mashhoor ho gaya.

A hornet's nest



An unpleasant situation – विवादास्पद स्थिति

Ex - His controversial tweet about the education system poked a hornet's nest, leading to a massive debate online

Origin/Tricks - Hornet ek tarah ka bada aur gussewala tattaiya (wasp) hota hai. Unka ghosla ya chatta (Nest) upar se shant dikhta hai, par agar koi use galti se bhi chue ya usme lathi mare, toh saari hornets ek saath nikal kar hamla kar deti hain. 18th century se log ise un topics ya situations ke liye use karne lage jo dekhne mein toh normal lagte hain, par unhe chedte hi halla mach jata hai.

A hot potato



A controversial issue – विवादास्पद मुद्दा

Ex - The decision to ban the star player was a hot potato for the football association.

Origin/Tricks - Imagine kijiye ki aapne aag se ek garama-garam aloo (Hot Potato) nikala hai. Woh itna garam hai ki aap use pakad nahi sakte, toh aap kya karenge? Aap use turant kisi aur ki taraf phenk denge ya haath se haath badalte rahenge taaki aapka haath na jale.
Theek usi tarah, politics ya business mein jab koi aisa mudda aata hai jisse badnami ho sakti hai, toh log use "hot potato" ki tarah ek-dusre par uchalte rehte hain.

A house of cards



An insecure situation – ताश का घर

Ex - Trying to learn advanced math without knowing the basics is like building a house of cards.

Origin/Tricks - Bachpan mein hum sabne playing cards se ghar banane ki koshish ki hogi. Aap patton ko ek-dusre ke sahare tikate hain, aur woh dekhne mein sundar lagta hai. Lekin agar koi zor se saans bhi le le ya table ko halka sa hila de, toh poora "mahal" 1 second mein gir jata hai. 16th century se log ise un kachhi planning ya rishton ke liye use karne lage jo sirf dikhawe ke hote hain.

A jaundiced eye



A negative view or opinion prejudiced by past experiences – पक्षपातपूर्ण नजरिया

Ex - The investors viewed the startup's high profit claims with a jaundiced eye due to the recent market crash.

Origin/Tricks - Jab kisi ko Jaundice (Piliya) hota hai, toh uski aankhon ka safed hissa peela (yellow) ho jata hai. Purane zamane mein log maante the ki jaundice ke mareez ko poori duniya hi peeli dikhayi deti hai. Isi se yeh metaphor bana ki agar aapka dimaag "bimar" hai (yani kisi baat se dukhi ya biased hai), toh aapko har acchi cheez bhi kharab (peeli) hi dikhegi. Aapki "eye" (nazar) sahi rang nahi dekh payegi.

A lame excuse



An inappropriate excuse – कमजोर बहाना

Ex - Blaming the grass for losing the match was a lame excuse by the captain.

Origin/Tricks - "Lame" ka asli matlab hota hai "langda" (physically disabled ya chalne mein asaksham). Jab koi bahana "Lame" hota hai, toh iska matlab hai ki us bahane ki "tangein" (legs) itni kamzor hain ki woh apne dum par khada nahi ho sakta. Yani woh excuse itna ganda hai ki woh reality ki thodi si bhi dhakkel nahi jhel payega aur turant gir jayega.

A lean patch



A period of poor performance – असफलता का दौर

Ex - Samson is trying to find his rhythm after a long lean patch in T20 Internationals.

Origin/Tricks - "Lean" ka matlab hota hai dubla-patla ya kamzor. Purane zamane mein jab baarish kam hoti thi ya fasal (crops) achhi nahi hoti thi, toh us zameen ke tukde (Patch) ko "Lean Patch" kaha jata tha kyunki wahan khana bahut kam hota tha. Dheere-dheere ise sports aur business mein use kiya jane laga. Jab koi batsman run nahi bana pata ya koi company profit nahi kama pati, toh kaha jata hai ki woh ek "Lean patch" se guzar rahe hain.

A left handed compliment



A compliment that is actually insulting or condescending – प्रशंसा के रूप में किया गया अपमान

Ex - The boss gave me a left-handed compliment when he said my report was actually readable this time.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein (aur aaj bhi kai cultures mein), "Seedha Haath" (Right Hand) ko imandari aur taqat ka nishaan mana jata tha. Wahi "Ulta Haath" (Left Hand) ko "Sinister" (manhoos ya bura) mana jata tha. Latin bhasha mein "Left" ko Sinister kehte hain. Isliye, agar koi "Left-handed" (ulte haath se) kuch deta tha, toh use dhokha ya galat irada mana jata tha. Wahin se yeh idiom bana ki ulte haath se di gayi taarif asli taarif nahi, balki ek chupa hua taana (taunt) hai.

A leopard can't change its spots



One can't change one's character or personality – मनुष्य का मूल स्वभाव नहीं बदलता

Ex - She told me her ex-boyfriend has changed his aggressive behavior, but a leopard can't change its spots.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin bahut purana hai aur yeh Bible (Jeremiah 13:23) se liya gaya hai:
Bible mein ek sawal pucha gaya tha— "Kya ek African apni skin ka rang badal sakta hai? Ya kya ek leopard apne shareer ke dhabbe (spots) mita sakta hai?" Jawab tha— Nahi! Kyunki yeh unki natural pehchan hai. Tabhi se yeh phrase un logon ke liye use hone laga jo baar-baar galti karte hain aur kasam khate hain ki woh badal gaye hain, par badalte nahi hain.

A level head



Remains calm and composed – शांत और समझदार

Ex - You need to keep a level head during the exam; if you panic, you'll forget everything you studied.

Origin/Tricks - Ek carpenter (badhai) jab kaam karta hai, toh woh ek tool use karta hai jise "Level" kehte hain. Yeh tool batata hai ki koi cheez bilkul seedhi (flat) hai ya nahi. Agar surface seedhi hai, toh level "balanced" hai.
Isi tarah, agar kisi ka dimaag "level" hai, toh iska matlab hai ki uska dimaag kisi bhi ek taraf (gussa ya darr) zyada nahi jhukta. Woh bilkul stable aur balanced rehta hai.

A little bird told me



To keep the identity of informant secret/ receive information from a secret source – उड़ती-उड़ती खबर

Ex - A little bird told me that the manager is planning to resign next month.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin bahut purana hai aur yeh Bible (Ecclesiastes 10:20) se juda mana jata hai. Wahan likha tha ki— "Raja ke khilaaf bura mat bolo, kyunki aasman mein udne wala koi nanhna pakshi (bird) tumhari baat sun lega aur raja tak pahuncha dega." Puraane zamane mein kabootar (Pigeons) ka istemal chithiyan (letters) bhejne ke liye hota tha. Isliye logon ko lagta tha ki parinde (birds) saare raaz jaante hain aur ek jagah se dusri jagah khabrein phelate hain. Wahin se yeh mazakiya tarika ban gaya kisi secret source ko chupane ka.

A little gush of gratitude



Friendly feeling – अचानक उमड़ा हुआ आभार

Ex - I felt a little gush of gratitude reading all the congratulatory messages on reaching 3 Lakh subscribers.

Origin/Tricks - Gush: Iska asli matlab hota hai "paani ka tezi se nikalna" (jaise fountain se paani nikalta hai).
Gratitude: Iska matlab hai "Aabhar" ya "Shukrana".
Jab hum in dono ko milate hain, toh iska matlab hai ki ehsaas itna saccha hai ki woh dil se "phoot kar" bahar aa raha hai.

A long shot



Little chance of success – सफल होने की उम्मीद बहुत कम हो

Ex - Cracking the exam without coaching is a long shot for many, but with the right resources, it's possible.

A man of letters



Scholar/a well educated and wise person – विद्वान

Ex - Rabindranath Tagore was a great man of letters who won the Nobel Prize for his poetry.

Origin/Tricks - Uss zamane mein "Letters" ka matlab sirf 'chithiyaan' nahi hota tha, balki iska matlab "Literature" (Sahitya) aur "Learning" (Gyaan) hota tha (jaise French mein Belles-lettres). Jo insaan padhna-likhna jaanta tha aur kitabein likhta tha, use maana jata tha ki woh "Letters" (sahitya) ka maalik hai. Tabhi se "Man of Letters" un logon ke liye ek samman-janak (respectful) naam ban gaya jo dimaag se bahut tej aur gyaani hote the.

A man of means



A wealthy man with lots of money or assets – अमीर व्यक्ति

Ex - The court will decide the fine based on whether the defendant is a man of means.

Origin/Tricks - 16th century ke aas-paas, "Means" ka matlab sirf 'zariya' nahi, balki "Income" ya "Wealth" hota tha. Agar kisi ke paas "means" hain, toh iska matlab uske paas kisi kaam ko karne ke liye zaruri paisa ya resources hain. Toh, "A man of means" ka matlab hua ek aisa aadmi jiske paas duniya ki sukh-suvidhayein khareedne ka "zariya" (paisa) maujood hai.

A man of spirit



A very courageous man – साहसी व्यक्ति

Ex - Bhagat Singh was a true man of spirit who never bowed down to the British authorities.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein (aur aaj bhi), "Spirit" ka matlab sirf 'aatma' (soul) nahi hota tha, balki ise insaan ki andaruni taqat ya fire (aag) maana jata tha. Agar kisi mein "spirit" zyada hai, toh iska matlab uska hausla (morale) bahut buland hai.16th-17th century mein, jo sipahi (soldiers) bina dare jung ladte the ya jo log mushkilon mein haste rehte the, unhe "A man of spirit" kaha jane laga—yani ek aisa insaan jiski aatma (spirit) bahut mazboot hai.

A man of straw



Someone who has a weak character – कमजोर चरित्र का व्यक्ति

Ex - Critics argued that the Prime Minister was a man of straw, controlled entirely by his party's advisors

Origin/Tricks - Uss zamane mein London ke courts (adalat) ke bahar kuch log ghoomte rehte the jo apne joote mein "Puaal" (Straw) phasa kar rakhte the. Yeh ek ishara (signal) hota tha ki woh paise lekar adalat mein jhooti gawahi (false testimony) dene ko taiyar hain.Kyunki woh log imandari bech dete the aur unka koi apna deen-iman nahi hota tha, isliye unhe "Man of Straw" kaha jane laga. Jaise tinke (straw) ki koi keemat nahi hoti, waise hi unki baaton ki koi value nahi hoti thi.

A mare's nest



A false invention/a confused situation – भारी गड़बड़ी

Ex - The police investigation led to a mare's nest; there was no evidence of a crime at all.

Origin/Tricks - "Mare" ka matlab hota hai "Ghodi". Ab sochiye, kya ghodi kabhi ghosla (Nest) banati hai? Bilkul nahi!
Purane zamane mein agar koi naya-naya shehar se gaon aata tha aur kisi ghaas ke dher ko dekh kar chillata tha— "Dekho! Maine ghodi ka ghosla dhund liya!"—toh log uska mazaak udate the. Tabhi se, kisi bhi aisi "khoj" ko jo asliyat mein jhoot ya bewakoofi ho, "Mare's Nest" kaha jane laga.

A method to/in my madness



A good reason for the actions that seem strange or crazy – बाहर से अव्यवस्थित दिखने वाले काम के पीछे भी कोई गहरी योजना होना

Ex - I know my teaching style seems unconventional, but there is a method to my madness that helps students score higher.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin duniya ke sabse bade lekhak William Shakespeare ke ek mashhoor natak (play) "Hamlet" se hua hai.Natak mein, Raja Hamlet pagal hone ka natak karte hain aur ajeeb-ajeeb baatein karte hain. Unhe dekh kar ek character (Polonius) kehta hai— "Though this be madness, yet there is method in 't." (Yani bhale hi yeh pagalpan lag raha hai, par isme koi na koi tareeka chupa hua hai). Wahin se yeh phrase puri duniya mein famous ho gaya.

A milestone



Important event – एक महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धि

Ex - Buying a house is a significant milestone for any young professional.

Origin/Tricks - Highway par ya purani sadkon par aapne dekha hoga ki har ek mile (ya kilometre) par ek patthar laga hota hai jo batata hai ki aapne kitni doori tay kar li hai. Inhe "Milestones" kehte hain. Dheere-dheere log ise zindagi ki "yatra" (journey) ke liye use karne lage. Jab aap koi bada goal pura karte hain, toh woh batata hai ki aap apni manzil ke kitne kareeb pahunch gaye hain.

A month of Sundays



A long time – बहुत लंबा समय

Ex - It has been a month of Sundays since this city saw such a heavy rainstorm.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane England mein Sundays bahut shant aur gambhir (serious) hote the. Us din koi khel-kood, mazaak-masti ya kaam karne ki ijazat nahi hoti thi. Log sirf prarthna karte the. Is wajah se bacchon aur logon ko Sunday ka din bahut "bhaari" aur "lamba" lagta tha kyunki unke paas karne ko kuch nahi hota tha.Ab sochiye, agar ek Sunday itna lamba lagta hai, toh 30 Sundays (A month of Sundays) ek saath aa jayein toh kaisa lagega? Wahi se yeh phrase bana—yani ek aisa waqt jo kabhi khatam hi nahi hota.

A moot point



An issue open to debate or discussion – विवादास्पद मुद्दा

Ex - Arguing about the budget is a moot point since the project has been cancelled.

Origin/Tricks - Anglo-Saxon zamane mein, "Moot" ka matlab hota tha ek 'Assembly' ya 'Meeting' jahan log baith kar kisi mudde par charcha karte the. Baad mein, Law ke students ke liye "Moot Courts" banaye gaye jahan woh nakli cases par practice karte the.
Kyunki woh cases "nakli" (mock) hote the aur unka faisla kisi ko jail nahi bhejta tha, isliye un baaton ko "Moot Points" kaha jane laga—yani sirf behas ke liye acchi baatein, par real life mein bekar.

A nine days' wonder/A seven days' wonder/A one day wonder



A short-lived sensation/someone or something that is successful for a short period only – चार दिन की चाँदनी

Ex - That new viral dance video was a seven days' wonder—now, nobody even remembers the song.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein mana jata tha ki kutte ke bacche (puppies) paida hone ke 9 din baad apni aankhein kholte hain. Jab tak unki aankhein band hoti hain, tab tak sab kuch unke liye ek "ajuba" (wonder) hota hai, par jaise hi woh dekhne lagte hain, sab normal ho jata hai. Wahin se yeh phrase bana—yani jab tak humari aankhein nahi khulti ya hum bore nahi hote, tab tak hi woh "wonder" rehta hai.

A pain in the neck



Sb/sth that is very annoying – बहुत परेशान करने वाला

Ex - Commuting two hours each way in heavy traffic is a huge pain in the neck.

Origin/Tricks - Pehle log "A pain in the ass" bolte the, lekin sabhyata (politeness) dikhane ke liye logon ne "ass" ki jagah "neck" use karna shuru kar diya. Logic yeh hai ki jaise gardan (neck) ka dard lagatar hota rehta hai aur aapko chain se rehne nahi deta, waise hi ek annoying insaan aapka sukoon cheen leta hai.

A part and parcel



An integral part – अभिन्न अंग

Ex - Criticism is part and parcel of being a public figure or a famous YouTuber.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein jab zameen (land) ke kaghaz bante the, toh "Part" ka matlab hota tha zameen ka ek hissa, aur "Parcel" ka matlab hota tha woh hissa jo us zameen ke saath juda hua hai (jaise koi ped ya kuaan). Kanooni dastawezon mein likha jata tha— "Part and Parcel"—yani yeh sab ek hi sampatti (property) ka hissa hain aur inhe alag nahi kiya ja sakta. Tabhi se yeh phrase har us cheez ke liye use hone laga jo kisi situation ka "package deal" hoti hai.

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A Parthian shot



A remark that you make when you are leaving, so that it has a stronger effect – जाते-जाते कही गई कड़वी बात

Ex - In his resignation letter, he fired a Parthian shot at the company's unfair bonus policy.

Origin/Tricks - Uss zamane mein France mein ek rivaj tha ki agar koi mehman party se jaldi jana chahta hai, toh woh host (mezbaz) ko disturb nahi karta tha aur chup-chaap nikal jata tha. Angrezon (English) ko yeh baat bahut badtameezi wali lagti thi, isliye unhone ise mazak mein "French Leave" kehna shuru kar diya.Mazedar baat yeh hai ki French log ise "partir à l'anglaise" kehte hain, jiska matlab hai— "Angrezon ki tarah nikalna!" Dono desh ek dusre ko bina bataye bhagne wala samajhte the.

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A Penelope's web



An endless job – ऐसा काम जो कभी समाप्त न हो

Ex - Trying to keep the office files organized is a Penelope's web when coworkers keep misplacing folders every hour.

Origin/Tricks - Penelope, Raja Odysseus ki patni thi. Jab Odysseus jung ke liye gaya aur 20 saalon tak wapas nahi aaya, toh sabne socha woh mar gaya hai. Bahut saare log (suitors) Penelope se shadi karna chahte the.
Unhe taal ne ke liye Penelope ne ek shart rakhi— "Main tabhi shadi karungi jab main apne sasur ke liye yeh kafan (shroud/ web) bun lungi." Woh din bhar use bunti thi (weaving), lekin raat ko chupchap use uded deti thi (unweaving). Is tarah woh kaam kabhi khatam hi nahi hua aur usne saalo tak un logon ko bewakoof banaya. Tabhi se ise "Penelope's web" kaha jane laga.

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A penny for your thoughts



A way of asking what someone is thinking – आप किस सोच में डूबे हैं?

Ex - You looks so focused on that painting. A penny for your thoughts on the color choice?

Origin/Tricks - Uss zamane mein "Penny" (ek chota sikka) ki keemat aaj ke muqable zyada thi. Yeh phrase pehli baar John Heywood ki ek kitab mein dekha gaya tha. Iska logic yeh tha: "Aapki soch itni keemti hai ki main use 'khareedne' ke liye ek penny dene ko taiyar hoon." Yeh ek mazakiya aur pyara tarika tha kisi ko bolne ka ki— "Main tumhare khayalon mein interested hoon."

A perfect storm



The worst possible situation – अत्यंत विषम परिस्थिति

Ex - A server failure during the year's biggest sale was a perfect storm for the e-commerce company.

Origin/Tricks - Asliyat mein, "A Perfect Storm" tab hota hai jab alag-alag dishaon se aane wale tufaan (storms) ek jagah par mil jate hain. Maan lijiye ek taraf se garam hawa ka tufaan aaya, dusri taraf se thandi hawa ka, aur niche se samundar mein leherein uth rahi hain. Jab yeh teeno milte hain, toh ek "Aisi Tabahi" (Perfect Storm) banti hai jo akele koi ek tufaan nahi kar sakta tha.Dheere-dheere ise business aur daily life mein un situations ke liye use kiya jane laga jahan har taraf se bad-kismati ek saath hamla karti hai.

A picture paints a thousand words



A visual presentation is far more descriptive than words – एक चित्र हजार शब्दों के बराबर होता है।

Ex - I use diagrams in my English classes because a picture paints a thousand words for my students.

Origin/Tricks - Maana jata hai ki iska istemal sabse pehle 1920s mein Frederick R. Barnard naam ke ek advertising manager ne kiya tha. Unhone ek magazine mein likha tha ki advertisements mein "tasveeron" ka hona kitna zaruri hai. Unka manna tha ki log lambe-lambe ads padhne se zyada photos dekhna pasand karte hain. Dheere-dheere yeh poori duniya mein famous ho gaya, kyunki yeh baat bilkul sach hai ki humara dimaag visual cheezon ko jaldi samajhta hai.

A pie in the sky



Sth good that is unlikely to happen – ख्याली पुलाव

Ex - Hoping to top the exam without touching a single book is a total pie in the sky.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin 1911 ke ek gaane se hua tha jise Joe Hill naam ke ek labor activist ne likha tha. Uss waqt kuch log garib mazdooron se kehte the ki— "Abhi mehnat karo aur takleef saho, marne ke baad swarg (heaven) mein tumhe 'pie' milegi." Joe Hill ne unka mazaak udate hue gaane mein likha— "You'll get pie in the sky when you die." Tabhi se yeh phrase un vaadon ke liye use hone laga jo sirf logon ko behlane ke liye kiye jate hain par kabhi pure nahi hote.

A piece of the pie



A share in money or business – लाभ या मुनाफे में हिस्सा

Ex - Local politicians are all fighting to get a piece of the pie from the new infrastructure budget.

Origin/Tricks - Imagine kijiye ek badi si Pie (ek tarah ka cake ya dish) bani hai. Use banane mein sabne thodi-thodi mehnat ki hai. Ab jab pie taiyar ho gayi hai, toh har koi chahta hai ki use kam se kam ek tukda (piece) toh mile. Dheere-dheere yeh phrase business ki duniya mein mashhoor ho gaya. Agar koi company bahut paisa kama rahi hai, toh har investor aur employee chahta hai ki use bhi us kamyabi ka ek "piece" mile.

A pig in a poke



Sth that is bought without knowing if it is good enough – बिना जांचे-परखे ली गई वस्तु

Ex - Never buy a laptop from an unverified seller; you might end up with a pig in a poke.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein "Poke" ka matlab hota tha ek chota "Thaila" (Bag/Sack). Bazaaron mein log aksar chote sooar (piglets) bechte the. Kuch chalaak dukaandaar kya karte the ki thaili (poke) ke andar sooar ki jagah ek "Billi" (Cat) daal dete the.Agar koi khareedar bina thaili khole sauda kar leta, toh woh "A pig in a poke" khareed raha hota tha—yani use lagta tha woh sooar khareed raha hai, par asliyat mein woh dhokha khata tha. Jab woh ghar jaakar thaili kholta aur billi bahar nikal jati, toh wahan se ek aur idiom bana— "Let the cat out of the bag" (Yani raaz khul jana).

A pipe dream



An illusory plan/An unreal hope on your part – एक असंभव आशा या योजना

Ex - Eliminating all plastic waste by the end of the year is, unfortunately, a pipe dream.

Origin/Tricks - 19th century mein, bahut se log Afeem (Opium) ka nasha karte the ek lambi Pipe ke zariye. Afeem peene ke baad logon ko ajeeb-o-gareeb aur khoobsurat hallucinations (bhram) hote the jo asliyat se bilkul alag hote the. Jab nasha utarta tha, toh woh sab gayab ho jata tha. Wahin se yeh phrase bana—"A Pipe Dream"—yani ek aisa sapna jo sirf nasha karne wali pipe se aata hai aur kabhi sach nahi ho sakta.

A plum job



An easy and pleasant job that also pay well – एक बहुत ही अच्छी और आकर्षक नौकरी

Ex - Landing a plum job in Silicon Valley is the dream of almost every software engineer.

Origin/Tricks - Uss zamane mein "Plum" (ek tarah ka phal - Aloo Bukhara) ko bahut hi keemti aur swadisht mana jata tha. "Plum" shabd ka istemal un cheezon ke liye hone laga jo sabse behtareen (the best) hoti thi. 18th century mein, agar kisi ke paas £1,00,000 (jo us waqt bahut badi rakam thi) hote the, toh use "Plum" kaha jata tha. Dheeredheere, jab kisi ko bahut fayde wali aur aaramdayak sarkari ya private naukri milti thi, toh log use "A Plum Job" kehne lage—yani ek aisi naukri jo "meethi aur rasili" (fayde wali) ho.

A queer fish



An eccentric or unconventional person – सनकी व्यक्ति

Ex - My uncle is a bit of a queer fish, but he has a heart of gold.

Origin/Tricks - Uss zamane mein "Fish" shabd ka istemal aksar kisi "insaan" ke liye kiya jata tha (jaise hum aaj kal "guy" ya "fellow" bolte hain). "Queer" ka matlab hota hai "Ajeeb" (Strange).
Toh jab koi insaan baki sab se alag chalta tha ya ajeeb baatein karta tha, toh log use ek aisi machli (fish) samajhte the jo pani mein baki machliyon ki tarah seedhi nahi tair rahi. Wahin se yeh phrase mashhoor ho gaya.

A quick buck



Easily and quickly earned money – जल्दबाजी में कमाया गया पैसा

Ex - Many companies sacrifice quality just to make a quick buck, but they lose customers in the long run.

Origin/Tricks - "Buck" American English mein "Dollar" ko kehte hain. Purane zamane mein (18th century), log hiran ki khaal (Buckskin) ka istemal paise ki tarah karte the sauda karne ke liye. Wahin se dollar ko "buck" kaha jane laga.
Jab koi "Quick Buck" bolta hai, toh uska matlab hai ki woh mehnat se khaal nikaalne ya shikaar karne ke bajaye kisi short-cut se turant paisa (buck) hasil karna chahta hai.

A rap over the knuckles

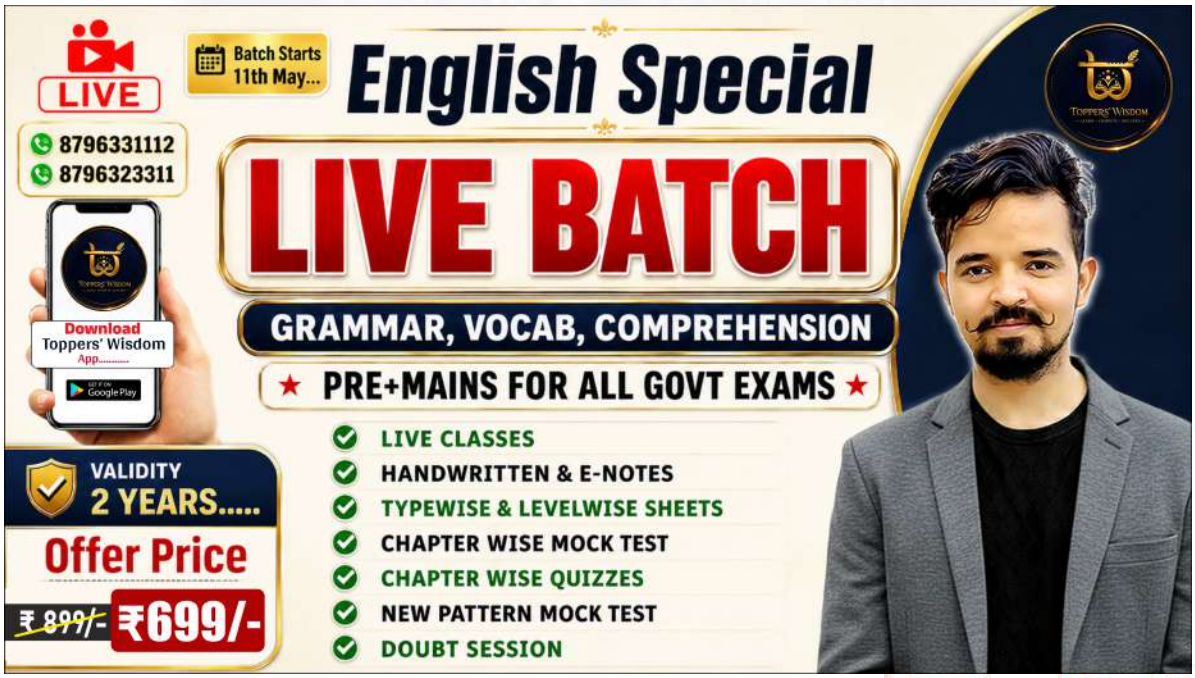


Criticism or punishment that is given in a gentle way for sth that one did wrong – चेतावनी भरी डांट

Ex - The judge gave the first-time offender a rap over the knuckles and let him go with a small fine.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane England mein, agar koi bacha class mein shararat karta tha ya homework nahi karta tha, toh teacher ek Scale (Ruler) se uske hath ki ungliyon ke jod (Knuckles) par halka sa maarta tha (Rap).
Yeh saza itni badi nahi hoti thi ki bacha ghar baith jaye, par itni dardnak zaroor hoti thi ki use apni galti yaad rahe. Dheeredheere yeh phrase kisi bhi tarah ki "halki saza" ya "daant" ke liye use hone laga.





A wise head keeps a still tongue



An intelligent person knows when to stay silent – बुद्धिमान व्यक्ति कम बोलता है।

Ex - The negotiator won the deal by listening more than he spoke, following the rule that a wise head keeps a still tongue.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin sadiyon purana hai aur yeh "Proverbs" (kahawaton) ki category mein aata hai. Puraane zamane se hi "Silence" (khamoshi) ko "Wisdom" (akalmandi) se joda gaya hai. Ek purani kahani hai "The Wise Old Owl" ki, jiski lines kuch aisi thi: "A wise old owl lived in an oak; the more he saw the less he spoke; the less he spoke the more he heard. Why can't we all be like that wise old bird?" Yani jitna woh chup rehta tha, utna hi use duniya ki samajh aati thi. Wahin se yeh idiom mashhoor hua.

A rash of something



A large number of similar things happening in a short period – अचानक बहुतायत

Ex - The dry summer has led to a rash of forest fires across the mountain range.

Origin/Tricks - Jab kisi ko skin par "rash" hota hai, toh kya hota hai? Achanak se bahut saare laal daane (spots) ek hi jagah par nikal aate hain.
Dheere-dheere, logon ne is "rash" shabd ka istemal skin se hatkar duniya ki ghatnaon ke liye karna shuru kar diya. Jaise sharir par achanak daane nikalte hain, waise hi shehar mein achanak "crime" ya "complaints" nikalne lagein, toh use "A rash of [something]" kaha jata hai.

A raw deal



Unfair treatment – अन्यायपूर्ण व्यवहार

Ex - Many people believe that the infantry soldiers got a raw deal after the war ended.

Origin/Tricks - "Raw" ka matlab hota hai "Kacha" ya "Adhpaka" (uncooked). Purane zamane mein jab cards (taash) khele jate the, toh cards baantne ko "Dealing" kehte the. Agar kisi ko jaan-boojhkar bure cards diye jayein, toh use "Raw Deal" kaha jata tha.Iska dusra logic yeh bhi hai ki jaise "Raw Meat" (kacha maas) khana mushkil hota hai, waise hi "Raw Deal" (anyay) ko hazam karna bahut mushkil hota hai.

A ray of hope



A small sign of positive outcome – आशा की किरण

Ex - Seeing the vacancy notification for SSC 2026 was a ray of hope for many struggling aspirants.

A red letter day



A memorable and important day – बहुत विशेष/यादगार दिन

Ex - August 15th is a red letter day in the history of India.

Origin/Tricks - Madhyakalin (Medieval) zamane mein, jab calendars bante the, toh saare din kaale rang (Black ink) se likhe jate the. Lekin jo din bahut khas hote the—jaise ki tyohar (festivals), chuttiyan (holidays), ya kisi Saint ka janm din— unhe Laal rang (Red ink) se likha jata tha taaki woh alag se dikhein.Wahin se yeh phrase mashhoor ho gaya. Aaj bhi humare calendars mein Sundays aur Gazetted Holidays laal rang mein hote hain. Isliye, jo din hamare liye "khas" hota hai, use hum "Red Letter Day" kehte hain.

A red rag to a bull



An object, utterance, or act which is certain to provoke someone – किसी को भड़काने वाली बात

Ex - Talking about 'easy shortcuts' to a serious teacher is like a red rag to a bull.

A rotten apple



A single bad person or thing in a group – खराब/दुष्ट व्यक्ति

Ex - The teacher realized that one rotten apple was encouraging the entire class to bully the new student.

A sacred cow



Something considered immune from question or criticism, especially unreasonably so – ऐसा व्यक्ति जो आलोचना से परे हो।

Ex - Using this specific programming language has become a sacred cow for the senior developers, despite there being much faster alternatives available now.

A shot in the arm



A boost or stimulant – उत्साह बढ़ाने वाली चीज

Ex - The discovery of a new battery material gave the electric vehicle industry a massive shot in the arm.

A sight for sore days



A person or thing that one is extremely pleased or relieved to see – देखने में बहुत सुखद चीज/व्यक्ति

Ex - After a week of heavy rain and clouds, the morning sun was a sight for sore eyes.

Origin/Tricks - Mashhoor writer Jonathan Swift ne iska istemal kiya tha. "Sore eyes" ka matlab hota hai "dukhne wali ya thaki hui aankhein." Imagine kijiye aap kadi dhoop mein kaam kar rahe hain aur aapki aankhein thak gayi hain. Achanak aap apne kisi purane dost ko dekhte hain ya thanda pani dekhte hain. Woh nazara aapki aankhon ki "jalan" (thakau) ko door kar deta hai. Wahin se yeh phrase bana—ki koi pyara chehra thaki hui aankhon ke liye dawa ka kaam karta hai.

A skeleton in the cupboard



An embarrassing fact to be kept secret – एक छुपा हुआ शर्मनाक राज

Ex - Almost every old family has a skeleton in the cupboard that they don't want the neighbors to know about.

A snowball effect



An accelerating growth of magnitude – धीरे-धीरे बढ़ता हुआ प्रभाव

Ex - If you don't pay your credit card bill, the interest creates a snowball effect of debt.

A sore point



An issue about which someone feels distressed or annoyed – संवेदनशील विषय

Ex - The team's loss in the final minute is still a sore point for the fans.

Origin/Tricks - "Sore" ka matlab hota hai sharir ka woh hissa jahan chot lagi ho aur dard ho raha ho. Agar koi us "sore point" ko halka sa bhi chhoo (touch) le, toh aap dard se karah uthte hain. Metaphorically, humare dimaag mein bhi kuch aisi yaadein ya baatein hoti hain jo "zakhm" ki tarah hoti hain. Jab koi un baaton ka zikr karta hai, toh dimaag ko waisa hi "dard" (gussa ya dukh) hota hai jaisa sharir ki chot par hath lagne se hota hai.

A square deal



A honest and fair transaction or trade – निष्पक्ष व्यवहार

Ex - If you give me a square deal on this used bike, I will recommend your shop to all my friends.

Origin/Tricks - America ke President Theodore Roosevelt ne ek policy anayi thi jise unhone "Square Deal" kaha tha. Unka manna tha ki desh mein ameer, gareeb, bade business aur mazdoor—sabke saath "fair" vyavhar hona chahiye. Geometry mein ek Square ki charon sides barabar (equal) hoti hain. Isliye "Square" shabd ka istemal "equality" aur "fairness" dikhane ke liye kiya jane laga. Agar sauda "square" hai, toh matlab koi side badi-choti nahi hai, sab barabar hai.

A square peg in a round hole



A misfit in the environment – बेमेल स्थिति

Ex - He's a bit of a square peg in a round hole at these formal parties; he'd much rather be camping

A stick-in-the-mud



A person who resists change – पुरानी सोच वाला व्यक्ति

Ex - My brother is such a stick-in-the-mud; he refuses to eat anything except dalchawal, even at a Chinese restaurant

Origin/Tricks - Imagine kijiye ek purani ghoda-gaadi (carriage) hai jo keechad (Mud) mein phass gayi hai. Uska pahiyah ya usme lagi lakdi (Stick) keechad mein itni gehri dhass gayi hai ki woh aage nahi badh pa rahi. Metaphorically, jo log apni purani soch ya ek hi boring routine mein "phass" (stuck) jate hain aur life mein aage badhna ya kuch naya try karna nahi chahte, unhe "Stick-inthe-mud" kaha jane laga.

A stiff-necked person



An obstinate person – जिद्दी व्यक्ति

Ex - It is hard to have a productive debate with a stiff-necked person who views every suggestion as a personal attack.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein khet jote ke liye bailon (Oxen) ka istemal hota tha. Unke gale par ek bhari lakdi (Yoke) rakhi jati thi. Jo bail samajhdar hota tha, woh apni gardan niche kar leta tha taaki farmer hal laga sake. Lekin jo bail ziddi hota tha, woh apni gardan ko ekdum sakht (Stiff) kar leta tha aur niche jhukne se mana kar deta tha. Wahin se yeh phrase un logon ke liye ban gaya jo apne ghamand ya zidd mein kisi ki baat nahi maante.

A sting in the tail



An unexpected, typically unpleasant or problematic end to something – शुरुआत अच्छी, पर अंत खराब

Ex - The movie was a romantic comedy, but it had a sting in the tail when the main character suddenly died in the last scene.

A stitch in time saves nine



It is better to solve a problem straight away and not let it become bigger – समय पर किया काम बड़ा नुकसान बचाता है।

Ex - Repairing the car's brakes now is a stitch in time saves nine situation before a major accident occurs.

A storm in a tea cup



A lot of anger and worry about trivial things – छोटी बात पर बड़ा हंगामा

Ex - The slight delay in the meeting was a storm in a tea cup; it didn't affect the final deal at all.

A straight shooter

A thoroughly upright straightforward person – साफ और ईमानदार व्यक्ति

Ex - The voters liked the candidate because he came across as a straight shooter who didn't make fake promises.



Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein, agar koi shooter apni gun se bilkul "straight" (seedha) nishana lagata tha, toh use bharosemand aur kabil mana jata tha. Kyunki uski goli idhar-udhar nahi bhatakti thi. Dheere-dheere, yeh phrase un logon ke liye use hone laga jinke shabd (words) aur character bilkul "straight" hote hain—yani jo kabhi dhokha nahi dete aur hamesha seedhi baat karte hain.

A stuffed shirt

A pompous or self-important person – घमंडी/दिखावटी व्यक्ति

Ex - We need a leader with a vision, not some stuffed shirt who only cares about corporate protocols.



Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein dukaandaron ke paas modern putle nahi hote the. Woh kya karte the? Ek shirt mein kachra, raddi ya kapda thuns (Stuff) dete the taaki shirt phooli hui aur "insaan jaisi" dikhe. Lekin woh "shirt" sirf bahar se bhari hui lagti thi, andar uske kuch nahi hota tha—na dil, na dimaag. Wahin se yeh phrase un logon ke liye ban gaya jo bahar se toh bade "formal" aur "bharibharkam" bante hain, par andar se unke paas koi real personality nahi hoti.

A stumbling block

An obstacle to progress – बाधा

Ex - The high cost of raw materials is the biggest stumbling block for the new startup.



A swan song

A person's last achievement or performance – अंतिम प्रदर्शन/रचना

Ex - The author's last novel, published after his death, is being hailed as his swan song.



Origin/Tricks - Aisa mana jata tha ki Hans (Swans) apni poori zindagi ekdum khamosh rehte hain aur koi awaaz nahi nikaalte. Lekin jab unki maut kareeb aati hai, toh woh marne se theek pehle ek behad surila aur dukh-bhara geet gaate hain. Halaki science kehti hai ki aisa kuch nahi hota, lekin kaviyon (poets) ne is baat ko itna pasand kiya ki kisi ke "aakhri kaam" ko "Swan Song" kaha jane laga.

A thorn in the flesh



A continuous problem to you that annoys you –

लगातार परेशान करने वाली चीज

Ex - For many aspirants, 'non-finite verbs' remains a thorn in the flesh until they master the rules.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin Bible se juda hai (2 Corinthians 12:7): Saint Paul ne likha tha ki unhe ek "Thorn in the flesh" (shareer mein kaanta) diya gaya hai taaki woh ghamand na karein. Halaki unhone saaf nahi bataya ki woh kaanta kya tha (shyad koi bimaari ya koi dushman), par unka matlab tha ek aisi takleef jo hamesha unke saath rehti thi aur unhe chain se rehne nahi deti thi.

A vexed question



Controversial question – विवादित प्रश्न

Ex - The division of river waters between the two neighboring states remains a vexed question.

Origin/Tricks - "Vex" ka matlab hota hai kisi ko annoy (pareshan) karna ya gussa dilana. Jab koi sawal itna mushkil ho ki use solve karne ki koshish karne wala har insaan chirh jaye ya pareshan ho jaye, toh use "Vexed Question" kaha jane laga. Yeh phrase 19th century se kafi mashhoor hai, khaas taur par politics aur kanoon (law) mein.

A vicious cycle



A sequence of events that compound each other

– एक बुराई जिसमे दूसरी बुराई पैदा हो

Ex - The vicious cycle of anxiety often starts with a small worry that grows into a full panic attack.

Origin/Tricks - "Vicious" ka matlab hota hai "krur" ya "bura" (jo Vice yani paap/burayi se aaya hai). Imagine kijiye ek kutta apni hi poonchh (tail) ko pakadne ke liye gol-gol ghum raha hai. Jitna tez woh ghumta hai, poonchh utni hi door bhagti hai, aur woh aur thak jata hai. Wahin se yeh "loop" ka idea aaya jahan mehnat toh ho rahi hai, par result sirf "burayi" ya "nuksan" hi nikal raha hai.

A walk of life



A person's occupation or position within society

– जीवन के अलग-अलग क्षेत्र

Ex - The university attracts students from all walks of life, making the campus a very diverse place.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin 16th century ke aas-paas ka mana jata hai. Tab "Walk" ka istemal sirf chalne ke liye nahi, balki kisi ke "Raste" (Path) ya "Zindagi ke tareeke" ko dikhane ke liye kiya jata tha.Zindagi ko ek safar (journey) mana gaya hai, aur us safar mein har insaan ka apna ek alag rasta hota hai. Koi doctor ke raste par chalta hai, toh koi kisan ke. Isi "raston" ke alag-alag hone ko "Different walks of life" kaha jane laga.

A wet blanket



Someone who ruins other people's fun – मजा खराब करने वाला व्यक्ति

Ex - The manager was a bit of a wet blanket when he told us we couldn't have a pizza party in the office.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin purane zamane ki fire-fighting (aag bujhane) se juda hai: Pehle ke waqt mein jab kahin aag lagti thi, toh log Giley Kambal (Wet Blankets) ka istemal karte the. Aag ke upar gila kambal dalne se aag turant bujh jati thi. Metaphorically, "Maza" ya "Enthusiasm" ko ek Aag (Fire) mana gaya hai. Jab koi insaan apni boring baaton ya negativity se us josh ko bujha deta hai, toh use "Wet Blanket" kaha jane laga.

A whale of a time



Enjoy oneself very much – भरपूर आनंद लेना

Ex - The kids had a whale of a time playing on the beach during our summer vacation.

Origin/Tricks - "Whale" duniya ka sabse bada jeev (creature) hai. Purane zamane mein, log kisi bhi bahut badi ya behtareen cheez ko dikhane ke liye "Whale" shabd ka use karte the.
Jaise agar koi machhli badi ho toh use "Whale of a fish" kehte the. Dheere-dheere yeh "Time" ke saath jud gaya—yani ek aisa waqt jo maze ke maamle mein "Whale" jitna bada aur shandaar ho.

A white elephant



A costly but useless possession – महँगी लेकिन बेकार वस्तु

Ex - The company's expensive supercomputer turned out to be a white elephant because the staff preferred using their own laptops for the same tasks.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein Siam (Thailand) ke Rajaon ke paas Safed Haathi (White Elephants) hote the, jinhe bahut pavitra (sacred) mana jata tha. Kyunki woh pavitra hote the, isliye unse koi mehnat wala kaam (jaise bhojh dhona ya kheti) nahi karwaya ja sakta tha. Raja jab kisi darbari (courtier) se naraz hote the, toh woh use ek "White Elephant" uphar (gift) mein de dete the. Bechara darbari na toh us haathi ko bech sakta tha (Raja ka gift tha), na use kaam par laga sakta tha, par use khilane ka kharcha itna hota tha ki woh darbari kangal (bankrupt) ho jata tha.

A wide berth



To avoid or stay away from (someone or something) – दूर रहना

Ex - I'm giving all junk food a wide berth until I finish my training for the marathon.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin samudri jahazon (Ships) se juda hai: Samundar mein "Berth" us jagah ko kehte hain jahan jahaz khada hota hai ya use ghumne ke liye jagah milti hai. Purane zamane mein, jab ek jahaz ko lagta tha ki dusra jahaz khatarnak ho sakta hai ya raste mein patthar (rocks) hain, toh Captain kehta tha— "Give it a wide berth!" Yani use itni doori se cross karo ki takrane ka koi chance na rahe.

A wild goose chase



A futile search/effort – बेकार खोज

Ex - The marketing team's search for a cheap celebrity influencer turned out to be a wild goose chase; none of them were willing to work for such a low budget.

Origin/Tricks - Pehle ek tarah ki race hoti thi jise "Wild Goose Chase" kehte the. Isme ek mukhya (lead) ghoda aage dodta tha aur baaki saare ghodon ko uske piche bilkul waise hi zigzag raste par chalna padta tha jaise Wild Geese (jungli hans) udte waqt ek-dusre ko follow karte hain. Kyunki jungli hans ka rasta bahut hi ajeeb aur unpredictable hota hai, unhe pakadna ya unka rasta follow karna bekar ki mehnat mani jati thi.

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A wildcat strike



A strike by workers without official union support – अचानक हड़ताल

Ex - The production line came to a halt when a wildcat strike broke out among the evening shift workers.

Origin/Tricks - "Wildcat" (Jungli billi) ka istemal yahan ek metaphor ke roop mein kiya gaya hai. Jungli billiyan apne swabhav (nature) mein unpredictable, fierce, aur akeli (independent) hoti hain. Woh kisi ke control mein nahi hoti. Jab workers "Wildcat" strike karte hain, toh woh bhi union ke rules aur discipline se bahar nikal kar "jungli billi" ki tarah achanak aur tezi se attack (strike) karte hain. Kyunki ye strike planned nahi hoti, isliye management ke liye ise handle karna bahut mushkil hota hai.

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A wolf in sheep's clothing



A dangerous person pretending to be harmless – भेष बदलकर बैठा दुश्मन

Ex - She realized too late that her 'best friend' was a wolf in sheep's clothing who was spreading rumors behind her back.

ABC of something



Essential fact – किसी विषय की मूल बातें

Ex - Understanding how to save money is the ABC of financial planning.

Origin/Tricks - Imagine kijiye aap pehli baar car chalana seekh rahe hain. Aapka trainer aapko seatbelt lagana, mirror set karna aur gear badalna sikhata hai. Aapka dost aapke paas aata hai aur kehta hai— "Bhai, kya tum race (speed) kar sakte ho?"Aap kehte hain— "Abhi toh main sirf ABC of driving seekh raha hoon!" (Yani abhi toh main sirf basic cheezein seekh raha hoon, speed toh baad ki baat hai).

Above board



Honest and frank – पूरी तरह ईमानदार

Ex - We only do business with partners who are above board and follow all environmental regulations.

Origin/Tricks - Pahle jab log gambling karte the, toh kuch log cheating karne ke liye taash ke patte apni god (lap) mein ya sleeve mein chhupa lete the. Is cheating ko rokne ke liye ek rule banaya gaya ki sabhi khiladiyo ko apne haath hamesha Board (yani mez/table) ke Upar (Above) rakhne honge. Agar aapke haath "Above the board" hain, toh iska matlab hai ki aapke paas chhupane ke liye kuch nahi hai aur aap imandari se khel rahe hain. Wahin se yeh phrase business aur life mein use hone laga.

Above/Over one's head



Beyond one's capability to understand something – समझ से बाहर

Ex - I tried to read the legal document, but most of the terminology went above my head.

Absence makes the heart grow fonder



We feel more affection for those you love when parted from them – दूरी से प्रेम बढ़ता है।

Ex - They decided to spend their vacations separately to see if absence makes the heart grow fonder.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin sadiyon purana hai. Sabse pehle Roman poet Sextus Propertius ne kuch aisa hi likha tha. Phir 1800s mein Thomas Haynes Bayly ne apne ek song mein is line ko use kiya, jiske baad ye poori duniya mein mashhoor ho gayi. Scientifically bhi ye sach hai—jab hum kisi ke saath roz rehte hain, toh hum unhe "Grant-ed" (lightly) lene lagte hain. Lekin unke jane ke baad unki kami ek khali-pan (void) paida karti hai, jise humara dimaag "pyaar" se bharne ki koshish karta hai.

Actions speak louder than words



What you do is more important than what you say – बातों की तुलना में काम का अधिक महत्व होना

Ex - He kept promising to change his behavior, but he never did; I finally realized that actions speak louder than words.

Adam's ale



Unadulterated water – पानी

Ex - If you want to lose weight, stop drinking sugary drinks and stick to Adam's ale.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein "Ale" ka matlab hota tha ek tarah ki "Beer" ya "Sharab". Lekin jab duniya ki shuruat hui thi aur Adam (Garden of Eden mein) rehte the, tab wahan koi brewery ya sharab ki dukan nahi thi. Adam ke paas pine ke liye sirf ek hi cheez thi—Nadiyon ka saaf paani. Isliye mazak mein log kehne lage ki "Adam ki sharab (ale)" toh sirf paani hi thi. Wahin se yeh idiom ban gaya.

Add insult to injury



To make a bad situation worse – जले पर नमक छिड़कना

Ex - The company fired him without notice, and to add insult to injury, they refused to pay his final month's salary.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein "Ale" ka matlab hota tha ek tarah ki "Beer" ya "Sharab". Lekin jab duniya ki shuruat hui thi aur Adam (Garden of Eden mein) rehte the, tab wahan koi brewery ya sharab ki dukan nahi thi. Adam ke paas pine ke liye sirf ek hi cheez thi—Nadiyon ka saaf paani. Isliye mazak mein log kehne lage ki "Adam ki sharab (ale)" toh sirf paani hi thi. Wahin se yeh idiom ban gaya.



After a fashion



To only a certain extent but not very well – कामचलाऊ तरीके से

Ex - The mechanic fixed the engine after a fashion, but I still hear a strange noise whenever I accelerate.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein "Fashion" ka matlab sirf kapde nahi hota tha, balki kisi kaam ko karne ka "Tareeka" (Manner/Form) hota tha. Jab aap koi kaam "after a fashion" karte hain, toh iska matlab hai ki aapne us kaam ka "dhancha" (form) toh taiyar kar liya, par usme woh quality nahi hai jo honi chahiye thi.

After one's own heart



Someone has likes and dislikes similar to one's own – अपनी पसंद का व्यक्ति

Ex - You ordered an extra-spicy pizza too? You are a person after my own heart!

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin Bible se juda hai (1 Samuel 13:14). Wahan King David ke baare mein kaha gaya tha ki he is a "man after his [God's] own heart." Iska matlab tha ki David wahi karta tha jo bhagwan ko pasand tha aur unke raste par chalta tha. Dhire-dhire yeh phrase aam bhasha mein un logon ke liye use hone laga jo humari pasand-napassand (preferences) se bilkul mel khate hon.

Against one's grain



Contrary to one's feelings, nature, wishes etc – मन के विरुद्ध

Ex - It goes against the grain for him to be polite to people he doesn't respect.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin badhaigiri (Woodworking) se juda hai: Lakdi (wood) mein reshe hote hain jinhe "Grain" kehte hain.

- Agar aap lakdi ko reshon ki disha mein (with the grain) kaat-te hain, toh kaam bahut asaan aur smooth hota hai.
- Lekin agar aap reshon ki ulti disha mein (Against the grain) aari chalate hain, toh kaam mushkil ho jata hai aur lakdi bhi kharab ho sakti hai.

Against the clock



In a great hurry to do something – बहुत तेजी से काम करना

Ex - - I'm really against the clock today; I have three meetings and a fl ight to catch by 4 PM.

Origin/Tricks -Pehle ke waqt mein jab koi akela race lagata tha (time trial), toh woh kisi dusre insaan se nahi, balki Stopwatch ke khilaf dodta tha taaki apna hi record tod sake. 1950s ke baad se yeh phrase business aur exams ke liye bhi use hone laga, jahan "Time" hi sabse bada dushman (opponent) hota hai.

Aid and abet



To help someone to commit a crime – अपराध में सहायता करना

Ex - The technology company was accused of aiding and abetting digital piracy by not fixing the security fl aw.

Origin/Tricks - Aid: Iska matlab hai physical help (jaise kisi ko chori karne ke liye rassi ya hathiyar dena).
Abet: Yeh purane French word abeter se aaya hai, jiska matlab tha "kisi janwar ko uksana" (baiting). Legal term mein, agar aap kisi ko sirf rasta dikhate hain (Aid) ya sirf kehte hain ki "maar ise" (Abet), toh dono hi cases mein aap barabar ke gunahgar mane jate hain.

Airy-Fairy



Not practical or not useful in real situations – हवाई बातें

Ex - Stop with the airy-fairy talk and tell me exactly how much this trip is going to cost!

Origin/Tricks - Iska origin 19th century ke aas-paas ka mana jata hai. Yeh "Airy" (hawa jaisa halka) aur "Fairy" (pariyan) se milkar bana hai. Pariyan (fairies) sundar hoti hain par woh sirf kahanion mein milti hain, asali duniya mein nahi. Jab kisi ke ideas bahut zyada "fancy" hote hain par unme koi "solid logic" nahi hota, toh log unhe "Airy-fairy" kehne lage. **" Fire in Air"**

Aladdin's cave



A place that contains many interesting objects – ऐसी जगह जहाँ बहुत सारी दिलचस्प चीजें हों

Ex - The small boutique turned out to be an Aladdin's cave of handmade jewelry and silk scarves.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin mashhoor kahanion ki kitab "One Thousand and One Nights" (Alif Laila) ki kahani "Aladdin and the Magic Lamp" se juda hai: Kahani mein Aladdin ek aisi gufa (Cave) mein jata hai jo upar se niche tak sone-chaandi, heere-jawaharat aur jadui chizon se bhari hoti hai. Wahin se yeh phrase un jagahon ke liye use hone laga jo dekhne mein shayad normal lagein, par andar khazana chhupa ho.

Alarums and Excursions



Confused activity and uproar – अफरा-तफरी/ भाग-दौड़

Ex - Despite all the alarums and excursions during the rehearsal, the actual wedding ceremony went perfectly.

Origin/Tricks - • Alarum: Iska matlab tha "Call to arms" (Yani drums ya trumpet bajana taaki sainik taiyar ho jayein).
• Excursions: Iska matlab tha "Skirmishes" (Yani stage par sainikon ka yahan-wahan bhaagna aur choti-moti ladayi karna). Jab stage par ye dono cheezein ek saath hoti thi, toh bahut shor aur hungama hota tha. Wahin se yeh idiom aam zindagi ke "hungame" ke liye use hone laga.

Alive and kicking



In good health – पूरी तरह स्वस्थ

Ex - The ancient art of hand-weaving is still alive and kicking in many small villages of India.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein machhli bechne wale (fishmongers) apne grahakon (customers) ko yakin dilane ke liye ki machhli ekdam taazi (fresh) hai, chillate the— "Alive and kicking!" Yani machhli sirf zinda nahi hai, balki itni taazi hai ki woh pani mein apni poonch (tail) maar rahi hai (kicking). Wahin se ye phrase insaano aur business ke liye bhi use hone laga.

All agog



Excited or eager, often in anticipation of something – बहुत उत्साहित/उत्सुक

Ex - Fans were all agog to see the first trailer of the much-awaited sequel.

Origin/Tricks - Iska origin purane French word "en gogo" se juda mana jata hai, jiska matlab hota hai "joy" (khushi) ya "mirth" (mausi). 16th century mein ye English mein "all agog" ban gaya. Ye dikhata hai ki ek insaan poori tarah se excitement aur maze ke mood mein hai.

All and sundry



Everyone without distinction – हर कोई

Ex - He told his secrets to all and sundry, and now the whole office knows about his plans.

Origin/Tricks - • All: Yani sab (collectively).
• Sundry: Yeh purane English word syndrig se aaya hai, jiska matlab hota hai "alag-alag" (separate/various).
Puraane zamane mein jab koi announcement hoti thi, toh woh "All" (pure group) aur "Sundry" (har ek alag insaan) ke liye hoti thi. Dono ko milakar bana—All and Sundry

All bark and no bite



Full of talk, but low on action – सिर्फ धमकी देने वाला

Ex - The rival nation made several threats of war, but the diplomats knew it was all bark and no bite.

All eyes and ears



With full focus & attention – पूरी तरह ध्यानपूर्वक सुनना-देखना

Ex - The bodyguards were all eyes and ears as the minister walked through the crowded market.

All Greek to me



Incomprehensible – पूरी तरह से समझ से बाहर होना

Ex - I tried reading the manual for the new software, but it's all Greek to me.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein jab Europe ke vidwan (monks) Latin mein kitabein likhte ya copy karte the, toh kabhi-kabhi unke saamne Greek language ke quotes aa jate the. Kyunki unhe Greek nahi aati thi, toh woh margin mein likh dete the— "Graecum est; non potest legi" (Yani: Yeh Greek hai; ise padha nahi ja sakta).

All hands on deck



Everyone available to help with a problem/ Everyone needs to work together to achieve goal – सबकी सहायता की आवश्यकता

Ex - The product launch is tomorrow, so it's all hands on deck in the office tonight.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein jahaz par kaam karne wale logon ko "Hands" kaha jata tha. Jab samundar mein toofan aata tha ya koi khatra hota tha, toh Captain chilla kar order deta tha— "All hands on deck!"
Iska matlab tha ki jo log niche so rahe hain ya doosra kaam kar rahe hain, woh sab turant Deck (jahaz ki chhat) par aayein taaki sab milkar jahaz ko doobne se bacha sakein. Aaj ye business aur teamwork mein use hota hai.

All hat and no cattle



One who is full of big talk but lacks substance and action – दिखावा करने वाला

Ex - The candidate made many big promises during the rally, but the public knows he's all hat and no cattle.

Origin/Tricks - Texas mein "Cattle" (Gaay-bhains) paalna ameeri ki nishani hoti thi. Asli rancher (zamindar) wahi hota tha jiske paas hazaron cattle hon. Lekin kuch log sirf bada sa Cowboy Hat pehen kar ghumte the taaki woh bade zamindar lagein, bhale hi unke paas ek bhi gaay na ho. Isliye log unka mazak udate hue kehne lage— "He is all hat and no cattle."

All in



Exhausted/tired – बहुत थका हुआ

Ex - After running the marathon, I was completely all in.

Origin/Tricks - Poker mein jab ek khiladi ko lagta hai ki uske paas jeetne ka mauka hai, toh woh apne saare chips table ke beech mein dhakel deta hai. Ise kehte hain "Going All In." Iska matlab hai ki ab uske paas piche hatne ka rasta nahi hai—ya toh woh sab kuch jeetega ya sab haar jayega. Wahin se ye phrase business aur personal life mein "commitment" ke liye use hone laga.

All in a day's work



Part of a person's typical work – रोजमर्रा का काम

Ex - For a doctor, dealing with emergencies at midnight is all in a day's work.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein jahaz par sailors ko bahut se khatarnak kaam karne padte the—jaise toofan mein rassi pakadna ya unchai par chadhna. Jab koi unhe "brave" kehta tha, toh woh kehte the ki ye sab toh unke "Day's work" (din bhar ke kaam) mein shamil hai. Yani unke liye ye asadharan (extraordinary) nahi, balki routine tha.

All in all



Having all authority/On the whole; altogether – जिसके पास सारा अधिकार हो/कुल मिलाकर

Ex - In the absence of the principal, the vice-principal is the all in all of the school.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin 14th century se juda hai. "All in all" ka matlab pehle hota tha "everything in everything. "Biblical texts mein bhi iska zikr milta hai jahan iska matlab hota tha "everything to everyone." Dhire-dhire yeh do raaston par nikal gaya: ek summary dene ke liye (all things considered) aur dusra power dikhane ke liye (everything that matters).

All moonshine



Empty talk or promises; impractical or unrealistic – बिल्कुल बकवास

Ex - The story he told for being late was all moonshine; he was actually sleeping.

Origin/Tricks - "Moonshine" us illegal sharab ko bhi kehte the jo raat ke andhere mein banayi jati thi. Isliye, jo baat bina kisi proof ke sirf andhere mein maari gayi "gapp" (rumor) lage, use "All moonshine" kaha jane laga.

All our might and main



Full force – पूरी शक्ति के साथ

Ex - To clear the SSC exam, you must study with all your might and main.

Origin/Tricks - Is phrase mein do words hain jo purani English se aaye hain: Might: Iska matlab hum sab jante hain—"Shakti" ya "Power."
Main: Aaj kal hum "Main" ka matlab "Pramukh" (primary) nikalte hain, par purani English (Old English word mægen) mein "Main" ka matlab hi "Strength" (Taqat) hota tha.
Dhire-dhire logon ne zor dene (emphasis) ke liye dono words ko ek saath bolna shuru kar diya—yani "Taqat aur Taqat" se.
Yeh phrase 13th century se English mein chala aa raha hai.

All over hell's half acre



Everywhere (all over the place) – सब जगह बिखरा हुआ

Ex - Your toys are scattered all over hell's half acre; pick them up right now!

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein "Hell's Half Acre" kisi aisi jagah ko kaha jata tha jo bahut hi kharab, lawless (bina kanoon wali) ya mushkil ho—jaise koi purana battlefield ya shahar ka ganda ilaaka. Dhire-dhire logon ne "All over" jod diya yeh dikhane ke liye ki koi cheez itni messy hai ki woh is "mushkil ilake" mein har jagah banyi hui hai.

All thumbs



Very awkward with the hands – हाथों से काम करने में अनाड़ी होना

Ex - My grandmother is all thumbs when it comes to using a smartphone.

Origin/Tricks - Hamari ungliyan (fingers) naazuk aur lachili hoti hain, par hamara angootha (Thumb) mota aur thoda sakht hota hai. Sochiye agar aapki pancho ungliyan angoothe (thumbs) ban jayein, toh kya aap choti cheezein pakad payenge? Bilkul nahi! Aap bahut clumsy ho jayenge. Wahin se ye phrase aaya—ki ye banda itna anaadi hai jaise iske haath mein ungliyan nahi, sirf angoothe (thumbs) hon.

All wet



Completely mistaken – गलतफहमी में होना

Ex - He thinks I'm the one who broke the vase, but he's all wet.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye, agar aapki matchstick (maachis) ya gunpowder geela (Wet) ho jaye, toh kya woh kaam karega? Bilkul nahi! Woh useless ho jayega. Usi tarah, agar kisi ka idea ya logic "wet" hai, toh iska matlab usme koi sachayi ki "aag" nahi hai—woh bilkul bekar aur galat hai.

Alpha and omega



Beginning and end – शुरुआत और अंत

Ex - Trust is the alpha and omega of a healthy friendship.

Origin/Tricks - Greek alphabet ka sabse pehla letter hota hai α (Alpha) aur sabse aakhri letter hota hai ω (Omega). Jaise English mein hum "A to Z" kehte hain, waise hi Greek mein "Alpha and Omega" kaha jata hai. Bible mein bhi Ishwar ko "Alpha and Omega" kaha gaya hai, jiska matlab hai ki wahi shuruat hain aur wahi ant.

Alphabet Soup



Incomprehensible or confusing mixture of things – उलझन भरा

Ex - Medical reports can often feel like an alphabet soup to a common person.

Origin/Tricks - America ke President Franklin D. Roosevelt ne tab bahut saari nayi agencies banayi thi jinhe unke initials se jana jata tha (jaise WPA, AAA, CCC, TVA). Log inne saare short forms se itne pareshaan ho gaye ki unhone ise "Alphabet Soup" kehna shuru kar diya, jaise ki kisi ne alphabet wali pasta soup mein saare akshar milaa diye hon.

Always a bridesmaid never a bride



Someone who always comes second – हमेशा दूसरे स्थान पर रहना

Ex - The team has reached the finals five times but lost every time. They are always a bridesmaid, never a bride.

Origin/Tricks - Listerine (mouthwash) company ne ek ad banaya tha jisme ek ladki "Edna" ke baare mein bataya gaya tha. Edna bahut sundar thi, par uske saare doston ki shaadi ho rahi thi aur woh sirf Bridesmaid (shaadi mein dulhan ki saheli) hi banti reh jati thi. Ad ka message tha ki uske "bad breath" (halitosis) ki wajah se uski shaadi nahi ho rahi. Wahin se ye phrase kisi bhi aisi situation ke liye use hone laga jahan koi insaan "No. 1" nahi ban pata.

An about turn



Complete change of opinion – विचार में अचानक बदलाव

Ex - She said she hated spicy food, but then she did an about turn and ordered a hot chilly pizza.

Origin/Tricks - Army mein "About Turn" ek command hoti hai. Jab ek soldier seedha khada hota hai aur use ye order milta hai, toh woh turant 180 degrees ghoom jata hai. Yani ab uska chehra us taraf hota hai jahan pehle uski peeth thi. Yahin se ye phrase aam zindagi mein "pala badalne" ya "faisla badalne" ke liye use hone laga.

An Achilles' Heel



A vulnerable point or fault in one's character – कमजोर कड़ी

Ex - I'm good at all subjects, but Trigonometry is my Achilles' heel.

Origin/Tricks - Achilles ek mahan yoddha (warrior) tha. Jab woh paida hua, toh uski maa (Thetis) ne use River Styx (ek jadui nadi) mein duboya taaki uska sharir lohe jaisa mazboot ho jaye aur koi use maar na sake. Lekin, uski maa ne use adi (heel) se pakda tha, isliye pani wahan nahi laga.
Baaki poora sharir toh amar (immortal) ho gaya, par uska "heel" kamzor reh gaya. Baad mein ek jung mein ek zeherila teer uske heel par laga aur uski maut ho gayi. Wahin se ye phrase "ek choti si kamzori" ke liye mashhoor ho gaya.

An acid test



A fact, event or situation that proves something – असली परख

Ex - The match against Australia will be an acid test for our young cricket team.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein log sone ki asliyat check karne ke liye us par Nitric Acid dalte the. Agar woh asli sona hota tha, toh acid ka us par koi asar nahi hota tha. Lekin agar woh koi sasta metal (jaise peetal) hota, toh woh acid mein ghul jata ya rang badal leta tha. Wahin se ye phrase kisi bhi "final test" ke liye use hone laga.

An albatross around the neck



A heavy burden someone carries, especially a burden that torments someone incessantly – गले की फाँस

Ex - His past criminal record was like an albatross around his neck, making it hard to find a job.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin ek bahut mashhoor poem "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" (by Samuel Taylor Coleridge) se juda hai: Kahani mein ek purana jahazi (mariner) ek Albatross (ek bada samudri pakshi) ko bina wajah maar deta hai. Samudra mein is pakshi ko "Good Luck" ki nishani mana jata tha. Uske marne ke baad jahaz par badkismati chha jati hai—na hawa chalti hai, na pani milta hai. Baaki crew members gusse mein us mare hue pakshi ko us mariner ke gale mein baandh dete hain taaki use apni galti ka ehsas hota rahe. Wahin se ye "bojh" ka prateek ban gaya..

An arm and a leg



Very expensive – बहुत महँगा

Ex - I'd love to buy that designer suit, but it costs an arm and a leg.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein jab log apni painting (portrait) banwate the, toh artist is baat ke paise leta tha ki kitna body part paint karna hai. Sirf chehra (face) sasta tha, lekin agar aapko haath (Arm) aur paer (Leg) bhi dikhane hote the, toh keemat bahut badh jati thi.

An arrow in the quiver



Strategies that can be followed – कौशल जो समय आने पर काम आए

Ex - - Learning a second language is another arrow in your quiver when looking for a job.

Origin/Tricks - Quiver us jhole (bag) ko kehte hain jisme shikari ya yoddha apne teer rakhta hai. Ek achha teer-andaz hamesha apne paas bahut saare teer rakhta tha. Agar ek teer miss ho jaye ya toot jaye, toh uske paas "Another arrow in the quiver" hota tha. Aaj ke waqt mein ye "teer" aapki degrees, skills ya alag-alag strategies ho sakti hain.

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An article of faith



A firmly held belief – दृढ़ विश्वास

Ex - Providing the best quality at the lowest price is an article of faith for this brand.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein jab koi dharam apne niyam likhta tha, toh unhe "Articles of Faith" kaha jata tha. Ye wo baatein thi jinpar har follower ko bina sawal kiye vishwas karna hota tha. Dhire-dhire ye phrase politics, business aur personal life mein bhi use hone laga, jahan iska matlab "pakka vishwas" ban gaya.

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An axe to grind



A personal reason for being involved in something – अपना उल्लू सीधा करना

Ex - I don't trust his suggestion for the new project; I think he has an axe to grind.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin Benjamin Franklin (America ke mahan neta) ki ek kahani se mana jata hai:
Kahani ke mutabiq, ek admi ek bache ke paas gaya aur uski bahut tareef ki— "Beta tum toh bahut takatvar ho!" Bachha khush ho gaya. Us admi ne bache ko ek bhari Grindstone (patthar ka chakka) ghumane ke liye raazi kar liya taaki woh apni Axe (kulhari) ko tez (grind) kar sake. Bacha thak gaya par usne kulhari tez kar di. Jaise hi kulhari tez hui, wo admi bina "Thank you" bole chala gaya. Tabse ye phrase "apne fayde ke liye dusre ka istemal karne" ke liye mashhoor ho gaya.

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An ear to the ground



Informed and updated about everything – चौकन्ना रहना

Ex - A successful businessman always keeps his ear to the ground to know what customers want.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein jab koi rasta bhatak jata tha ya dushman ka pata lagana hota tha, toh trackers apna kaann zameen par (ear to the ground) laga dete the. Zameen hawa ke muqable vibrations (thartharahat) ko zyada door tak aur jaldi pahunchati hai. Isse unhe milon door se aane wale ghodo ya dushmano ki aahat sunayi de jati thi. Aaj ke waqt mein iska matlab "vibrations" sunna nahi, balki "social ya political" halchal par nazar rakhna hai. 11 Video Solution ds fy, ;g

An eye wash



A pretence – पूरी तरह ईमानदार

Ex - The government inquiry into the corruption case was just an eye wash to calm the public.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Logic is baat par hai ki agar aapki aankhon mein jalan ho rahi ho aur aap use sirf paani se dho (wash) lein, toh shayad thodi der ke liye thandak mile, par andar ki bimari theek nahi hoti.
Usi tarah, jab koi bada ghotala (scam) hota hai aur sarkaar ek committee banati hai jo sirf "naam ke liye" report deti hai, toh log use "An eye wash" kehte hain. Woh sirf janta ko shaant karne ka ek tareeka hota hai, asliyat chhupane ke liye.

An eyesore



Something that is unpleasant to look at – भद्दी वस्तु

Ex - I love my room, but this orange carpet is an eyesore; I need to change it.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Logic do words se bana hai: "Eye" (Aankh) + "Sore" (Dard ya Zakhm).
Sochiye ki aap ek bahut sundar garden mein baithe hain, aur wahan beech mein ek sadi hui purani bus khadi hai jispar zang (rust) laga hai. Woh bus poore garden ki sundarta ko kharab kar rahi hai. Use dekh kar aapko khushi nahi, balki chirh (irritation) hoti hai. Wahi cheez "An eyesore" hai.

An iron hand



Strict and harsh control – कठोर अनुशासन

Ex - The dictator ruled the country with an iron hand for thirty years.

Origin/Tricks - Loha thanda, sakht (hard) aur na tootne wala hota hai. Purane zamane mein yoddha (warriors) lohe ke dastane (Iron Gauntlets) pehente the. Agar wahi haath kisi ko dabane ke liye istemal ho, toh woh bahut dardnak aur mazboot hota hai.Aksar iske saath ek aur phrase use hota hai— "An iron hand in a velvet glove." Iska matlab hota hai ki koi bahar se toh bahut narm aur polite (velvet) dikhta hai, par andar se woh bahut sakht aur bedard (iron) hai.

An olive branch



A gesture of peace – शांति का प्रस्ताव

Ex - After their big fight, Sarah sent a text message to her friend as an olive branch.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane Yunan mein Olive (Zaitoon) ke ped ko shanti aur pavitrata ka prateek mana jata tha. Jab do rajya (kingdoms) ladai rokna chahte the, toh woh ek doosre ko olive ki tehni (branch) dete the.

Apple pie order



In perfect order – सुव्यवस्थित

Ex - Prashant Sir always keeps his desk and files in apple pie order.

Origin/Tricks - Jab koi 'Apple Pie' banata hai, toh apples ko bahut hi bariki aur perfection ke saath slice karke ek ke upar ek sajaya jata hai. Us "perfect arrangement" ki wajah se ye phrase ban gaya.

Apple-cart



Spoil careful plans – रायता फैलाना

Ex - The sudden change in tax laws really upset the apple-cart for small businesses.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein kisan apni rehri (cart) par seb (apples) ko bahut hi dhang se saja kar bazaar le jate the taaki wo dikhne mein sundar lagein aur biken. Agar raste mein koi us gaadi ko takkar maar de ya wo palat jaye (upset), toh saare seb keechad mein gir kar kharab ho jate the aur kisan ki poori mehnat (plan) par paani phir jata tha.

Apropos of nothing



Having no relevance to any previous discussion or situation – बिना किसी संदर्भ के

Ex - He stood up and, apropos of nothing, announced that he was quitting his job.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin French phrase "à propos" se aaya hai, jiska matlab hota hai "Appropriate" ya "Related to."
Jab hum isme "of nothing" jod dete hain, toh iska ulta matlab nikalta hai—yani "Aisi baat jo kisi bhi cheez se related nahi hai." Ye aksar tab use hota hai jab koi awkward silence ko todne ke liye ya achanak koi naya topic shuru karne ke liye kuch bolta hai.

Argus-eyed



Carefully observant or attentive – चौकना

Ex - Our boss is Argus-eyed when it comes to checking the final reports for mistakes.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin Greek mythology (Yunan ki kahanion) se juda hai:
Greek kahanion mein Argus Panoptes naam ka ek giant (daitya) tha jiske sharir par 100 aankhein (100 eyes) thin. Jab woh sota tha, tab bhi uski sirf do aankhein band hoti thin, baaki 98 aankhein khuli rehti thin! Isliye use koi bhi dhokha nahi de sakta tha. Wahin se ye phrase "Arguseyed" bana, yani woh insaan jo har waqt sab kuch dekh raha ho.

Arm-chair critic



A person who knows about a subject only by reading or hearing about it rather than from practical experience – जिसे व्यावहारिक ज्ञान न हो

Ex - It's easy to be an arm-chair critic when you're just watching the game from home.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Logic iske naam mein hi chhupa hai:
Arm-chair ka matlab hota hai ek aaramdaayak kursi. Jo insaan aaram-kursi par baitha hai, woh dhoop mein mehnat nahi kar raha, na hi usne kabhi asli mushkilon ka saamna kiya hai. Woh bas door se baith kar "theories" aur "opinions" de raha hai. Isliye use "Arm-chair critic" kaha jata hai.

Armed to the teeth



Fully armed, having many weapons – साजो-सामान से भरपूर

Ex - The special forces were armed to the teeth when they entered the building.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Origin 17th-century ke samundri dakuon (Pirates) aur yoddhaon se juda hai:
Puraane zamane mein jab pirates kisi jahaz par hamla karte the, toh woh apne haathon mein bandook aur talwar rakhte the. Unke paas itne saare hathiyar hote the ki jab dono haath bhar jate the, toh woh ek chaku (knife) apne daanto (teeth) ke beech daba lete the. Iska matlab tha ki unke paas ab ek bhi inch jagah nahi bachi hai aur wo "to the teeth" (daanto tak) armed hain.

Around the clock



For an entire 24-hour day – बिना रुके लगातार

Ex - The doctors worked around the clock to save the patient's life.

Origin/Tricks - Ek ghadi mein 12 ghante hote hain. Jab suiyan pura chakar laga leti hain aur ye silsila chalta rehta hai (yani ghadi ke "charon taraf" ghoomti rehti hain), toh uska matlab hota hai poora din aur poori raat nikal jana. Jab aap "Around the clock" kaam karte hain, toh aap ghadi ke saath-saath chal rahe hote hain.

As a matter of fact



Actually as it happened – वास्तव में

Ex - He thinks I'm new here, but as a matter of fact, I've worked here for fi ve years.

Origin/Tricks - Jab hum kehte hain "As a matter of fact," toh hum keh rahe hote hain ki "Agar hum is maamle (Matter) ke tathya (Fact) ko dekhein, toh sachai ye hai..." Ye phrase tab kaam aata hai jab koi aapse kisi cheez ke baare mein andaza laga raha ho aur aap use sahi jankari dein.

As clean as a whistle



Completely clean or pure – बिल्कुल साफ-सुथरा

Ex - After the deep cleaning, the whole house was as clean as a whistle.

Origin/Tricks - Ek whistle tabhi sahi se bajti hai jab uske andar koi kachra ya dhool na ho. Agar whistle gandi hogi, toh awaaz nahi nikalegi. Isliye jo cheez "perfectly clean" ho, use whistle se compare kiya jane laga.

As clear as a bell



Readily understood – जो आसानी से समझ आ जाए

Ex - Even from the back of the hall, the singer's voice was as clear as a bell.

Origin/Tricks - Ek acchi metal ki ghanti jab bajayi jati hai, toh uski awaaz bahut "pure" aur "distinct" hoti hai. Woh bina kisi shor (noise) ke door tak saaf sunayi deti hai. Isi wajah se, jab kisi ka bhashan (speech) ya koi idea bahut "crisp" aur "clear" hota hai, toh hum use bell se compare karte hain.

As clear as mud



Impossible to understand – बिल्कुल अस्पष्ट

Ex - The politician's speech about the new budget was as clear as mud to the public.

Origin/Tricks - Mud (keechad) kabhi "clear" nahi hota. Woh opaque hota hai, jiske paar dekhna namumkin hai. Jab hum kisi confusing baat ko "clear as mud" kehte hain, toh hum ye taana (taunt) maar rahe hote hain ki "Haan, itna saaf hai ki kuch dikh hi nahi raha!"

As daft as a brush



Extremely foolish or silly – बेवकूफ

Ex - He's a great guy, but sometimes he can be as daft as a brush.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein "Daft" ka matlab hota tha "Soft." Agar koi kahe ki kisi ka dimaag 'soft' hai, toh uska matlab hota tha ki woh 'weak' ya 'foolish' hai.

As dead as a doornail



Completely obsolete – एकदम बेजान

Ex - The project was as dead as a doornail after the company lost its funding.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein, badhai (carpenters) jab darwaza banate the, toh woh badi-badi kilein (nails) thokte the. Kil ko mazboot karne ke liye woh use piche se mod kar thok dete the (ise 'clenching' kehte hain). Ek baar kil mud gayi, toh woh dobara kabhi use nahi ki ja sakti thi—woh 'dead' ho jati thi. Wahin se ye phrase bana.

As fit as a fiddle



In good health – पूरी तरह स्वस्थ

Ex - The player looks as fit as a fiddle and is ready for the final match.

Origin/Tricks - Puraane zamane mein "Fit" ka matlab sirf 'tandurust' nahi, balki kisi kaam ke liye 'suitable' (yogya) hona bhi hota tha. Ek Fiddle (violin) tabhi acchi awaaz nikalta hai jab wo bilkul sahi condition mein ho, uski polish chamak rahi ho aur uski saari taarein (strings) sahi se kasi hui hon. Agar violin thoda bhi kharab hua, toh music bigad jayega. Isliye, jo insaan violin ki tarah "perfect condition" mein ho, use "As fit as a fiddle" kaha jane laga.

As genuine/phony as a three-dollar bill



Completely fake – बिलकुल नकली

Ex - I don't trust his big smile; it feels as phony as a three-dollar bill.

Origin/Tricks - America (US) mein $1, $2, $5 ke notes hote hain, par $3 ka note kabhi bana hi nahi. Isliye, agar koi aapko $3 ka bill pakda raha hai, toh woh 100% nakli hai. Wahin se ye idiom bana—agar koi insaan bahut zyada "over-acting" kar raha hai ya jhooth bol raha hai, toh woh us $3 ke note ki tarah "phony" (nakli) hai.

As hard as nails



Physically or mentally tough – बहुत कठोर

Ex - You have to be as hard as nails to succeed in this competitive market.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye ek lohe ki keel (nail) ko. Woh kitni sakht hoti hai? Aap use mod nahi sakte, woh hamesha 'unyielding' (na jhukne wali) rehti hai. Jab koi insaan mushkil halaat mein rota nahi hai ya dusron ki takleef dekh kar pighalta nahi hai, toh hum kehte hain ki woh "keel ki tarah sakht" hai.

As high as a kite



Intoxicated with alcohol/to feel very happy and excited – नशे में धुत

Ex - After winning the lottery, he was as high as a kite all week.

Origin/Tricks - Ek patang jab aasmaan mein bahut unchi udti hai, toh woh zameen se bahut door ho jati hai. Usi tarah, jab koi insaan bahut khush hota hai, toh woh "real world" ki chintaon se door aasmaan mein munsalib (connected) mehsus karta hai. Slang mein, iska matlab nashe mein hona bhi hota hai kyunki tab bhi insaan hosh-o-hawaas kho kar "unche" khayalon mein rehta hai.

As keen as mustard



Very excited and interested – बहुत उत्साहित

Ex - She is as keen as mustard about her new photography classes.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein "Keen" ka ek matlab hota tha "Tez" ya "Sharp." Mustard (sarson ki chatni ya powder) apne teekhepan aur 'sharp' swad ke liye jaani jati thi. Jaise mustard khaane ke baad dimaag aur taste buds ekdam 'jaag' jate hain aur bhook badh jati hai, waise hi jab koi insaan kisi kaam ke liye 'sharp' aur 'eager' hota hai, toh use "As keen as mustard" kaha jane laga.

As mad as a hatter



Eccentric – सिरफिरा

Ex - My old uncle is as mad as a hatter; he talks to his plants all day.

Origin/Tricks - 18th aur 19th century mein, jo log Hats (topiyan) banate the, woh felt (ek tarah ka kapda) ko saaf karne ke liye Mercury (para) ka use karte the. Mercury bahut zehrila (toxic) hota hai. Rozana uski bhaap (fumes) mein kaam karne se unka dimaag kharab ho jata tha—unhe jhatke lagte the, woh chidchide ho jate the aur pagal jaisi baatein karne lagte the. Isi wajah se "Hatter" (topi banane wala) ko "Mad" mana jane laga.

As plain as day



Very obvious and easy to understand – बिलकुल स्पष्ट

Ex - The teacher's explanation was as plain as day; everyone understood it.

Origin/Tricks - Raat ke andhere mein cheezein dhundhli hoti hain aur humein unhe pehchanne mein mushkil hoti hai. Par jab din (Day) nikalta hai, toh suraj ki roshni mein har cheez "plain" (saaf) dikhayi deti hai. Isliye, jo sachai bilkul saaf ho, use hum kehte hain— "As plain as day."

As sly as a fox



Smart and clever – बेहद चतुर

Ex - Don't trust his innocent face; he is as sly as a fox and always gets his way.

Origin/Tricks - Duniya bhar ki kahaniyon (jaise Aesop's Fables ya Panchatantra) mein Fox ko hamesha sabse chalaak janwar dikhaya gaya hai. Lomdi kabhi seedha hamla nahi karti, balki wo "plan" banati hai, chhup kar intezar karti hai aur mauka milte hi apna kaam nikal leti hai. Isliye, jo insaan apne fayde ke liye dimaag chalata hai, use fox se compare kiya jata hai.

As swift as an eagle



Moving or able to move quickly – बहुत तेज

Ex - The young sprinter was as swift as an eagle and finished the race in 10 seconds.

Origin/Tricks - Eagle duniya ke sabse tez udne wale parindon mein se ek hai. Jab wo aasmaan se apne shikaar par jhapatta (dive) maarta hai, toh uski speed dekhne layak hoti hai. Isliye, jo bhi cheez "super fast" hoti hai, use hum eagle se compare karte hain.

As the crow flies



The shortest route – सीधा रास्ता

Ex - The village is 20 miles away by road, but only 10 miles as the crow flies.

Origin/Tricks - Insaano ko ek shehar se dusre shehar jaane ke liye sadko (roads) ka istemal karna padta hai jo pahado, nadiyon ya imaraton ki wajah se ghumi hui hoti hain. Par ek kauwa (Crow) aasmaan mein udta hai, use raste ki rukawaton se koi matlab nahi hota. Wo ek point se dusre point tak ekdum seedha udta hai. Isliye, "hawaai doori" ko "as the crow flies" kaha jata hai.

As thick as thieves



Having a close friendship – घनिष्ठ मित्र

Ex - Rahul and Satyam have been as thick as thieves since primary school.

Origin/Tricks - Chori karne ke liye choro ko ek-dusre par bahut bharosa karna padta hai. Agar wo aapas mein saari baatein nahi chhupayenge, toh pakde jayenge. Isliye, thieves ke beech ki dosti bahut "thick" (ghanishth) hoti hai. Purane zamane mein 'Thick' ka matlab 'Intimate' ya 'Close' bhi hota tha.

As thick as two short planks



Extremely stupid – एकदम बुद्धू

Ex - I've explained this math problem ten times, but he's as thick as two short planks.

Origin/Tricks - Yahan "Thick" ka double matlab hai. Ek toh mota (physical thickness) aur dusra dimaag se mota (stupid).
Lakdi (wood) thos (solid) hoti hai aur uske andar dimaag ya sochne ki jagah nahi hoti. Agar koi insaan "do lakdi ke takhton" jitna thick hai, toh uska matlab hai ki uske sar mein dimaag ki jagah sirf thos lakdi bhari hai. Isliye wo kuch samajh nahi pata.

Ask for trouble



To be likely to cause problems or difficulties for yourself – आफत मोल लेना

Ex - Driving a car with worn-out tires is simply asking for trouble.

Origin/Tricks - Trouble (musibat) koi aisi cheez nahi hai jise koi 'maange' (ask). Par jab aap kisi sote hue sher ko chhedte hain ya bina helmet ke tez bike chalate hain, toh aap ek tarah se musibat ko "invite" kar rahe hote hain. Aapki "harkat" hi musibat ke liye ek "invitation card" ban jati hai.

Assume airs



Pretend superiority – अकड़ दिखाना

Ex - Don't assume airs with me; I knew you when you had nothing.

Origin/Tricks - Jab koi insaan "airs" assume karta hai, toh wo aisa behave karta hai jaise uske aas-paas ki hawa doosron se alag ya 'shahi' (royal) hai. Wo apna seena taan kar aur naak unchi karke chalta hai taaki wo doosron se uncha dikhe. Ye 'Air' asli nahi hoti, balki ek artificial 'mahaul' hota hai jo wo khud banata hai.

At a crossroads



A point in life where your decisions will have long term consequences – जीवन के ऐसे मोड़ पर होना जहाँ कोई महत्वपूर्ण निर्णय लेना हो

Ex - She was at a crossroads in her relationship and didn't know whether to stay or leave.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye aap ek sadak par chal rahe hain aur aage jaakar wo sadak do alag-alag dishao (directions) mein bat jati hai. Aap dono taraf nahi ja sakte, aapko ek hi rasta chunna hoga. Woh "Crossroads" wahi jagah hai jahan aapko ruk kar sochna padta hai ki kaunsa rasta aapko sahi manzil tak le jayega.

At a loose end



Nothing to do – कोई निश्चित काम न होना

Ex - If you are at a loose end this weekend, come over and we can watch a movie.

Origin/Tricks - Ek rassi (rope) tabhi kaam ki hoti hai jab uska ek sira (end) kisi cheez se bandha ho. Agar rassi ka end "loose" (dhila ya khula) hai, toh woh kisi kaam ki nahi hai—woh bas hawa mein latak rahi hai. Usi tarah, jab kisi insaan ki life ka schedule "bandha" hua nahi hota aur wo "khula" (free) hota hai, toh hum kehte hain ki wo "loose end" par hai.

At a loss for words



Not know what to say – समझ न आना कि क्या कहें

Ex - The view from the top of the mountain left me at a loss for words.

Origin/Tricks - Jaise business mein "Loss" ka matlab hota hai paison ki kami, waise hi communication mein "Loss for words" ka matlab hai ki aapke dimaag ke dictionary mein words ki kami ho gayi hai. Aap bolna toh chahte hain, par emotion itna strong hai (chahe wo bahut badi khushi ho ya bahut bada dukh) ki dimaag sahi word dhoond nahi pa raha.

At a low ebb



In a depressed or weak state – बहुत बुरे दौर में होना

Ex - After losing the match, the team's spirits were at a low ebb.

Origin/Tricks - Samundar mein do tarah ke tides aate hain: High Tide (jab pani upar aata hai) aur Low Ebb (jab pani piche hatt jata hai aur zameen khali ho jati hai). Jab pani "ebb" par hota hai, toh samundar sabse shaant aur "low" lagta hai. Usi tarah, jab kisi ka career ya mood sabse neeche hota hai, toh hum kehte hain ki woh "low ebb" par hai.

At a push



If required, probably possible but difficult – बड़ी मुश्किल से

Ex - The car can seat five people at a push, but four is more comfortable.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye ki aapko ek gaadi dhakka dekar start karni hai. Woh asani se nahi chal rahi, par agar aap apna pura zor laga dein (push), toh shayad woh start ho jaye. Usi tarah, jab koi deadline ya kaam bahut tight hota hai, toh humein use poora karne ke liye khud ko ya situation ko "push" karna padta hai.

At a stretch



Continuously – लगातार

Ex - He drove for ten hours at a stretch to reach home before Diwali.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye ek rubber band ko. Jab aap use "stretch" karte hain, toh wo ek lambi, seedhi aur continuous line banata hai jisme koi mod ya gap nahi hota. Usi tarah, jab aapki mehnat ya kaam ki "line" beech mein kahin se nahi tootati, toh use hum "At a stretch" kehte hain.

At all cost/costs



Whatever is needed to achieve something – हर कीमत पर

Ex - This project must be finished by Friday at all costs.

Origin/Tricks - Duniya mein har cheez ki ek keemat (cost) hoti hai. Kabhi wo paisa hota hai, toh kabhi waqt ya mehnat. Jab hum "At all costs" kehte hain, toh hum keh rahe hote hain ki hamare paas koi "Budget limit" nahi hai. Hum apna chain, sukoon, aur mehnat sab kuch lagane ko taiyar hain kyunki woh cheez hamare liye sabse upar hai.

At cross purposes



Disagreeing with each other's ideas – एक-दूसरे को गलत समझना

Ex - The marketing and sales teams were working at cross purposes, which confused the customers.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye ki do log ek pul (bridge) bana rahe hain. Dono chahte hain ki pul ban jaye, par ek is taraf se shuru karta hai aur doosra galat angle se. Beech mein dono ke raaste milne ki jagah "Cross" kar jate hain. Maqsad ek tha, par tareeka aur samajh alagalag thi, isliye kaam bigad gaya.

At daggers drawn with somebody



Bitterly hostile towards each other – जानी दुश्मन होना

Ex - The two brothers are at daggers drawn over the division of their ancestral property.

Origin/Tricks - Dagger ek chota khanjar ya chaku hota hai. Drawn ka matlab hai use uske mian (sheath/cover) se bahar nikalna. Purane zamane mein, khanjar tabhi bahar nikala jata tha jab samjhauta (peace) khatam ho gaya ho aur ab sirf ladai bachi ho. Isliye, "at daggers drawn" ka matlab hai ki baat ab haath-paai ya khatarnak dushmani tak pahunch gayi hai.

At each other's throats



Arguing angrily – बुरी तरह लड़ना

Ex - The two sisters are at each other's throats over who will wear the new dress.

Origin/Tricks - Jab do janwar (jaise kutte ya bhediye) ladte hain, toh wo ek-doosre ke sabse nazook hisse—yani gale (throat)—par hamla karte hain taaki doosre ko hara sakein. Insaano ke liye ye idiom tab use hota hai jab unki bahas (argument) itni violent aur intense ho jaye ki lage jaise wo ek-doosre par physically hamla karne wale hain.

At his disposal



Available for use – उपलब्ध होना

Ex - The company put a car and a driver at his disposal during his stay in Delhi.

Origin/Tricks - "Dispose" ka ek purana matlab hota tha "Sajakar rakhna" (to arrange). Agar koi cheez aapke liye "Arrange" karke rakhi gayi hai, toh iska matlab hai ki wo aapke liye taiyar hai. Aap jab chahein uska button dabayein ya use uthayein aur apna kaam nikal lein.

At large



Not caught/free/As a whole – पकड़ा न जाना/कुल मिलाकर

Ex - The police warned that the armed robber is still at large.

Origin/Tricks - Jab koi mujrim jail mein hota hai, toh woh ek chhoti si jagah (cell) mein "confined" hota hai. Par jab woh jail todkar bhag jata hai, toh woh poori duniya mein kahin bhi ja sakta hai. Woh ab "Large" (badi) duniya ka hissa hai, isliye use "At large" kehte hain. Doosra matlab "In general" isliye hai kyunki hum kisi ek cheez ki jagah "Large scale" (badi tasveer) ki baat kar rahe hote hain.

At loggerheads



Disagreeing with – मतभेद होना

Ex - The government and the opposition are at loggerheads over the new tax bill.

Origin/Tricks - "Loggerhead" purane zamane mein ek bhari lohe ka auzar (iron tool) hota tha jiska upar ka hissa gol hota tha. Ise tar (pitch) garam karne ke liye use kiya jata tha. Jab do log "at loggerheads" hote the, toh iska matlab tha ki woh in bhari auzaron se ek-doosre ko maarne ya darane ke liye taiyar hain. Yani baat sirf bahas ki nahi, balki "serious conflict" ki hai.

At one's beck and call



Always ready to do whatever someone asks – हुकुम का गुलाम होना

Ex - The assistant is at the boss's beck and call 24 hours a day.

Origin/Tricks - Iska logic "Beck" aur "Call" shabdon mein chhupa hai:
Beck: Yeh "Beckon" ka short form hai, jiska matlab hota hai ishara karna (jaise hath hilana ya ungli se bulana).
Call: Iska matlab hai awaz dekar bulana. Purane zamane mein, naukar (servants) apne malik ke itne kareeb hote the ki malik ko sirf ek ishara (beck) ya ek halki awaz (call) deni padti thi, aur kaam ho jata tha. Wahin se ye idiom bana.
.

At one's elbow



Next to someone – बिलकुल पास

Ex - The secretary was always at his elbow to take notes during the meeting.

Origin/Tricks - Aapka Elbow (kohni) aapke dimaag aur hath ke bahut paas hota hai. Agar koi cheez aapke elbow ke paas rakhi hai, toh iska matlab hai ki wo aapki "reach" mein hai. Purane zamane mein, bade logon ke sahayak (assistants) hamesha unke "elbow" par khade rehte investment taaki koi bhi kaam turant kiya ja sake.
.

At one's wit's end



Puzzled and didn't know what to do – परेशान हो जाना

Ex - The baby has been crying for hours, and the tired mother is at her wit's end.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein "Wit" ka matlab hota tha dimaag, buddhi (intelligence) ya sochne ki shakti. Agar aap apne wit ke "End" (aakhri sire) par hain, toh iska matlab hai ki aapki saari sochne ki shakti khatam ho gayi hai. Aapka dimaag ab aur ideas generate nahi kar pa raha.
.

At sea



Perplexed/confused – उलझन में

Ex - For the first few days in my new office, I was completely at sea.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein jab sailors (jahazi) samundar ke beech mein hote the aur unke paas compass ya GPS nahi hota tha, toh unhe charo taraf sirf pani hi pani dikhta tha. Koi landmark (ped, pahad) nahi hota tha rasta pehchanne ke liye. Isliye, "At sea" hone ka matlab tha raasta bhatak jana ya confused hona.

At sixes and sevens



In a state of total confusion or disorder – उलझन में होना

Ex - He was at sixes and sevens after the accident and didn't know what to do.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Logic purane London ke do vyapari samuhon (guilds) ki ladaai se juda hai: 14th century mein, London mein do bade groups the— "Merchant Taylors" aur "Skinners." Dono ke beech jhagda rehta tha ki kaunsa group 6th number par hai aur kaunsa 7th par. Unke isi jhagde aur confusion ki wajah se "Sixes and Sevens" ka matlab "confusion aur disorder" ban gaya. Ek dice game (Hazard) mein bhi 6 aur 7 number lana kafi risky aur confusing mana jata tha..

At stake



In danger of being lost or at risk – जोखिम में होना

Ex - We must act fast; thousands of lives are at stake due to the flood.

Origin/Tricks - "Stake" woh paisa ya cheez hoti hai jo log kisi betting game (jaise poker) mein beech mein rakhte hain. Jo jeetta hai, woh sab le jata hai, aur jo haar-ta hai, uska sab kuch chala jata hai. Isliye, jo cheez "at stake" hai, uska matlab hai ki woh abhi khatre mein hai—woh bach bhi sakti hai aur khatam bhi ho sakti hai.

At the drop of a dime/ hat



Without hesitation, Immediately – बिना किसी देरी के

Ex - My best friend is amazing; he will help me at the drop of a dime.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein (specialy 19th century mein), jab kisi race ya fight ko shuru karna hota tha, toh referee apni topi (hat) niche gira deta tha. Topi ka girna ek signal hota tha ki ab bina ruke kaam shuru karna hai.

At the eleventh hour



At the last moment – अंतिम समय पर

Ex - The trip was cancelled at the eleventh hour due to bad weather.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein kaam ke ghante (working hours) 12 maane jate the. 12th hour ka matlab hota tha "din ka khatama" (end of the day). Isliye "11th hour" woh aakhri mauka hota tha jab aap apna bacha hua kaam khatam kar sakte the taaki deadline miss na ho jaye.

At the top of your lungs



Extremely loudly – गला फाड़कर चिल्लाना

Ex - The fans were singing along with the rockstar at the top of their lungs.

Origin/Tricks - Hamari awaaz hamare phephadon (lungs) ki hawa se banti hai. Jab hum dheere bolte hain, toh thodi hawa use hoti hai. Par jab hum "At the top of our lungs" chillate hain, toh hum apne lungs ki poori capacity aur sabse upar (top) tak bhari hawa ka istemal karte hain taaki awaaz sabse tez nikal sake.

At variance with



In opposite or in state of conflict – विपरीत होना

Ex - His statement is at variance with the facts found by the police.

Origin/Tricks - Maths ya Science mein "Variance" ka matlab hota hai 'antar' ya 'difference'. Agar cheez A aur cheez B ke beech variance hai, toh iska matlab hai ki woh dono ek disha mein nahi chal rahi hain. Woh ek-doosre se "alag" (at variance) hain. Jaise kisi ka bhashan (speech) uske kamo (actions) se bilkul alag ho.

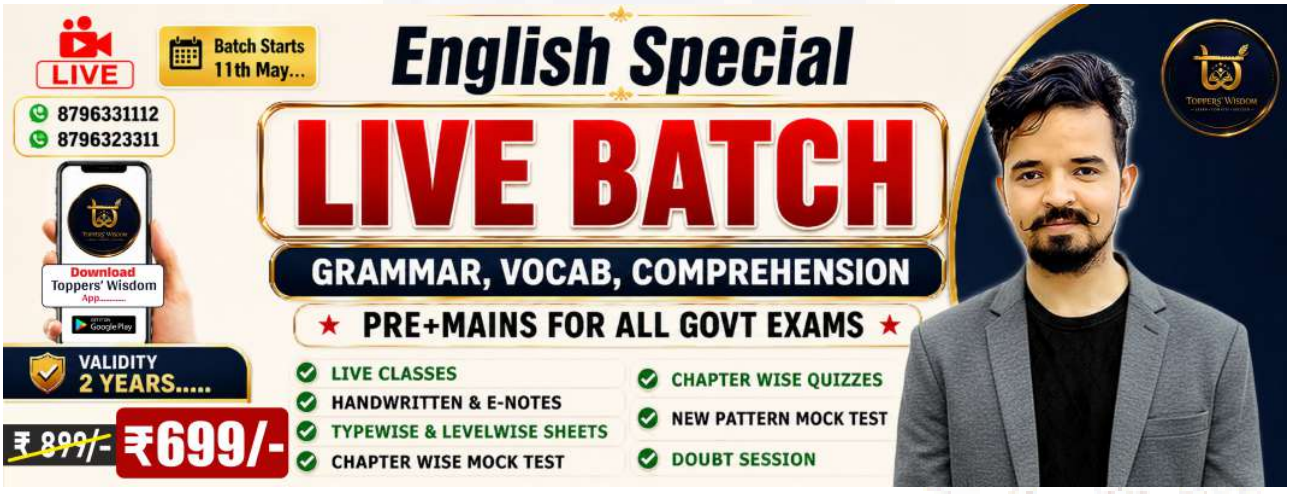
Average itself out



To be or become equal in amount or number – समय के साथ संतुलित हो जाना

Ex - The stock market is volatile today, but it usually averages itself out over the year.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye ki aap cricket khel rahe hain. Pehle match mein aapne 100 runs banaye (Extreme High), lekin doosre match mein aap 0 par out ho gaye (Extreme Low). Dono ko milakar dekhein toh aapka average 50 runs ka hai. Yani performance ne khud ko "Average out" kar liya. Zindagi mein bhi jab bure din aate hain, toh acche din unhe balance kar dete hain.



Body and soul



Wholly and entirely – पूर्ण रूप से

Ex - She devoted herself body and soul to her studies to crack the exam.

Origin/Tricks - Insaan do cheezon se banta hai—ek uska Body (sharir) aur dusri uski Soul (aatma/mann). Agar aap sirf 'Body' se kahin hain toh shayad aapka dimaag kahin aur ho. Par agar aap Body and Soul wahan hain, toh iska matlab hai ki aapka sharir aur aapki aatma dono ek hi goal par focused hain. Ye "Total Commitment" ko dikhata hai.

Break a leg



To wish someone good luck – शुभकामनाएं देना

Ex - The coach smiled and told the team, "Break a leg, boys!"

Origin/Tricks - Pehle ke zamane mein actors sochte the ki agar koi "Good Luck" bolega, toh nazar lag jayegi aur performance kharab ho jayegi. Isliye wo uska ulta—"Break a leg"—bolne lage.

Bring home the bacon



To earn the money that is needed to live – आजीविका कमाना

Ex - He works two jobs to bring home the bacon for his family.

Origin/Tricks - Bacon ek prakar ka meat (maans) hota hai jo purane waqt mein kaafi keemti mana jata tha. 1906 mein, ek mashhoor boxer Joe Gans ka मुकाबला Oliver Nelson se tha. Match se pehle Gans ki maa ne unhe ek chitthi likhi jisme likha tha— "Beta, ye fight jeeto aur ghar mein 'Bacon' lekar aao." Iska matlab tha ki wo log gareeb the aur fight jeetne par jo prize money milti, usse wo ghar ke liye zaroori khana (meat) kharid sakte the. Tab se, kamyabi hasil karke ghar ke liye paise lane ko "Bring home the bacon" kaha jane laga.

Back in saddle



To resume duty – फिर से काम शुरू करना

Ex - The player is back in the saddle after recovering from his injury.

Origin/Tricks - Agar koi rider ghode se gir jaye ya thak kar utar jaye, toh manzil tak pahunchne ke liye use phir se "Saddle" (ghode ki kaathi) par baithna padta hai. Iska matlab hai ki ab wo phir se ghode ko "control" karne aur aage badhne ke liye taiyar hai. Life mein 'Saddle' ka matlab aapki job, padhai, ya zimmedariyan hoti hain..

Back on one's feet



Well or successful again – सुधार होना

Ex - The team is back on its feet after a series of defeats.

Origin/Tricks - Iska logic hamari physical stability se juda hai. Jab koi gir jata hai ya bimar padta hai, toh wo let jata hai ya baith jata hai (yani wo "down" hai). Par jab wo "Back on his feet" hota hai, toh iska matlab hai ki ab wo bina kisi sahare ke khada ho sakta hai aur apna kaam khud kar sakta hai. Ye sirf health ke liye nahi, balki paise (money) aur career ke liye bhi use hota hai.

Back to square one



Come to the original point – मुख्य मुद्दे पर चर्चा करना

Ex - The plan failed completely, so we are back to square one.

Origin/Tricks - 1920s mein, jab radio par football (soccer) ki commentary shuru hui, toh listeners ko ye samjhne mein mushkil hoti thi ki ball maidan (pitch) ke kis hisse mein hai.
Ise aasaan banane ke liye, BBC ne football pitch ko ek grid mein baant diya jisme 8 "Squares" (khane) hote the.

- Square 1 hamesha goalkeeper ke paas wala area hota tha.
- Jab ball maidan ke beech se ya attack se wapis apne goalkeeper ke paas chali jati thi, toh commentator kehta tha, "Back to square one."
- Yahan se ye phrase "phir se shuruat" ke liye mashhoor ho gaya.

Back to the drawing board



To start thinking about a new way of doing something after a previous plan has failed – नई शुरुआत करना

Ex - Our strategy failed in the match; now it's back to the drawing board.

Back to the wall



In a difficult or a serious situation – बहुत मुश्किल स्थिति में होना

Ex - The company was back to the wall after losing its biggest client.

Origin/Tricks - Jab koi sipahi (soldier) maidan mein ladte-ladte kisi deewar (wall) tak pahunch jata hai, toh uska peeche hatne ka rasta band ho jata hai. Ab wo bhag nahi sakta. Aisi halat mein uske paas sirf do raste hote hain—ya toh wo haar maan le, ya phir apni poori taqat lagakar muqabla kare. Isliye "Back to the wall" ka matlab hota hai "Desperate situation."

Bad blood



Hostility between people – किसी के प्रति नफरत होना

Ex - The argument created bad blood among the teammates.

Origin/Tricks - Pehle ke zamane mein log maante the ki hamari bhavnayein (emotions) hamare khoon (blood) mein hoti hain. Agar koi hamesha gusse mein ya dushmani rakhta tha, toh maana jata tha ki uska khoon "ganda" ya "Bad" ho gaya hai. Jabki dosti aur pyar ko "Pure" ya "Good blood" se joda jata tha. Aaj ke waqt mein ye "illfeeling" (buri bhavna) ka symbol ban gaya hai

Bad hair day



A day on which everything seems to go wrong – मनहूस दिन

Ex - I missed the bus, spilled coffee, and lost my notes it's clearly a bad hair day.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Logic hamare self-confidence se juda hai. Aksar jab hamare baal (hair) acchi tarah set nahi hote, toh humein lagta hai ki hum acche nahi dikh rahe, jis se hamara mood kharab ho jata hai. Dhere-dhere iska matlab badal gaya—ab agar aapka mood kisi bhi wajah se kharab hai ya aapke saath lagatar buri cheezein ho rahi hain, toh aap keh sakte hain ki mera "Bad hair day" chal raha hai.

Bad hats



A disreputable dissolute person – बुरे लोग

Ex - The teacher warned the students not to mix with bad hats.

Origin/Tricks - Pehle ke zamane mein ek gentleman ki pehchan uski saaf-suthri topi (hat) se hoti thi. Agar kisi ki topi gandi, phati hui ya "Bad" hoti thi, toh maana jata tha ki wo insaan shareef nahi hai aur shayad koi chor ya troublemaker hai. Dhere-dhere, "Bad hat" ka matlab sirf topi nahi, balki us insaan ki buri fitrat ban gaya.

Bad iron



Bad luck – बुरा भाग्य या किस्मत

Ex - Losing his wallet on the same day he missed the train was sheer bad iron.

Origin/Tricks - Pahle ke waqt mein agar loha (iron) impure hota tha, toh wo hathoda marte hi toot jata tha. Blacksmith (lohaar) ke liye wo "Bad iron" hota tha kyunki uski poori mehnat bekar ho jati thi.

Bad tampered

Often angry or impatient – चिड़चिड़ा व्यक्ति



Ex - The boss was bad-tempered after the meeting went wrong.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Logic hamare "Temperament" (swabhav) se juda hai. Purane zamane mein mana jata tha ki body mein kuch liquids (humors) hote hain jo hamara mood control karte hain. Agar wo liquids balance mein nahi hain, toh insaan ka temper "Bad" ho jata hai. Aaj ke waqt mein, agar kisi ka dimaag hamesha 'garam' rehta hai, toh hum use Bad-tempered kehte hain.

Banana Oil

Nonsensical talk/Exaggerated flattery – बकवास, अत्यधिक चापलूसी



Ex - He kept pouring on the banana oil to impress the boss.

Origin/Tricks - Banana Oil asliyat mein kelon (bananas) se nahi nikalta. Ye ek chemical (isoamyl acetate) hota hai jo sirf kelon jaisi khushbu deta hai.
Kyunki ye oil "asli" fruit se nahi aata balki lab mein banta hai, isliye ise "fake" ya "artificial" maana gaya.

Bang for the buck

More value for money – उम्मीद से अधिक कीमत मिलना



Ex - We chose this coaching because it offers more bang for the buck.

Origin/Tricks - 1950s mein ye phrase US defense policy se juda tha, jahan kam budget mein zyada "power" (weapons) lane ki baat hoti thi. Aaj ye shopping aur investment ke liye use hota hai. Agar aapne 100 rupaye kharch kiye aur aapko 500 rupaye wala maza aaya, toh wo "Bang for the buck" hai.

Be left stranded

To be left in a difficult, helpless or isolated situation – (अकेला पड़ जाना)



Ex - She felt left stranded when her teammates refused to help.

Origin/Tricks - "Strand" ka ek purana matlab hota hai "Shore" (Samudra ka kinara). Jab koi jahaz ret (sand) mein phans jata tha aur aage nahi badh pata tha, toh use "Stranded" kaha jata tha. Insaan ke liye iska matlab hai ki use kisi sunsaan jagah ya mushkil mein chhod diya gaya hai, jaise kisi ne use kisi island par akela chhod diya ho.

Be like a bear with a sore head



To be in a bad mood that causes you to treat other people badly – चिड़चिड़ा होना

Ex - The boss was like a bear with a sore head after the meeting went wrong.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye ek bhalu (bear) waise hi khatarnak hota hai. Agar uske sar mein chot (sore head) lagi ho, toh uska dard use aur bhi zyada gussail aur khatarnak bana dega. Wo kisi ko bhi dekh kar ghurrayega (growl). Insaan ke liye iska matlab hai ki uska "mood" itna kharab hai ki wo ek "zakhmi bhalu" ki tarah behave kar raha hai.

Be like chalk and cheese



Be absolutely different – बिल्कुल अलग होना

Ex - City life and village life are like chalk and cheese.

Origin/Tricks - Chalk: Hard hai, likhne ke kaam aata hai, aur ise kha nahi sakte.
Cheese: Soft hai, khane ke kaam aata hai, aur isse likh nahi sakte.
Isliye, jo cheezein bilkul alag hon, unhe "Chalk and Cheese" kaha jane laga.

Be my guest



Please do it – किसी के प्रस्ताव को स्वीकृति देना

Ex - Can I use your laptop for a minute?" "Sure, be my guest!

Origin/Tricks - Jab hamare ghar koi Guest (mehmaan) aata hai, toh hum use poori azadi dete hain ki wo hamara ghar istemal kare ya aaram se rahe. Hum kehte hain, "Mera ghar aapka hi hai." Isi tarah, jab hum kisi ko kehte hain "Be my guest," toh hum unhe wahi "Guest" wali azadi de rahe hote hain ki wo jo karna chahte hain, shauk se karein.

Be snowed under



To be busy, to have too much to do – व्यस्त होना

Ex - The office staff are snowed under because of the year-end work.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye ek ghar barf ki aandhi mein poori tarah dab gaya hai. Bahar se dekhne par ghar dikhayi nahi de raha, sirf barf (snow) dikh rahi hai. Isi tarah, jab kisi office worker ke desk par itne sare papers (jo safed barf jaise dikhte hain) jama ho jate hain ki wo insaan khud nahi dikhta, toh hum kehte hain he is "snowed under."

Be taken aback



To be surprised – हैरान होना

Ex - They were taken aback at the result of the match.

Be through



Finish with something – समाप्त करना

Ex - She was happy to be through with the long exam.

Origin/Tricks - "Through" ka matlab hota hai ek taraf se ghusna aur doosri taraf se nikalna.
Agar aap kaam ke "through" ho gaye hain, toh matlab aapne kaam kar liya hai.

Be thrown in at the deep end



To learn to do the difficult things too soon – कठिन कार्य को शीघ्रता से सीखना

Ex - She felt thrown in at the deep end when she had to teach a class without training.

Origin/Tricks - Swimming pool ke do hisse hote hain: ek Shallow end (kam gehra) jahan beginners seekhte hain, aur ek Deep end (zyada gehra) jahan sirf experts jate hain.Agar aapko tairna (swim) nahi aata aur koi aapko sidha "Deep end" mein dhakka de de, toh aapko ya toh turant tairna seekhna padega ya phir aap doob jayenge. Isi ko life mein "Sink or Swim" situation kehte hain.

Be under someone's thumb



Be controlled by someone completely/under control of – किसी के नियंत्रण में होना

Ex - He is under his boss's thumb and never questions his decisions.

Origin/Tricks - Thumb (angootha) hamare haath ki sabse takatwar ungli maani jati hai. Agar aap kisi cheez ko angoothe se daba dein, toh wo hil nahi pati. Isi tarah, agar koi bada ya takatwar insaan aapko apne "thumb" ke niche rakhta hai, toh iska matlab hai ki usne aapki azadi ko daba diya hai. Aap wahi karte hain jo wo chahta hai.

Be worlds apart



To be completely opposed or different – पूरी तरह से अलग होना

Ex - Prashant sir teaching methods are worlds apart.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye ek insaan Mars (Mangal) par rehta hai aur ek Earth (Prithvi) par. Dono ki duniya, hawa, aur mahaul bilkul alag hai. Jab do logon ke vichaar itne alag hon ki unhe milana namumkin lage, toh hum kehte hain ki wo "Worlds apart" hain. Ye sirf physical doori nahi, balki "thinking gap" ko dikhata hai.

Beam/grin/smile from ear to ear



Smiling broadly, to look extremely happy – बड़ी मुस्कान के साथ खुश दिखना

Ex - They were smiling from ear to ear after winning the match.

Origin/Tricks - Normal muskurahat choti hoti hai, lekin jab hum sach mein bahut khush hote hain (jaise lottery lagne par ya exam clear hone par), toh hamare honth (lips) poore piche tak khinch jate hain. Maano wo ek kaan (ear) se shuru hokar doosre kaan (ear) tak ja rahe hon. Is "wide" smile ko hi "from ear to ear" kaha jata hai.

Bear fruit



Produce positive results – सफल होना

Ex - Their efforts will bear fruit if they stay consistent.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye aapne ek beej (seed) boya. Aapne use roz pani diya aur dhoop se bachaya. Shuruat mein kuch nahi dikhta, sirf mitti hoti hai. Lekin kuch waqt baad, ped bada hota hai aur usme Phal (Fruit) lagne lagte hain.
Wahin se ye idiom aaya—jab aapka "effort" (planting) "result" (fruit) mein badal jata ai, toh use "Bear fruit"
kehte hain.

Bear the brunt of



To endure the impact of something – बुरा प्रभाव सहन करना, खामियाजा भुगतना

Ex - Children often bear the brunt of their parents' conflicts.

Origin/Tricks - Jab do senayein (armies) ladti thi, toh jo soldiers sabse aage (front line) hote the, unhe dushman ke hamle ki sabse badi maar jhelini padti thi. Wo soldiers hi "brunt bear" karte the. Aaj ke waqt mein, ye kisi bhi mushkil situation (paisa, gussa, ya mausam) ke liye use hota hai.

Bear the palm



To be a winner – विजयी होना

Ex - Among all the contestants, she bears the palm for her performance.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein jeetne wale khiladiyon (athletes) ya yoddhaon (warriors) ko Palm branches (khajoor ke patte) diye jate the. Ye "Victory" ka symbol maana jata tha.

Beat a dead horse



To make a futile effort – व्यर्थ का प्रयास करना

Ex - Arguing about the past is just beating a dead horse.

Origin/Tricks - Agar aapka ghoda (horse) mar chuka hai, toh aap use kitna bhi maaro (beat/flog), wo uthkar nahi chalega. Aapka us par koda (whip) chalana bilkul bekar hai kyunki parinaam (result) badalne wala nahi hai. Life mein bhi, jab hum kisi aisi purani baat par jhagda karte hain jiska ab koi matlab nahi, toh hum "dead horse" ko hi beat kar rahe hote hain.

Beat a retreat



To leave a situation/to run away from a difficult situation – हड़बड़ा कर भागना, पीछे हट जाना

Ex - The speaker beat a retreat when the audience began asking tough questions.

Origin/Tricks - Pehle ke zamane mein jab radios nahi hote the, toh army ein signals dene ke liye drums (dhol) ka istemal kiya jata tha.

• Jab attack karna hota tha, toh alag tarah se drum bajaya jata tha.

• Jab commander ko lagta tha ki unki sena haar rahi hai ya khatra zyada hai, toh wo drum par ek khaas "beat" bajwane ko kehta tha jiska matlab hota tha— "Wapis chalo!" (Retreat).

Wahin se ye phrase aaya: Beat (drum bajana) + a Retreat (piche hatne ka signal).

Bark up the wrong tree



Doing wrong thing to achieve something intended – गलत जगह संदेह करना

Ex - He is barking up the wrong tree by blaming others for his failure instead of studying.

Origin/Tricks - American hunters aksar kutto (dogs) ka istemal karte the raccoons ka shikar karne ke liye. Raccoons bahut chatur hote hain; wo ek ped (tree) par chadhkar doosre ped par kood jate hain.

Kutta niche khada hokar us pehle ped par bhaunkta (bark) rehta hai, ye sochkar ki raccoon wahi hai. Par raccoon toh kabka kisi aur ped par ja chuka hota hai.

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Batten down the hatches



Prepare for a difficult situation – कठिन परिस्थिति के लिए तैयार होना

Ex - As the storm warning was announced, villagers battened down the hatches.

Origin/Tricks - **Hatches**: Jahaz ke deck par jo bade-bade "opening" (darwaze) hote hain jisse niche saman bheja jata hai, unhe 'Hatches' kehte hain.
Batten: Ye lakdi ki strips hoti hain jo hatch ke cover ko mazbooti se pakad kar rakhti hain.
Jab samudra mein tufaan (storm) aane wala hota tha, toh captain order deta tha "Batten down the hatches!" iska matlab tha ki saari openings ko seal kar do taaki jahaz ke andar pani na jaye aur wo doobe nahi.
.

Be a dead meat



To be in serious trouble – गंभीर संकट में पड़ना

Ex - She realized she was dead meat after breaking her mother's favorite vase.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye meat (maans) ka kya hota hai? Wo ek baar kat gaya toh uska koi future nahi bacha, wo "finished" hai.Jab aap kisi se kehte hain, "You are dead meat," toh aap keh rahe hain ki aapka future ab khatre mein hai aur aap "finished" hain kyunki aapne koi bahut badi galti kar di hai.
.

Be all ears



To listen attentively – ध्यान से सुनना

Ex - The students were all ears when the teacher announced the results.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye aapke paas sirf do kaan nahi, balki aapka poora sharir hi ek bada sa "kaan" ban gaya hai. Iska matlab hai ki aapka focus 100% sirf 'sunne' par hai. Jab koi kehta hai "I am all ears," toh wo ye jata raha hota hai ki wo ilkul bhi distracted nahi hai aur aapki har baat dhyan se sun raha hai.

Be all one



Make no difference – समान महत्व का होना

Ex - Rice or bread — it's all one to my grandfather.

Origin/Tricks - Jab hum kehte hain ki do alag cheezein "All One" (Sab ek) hain, toh iska matlab hai ki unke beech ka antar (difference) khatam ho gaya hai. Aap chahe A chunein ya B, aapke liye dono ka mol ya asar ek jaisa hi hai.

Be an old hat



To be outdated – पुराने जमाने का

Ex - That style of teaching is now an old hat.

Origin/Tricks - Ek Hat (topi) jab nayi hoti hai, toh wo stylish aur 'cool' lagti hai. Lekin jab wahi hat bar-bar pehenne se purani ho jati hai (Old Hat), toh wo apni chamak kho deti hai. Use dekh kar koi hairan nahi hota kyunki sabne use hazar baar dekha hota hai. Isi tarah, jab koi technique ya idea purana ho jata hai, toh hum use "Old Hat" kehte hain.

Be down with



To be ok with something – सहमत होना

Ex - He said he was down with the decision and had no objections.

Origin/Tricks - Purane waqt mein kisi plan ya party ke liye log apna naam paper par niche (down) likhte the. Isliye, "I am down with that" ka matlab hai "Mera naam bhi likh lo, main taiyar hoon."

Be fed up



To be disgusted, annoyed or unhappy – निराश होना

Ex - They were fed up with the noisy neighbors.

Origin/Tricks - Life mein bhi jab mushkilein ya boring cheezein aapko "khilayi" jati hain aur aap "gale tak" bhar jate hain, toh aap Fed up ho jate hain. Ab aap ek minute bhi wo situation bardaasht nahi kar sakte.

Be finished with this



To have no further need for something – किसी वस्तु की जरूरत खत्म हो जाना

Ex - After submitting the final paper, she was glad to be finished with this course.

Be glad to see the back of



Be happy when a person leaves – व्यक्ति के जाने से खुश होना

Ex - The staff were glad to see the back of the strict manager.

Origin/Tricks - Jab koi insaan aapke samne hota hai, toh aapko uska chehra (face) dikhta hai. Lekin jab wo insaan mudkar jane lagta hai, toh aapko uski "Back" (peeth) dikhti hai. Agar aapko uski peeth dekh kar khushi ho rahi hai, toh iska matlab hai ki aap nahi chahte the ki wo wahan ruke. Uska "piche" dikhne ka matlab hai ki wo ja raha hai, aur aapka peecha chhoot raha hai.

Be going places



Talented and successful – सफल होना

Ex - That young player is going places in the world of sports.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein sirf ameer aur kamyab log hi "alag-alag jagahon" (places) par travel kar sakte the (business trips, vacations, ya international meetings ke liye). Isliye, agar koi "bahut si jagahon par ja raha hai," toh uska matlab tha ki wo ek V.I.P. hai.

Be hard hit



To be severely affected by something Unpleasant – किसी बुरी घटना से बुरी तरह से प्रभावित होना

Ex - The farmers were hard hit by the drought this year.

Origin/Tricks - Agar koi aapko dhire se touch kare, toh asar nahi hota. Lekin agar koi "Hard Hit" kare (zor se maare), toh chot gehri lagti hai. Life mein bhi jab koi crisis (jaise recession ya flood) "zor se marta hai," toh log financial ya emotional roop se toot jate hain.

Be hard up



To be short of money – धन की कमी

Ex - After losing his job, he was really hard up for a while.

Origin/Tricks - Hard: Iska matlab hai mushkil. Up: Yahan 'up' ka matlab hai ek aisi situation mein phans jana jahan se nikalna mushkil ho. Jab koi "Hard up" hota hai, toh iska matlab hai ki wo life ki basic zaroorat keliye bhi "hard" (mushkil) situation mein hai kyunki paise ki kami hai.

Be in force



Into the condition of actually working or operating – प्रभावी होना

Ex - The new traffic rules are in force from today.

Origin/Tricks - "Force" ka matlab hota hai shakti ya takat. Jab koi kanoon "in force" hota hai, toh uske peeche sarkaar ki takat hoti hai use manwane ke liye.

Be in raptures over/about



To be extremely delighted/in a state of great happiness – आनंद में होना

Ex - The children were in raptures about the surprise picnic.

Origin/Tricks - "Rapture" shabd Latin ke raptura se aaya hai, jiska matlab hota hai "to seize" ya "carry away" (uthakar le jana).
Jab aap in raptures hote hain, toh maano aapki khushi aapko is duniya se uthakar kisi alag hi "blissful" (sukhad) duniya mein le gayi hai. Aap poori tarah us feeling ke kabze mein hote hain.

Be in someone's shoes



Face the same situation as another person – किसी अन्य व्यक्ति के समान स्थिति का सामना करना

Ex - I don't want to be in his shoes during the interview.

Origin/Tricks - Har insaan ke shoes (joote) uske liye alag hote hain. Kisi ke joote chote hote hain jo chubhte hain, aur kisi ke purane aur fate hue. Jab tak aap kisi ke joote khud nahi pehente (in their shoes), aapko ye pata nahi chal sakta ki wo kahan se chubhte hain ya unhe pehen kar chalna kitna mushkil hai. Iska matlab hai—jab tak aap kisi ki life ki problems khud nahi jhelte, aap unhe judge nahi kar sakte.

Be in the red



To be in debt – घाटे में होना, कर्जे में होना

Ex - Many students go in the red because of unnecessary expenses.

Origin/Tricks - Pehle ke waqt mein accountants do tarah ki ink (syahi) ka istemal karte the:
• Black Ink: Iska use munafa (profit) likhne ke liye hota tha. (Isliye "In the black" ka matlab hota hai fayde mein hona).
• Red Ink: Iska use nuksan (loss) ya karze ko dikhane ke liye hota tha kyunki red color "danger" ya "warning" ka symbol hai.

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder



The perception of beauty is subjective – सुंदरता देखने वालों की नजरों में होती है

Ex - She loves simple dresses; after all, beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

Origin/Tricks - "Beholder" ka matlab hota hai—dekhne wala (spectator/viewer).Sochiye beauty koi "object" nahi hai jo har kisi ke liye ek jaisi ho (jaise ki 2+2=4 hota hai). Beauty ek "feeling" hai jo dekhne wale ke dimaag mein paida hoti hai. Agar kisi ko purani cheezein pasand hain, toh unhe ek toota hua ghar bhi "aesthetic" aur sundar lag sakta hai, jabki kisi aur ke liye wo sirf ek kabaad hoga.

Beat around/about the bush



To avoid discussing the main topic – इधर-उधर की बातें करना

Ex - The manager was beating about the bush instead of answering directly.

Origin/Tricks - Pehle ke waqt mein shikaari (hunters) paksiyon (birds) ka shikaar karne ke liye 'beaters' ko saath le jate the. Ye log jhadiyon (bushes) ko zor-zor se pit-te (beat) the taaki paksiyan darr kar bahar aa jayein aur shikaari unhe pakad sakein. Wo seedhe jhadi ke beech mein (jahan paksiyan hoti thi) nahi maarte the, balki uske chaaron taraf (around/about) maarte the.

Beat one's brains out



To try to understand something – समझने की कोशिश करना

Ex - She beat her brains out to figure out the puzzle.

Beat the rap



To escape or avoid blame or punishment – दोष या दंड से बच जाना

Ex - The criminal thought he could beat the rap, but the truth came out.

Beggar description

Something that is so unusual or extreme that it is difficult to describe – अवर्णनीय



Ex - The cruelty of the crime beggars description.

Origin/Tricks - The idiom "beggar description" originates from William Shakespeare's play "Antony and Cleopatra" (1606). It means something is so extraordinary that it defies adequate representation through words. The term "beggar" refers to a person who lives by asking for charity, while "description" relates to the act of capturing characteristics through words.

Begin to exist and evolve

To start a new life – नयी शुरुआत करना



Ex - The prisoner wanted to turn over a new leaf after his release.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye aapke paas mitti (clay) ka ek dher hai. Pehle wo sirf mitti hai (idea). Phir aap use banana shuru karte hain. Dhire-dhire wo ek ghade (pot) ya murti ka roop lene lagta hai. Jab wo mitti se murti banne ki taraf badhta hai, toh hum kehte hain ki wo "Take shape" kar raha hai—yani wo exist bhi ho raha hai aur evolve (viksit) bhi ho raha hai.

Behind one's back

In someone's absence – किसी के पीठ-पीछे/ गैरमौजूदगी में



Ex - She was upset when she learned they had laughed at her behind her back.

Behind the times

Old fashioned – पुराने जमाने/विचारों वाला होना



Ex - His ideas about technology are really behind the times.

Origin/Tricks - Waqt (Time) hamesha aage badhta rehta hai. Agar aap uske saath-saath (in time) nahi chalte, toh aap raste mein piche (behind) reh jate hain. Ye idiom kisi ki burayi karne ke liye nahi, balki ye batane ke liye use hota hai ki unka nazariya (perspective) ya unke gadgets ab "modern" nahi rahe.

Bell the cat



To do the impossible task/To take on a dangerous task – असंभव कार्य करना/कोई जोखिम भरा कार्य करना

Ex - The workers agreed the issue was serious, but none dared to bell the cat.

Origin/Tricks - Bahut saare choohe (mice) ek sath baithkar meeting kar rahe the ki billi (cat) se kaise bacha jaye. Ek naye choohe ne sujhav diya, "Agar hum billi ke gale mein ek ghanti (bell) baandh dein, toh jab bhi wo aayegi humein awaaz sunai degi aur hum bhaag jayenge." Sab choohe khush ho gaye, tabhi ek boodhe choohe ne pucha, "Lekin billi ke gale mein ghanti baandhega kaun?"

Below the belt



Cruel and unfair – अनुचित ढंग से

Ex - Mocking someone's weakness is really below the belt.

Origin/Tricks - Boxing mein ek "belt" (waistline) hoti hai. Rules ke mutabiq, aap sirf belt ke upar hi punch maar sakte hain. Belt ke niche maarna "illegal" mana jata hai kyunki wahan chot lagna bahut dardnak aur unfair hota hai.Zindagi mein bhi, jab koi aisi baat kehta hai jo "Rules of Decency" (sharafat ke niyam) ke khilaf ho, toh usey "Below the belt" kaha jata hai kyunki wo "Fair play" nahi hai.

Bend over backwards



To exert a lot of effort towards some end – बहुत अधिक प्रयास करना

Ex - The teacher bends over backwards to support weak students.

Origin/Tricks - Seedhe khade rehna ya aage jhukna aasan hai, lekin piche ki taraf jhukna (bend backwards) bahut mushkil hota hai. Iske liye aapko apne sharir par bahut zor dalna padta hai. Isliye, jab aap kisi project ya kisi insaan ki khushi ke liye "piche jhukte" hain, toh iska matlab hai ki aap normal se kahin zyada "extra" mehnat kar rahe hain.

Bent out of shape



Very upset or angry – बहुत नाराज या परेशान होना

Ex - She got bent out of shape when her plan was rejected.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye ek seedhi metal ki rod hai (jo aapka "Normal/Calm" mood hai). Jab us par bahut zyada pressure ya garmi (gussa) padti hai, toh wo mudi hui (bent) ho jati hai. Ab wo rod seedhi nahi rahi, yani wo "Out of shape" ho gayi hai. Bilkul waise hi, jab koi insaan gusse mein hota hai, toh uska swabhav "seedha" (shant) nahi rehta, wo "bent" (tedha) ho jata hai.

Beside oneself



Almost out of one's senses, consumed by an emotion – आपे से बाहर होना

Ex - He was beside himself with anger after the argument.

Origin/Tricks - Pehle ke waqt mein log sochte the ki jab koi insaan bahut zyada gusse ya dukh mein hota hai, toh uska "dimaag" ya uski "aatma" thodi der ke liye uske sharir se bahar nikal jati hai. Isliye, wo insaan apne sharir ke "bagal mein" (beside himself) khada hota hai. Yani, wo apne hosh-ohawas mein nahi hota

Beside the mark



Not relevant or not to the point – मुद्दे से हटकर

Ex - The argument was beside the mark and didn't answer the question.

Origin/Tricks - Pehle ke waqt mein target (nishana) ko "The Mark" kaha jata tha. Agar kisi ka teer target ke bilkul beech mein lagne ke bajaye uske bagal (beside) mein lagta tha, toh usey bekar mana jata tha kyunki wo nishane se chuk gaya. Wahin se ye phrase baaton ke liye use hone laga—jab koi argument ya fact topic ke "bullseye" ko hit nahi karta, toh wo beside the mark hota hai.

Best of both worlds



Having the advantages of two different situations – दो परिस्थितियों का सर्वोत्तम लाभ मिलना

Ex - Living near the city but in a quiet area is the best of both worlds.

Origin/Tricks - Zindagi mein aksar humein do cheezon mein se ek ko chunna padta hai (jaise: Paisa vs. Sukoon). Lekin jab aapko dono mil jayein, toh aap "do alag duniyaon" (both worlds) ka sabse accha hissa (best) enjoy kar rahe hote hain. Aapko koi "trade-off" ya sacrifice nahi karna padta.

Best thing since sliced bread



Most useful innovation in a long time/A really good invention – बहुत ज्यादा अच्छा या उपयोगी

Ex - He thinks his new phone is the best thing since sliced bread.

Origin/Tricks - Sadiyon se log gharon mein poora bread ka loaf (gola) kharidte the aur use khud chaaku se kaat-te the. Ye kaam mushkil tha kyunki slice hamesha ek barabar nahi kat-te the. 1928 mein Otto Frederick Rohwedder ne duniya ki pehli bread-slicing machine banayi. Sliced bread itna bada hit hua ki log har nayi aur acchi chiz ki tulna (comparison) isse karne lage. Unhe laga ki sliced bread se behtareen chiz toh kuch ho hi nahi sakti!

Better late than never



Better to arrive late than not to come at all – देर आए दुरुस्त आए/ना आने से बेहतर है देर से आना

Ex - She submitted her assignment late, but better late than never.

Origin/Tricks - Zindagi mein hamesha cheezein time par nahi hotin. Kabhi-kabhi hum deadline miss kar dete hain ya kisi ko "Thank You" bolna bhool jate hain. Lekin agar hum ye soch kar wo kaam chhod dein ki "ab toh bohot der ho gayi hai," toh wo hamesha ke liye adhura reh jayega. Isliye, ye phrase humein hosla deta hai ki "deri" (delay) ek galti hai, lekin "na karna" (never doing it) ek badi har hai.

Better the devil you know than the devil you don't



It is easier to be in a known bad situation than being in an unknown worse situation – अपरिचित बुराई स्थिति से परिचित बुराई

Ex - The team kept their old coach, believing better the devil you know than the devil you don't.

Origin/Tricks - Agar aapka koi dost ya boss thoda khadoos (grumpy) hai, toh aapko pata hai ki unhe kab aur kaise handle karna hai. Lekin agar aap unhe chhod kar kisi naye insaan ke paas jate hain, toh ho sakta hai wo aur bhi zyada khatarnak nikle. Isliye, log purani "burai" (devil) ke saath hi rehna pasand karte hain kyunki uska darr "known" hota hai.

Between a rock and a hard place



To be stuck in two equally unpleasant situations – दो समान रूप से खतरनाक स्थितियों के बीच फँसना

Ex - The company is between a rock and a hard place due to rising costs and falling sales.

Origin/Tricks - The Rock: Ek taraf ek badi chattan (rock) hai.
The Hard Place: Dusri taraf ek sakht deewar ya zameen hai.
Agar aap in dono ke beech mein hain, toh aap kisi bhi taraf mudenge toh aapko chot hi lagegi. Ye kisi physical jagah ki baat nahi, balki un "choices" ki baat hai jo aapko daba rahi hain.

Between Scylla and Charybdis



Choice between two unpleasant alternatives – दो अप्रिय विकल्पों के बीच चुनाव

Ex - She felt between Scylla and Charybdis choosing between two equally important opportunities.

Origin/Tricks - Scylla (सिइल): Ek bahut bada samudri rakshas (monster) jiske 6 sir aur 12 pair the. Wo ek pahad ki gufa mein rehti thi.
Charybdis (कैरबडिस): Ek bahut bada aur khatarnak bhanwar (whirlpool) jo poore jahaaz ko nigal jata tha. Jab jahazi (sailors) ek patle raste (strait) se guzarte the, toh agar wo Charybdis (bhanwar) se bachte the, toh Scylla unhe pakad leti thi. Aur agar Scylla se bachte the, toh bhanwar unhe duba deta tha.

Between the devil and the deep blue sea



Between two equally unacceptable choices – दो अप्रिय विकल्पों के बीच चुनाव

Ex - She felt between the devil and the deep blue sea choosing between honesty and loyalty.

Origin/Tricks - building mein, jahaz ki sabse upri "seam" (jahan do lakdi ke patte judte hain) ko "devil" kaha jata tha. Ise water-tight rakhne ke liye caulking (sealing) karni padti thi. Is "devil" seam ko repair karne ke liye sailor ko jahaz ke bahar latakna padta tha. Ek taraf wo mushkil "devil" seam thi aur uske thik niche gehra neela samundar (deep blue sea). Agar wo gir gaya toh dub jayega, aur agar kaam nahi kiya toh jahaz dub jayega. Dono hi situations "unacceptable" thi.

Beyond the pale



Unacceptable or outside the bounds of accepted behaviour or standards – सुधार की सीमाओं से परे

Ex - His rude remarks were completely beyond the pale.

Origin/Tricks - Purane waqt mein "Pale" ka matlab 'rang' (color) nahi hota tha. Ye Latin shabd palus se aaya hai, jiska matlab hota hai— 'Khoontha' (stake) ya 'Baadh' (fence).
Itihaas mein (jaise Ireland mein English rule ke waqt), ek nishchit area hota tha jahan kanoon aur sabhyata (civilization) chalti thi. Us area ki boundary ko "Pale" kaha jata tha.
Jo log us boundary (pale) ke andar the, wo "civilized" maane jate the. Lekin jo us boundary ke beyond (bahar) rehte the, unhe lawless, khatarnak aur "unacceptable" mana jata tha. Tab se ye phrase ban gaya—jo cheez 'Pale' ke bahar hai, wo galat hai.

Beyond the shadow of a doubt



With certainty; for sure – निश्चित रूप से

Ex - The evidence proves beyond the shadow of a doubt that she is innocent.

Origin/Tricks - "Shadow" yahan ek metaphor (roopak) hai shak ke liye. Shak (doubt) aksar dhuandhla aur andhere jaisa hota hai. Agar koi cheez "Beyond the shadow" hai, toh iska matlab hai ki aap us andhere (shak) se bahut aage nikal chuke hain jahan sirf saaf roshni (sach) hai. Halka sa "shadow" (shak ka nishaan) bhi wahan maujood nahi hai.

Bid defiance to something



To ignore something – किसी बात को नजर अंदाज करना

Ex - The villagers bid defiance to the unjust order.

Origin/Tricks - The phrase "bid defiance to" means to openly resist or challenge someone or something, often in a bold or defiant manner. It implies a strong rejection of authority or expectations.

Bid fair



To seem likely – संभावना लगना

Ex - This project bids fair to bring good results.

Origin/Tricks - **Bid**: Iska ek purana matlab hota hai "announce karna" ya "dikhaai dena.
Fair: Iska matlab hai "saaf" ya "accha" (jaise 'fair weather'). Jab hum kehte hain "The day bids fair," toh iska matlab hai ki subah dekh kar lag raha hai ki poora din "saaf aur suhana" (fair) rahega. Wahin se ye umeed (promise) aur sambhavna (likelihood) ke liye use hone laga.

Bigger fish to fry



Something more important to do – कोई और ज्यादा महत्वपूर्ण कार्य होना

Ex - She skipped the party since she had bigger fish to fry before exams

Origin/Tricks - Is phrase ka sabse pehla likhit praman (written record) 17th century mein milta hai. Mashhoor English lekhak aur diarist John Evelyn ne 1660 mein apni ek translation (The Mystery of Jesuitism) mein isse milte-julte bhav ka istemal kiya tha. Us waqt ye phrase un logon ke liye use hota tha jo choti baaton ko chhodkar bade muddo par dhyaan dete the.

Birds of the same feather



People with similar characteristics – समान आचरण और गुणों वाले व्यक्ति

Ex - Creative people often stick together; birds of a feather flock together.

Origin/Tricks - Duniya mein hazaron tarah ke pakshi (birds) hain. Lekin aap kabhi nahi dekhenge ki ek kabootar (pigeon) aur ek cheel (eagle) saath mein udd rahe hon. Ek hi prajati (species) ke pakshi, jinke pankh (feathers) ek jaise hote hain, wahi hamesha ek jhund (flock) bana kar saath mein udte hain. Insaan bhi bilkul waise hi hain; hum unhi ke saath dosti karte hain jinse hamari "vibe" match karti hai.

Bite one's tongue



To refrain from speaking out; to stop yourself from saying something – खुद को कुछ कहने से रोकना

Ex - She bit her tongue instead of replying rudely.

Origin/Tricks - Iska zikr William Shakespeare ke naatak Henry VI mein bhi milta hai, jahan ek character kehta hai, "So York must sit, and fret, and bite his tongue." * Ancient Belief: Purane zamane mein mana jata tha ki agar aap galti se apni zubaan kaat lete hain, toh iska matlab hai ki koi aapke baare mein jhoot bol raha hai. Lekin baad mein, ise "jaan-बूझकर" (intentionally) chup rehne sejodd diya gaya. 16th century tak aate-aate, ye phrase "khud par control" ka prateek ban gaya.

Bite someone's head off



To respond to someone with anger that is often sudden or unprovoked – किसी को गुस्सा से जवाब देना

Ex - She bit his head off when he mentioned the mistake.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein ise "to bite one's nose off" bhi kaha jata hai.
Iska origin kisi purani kahani se nahi, balki ek "metaphor" (roopak) se hai. Jab koi bahut gussa hota hai, toh unka munh hamesha khula rehta hai (chillane ke liye). Aisa lagta hai maano wo saamne wale ko "khaa jayenge." 18th century tak aate-aate, "nose" ki jagah "head" ne le li kyunki sir kaatna poore vyaktitva par hamle jaisa lagta tha.

Bite the bullet



To decide to do something difficult or unpleasant that one has been putting off or hesitating over – किसी कठिन कार्य को करने के लिए ठान लेना

Ex - I finally bit the bullet and started studying seriously.

Origin/Tricks - 19th century (Civil War ya purane yuddh ke waqt) mein aaj ki tarah Anesthesia (behoshi ki dawa) nahi hoti thi. Jab kisi ghayal sipahi ka operation karna hota tha, toh dard itna zyada hota tha ki wo chillata tha ya apni zubaan kaat leta tha. Doctors sipahi ke daanton ke beech ek naram seese (lead) ki bullet (goli) rakh dete the. Sipahi usey zor se chaba leta (bite) tha taaki dard sehne ki shakti mile aur wo chillaye nahi.

Bite the dust



To suffer a defeat/To die – दम तोड़ना/असफल होना

Ex - The old computer finally bit the dust after years of use.

Origin/Tricks - Iska sabse purana zikr Homer ki mashhoor kitab 'Iliad' (8th Century BC) mein milta hai. Yuddh ke maidan mein jab koi yoddha (warrior) ghayal hokar girta tha, toh uska chehra zameen ki dhool (dust) mein mil jata tha. Wo marne se pehle maano dhool ko "kaat" (bite) raha hota tha.

Black and blue



Badly bruised/injured – बुरी तरह से घायल

Ex - The boxer was black and blue after the tough match.

Origin/Tricks - Jab humein zor se chont lagti hai, toh skin ke niche ki bariki nassein (blood vessels) phat jati hain. Khoon jamne ki wajah se wo jagah pehle lal (red), phir neeli (blue) aur phir gehri kaali (black) dikhne lagti hai. Isliye "Black and blue" ka matlab hi hai "buri tarah chont khaya hua."

Blaze a trail



To be the first to do something new and Important – कोई नया काम शुरू करने वाला प्रथम व्यक्ति

Ex - He blazed a trail by introducing new teaching methods.

Origin/Tricks - Purani English mein "Blaze" ka matlab hota tha— 'Ped ki chhaal (bark) par lagaya gaya safed nishaan'. Jab log ghane junglon mein naye raste banate the, toh wo rasta bhool na jayein isliye wo pedon par kulhadi (axe) se nishaan banate hue chalte the. In safed nishano ko "Blazes" kaha jata tha. Jo insaan sabse pehle rasta banata tha, wo "Blazing a trail" kar raha hota tha taaki uske peeche aane wale log bhatke nahi.

Blood is thicker than water



Familial bonds are stronger than other relationships – खून के रिश्ते अन्य रिश्तों से ज्यादा महत्वपूर्ण होते हैं।

Ex - She forgave her sister because blood is thicker than water.

Origin/Tricks - **The earliest known reference to a similar phrase can be traced back to the 12th century in the German epic Reinhart Fuchs (Reynard the Fox) by Heinrich der Glîchezære. The original German phrase suggests that "kin-blood is not spoiled by water," indicating that family ties remain strong despite external influences.**

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Blow a fuse



To react very angrily – आग बबूला होना

Ex - The coach blew a fuse after the team's careless mistakes.

Origin/Tricks - Early 20th Century: Jab gharon aur factory mein electricity ka use badha, toh "blowing a fuse" ek aam baat ho gayi thi.
1930s aur 1940s ke aas-paas, logon ne is technical term ko insani gusse se jodd diya. Jaise machine overload hone par fuse udta hai, waise hi dimaag overload hone par gussa nikalta hai.

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Blow over



To go away without having a serious effect – कोई प्रभाव न पड़ना

Ex - The argument blew over after a few days.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein jahazi (sailors) ke paas toofan rokne ka koi tarika nahi tha. Wo bas umeed karte the ki tez hawayein unke jahaaz ke upar se guzar jayein (blow over) bina unhe dubaaye.

Blow his top



Be very angry – बहुत गुस्सा होना

Ex - She blew her top after hearing the rude comment.

Origin/Tricks - Is idiom ka origin Steam Engines aur Volcanoes (jwalamukhi) se hai. Jab kisi machine ke andar steam (bhaap) ka pressure bahut zyada badh jata hai, toh uska "top" (dhakkan) blast hokar nikal jata hai. Insaan ka dimaag bhi bilkul waisa hi hai. Jab stress ya gussa dimaag ke andar hadd se zyada bhar jata hai, toh wo "top" (yani control) ko uda deta hai.

Blow hot and cold



Vacillate/To change your opinion too often – एक कथन पर न टिकना

Ex - The manager blew hot and cold on the proposal, confusing everyone.

Origin/Tricks - Ek baar ek musafir (traveller) jungle mein rasta bhatak gaya aur ek Satyr (ek mythological creature) ke ghar pahuncha. Bahut thand thi, toh musafir ne apne hathon par phoonk maari. Satyr ne pucha kyun, toh usne kaha— "Apne hathon ko garam karne ke liye." fhir Satyr ne usey garam soup diya. Musafir ne phir se soup par phoonk maari. Satyr ne pucha ab kyun, toh usne kaha— "Soup ko thanda karne ke liye."Satyr darr gaya aur usne musafir ko ghar se nikal diya. Usne kaha ki wo aise insaan par vishwas nahi kar sakta jo ek hi munh se "hot and cold" dono nikal sakta hai. Tab se, kisi "asthir" (unstable) vyavhar ke liye ye phrase use hone laga.

Blow something out of (all) proportion



To treat a particular event or problem far too seriously – किसी विशेष घटना या समस्या को अधिक गंभीरता से लेना

Ex - He blew the situation out of proportion instead of handling it calmly.

Origin/Tricks - Proportion" shabd Latin ke proportio se aaya hai, jo 14th century se maths aur art mein use hota tha. 18th aur 19th century tak aate-aate, log ise metaphor ke roop mein use karne lage. Jab koi cheez apne asli mahatva (importance) se badi dikhayi dene lagi, toh usey "out of proportion" kaha gaya. "Blow" shabd ko isme baad mein joda gaya taaki ye dikhaya ja sake ki koi jaan-boojh kar (intentionally) usey phula raha hai.

Blow/let off steam



To get rid of your energy or strong emotion by doing something active or noisy – थकना/भड़ास निकालना

Ex - The kids played outside to blow off steam.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane ke Steam Engines ya aaj ke Pressure Cookers mein jab bhaap (steam) ka pressure bahut zyada badh jata hai, toh ek safety valve ke zariye usey bahar nikalna (let off) zaroori hota hai. Agar wo steam bahar na nikle, toh engine ya cooker phat sakta hai. Insaan ka dimaag bhi bilkul waisa hi hai; agar gussa andar hi dabai rakha, toh mental breakdown ho sakta hai.

Blowing smoke



To lie to perplex others – दूसरों को भ्रमित करने के लिए झूठ बोलना

Ex - The salesman was blowing smoke to make the product sound better.

Origin/Tricks - Yuddh ke waqt dushman ko bhramit (confuse) karne ke liye dhuyein ki deewar (smoke screen) banayi jati thi taaki asli movements chhup sakein. Wahin se ye "dhoka dene" ke context mein aaya.





Blue blood



Member of a noble, socially prominent family – कुलीन लोग, खानदानी, समृद्ध

Ex - She comes from a blue-blood family with a long royal history.

Origin/Tricks - Ise Spanish mein "Sangre Azul" kaha jata tha. Spain ke unche khandaan ke log ye garv se kehte the ki unka khoon "shudh" (pure) hai kyunki unki nasein neeli dikhti thin. Unka kehna tha ki unka khoon un "Moors" (dark-skinned invaders) se alag hai jinhone Spain par hamla kiya tha. Baad mein ye phrase English mein aaya aur tab se poori duniya mein "High class" ke liye use hone laga.

Bob's your uncle



It becomes easily and quickly achievable – काम बन जाना

Ex - Press this button, wait a second, and Bob's your uncle, the machine starts.

Origin/Tricks - Britain ke Prime Minister, Robert (Bob) Cecil, ne apne bhatije (nephew) Arthur Balfour ko Ireland ka Chief Secretary bana diya. Balfour ke paas koi khas experience nahi tha, par kyunki unke chacha (uncle) desh ke sabse taqatwar aadmi "Bob" the, unhe wo bada pad (position) badi aasani se mil gaya. Wahin se ye phrase "Aasani se kaam banne" ke liye mashhoor ho gaya.

Boil down to



To have a particular thing as the main or central part – किसी चीज का सार होना

Ex - Success often boils down to hard work and patience.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye aap ek badi karchi (pot) mein soup bana rahe hain. Shuruat mein usme dher saara paani hota hai. Jab aap usey ubalte (boil) hain, toh paani ud jata hai aur ant mein sirf wo gaadha aur swadisht hissa bachta hai jo asli "essence" hai. Zindagi mein bhi, jab hum kisi lambi problem ko ubalte hain, toh fuzool ki baatein ud jati hain aur jo bachta hai, wahi boil down to hota hai.

Boil the ocean



Try to do something impossible – असंभव कार्य करने का प्रयास करना

Ex - The manager warned the team not to boil the ocean with unrealistic goals.

Origin/Tricks - Ek pateeli (pot) mein paani ubalna (boil) bahut asaan hai. Lekin sochiye agar koi kahe ki wo poore mahasagar (ocean) ko ubaal dega. Ye sunne mein hi mazaakiya aur impossible lagta hai. Isliye, jab koi office ya studies mein itna zyada kaam ek saath karne ki koshish karta hai ki wo kahin ka nahi rehta, toh log kehte hain— "Don't try to boil the ocean."

Born with silver spoon in one's mouth



Born in a very rich family – अमीर परिवार में पैदा होना

Ex - He was born with a silver spoon in his mouth and never had to struggle.

Origin/Tricks - Chandi ke bartano mein khana 'shuddh' mana jata tha. Garib bacche lakdi ya mitti ke bartano mein khate the, jabki amir bacchon ko chandi ki chammach se khilaya jata tha. Isliye, agar koi baccha "silver spoon" ke saath paida hua, toh iska matlab uska swagat ek amir ghar mein hua hai.

Brain sauce



Wisdom – विवेकशील

Ex - Success in this field requires both hard work and brain sauce.

Origin/Tricks - • The Sauce: Khane mein 'sauce' wo cheez hoti hai jo swaad ko behtar banati hai aur aksar wahi chef ka "secret ingredient" hota hai.
• The Brain: Isi tarah, kisi insaan ki success ke piche jo uska dimaag lagta hai, usey metaphorically "Brain Sauce" kaha jata hai. Ye uski "Mental Juice" ya "Thinking Power" ko darshata hai.

Bread and butter



Means of livelihood – जीविका का माध्यम

Ex - Farming is the villagers' bread and butter.

Origin/Tricks - Paschim (Western) culture mein, Bread (roti) aur Butter (makkhan) sabse buniyadi aur sasta khana mana jata hai. Agar aapke paas itne paise hain ki aap bread aur butter khareed sakein, toh iska matlab hai ki aapka guzaara ho raha hai. Isliye, jis kaam se aapka ghar chalta hai, wo aapka "Bread and butter" hai.

Break fresh / new ground



To do something that was not done before – कुछ ऐसा करना जो पहले कभी न हुआ हो

Ex - The scientist broke new ground with her research.

Break sweat



To use a lot of energy or effort – अधिक प्रयत्न करना

Ex - We really had to break a sweat to complete the project on time.

Origin/Tricks - Jab hum physical mehnat karte hain ya dimaag par bohot zor dalte hain, toh body ka temperature badh jata hai. Usey thanda karne ke liye body paseena (sweat) chhodti hai. Isliye, "breaking a sweat" mehnat ka sabse bada saboot (proof) mana jata hai.

Break the bank



To cost too much – बहुत कीमती

Ex - We want a good hotel that won't break the bank.

Origin/Tricks - Ye phrase Gambling (Casino) se aaya hai. Purane zamane mein, har ek gambling table ki apni ek "Bank" (jama rashi) hoti thi. Agar koi player itna zyada jeet jata tha ki table ke paas usey dene ke liye paise khatam ho jate the, toh kaha jata tha ki usne "Bank tod diya" (broke the bank).

Break the ice



To say or do something that makes people more relaxed especially at the beginning of a meeting/ to start talking – पहली मुलाकत में चुप्पी तोड़कर बातचीत शुरू करना

Ex - The teacher played a game to break the ice on the first day of class.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein, thande deshon mein trade (vyapar) ruk jata tha kyunki samundar jam jate the. Tab "Icebreaker" ships banaye gaye jo barf todte hue aage badhte the taaki doosre jahaz unke peeche nikal sakein. Lord Byron jaise lekhakon ne is phrase ko metaphor ke roop mein popular banaya. Jaise jahaz barf todta hai, waise hi insaan apni baaton se logon ke beech ki dooriyan (distance) todta hai.

Breast the tape



To win a race – रेस जीतना

Ex - The athlete trained hard to breast the tape in the finals.

Origin/Tricks - Athletics mein niyam hota hai ki winner wo hai jiska 'Torso' (dhad) finish line ko pehle touch kare. Kyunki seena torso ka sabse aage wala hissa hota hai, khiladi usey aage nikal kar tape touch karte hain.

Breath of fresh air



Someone or something new and refreshing – नया और स्फूर्तिदायक

Ex - Her creative ideas were a breath of fresh air in the meeting.

Origin/Tricks - Imagine kijiye aap ek aise kamre mein band hain jahan bahut dhoool hai aur hawa bilkul 'stale' (basi) ho gayi hai. Achanak jab aap khidki kholte hain, toh jo breath of fresh air andar aati hai, wo aapko turant relief deti hai aur aapka mood fresh kar deti hai. Zindagi mein bhi, jab hum ek hi tarah ka boring kaam karte hain aur koi naya idea ya naya insaan aata hai, toh wo wahi "fresh air" wala kaam karta hai.

Breathing down his neck



To chase after someone closely – नजर रखना, दबाव डालना

Ex - The rival team was breathing down their necks in the final minutes.

Origin/Tricks - Iska origin kisi 'race' ya 'peecha karne' (pursuit) se juda mana jata hai. Jab ek runner ya ghoda (horse) doosre ke bilkul peeche hota hai, toh peeche wale ki saans aage wale ko mehsoos hoti hai.
20th century mein ye "micromanagement" (choti-choti baaton par nazar rakhna) ke liye office culture mein bahut mashhoor ho gaya.

Bridge the gap



To reduce differences and reconcile – मतभेद मिटाकर दूरिया खत्म करना

Ex - Technology can bridge the gap between rural and urban areas.

Origin/Tricks - Imagine kijiye do pahadiyan (cliffs) hain jinne beech ek gehra gaddha (gap) hai. Aap ek taraf se doosri taraf nahi ja sakte. Lekin jab aap ek bridge bana dete hain, toh wo gap khatam ho jata hai aur dono taraf ke log mil sakte hain. Asal zindagi mein ye "gap" generation (old vs young), wealth (rich vs poor), ya skills (beginner vs expert) ka ho sakta hai. Education aur communication wahi bridge hain jo is gap ko bharte hain.

Bring down the house



To make the audience applaud enthusiastically – बहुत ज्यादा वाहवाही लूटना

Ex - The singer brought down the house with her powerful performance.

Origin/Tricks - Purane theaters mein log itni zor se pair patak-kar appreciation dikhate the ki chhat se dhool (dust) girne lagti thi, jaise pura 'house' girne wala ho. Shuruat mein ye sirf natakon (plays) ke liye tha, par aaj ye comedy shows, speeches, aur YouTube videos ke liye bhi use hota hai.

Bring someone to book



To punish/scold someone – किसी को दण्ड देना

Ex - The teacher brought him to book for cheating in the exam.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein jab koi jurm karta tha, toh uska naam aur jurm sarkari record mein darj (entry) kiya jata tha taaki uspar mukadma chal sake. Isliye "bringing to book" ka matlab hai usey record ke hisaab se saza dena.

Bring to light



To reveal or make something known – उजागर करना

Ex - The investigation brought to light several hidden facts.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein log andheri gufao (caves) ya tehkhaano (basements) se purani cheezein nikal kar dhoop mein late the taaki unhe saaf dekha ja sake. Wahin se ye "information reveal" karne ka metaphor ban gaya.

Bring to one's knees



To force to submit – हार मनवा लेना

Ex - The economic crisis brought the company to its knees.

Origin/Tricks - Jab hum kisi ko "knees" par laate hain, toh hum usse uski sari taqat cheen lete hain aur usey jhukne par majboor kar dete hain.

Break a lance with



To argue against – के विरुद्ध बहस करना

Ex - The lawyer broke a lance with the witness during questioning.

Origin/Tricks - "Lance" ek lamba aur bhari bhala (spear) hota tha jise ghode par sawaar knights use karte the. Jab do knights aamne-saamne se takrate the, toh unka maqsad doosre ko girana hota tha. Is takkar mein aksar unka lakdi ka bhala (lance) toot jata tha. Bhale ka tootna is baat ka saboot tha ki dono ke beech ek asali aur tagda muqabla hua hai.

Bug someone



Irritate someone – परेशान करना

Ex - Her careless attitude bugs me sometimes.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein "bug" shabd ka istemal kisi bhi aisi cheez ke liye hota hai jo "doshpurna" (defective) ho ya "darawani" ho (jaise bogeyman).
Dhire-dhire log ise "khujli machane" ya "pareshan karne" ke sense mein use karne lage. Aaj ye English ke sabse common informal idioms mein se ek hai.

Build castles in the air



To think of impossible hopes and dreams – ख्याली पुलाव बनाना

Ex - She was building castles in the air instead of studying for the exam.

Origin/Tricks - Ek asli mahal (castle) patharon se banta hai aur usey khade rehne ke liye ek mazboot zameen (foundation) chahiye hoti hai.
Agar aap hawa (air) mein mahal banayenge, toh uske paas koi support nahi hoga aur wo turant gir jayega. Isi tarah, bina "Hard work" aur "Planning" ke dekhe gaye sapne "hawa" ki tarah hote hain—unka koi wajood nahi hota.

Blue-eyed boy



The Favourite of a person or group – विशेष, प्रिय व्यक्ति

Ex - The coach's blue-eyed boy was chosen as team captain.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein mana jata tha ki neeli aankhon wale bacche zyada pyare aur kabil-e-tareef hote hain. Isi wajah se, jo baccha sabka favorite hota tha, usey metaphorically "blue-eyed boy" kaha jane laga, chahe uski aankhon ka rang kuch bhi ho.

Bull's-eye



Something that is the centre of target – लक्ष्य का केंद्र

Ex - His arrow hit the bull's-eye.

Origin/Tricks - Target ka jo kaala ya laal center hota hai, wo dekhne mein kisi Saand (Bull) ki aankh jaisa lagta tha.
British soldiers aur shooters ne ise "Bull's-eye" kehna shuru kiya kyunki unke practice targets aise hi dikhte the.

Bury one's head in the sand



Hide from the truth – सच्चाई से मुँह मोड़ना

Ex - He's burying his head in the sand instead of facing reality.

Origin/Tricks - **Mana jata hai ki jab Sharturmurg (Ostrich) kisi dushman ya khatre ko dekhta hai, toh wo darr kar apna sir mitti mein daba leta hai. Wo sochta hai ki "agar mujhe dushman nahi dikh raha, toh dushman ko bhi main nahi dikh raha hounga." Asal mein ye bilkul galat hai, par asambhav situations ko ignore karne ke liye ye metaphor duniya bhar mein mashhoor ho gaya.**

Burn one's boats/bridges



To do something that makes it impossible to return to the previous situation or relationship – पीछे लौटने के सभी रास्ते बंद करना

Ex - He burned his boats by quitting his job to start a business.

Origin/Tricks - **Burn One's Boats**: Yeh 1519 mein Hernán Cortés se juda hai. Jab wo Mexico pahuncha, toh usne apne jahazon (boats) ko jala diya taaki uske soldiers darr kar wapas Spain na bhagein

Burn One's Bridges: Yeh purani military tactics se aaya hai. Jab fauj aage badhti thi, toh wo peeche ke pul tod deti thi taaki dushman unka peecha na kar sake aur wo khud bhi wapas na ja sakein.

Burn one's finger



To suffer a loss by acting rashly – नुकसान होना

Ex - She burned her fingers when she trusted the wrong person.

Origin/Tricks - Ek purani kahani hai jahan log aag mein Chestnuts (singhare jaisa phal) bhunte the. Jo log jaldbaazi mein unhe nikalne ki koshish karte the, unki ungliyan jal jati thin.
Wahin se ye phrase bana ki jo log jaldbaazi ya lalach mein risky kaam karte hain, wo hamesha apna hi nuksan karwa baithte hain.

Burn the midnight oil



To work/read late into the night – देर रात तक काम/पढ़ाई करना

Ex - He burned the midnight oil to prepare for the exam.

Origin/Tricks - Purane waqt mein roshni ke liye 'Oil Lamps' (tel ke diye) ka istemal hota tha. Tel (oil) mehenga hota tha, isliye log suraj dhalne ke baad so jate the. Agar koi der raat tak kaam kar raha hai, toh usey extra tel jalana padta tha. Isliye, "midnight oil jalane" ka matlab hi ye ban gaya ki aap aam logon se zyada mehnat kar rahe hain.

Burning question



An important question/issue – महत्वपूर्ण पश्न/ ज्वलंत मुद्दा

Ex - Climate change is a burning question for the whole world.

Origin/Tricks - Jaise aap kahin lagi hui aag ko ignore nahi kar sakte, wo turant aapka dhyan khinchti hai, waise hi ek "burning question" ko nazarandaz karna namumkin hota hai.
Ye "hot topic" ko darshata hai. Jaise aag mein garmi hoti hai, waise hi is sawal mein "intensity" aur "urgency" hoti hai.

Bury the hatchet



To forget past quarrels – पुरानी झगड़े को भुला देना

Ex - After years of fighting, they finally buried the hatchet.

Origin/Tricks - Jab do kabiley (tribes) aapas mein sulah karte the, toh unke chiefs (mukhiya) sabke samne apne yuddh ke hathyaron ko zameen mein gehra gaad dete the.Significance: Iska matlab hota tha ki dushmani ab mitti ke niche hai aur koi bhi usey wapas nahi nikalega.

Butt in



To interfere in a conversation or situation without being invited – हस्तक्षेप करना/दखल देना

Ex - She butted in and gave her opinion without being asked.

Origin/Tricks - "To butt" ka matlab hota hai sir se dhakka maarna (jaise bakra ya saand karta hai). Imagine kijiye do log ek circle banakar baat kar rahe hain. Ek teesra insaan aata hai aur maano apna sir beech mein ghusa kar (butting in) unhe alag kar deta hai taaki wo apni baat keh sake. Ye ek rude behavior mana jata hai.

Buy a lemon



To buy something that is of much little value – कोई ऐसी वस्तु खरीदना जिसका मूल्य/महत्व कम हो

Ex - They felt cheated after they bought a lemon at the market.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1900s ki shuruaat mein American slang se aaya. Shuruat mein "lemon" ka matlab tha kisi ko bewakoof banana. 1960s tak aate-aate ye purani aur kharab gaadiyon ke liye fix ho gaya.
America mein toh "Lemon Laws" bhi hain, jo un logon ki madad karte hain jinhone galti se kharab gaadi kharid li ho.

Buy the farm

Stop living – जीने की इच्छा छोड़ देना

Ex - In the movie, the villain buys the farm in the final scene.

Origin/Tricks - Jab koi jet ya plane kisi kisan ke khet (farm) mein crash hota tha, toh kisan sarkar par harjane (damages) ka claim karta tha. Kehte the ki pilot ne plane crash karke poora farm "buy" kar liya hai. Dhire-dhire ye phrase har tarah ki achanak maut ke liye use hone laga.



By a whisker

By a small margin – बहुत कम अंतर से

Ex - He won the race by a whisker.

Origin/Tricks - **Ye phrase "By a hair" ya "By a hair's breadth" ka hi ek naya roop hai jo 19th century mein popular hua. Kuch log ise billiyon (cats) se jodte hain. Billiyan apne whiskers ka use karti hain ye napne ke liye ki wo kisi chhoti jagah se nikal payengi ya nahi. Agar gap ek "whisker" jitna bhi kam ho, toh wo phas sakti hain.**

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By and large

On the whole – सामान्य रूप से

Ex - The students were, by and large, satisfied with the results.

Origin/Tricks - By: Sailing mein "By" ka matlab hota tha hawa ki disha ke khilaf (close to the wind) jahaz chalana. Ye thoda mushkil kaam tha.
Large: Jab hawa jahaz ke peeche se chal rahi ho (with the wind), toh usey "Large" kehte the. Ye bahut aasaan tha.
"By and large" ka matlab hua—chahe hawa khilaf ho ya sath ho, har tarah ki situation ko milakar. Yaani, "Har tarah se/ Kul milakar."

.



By courtesy of

Given or allowed by/By permission of – के द्वारा प्रदान किया गया

Ex - The photographs are shown by courtesy of the museum.

Origin/Tricks - Courtesy: Iska matlab hota hai 'politeness' ya 'bhalmansahat'. Agar koi organization (jaise NASA) aapko apni photos use karne deti hai bina paise liye, toh wo unki "courtesy" hai. Isliye aap likhte hain— "Photo by courtesy of NASA."
Ye sirf permission ke liye hi nahi, balki kisi cheez ke kaaran (source) ko batane ke liye bhi use hota hai.



By fair means or foul



To get one's way with honesty or dishonesty – *ईमानदारी या बेईमानी से अपना काम बनाना*

Ex - The team wanted victory by fair means or foul.

Origin/Tricks - **Fair**: Khel ke niyamon ke hisaab se khelna (Fair play).
Foul: Niyam todna ya dushmani dikhana (Foul play).
Jab koi kehta hai "By fair means or foul," toh uska focus 'rules' par nahi balki sirf 'jeetne' (winning) par hota hai. Uske liye niyam maayne nahi rakhte.

By hook or by crook



Using whatever methods necessary – *किसी भी तरीके से*

Ex - He was determined to succeed by hook or by crook.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein aam logon ko raja ke jangal se lakdi kaatne ki ijazat nahi thi. Lekin wo sukhi lakdiyaan le sakte the.
Unke paas do auzar (tools) hote the: Ek Hook (jis se wo unchi daliyon ko khinchte the) aur ek Crook (ek tarah ka bhala ya billhook jis se wo daliyon ko todte the).
Maqsad hota tha lakdi haasil karna, chahe 'hook' kaam aaye ya 'crook'. Yaani "kisi bhi auzar/tareeke se."

By leaps and bounds



Swiftly – *तेजी से*

Ex - Technology is advancing by leaps and bounds.

By the ear



By improvisation – *कामचलाऊ*

Ex - They played it by ear during the event when things changed suddenly.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1500s mein un logon ke liye use hota tha jo sangeet padh nahi sakte the par sunkar waisa hi baja dete the.
1900s ke madhya mein ye general conversation mein aagaya. Ise tab use kiya jane laga jab log kisi aisi situation mein hote the jahan "planning" kaam nahi aati thi aur turant dimaag lagana padta tha.

(Fly) By the seat of one's pants



You do it using only your own experience and trusting your own judgment – बिना किसी योजना के अनुभव से

Ex - She handled the emergency by the seat of her pants.

Origin/Tricks - Shuruat ke jahazon mein aaj ki tarah GPS, radar, ya digital screens nahi hoti thin. Pilots ko jahaz ki speed aur direction apne sharir se 'feel' karni padti thi. Jab jahaz jhukta tha ya vibrate karta tha, toh unhe cockpit ki seat par baithe-baithe hi pata chal jata tha ki plane kaisa behave kar raha hai.

By the skin of one's teeth



By a very narrow margin – बहुत कम अंतर से बचना

Ex - The car missed the accident by the skin of its teeth.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sabse pehle Bible (Book of Job 19:20) mein dekha gaya tha.
Job ne apni takleefon ka zikr karte hue kaha tha, "I am escaped with the skin of my teeth." Unka matlab tha ki wo maut ke itne kareeb the ki unke paas sirf unke danton ki barik parat jitni hi 'zindagi' bachi thi. 19th century tak aate-aate ye aam logon ki bhasha ka hissa ban gaya.

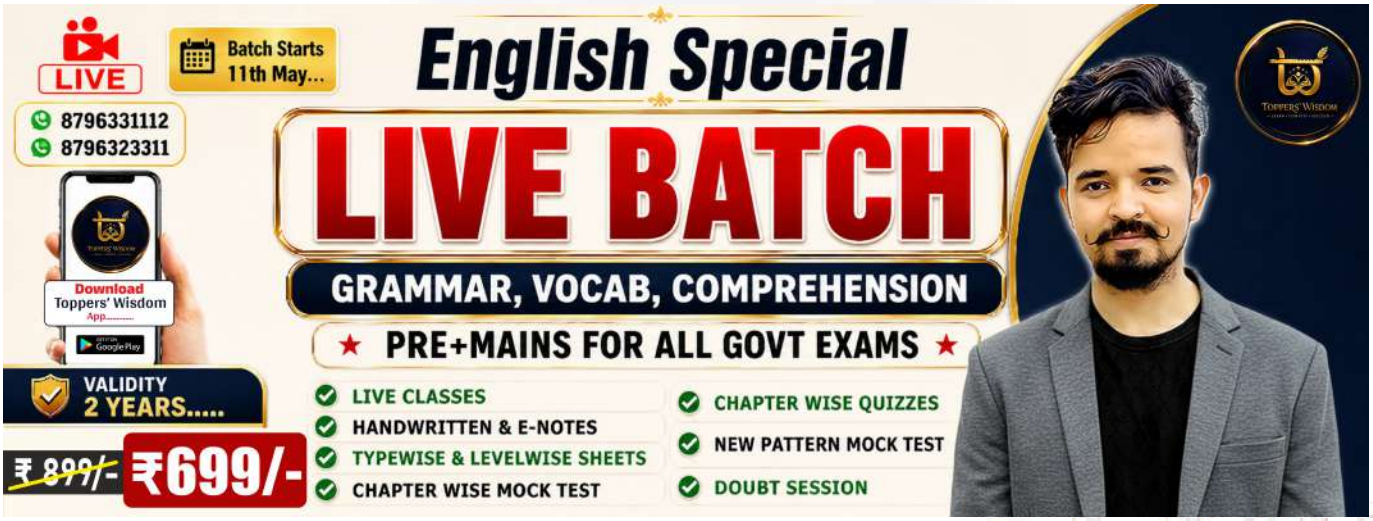
By the sweat of one's brow



Hard work – कड़ी मेहनत

Ex - Farmers grow crops by the sweat of their brow.

Origin/Tricks - Jab hum kadi dhoop mein ya bojh uthakar kaam karte hain, toh hamara sharir garam ho jata hai aur humein pasina aata hai.
"Brow" ka matlab hai 'Mattha' (Forehead). Pasina sabse pehle yahin aur eyebrows ke paas dikhayi deta hai.
"sweat of one's brow" se kamana ya kuch haasil karna, imandari aur kadi mehnat ka symbol ban gaya.



Cry in the wilderness



Unpopular opinion – व्यर्थ पुकार, गुहार

Ex - The scientist's warning was a cry in the wilderness until the problem became serious.

Origin/Tricks - The Wilderness: Iska matlab hota hai ek aisa veeraan ilaaka (jungle ya registan) jahan doordoor tak koi insaan na ho.
Agar aap kisi bheed mein chillate hain, toh koi toh sunega. Par agar aap registan (wilderness) mein chillayenge, toh sirf hawa chalegi, sun-ne wala koi nahi hoga.

Cross the Rubicon



To make an irreversible change – कोई अटल कदम उठाना

Ex - Once the company revealed the secret plan, it had crossed the Rubicon.

Origin/Tricks - 'Rubicon' Italy ki ek chhoti si nadi thi. Purane Rome mein kanoon tha ki koi bhi General apni fauj (army) lekar is nadi ko paar karke Rome mein dakhil nahi ho sakta tha. Aisa karna 'Gaddari' (treason) mana jata tha.
Jab Julius Caesar ne apni army ke saath is nadi ko paar kiya, toh unhe pata tha ki ab ya toh wo Rome ke raja banenge ya phir unhe maut milegi. Wapas lautne ka option khatam ho chuka tha.

Call in question



To challenge the truth or validity of something – संदेह होना

Ex - Her behavior called in question her honesty..

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye kisi ne gawah (witness) ke taur par kuch kaha.
Agar lawyer ko lagta hai ki gawah jhoot bol raha hai, toh wo us statement ko "sawaal ke liye bulaata hai" (calls it in for questioning). Asal zindagi mein, jab koi report ya kisi ka character 'doubtful' hota hai, toh hum kehte hain ki usey "call in question" kiya gaya hai.

Call the shots



To be the person in charge – प्रभारी होना

Ex - The coach calls the shots during the match.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase shuruaat mein America mein popular hua.
Kuch log ise military ke rifle ranges se jodte hain jahan instructors 'shots call' karte the taaki soldiers unhe follow kar sakein. Dhire-dhire ye office, politics aur ghar ke liye bhi use hone laga jahan koi ek insaan sabka "Boss" hota hai.

Can't cut the mustard



To be unable to do a job – नौकरी करने में असमर्थ होना

Ex - The old system can't cut the mustard anymore.

Origin/Tricks - Kuch log mante hain ki sarson ki kheti (harvesting) itni mushkil hoti thi ki jo sust (lazy) workers hote the, wo usey "cut" nahi kar pate the. Isliye wo "standard" se niche reh jate the.

Cap in hand



Humbly or submissively – विनम्रता से

Ex - He went to the manager cap in hand to ask for leave.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase England mein popular hua.
Us waqt "Lord of the Manor" (zameendar) ke paas saari powers hoti thin. Jab kisan (peasants) apna tax kam karwane ya madad mangne jate the, toh wo apne sar se "cap" utaar kar haath mein pakad lete the.
Tab ke shishtachar (etiquette) ke hisaab se, kisi bade aadmi ke samne sar dhaka hona apmaan mana jata tha. Isliye "Cap in hand" ka matlab hi "Submission" (jhukna) ban gaya.

Cap it all



Finish or complete something – कुछ समाप्त करना

Ex - She forgot her notes and, to cap it all, the teacher called on her.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye aap ek ghar bana rahe hain. Ghar tab tak 'complete' nahi mana jata jab tak uspar chhat (cap) na dal jaye.

Care a hang



Showing no interest – किसी चीज में रुचि न लेना

Ex - She doesn't care a hang about fashion.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein "Hang" ko ek aisi cheez mana jata tha jiski koi keemat nahi hai.
19th century mein English log apni bhasha ko lekar bahut "proper" rehte the. Gusse mein bhi wo "curse words" nahi bolna chahte the.
"Not care a damn" ya "Not care a fig" ke badle unhone "Not care a hang" use karna shuru kiya. Ye dikhata tha ki saamne wale ki baat unke liye bilkul be-maayne hai.

Carry a chip on one's shoulder



An angry attitude from someone who feels unfairly treated – बीते समय में हुए दुर्व्यवहार के कारण नाराज होना

Ex - She seems to carry a chip on her shoulder whenever someone criticizes her.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s mein American shipyards (jahan jahaz bante the) se aaya.
Wahan kaam karne wale log aksar ek-dusre ko ladne ke liye uksate (provoke) the. Wo apne kandhe par lakdi ka ek tukda rakhte the aur samne wale ko usey niche girane ki chunauti dete the. Dhire-dhire ye un logon ke liye use hone laga jo bina kisi wajah ke bhi gusse mein rehte hain, maano unke kandhe par wo 'chip' aaj bhi rakhi ho.

Carry the ball



Be in charge – जिम्मेदारी संभालना, उठाना

Ex - The manager asked him to carry the ball during the meeting.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Logic sports (khaaskar American Football ya Rugby) par based hai.
Khel mein wahi player sabse important hota hai jiske haath mein ball hoti hai.
Usey defenders se bachte hue ball ko goal tak le jana hota hai. Agar wo ball gira dega, toh team haar jayegi. Asal zindagi mein 'ball' ka matlab hai aapka 'Project' ya 'Task'. Jo ball pakad kar chal raha hai, wahi boss hai.

Carry the can



To take the responsibility of some misdemeanor – दोष अपने ऊपर लेना

Ex - He had to carry the can for the team's mistake.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase British Navy se aaya hai. Navy mein sailors ko beer ya rum ke bade "cans" (buckets) diye jate the. Agar beer kam pad jati ya bucket gir jata, toh jo sailor us balti ko "carry" kar raha hota tha, saara gussa aur punishment usi ko jhelna padta tha—chahe galti baaki group ki hi kyun na ho. 1920s tak aate-aate ye common English mein "blame lene" ke liye use hone laga.

Carry the day



To win/get success – जीत हासिल करना

Ex - The team's determination carried the day in the final match.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein yuddh (battles) ya sports aksar suraj dhalne tak chalte the. Isliye poore "Day" (din) ko hi poore muqabla ka prateek mana jata tha.
Jo army ya player din ke ant mein maidan mein bacha rehta tha, mana jata tha ki usne us din ki "Jeet" ko apne saath "Carry" (dhoya) kar liya hai. Aaj ke waqt mein ye sirf ladayi ke liye nahi, balki elections, debates, aur exams ke liye bhi use hota hai.

Carry weight



Be important – महत्वपूर्ण होना

Ex - Experience carries weight when applying for jobs.

Origin/Tricks - Sochiye ek tarazu (balance scale) hai. Jis palle mein zyada wazan hota hai, wahi niche jhukta hai aur wahi jeetta hai.
Thik usi tarah, arguments ya decisions mein jiski baat mein zyada "wazan" hota hai, usi ka faisla mana jata hai.
Agar aapki rai "carry weight" karti hai, toh iska matlab hai ki aapki baat mamuli nahi hai; usme anubhav aur authority ka bojh hai.

Cash-strapped



Not having enough money – गरीब

Ex - The government announced aid for cash-strapped farmers.

Origin/Tricks - "Strap" ka matlab hota hai ek belt ya patti. Purane zamane mein kisi cheez ko "strapping" karne ka matlab hota tha usey bandh dena taaki wo hil na sake.
Jab aap "cash-strapped" hote hain, toh iska matlab hai ki paise ki kami ne aapke haath-pair baandh diye hain. Aap apni marzi se kharch nahi kar sakte kyunki budget bahut "tight" (kasa hua) hai.
Pehle log "strapped for cash" kehte the, jo dhire-dhire badal kar "cash-strapped" ban gaya.

Cast a slur upon



To damage/to bring discredit – क्षतिग्रस्त करना

Ex - False accusations can cast a slur upon an innocent person's character.

Origin/Tricks - Shuruat mein 'Slur' ka istemal 'thin mud' ke liye hota tha. Dhire-dhire ye badal kar 'stain' (dhabba) bana aur ant mein iska matlab 'reputation par dhabba' ho gaya.
Yaad rakhein, 'slur' music mein notes ko jodne ke liye aur speech mein 'ladkharahat' (unclear speech) ke liye bhi use hota hai, par "cast a slur" hamesha apmaan se juda hota hai.

Cast aside



To reject/To stop thinking about – अस्वीकार करना

Ex - He cast aside his fears and spoke confidently.

Origin/Tricks - "Cast" shabd Old Norse ke "Kasta" se aaya hai, jiska matlab hota hai 'jor se phenkna'. 1300s se hi ye phrase English mein use ho raha hai. Shuruat mein ye sirf physical cheezon (jaise purane kapde ya kachra) ke liye hota tha.
Dhire-dhire log ise emotions aur relationships ke liye bhi use karne lage. Agar kisi ne aapka saath chhoda hai, toh unhone aapko "cast aside" kar diya hai.

Cast someone adrift



To leave sb without any support or purpose – किसी को असहाय छोड़ देना

Ex - The sudden change cast them adrift without direction.

Origin/Tricks - ska matlab hota hai 'bhatakta hua' (floating without being steered).
Sochiye ek badi ship ne ek chhoti boat ko beech samudra mein dhakka de diya. Us chhoti boat ke paas na toh chappu (oars) hain, na engine hai, aur na hi koi map hai.
Wo boat ab sirf lehron ke bharose hai. Asal zindagi mein ye "boat" wo insaan hai jise naukri se nikaal diya gaya ho ya jiska parivaar ne saath chhod diya ho.

Casting pearls before a swine



To give or offer something valuable to someone who does not understand its value – अनुपयुक्त लोगों के लिए मूल्यवान चीजें बर्बाद करना

Ex - Teaching advanced topics to uninterested students is like casting pearls before swine.

Origin/Tricks - Moti (Pearl) bahut keemti hota hai aur insaan ise gehne (jewelry) ki tarah pehnte hain.
Suar (Pig) ko sirf khane aur keechad se matlab hota hai. Agar aap suar ke samne moti phenkenge, toh wo unhe khane ki koshish karega. Jab usey maza nahi aayega, toh wo unhe pairon tale kuchal dega. Usey lagega aapne usey kharab 'pathar' diye hain.

Cat nap



A short, light sleep – हल्की झपकी लेना

Ex - A ten-minute cat nap helped him regain energy.

Origin/Tricks - Billiyan din mein 12 se 16 ghante soti hain, lekin wo insaanon ki tarah ek saath 8 ghante nahi soti.
Wo chhote-chhote bursts mein soti hain. Sabse khaas baat ye hai ki unki neend bahut halki hoti hai; zara si aahat (sound) hote hi wo turant jag jati hain.
Isliye, jab koi insaan bas thodi der ke liye "lightly" sota hai, toh usey 'Cat nap' kaha jata hai.

Catch one's eyes



To get someone's attention, especially by looking at them – किसी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना

Ex - A colorful dress caught her eye in the shop.

Origin/Tricks - Shuruat mein ye sirf do logon ke beech "eye contact" banane ke liye use hota tha.
Aajkal ye kisi bhi aisi cheez ke liye use hota hai jo 'noticeable' ho, jaise koi advertisement ya koi headline.

Catch red-handed

Catch at the moment of doing something wrong – अवैध काम करते हुए पकड़ा जाना

Ex - She was caught red-handed cheating in the exam.



Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane Scottish kanoon se aaya hai. Us zamane mein, agar kisi ne kisi dusre ke janwar (jaise gaay ya hiran) ko mara hai, toh usey tabhi saza di ja sakti thi agar usey "Red-hand" pakda jaye—yaani jab janwar ka khoon uske haathon par tazaa ho.

Cat's in the cradle

Complicated relationship – जटिल रिश्ता

Ex - The story shows a cat's in the cradle kind of relationship between father and child.



Origin/Tricks - Cat's in the cradle" shabd purani nursery rhymes mein milta tha, jahan ye sirf bachhon ki ek kahani ka hissa tha.
Asal mein ye idiom Harry Chapin aur unki patni Sandy Chapin ne popular kiya. Sandy ne ek kavita likhi thi unke pati ke career aur unke bete ke beech ki doori par. Ye gaana aaj bhi "Parenting" ke liye ek badi seekh (lesson) mana jata hai.

Cat's whiskers/meow/pajamas

To be better than everyone else – दूसरों से अच्छा होना

Ex - In the 1920s, people used to call stylish things the cat's whiskers.



Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrases America (Jazz Age) mein mashhoor hue. Us waqt ke naujawan (young flappers) ajeeb aur funny phrases use karte the taaki wo "cool" dikh sakein. Us zamane mein jaanwaro ke saath "nonsensical" (betukki) cheezein jodna ek fashion tha. Jaise— The Bee's Knees, The Snake's Hips, aur The Cat's Pajamas. Billiyan pajamas nahi pehnti, isliye ye phrase itna ajeeb tha ki ye "extreme excellence" ka symbol ban gaya.

Change for the better

An improvement in the situation – पहले से बेहतर

Ex - His life changed for the better after he started studying seriously.



Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se English bhasha ka hissa raha hai. Iska koi ek specific "inventor" nahi hai, balki ye 'Better' aur 'Worse' ke contrast se nikla hai.
Ise 1800s ke baad se movies, books aur daily conversations mein bahut zyada use kiya jane laga jab log "Social Reforms" (samajik sudhaar) ki baatein karte the.

Change horses in midstream



Change plans – बीच में योजना बदलना

Ex - We shouldn't change horses in midstream during such an important project.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase sabse zyada tab mashhoor hua jab American President Abraham Lincoln ne ise apne election campaign ke dauran use kiya. America mein tab 'Civil War' chal rahi thi. Lincoln ne kaha ki jung ke beech mein President badalna thik nahi hoga, jaise nadi ke beech mein ghoda badalna khatarnak hota hai. Log unki baat samajh gaye aur unhe dobara chun liya gaya.**

Changing my tune



To change one's opinion – अपनी राय बदल देना

Ex - They quickly changed their tune when the plan started failing.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai aur seedha sangeet (music) se juda hai.**
1600s mein ye bahut popular tha. Tab mana jata tha ki agar aap ek tarah ka sur (tune) gaa rahe hain toh aapka ek fix mindset hai. Agar aapne tune badli, toh aapka "mann" badal gaya.

Chapter and verse



An exact reference or authority – सटीक संदर्भ

Ex - The lawyer explained the law chapter and verse.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein, sabse badi authority Bible thi.
Agar koi kisi baat par behes karta tha, toh usey chup karane ke liye log Bible ka sahi "Chapter" (adhyaya) aur "Verse" (shlok/pankti) batate the.

Chase rainbows



To pursue unrealistic goals – अवास्तविक लक्ष्यों का पीछा करना

Ex - She was chasing rainbows when she expected instant success.

Origin/Tricks - Purani Irish lok-kathaon (folklore) mein kaha jata tha ki rainbow ke aakhir mein ek "Pot of Gold" (sone ka ghada) hota hai jise ek Leprechaun (ek chhota jaadui bauna) chhupa kar rakhta hai.
Bahut se log us sone ki lalach mein rainbow ka peecha karte the, par unhe kabhi kuch nahi mila.

Cheek by jowl



Very close together – पास-पास

Ex - The houses were built cheek by jowl along the narrow street.

Origin/Tricks - Shuruat mein log "cheek-by-cheek" kehte the. William Shakespeare ne apne mashhoor natak (play) 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' mein iska istemal kiya, jiske baad se ye "Jowl" wala version zyada popular ho gaya.
Pehle ye sirf "dosti" dikhane ke liye hota tha, par aajkal ye "bheed-bhaad" (crowdedness) dikhane ke liye zyada use hota hai.

Chew something (the cud) over



To think about or discuss something carefully for a long time – विचार करना

Ex - We should chew it over and talk again tomorrow.

Origin/Tricks - Gaay aur bhains (cattle) pehle khana nigal leti hain, phir baad mein usey pet se wapas munh mein lakar dhire-dhire chabati hain. Is "partially digested" khane ko 'Cud' kehte hain. Is process ko 'Rumination' kehte hain. Isme janwar bahut shanti se baithkar ghanto tak khana chabata hai.
Insaano ke liye, hamara "khana" hamare "thoughts" hain. Jab hum kisi idea ko dimaag mein baar-baar ghumate hain, toh hum maano usey "chew" kar rahe hote hain taaki uska pura matlab (nutrition) nikaal sakein.

Chew the fat



To talk to sb in an informal and friendly way – गपशप करना

Ex - I love to chew the fat with friends after work.

Origin/Tricks - Kaha jata hai ki 19th century mein sailors (jahazi) namkeen pork (suar ka maas) ki charbi (fat) chabate the jab wo bore hote the. Is dauran wo apne purane kisse aur gossip ek-dusre ko sunate the.
, "Chewing" ek slow process hai, aur "Chatting" bhi tabhi ho sakti hai jab aap slow aur relaxed hon.

Chew the scenery



To act overly emotional – अत्यधिक भावना प्रकट करना

Ex - The performance was good, but one actor chewed the scenery too much.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase late 1800s ke theater se aaya hai. Us zamane mein mic nahi hote the, toh actors ko piche baithe logon tak apni baat pahunchane ke liye bahut zor se bolna aur bade-bade hath-pair chalane padte the.
Jab koi actor hadd se zyada karne lagta tha, toh critics kehte the ki ye toh maano "scenery chaba raha hai" (he's chewing the scenery).

Chicken hearted



Somebody who lacks courage and gets easily frightened – डरपोक व्यक्ति

Ex - The team lost because they played in a chicken-hearted way.

Origin/Tricks - Murgi ko duniya ke sabse skittish (jaldi darne wale) pakshiyon mein gina jata hai. Wo zara sa shor hone par bina soche bhagti hai. Purane zamane se hi 'Heart' (dil) ko sahas ka kendra (center of courage) mana jata hai. Agar kisi ka dil murgi jaisa chota aur kamzor hai, toh wo kabhi bahaduri nahi dikha payega.

Children should be seen and not heard



Children should not speak in the presence of adults – बड़ों के बीच में बच्चों को नहीं बोलना चाहिए।

Ex - Her grandparents still follow the idea that children should be seen and not heard.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase 1400s se English mein hai. Dilchasp baat ye hai ki shuruat mein ye sirf bachhon ke liye nahi, balki "young women" ke liye bhi tha (unfortunate, but true!). 1800s (Queen Victoria ke samay) mein ye England mein ek kanoon ki tarah follow hota tha. Us waqt parenting bahut strict thi aur bachhon ko "miniadults" ki tarah treat kiya jata tha jinhe sirf sun-na hota tha.**

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Chink in one's armour



An area of vulnerability – कमजोरी या दोष

Ex - Lack of experience is the only chink in her armour.

Origin/Tricks - "Chink" shabd 15th century se use ho raha hai, jiska matlab tha 'darar'.
Shuruat mein ye sirf asli ladayi ke kavach ke liye use hota tha.
Dhire-dhire ye bhasha ka hissa ban gaya. Aajkal ye kisi ki "Emotional weakness" ya kisi company ke "Business model" mein kami ke liye use hota hai.

.

Clean hands



Innocent – मासूम

Ex - The investigation showed she had clean hands.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein 'gandagi' ya 'khoon' ko jurm ka nishana mana jata tha.
Agar aapne kuch chori kiya hai ya kisi ko maara hai, toh aapke haathon par uska 'nishaan' (dirt/blood) reh jayega. Agar aapke haath 'Clean' hain, toh iska matlab hai aapne us "gande kaam" ko chhua tak nahi hai.

Clear the air



To deal openly with misunderstandings to get rid of them – किसी का संदेह दूर करना

Ex - The manager called a meeting to clear the air about the rumors.

Origin/Tricks - **Jab mausam bahut garam aur humid (stuffy) hota hai, toh humein bechaini hoti hai. Phir achanak baarish ya toofan aata hai. Baarish ke baad hawa bilkul saaf aur taazi ho jati hai.**
Tension bhara mahaul us "stuffy room" jaisa hai. Jab aap khul kar baat karte hain, toh wo "taazi hawa" ki tarah purani galat-fehmiyon ko uda le jati hai.

Clock and dagger



Like a spy – गुप्त एवं रहस्यमयी

Ex - The movie is full of cloak-and-dagger spy scenes.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein jaasus ya qaatil (assassins) ek lamba choga (cloak) pehente the taaki andhere mein unka chehra ya kapde na dikhein.
Dagger ek chota khanjar hota hai jise aasani se chhupaya ja sakta hai aur bina shor kiye 'attack' kiya ja sakta hai.

Cloven hoof



To reveal someone's evil intentions – असली स्वभाव प्रकट करना

Ex - The politician showed the cloven hoof after gaining power.

Origin/Tricks - Cloven Hoof: Iska matlab hota hai wo 'khur' (hoof) jo beech se do hisson mein bata ho, jaise gaay, bakri, ya suar ke hote hain.
Pracheen kathaon mein mana jata tha ki Shaitaan (Devil) insaan ka roop dhar sakta hai, par wo apne Cloven Hoof ko nahi badal sakta.
Bhale hi wo kitne bhi sundar kapde pehen le, agar aap niche uske pairon ki taraf dekhein, toh uske 'Cloven Hoof' se uski asliyat (Shaitaan hona) pata chal jayegi.

Cold comfort



Quite limited sympathy or consolation – झूठी तसल्ली

Ex - His apology was cold comfort after all the damage was done.

Origin/Tricks - Asli tasalli hamesha "garmahat" (warmth) jaisi hoti hai—jaise kisi ka gale lagna ya acche shabd bolna. "Cold" ka matlab hai emotions ki kami. Agar koi insaan thand mein thithur raha hai aur aap usey 'baraf' (ice) ka tukda dekar kahein ki "lo, 1isse apna dhyan batao," toh ye 'Cold Comfort' hai. Wo 'comfort' toh hai (ki aapne kuch diya), par wo bilkul be-asar aur ulta nuksan-deh hai.

Cold fish



A person lacking in sympathy – जो सहानुभूति न दिखाता हो

Ex - The manager acted like a cold fish when employees needed support.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai. William Shakespeare ne ise apne play 'The Winter's Tale' (1611) mein use kiya tha, jahan ek kirdaar dusre ko "Cold Fish" kehta hai kyunki wo bilkul bhi passionate nahi tha. 19th aur 20th century mein ye un logon ke liye use hone laga jo social gatherings mein kisi se baat nahi karte aur kone mein shanti se baithe rehte hain.

Comb through



To carefully look through – बारीकी से ध्यान देना

Ex - The teacher combed through the papers before giving marks.

Origin/Tricks - Kangi (comb) baalon ke beech se guzarti hai aur har ek uljhan (tangle) ko pakad leti hai. Kuch bhi 'un-noticed' nahi rehta.
Jab aap kisi data ya jagah ko "comb through" karte hain, toh aapka dimaag us kangi ki tarah kaam karta hai jo har ek galat-fehmi ya chhupi hui cheez ko dhund nikaalta hai.

Come hell or high water



No matter what – किसी भी परिस्थिति में

Ex - She promised to support her friend come hell or high water.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sabse pehle America ke 'Cowboys' aur kisaano mein popular hua. Jab wo janwaro ko ek jagah se dusri jagah lekar jate the, toh raste mein ya toh bhayanak garmi (drought/fire) milti thi ya phir ufaanti hui nadiyan (high water). Unhe har haal mein apna safar poora karna hota tha.

Come in handy



To be useful – उपयोगी सिद्ध होना

Ex - Her experience came in handy when solving the problem.

Origin/Tricks - "Handy" shabd 16th century se "Skilful" (nipun) ke liye use hota tha.
1800s ke baad se, iska matlab "useful" ho gaya. "Come in" ka matlab hai "shamil hona" ya "banna". Toh "Come in handy" ka matlab hua—"Upyogi ki category mein aana."

Come in high



To enter in a prominent position – ऊँची स्थिति में जाना

Ex - The team came in high in the national competition.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase music industry aur financial markets se aaya hai. Jab koi naya share ya naya gaana market mein aata hai aur turant top list mein jagah bana leta hai, toh traders aur DJs kehte hain— "It came in high on the charts."

Come out swinging



To start something in strong, forceful way – काम को जोश के साथ शुरू करना

Ex - The boxer came out swinging in the first round.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Boxing ring se shuru hua. 1920s aur 30s ke sports reports mein iska bahut zikr milta tha.
Dhire-dhire ye politics aur business mein use hone laga. Jab koi politician scandal ke baad press conference mein sabko karara jawab deta hai, toh log kehte hain— "He came out swinging!"



Come rain or shine



Under any circumstances – किसी भी परिस्थिति में

Ex - The event will take place come rain or shine.

Origin/Tricks - Purane waqt mein jab ticket wali koi cheez hoti thi, toh uspar likha hota tha "Rain or Shine," jiska matlab tha ki baarish hone par bhi event cancel nahi hoga aur paise wapas nahi milenge.
19th century tak aate-aate ye general language ka hissa ban gaya, jise log dosti aur duty ke liye use karne lage.

Come to blows



To start fighting after a disagreement – विवाद के बाद किसी से झगड़ा करना

Ex - The two brothers came to blows over the property dispute.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1600s se English mein use ho raha hai. Purane waqt mein 'Blow' ka matlab kisi bhi tarah ka physical attack hota tha.
Aksar jahazo par jab sailors ke beech kisi baat par gehra manmutav hota tha aur wo talwar ya mukkebaazi shuru kar dete the, toh Captain report karta tha ki— "They have come to blows."

Come to grief



Have an accident/meet with disaster – दुर्घटना या असफल होना

Ex - His careless driving finally came to grief.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase shuruat mein Fox Hunting aur Horse Racing se aaya tha. Jab koi ghoda ya sawar jump karte waqt gir jata tha aur chot kha leta tha, toh usey 'coming to grief' kaha jata tha. Dhire-dhire ye business deals aur exams ke liye bhi use hone laga. Agar koi company doob gayi, toh wo "came to grief."

Come to light



To become known – उजागर होना

Ex - The truth finally came to light after the investigation.

Origin/Tricks - Yehphrasehazaronsaalonsealag-alag languages mein use ho rahahai. Greek aur Latinliterature mein hameshase "Truthis the daughter of time and light"mana gaya hai.
1500s se ye English ka ek basic idiom ban gaya. Iska use aksar court cases ya investigations mein hota hai jahan nayi 'evidence' samne aati hai.

Cook the books



To falsify financial records – वित्तीय रिकार्ड में हेर-फेर करना

Ex - They cooked the books to hide their losses.

Origin/Tricks - "Cook" shabd ka use 1700s se hi "modify" ya "falsify" karne ke liye ho raha hai. Purane waqt mein tobacco ko "cook" kiya jata tha taaki wo wazan mein bhari lage aur zyada munaafa (profit) de sake. Wahin se ye term financial fraud ke liye bhi popular ho gaya.

Cool as a cucumber



Not nervous or emotional/To be calm and composed – धैर्यवान या संयमी

Ex - The pilot remained cool as a cucumber in the emergency.

Origin/Tricks - Garmi ke mausam meinbhi, kheeray (cucumber) ke andar ka temperature bahar ke temperature se lagbhag 20 degrees kam ho sakta hai.Yeh mostly paani (water) se bana hota hai. Jis tarah dhoop mein rehne ke baad bhi kheera thanda rehta hai, waisi hi quality us insaan ki hoti hai jo gusse ya darr ke 'mahaul' mein bhi apne dimaag ko thanda rakhta hai.

Cool one's heels



To be kept waiting/Unwillingly wait for something or someone – इंतजार करना

Ex - The visitors were left cooling their heels in the lobby.

Origin/Tricks - Shuruat mein ye insaano ke liye nahi, balki ghodo (horses) ke liye use hota tha. Jab koi lamba safar tay karke aata tha,toh ghodo ke 'hooves' (khur) bahut garam ho jate the. Unhe stable mein le jaane se pehle bahar khada karke cool" kiya jata tha. 1600s tak aate-aate ye phrase un logon ke liye use hone laga jo bade afsaron ke daftar (office) ke bahar ghanton intezar karte the.

Cope with



To deal/To handle/To face – सामना करना

Ex - She learned to cope with stress effectively.

Origin/Tricks - 'Cope' shabd purane French word 'couper' se aaya hai, jis ka matlab tha "maarna" ya "prahaar karna". Is kamatlab hai ki musibat aapko maarne ki koshish kar rahi hai, aur aap palat kar usse 'lad' rahe hain taaki aap survive kar sakein.
Ye sirf 'sahan karna' (tolerate) nahi hai, ye us situation ke saath 'manage' karna hai.

Cordoned off



To stop people from getting into an area by surrounding it with police, soldiers, etc. – घेराबंदी करना

Ex - The police cordoned off the street after the accident.

Origin/Tricks - 'Cordon' ka matlab hota hai ek 'human chain' ya 'protective circle'. Jab hum kisi cheez ke aage 'off' lagate hain,toh uska matlab hota hai usey baaki duniya se alag (separate) kar dena.
Jab ek ilake ko "cordon off" kiya jata hai, toh maano ek 'invisible' ya 'visible' deewar khadi kar di gayi hai.

Cost someone dearly/dear



To cause someone to lose something or to cost a lot of money – महंगा पड़ना

Ex - The careless decision cost them dearly in the long run.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai. Old English mein 'deore' ka matlab hota tha "precious" ya "costly". Puraane zamane mein jab kisi cheez ki supply kam hoti thi, toh usey 'dear' kaha jata tha. Wahin se ye metaphor bana ki jab aap koi galti karte ho, toh uska nateeja bahut 'costly' yaani 'dear' hota hai.

Carry the ball



Be in charge – जिम्मेदारी संभालना, उठाना

Ex - The manager asked him to carry the ball during the meeting.

Origin/Tricks - Iska Logic sports (khaaskar American Football ya Rugby) par based hai.
Khel mein wahi player sabse important hota hai jiske haath mein ball hoti hai.
Usey defenders se bachte hue ball ko goal tak le jana hota hai. Agar wo ball gira dega, toh team haar jayegi. Asal zindagi mein 'ball' ka matlab hai aapka 'Project' ya 'Task'. Jo ball pakad kar chal raha hai, wahi boss hai.

Count one's blessings



Be grateful for what one has – जो मिला है उसमें खुश रहना

Ex - You should count your blessings that you have a supportive family.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh sabse zyada popular tab hua jab Johnson Oatman Jr. ne ek bahut mashhoor hymn (dharmik geet) likha jiska naam tha- "Count Your Blessings". Iske bol the: "Count your blessings, name them one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord hath done." Wahin se ye common English ka hissa ban gaya.

Counting down the days



To eagerly await an upcoming event – बेसब्री से इंतजार करना

Ex - The students are counting down the days for the holidays.

Origin/Tricks - Ye sadiyon purana concept hai. Log jail mein ya purane safaron par deewaron par lakeerein (tallies) khinchte the ye dekhne ke liye ki kitna waqt bacha hai.
1950s mein NASA aur space missions ne "Countdown" word ko duniya bhar mein popular kar diya. Tab se "Counting down the days" kisi bhi bade event ke liye ek standard phrase ban gaya.

Crack someone up



To make someone laugh – किसी को हँसाने के लिए

Ex - His jokes always crack me up.

Origin/Tricks - Shuruat mein "To crack a smile" ka use hota tha. Iska matlab tha sirf thoda sa muskurana (maano ek chhoti darar padi ho). Dhire-dhire ye "Crack up" ban gaya. Pehle iska matlab hota tha "mental breakdown" hona (break under pressure). Par 1940s ke baad, American slang mein ise "hasi se pagal ho jaane" ke liye use kiya jaane laga.

Crash and burn



To fail completely – पूरी तरह से विफल होना

Ex - The project crashed and burned due to poor management.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase World War II ke pilots ke beech mashhoor hua. Agar koi pilot mission par fail hota tha aur uska plane girkar jal jata tha, toh usey 'crash and burn' kehte the.
1980s mein movies aur pop culture ne ise relationships aur career ke failures ke liye use karna shuru kar diya.

Creature comforts



Things that contribute to bodily comfort and ease – भौतिक-सुख

Ex - He enjoys simple creature comforts like good food and a warm bed.

Origin/Tricks - Shuruat mein ye har us cheez ke liye use hota tha jo 'Insaan' (creature) ko khush kare.
Purane preachers aksar kehte the ki insaan ko 'Creature comforts' (physical stuff) ke peeche nahi bhagna chahiye, balki 'spiritual' cheezon par dhyan dena chahiye. Par waqt ke saath, ye sirf modern luxuries (AC, Heater, Fridge) ke liye use hone laga.

Creature of habit



One who does same thing in the same way – जो हमेशा एक ही तरह से काम करता है।

Ex - My grandfather is a creature of habit when it comes to his daily routine.

Origin/Tricks - Mashhoor writer Charles Dickens ne apne novels mein aise characters dikhaye jo sadiyon se ek hi routine follow kar rahe the. Wahin se ye term psychology aur general English mein "Routine-loving people" ke liye pakka ho gaya.

Crocodile tears



False tears – झूठी सहानुभूति

Ex - The villain showed crocodile tears to fool everyone.

Origin/Tricks - Crocodiles ke paas tear glands (aansu nikalne wali granthi) hoti hain. Jab wo apna shikaar khate hain, toh unka jabda (jaw) itna zor se hilta hai ki aankhon par dabav padta hai aur aansu nikalne lagte hain.
Wo ro raha hota hai, par shikaar ke dukh mein nahi, balki usey 'khate' waqt physical reaction ki wajah se.

Cross one's mind



To think of something – कुछ सोचना

Ex - The idea crossed her mind, but she rejected it.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s ke aas-pass popular hua. Purane zamane mein philosophers dimaag ko ek 'container' ya 'kamre' ki tarah dekhte the.
Koi bhi idea jo is kamre mein enter karke bahar nikalta tha, usey 'crossing the mind' kaha jata tha. Aaj ye English ka ek sabse common phrase hai sudden thoughts ke liye.

Cross out



To eliminate or remove – काट देना/हटा देना

Ex - She crossed out the wrong answer.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh sadiyon se hisaab-kitaab (bookkeeping) mein use ho raha hai. Purane zamane mein jab eraser nahi hote the, toh accountants galti ko mitaane ke bajaye us par ek line khinch dete the (cross out) aur bagal mein sahi number likhte the.

Cross the bridge



To solve the problem – समस्या का समाधान करना

Ex - I'm not thinking about failure yet; I'll cross that bridge when I come to it.

Origin/Tricks - Pehle logon ko safar ke dauran nadi, nala, ya khayi milti thi, jise paar karne ke liye bridge (pul) hi ek safe raasta hota tha.
Jab tak aadmi pul ke is paar hota tha, tab tak woh rukawat / danger / problem mein hota tha.Jaise hi woh bridge cross kar leta tha, woh surakshit taraf pahunch jata tha.

Crux of the matter



The most important/critical point – सबसे महत्वपूर्ण पहलू

Ex - The crux of the matter lies in proper planning.

Origin/Tricks - Shuruat mein 'Crux' ka use kisi aisi mushkil ke liye hota hai jo kisi ko 'Torment' (pareshan) kare (jaise suli/cross par chadhana).
1800s tak aate-aate, iska matlab badal kar "Sabse bada sawaal" ya "Sabse badi mushkil" ho gaya. Aaj ye har us cheez ke liye use hota hai jo kisi maamle ka 'Nirnayak' (Decisive) mod ho.

Cry down



To depreciate – पद, प्रतिष्ठा में कमी होना

Ex - Some critics tried to cry down the new policy.

Origin/Tricks - Iska origin purane bazaar (marketplaces) se hai. Vyapari aksar apne dushman ke maal ko "cry down" karte the (chilla kar kehte the ki ye kharab hai) taaki grahak usey na kharidein aur uski keemat gir jaye.
Kabhi-kabhi raja-maharaja bhi kisi purani currency (sikka) ko "cry down" kar dete the, yaani announce kar dete the ki ab iski koi keemat nahi rahi.

Cry for the moon



To make an impractical or unreasonable request – अव्यवहारिक या अनुचित अनुरोध करना

Ex - Asking for a huge salary without experience is crying for the moon.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purani kahaniyon se aaya hai jahan ek nanha bachha chand ki chamak dekhkar usey pane ke liye rota hai.
16th century ke baad se ye English literature mein 'impossible dreams' dikhane ke liye use hone laga. Iska sabse bada message yahi hai ki "Apni expectations zameen par rakho."

Cry over spilt milk



To feel sorry over a mistake that can't be changed – व्यर्थ पछताना

Ex - Don't cry over spilt milk; learn from your mistake.

Origin/Tricks - Doodh ek baar zameen par gir gaya toh wo mitti aur dhool mein mil jata hai. Aap usey utha kar pee nahi sakte.
Zindagi mein kai baar humse aisi galtiyan hoti hain (jaise exam mein galat option tick karna) jise hum badal nahi sakte. Wahan afsos karna "Spilt milk" par rone jaisa hai.

Cry wolf



To raise false alarm of help – मदद की झूठी पुकार लगाना

Ex - The boy who cried wolf learned a hard lesson.

Origin/Tricks - Ek gaderiya (shepherd boy) bhedon (sheep) ko charate waqt bore ho raha tha. Usne maze ke liye chillaya-"Wolf! Wolf!". Gaon wale madad ko aaye par wahan koi bhediya nahi tha. Usne ye do-teen baar kiya. Ek din sach mein bhediya aa gaya, wo chillaya, par kisi ne vishwas nahi kiya. Nateeja? Bhediya uski saari bhedon ko kha gaya.

Cry your eyes out



To cry a lot about a problem or situation – किसी समस्या को लेकर बहुत पछताना

Ex - She cried her eyes out after hearing the sad news.

Origin/Tricks - jab aap bahut zyada rote hain, toh aankhein laal ho jati hain, sujan (swelling) aa jati hai aur dard hone lagta hai. Aisa lagta hai maano aankhein 'drain' ho gayi hain.

Cudgel one's brain



To think hard – माथापच्ची करना, ध्यान से सोचना

Ex - She cudgeled her brains to solve the puzzle.

Origin/Tricks - William Shakespeare ne apne mashhoor play 'Hamlet' mein iska use kiya tha. Usme ek character kehta hai-"Cudgel thy brains no more about it," yaani iske baare mein ab aur zyada dimaag mat khapao. Tabse ye phrase "Deep Thinking" ka symbol ban gaya.+1

Curry favour



To seek or gain favour through flattery or other means – चापलूसी करना

Ex - He tried to curry favour with the boss by praising him constantly.

Origin/Tricks - France mein ek mashhoor kahani thi jiska naam tha-Roman de Fauvel. Isme ek 'Fauvel' naam ka ghoda (centaur) tha jo dhokhadhadi aur buraai ka prateek tha. Jo log taqatwar banna chahte the, wo is gande ghode ko saaf karte (curry) the taaki wo unhe blessings de. Log kahte the "Curry Fauvel". Waqt ke saath "Fauvel" bolne mein "Favour" jaisa lagne laga, aur phrase ban gaya- "Curry Favour."

Curses, like chickens, come home to roost



The curses of doing wrong always catches up with the wrong doer – जैसा कर्म वैसा फल

Ex - She ignored her duties, and soon curses came home to roost.

Origin/Tricks - 1810 mein Robert Southey ne apni poem "The Curse of Kehama" mein ise aur popular banaya. Unhone likha tha- "Curses are like young chickens, they always come home to roost." Tab se ye idiom dhokhadhadi aur karma dikhane ke liye pakka ho gaya.

Curtain lecture



An instance of a wife scolding her husband in private – पत्नी द्वारा पति को पड़ी हुई डांट

Ex - The mistake earned him a long curtain lecture.

Origin/Tricks - Purane England mein thand se bachne aur privacy ke liye bed ke chaaro taraf bhari parde (curtains) hote the.
Jab pati koi galti karta tha, toh patni sabke samne nahi chillati thi (izzat ka sawal tha!). Wo raat ko parde band hone ke baad usey acche se danti thi.

Cut a poor/sorry figure



To put a bad impression – बुरा प्रभाव छोड़ना

Ex - She cut a sorry figure after forgetting her speech.

Origin/Tricks - Kuch log maante hain ki ye tailoring (darzi ka kaam) se aaya hai. Agar koi kapda sahi se nahi kata (cut) hota tha, toh wo pehenne wale ki "figure" ko kharab dikhata tha. Baad mein ise 'performance' aur 'personality' ke liye use kiya jaane laga.

Cut and dried



Already decided/settled – पहले से निर्धारित किया गया

Ex - The matter is cut and dried, so there's nothing to discuss.

Origin/Tricks - Iska origin purane zamane ke herbalists (pansaari) ki dukaan se hai. Wo jaddi-bootiyon ko pehle hi kaat kar sukha dete the taaki log unhe turant kharid sakein. Kuch log ise lakdi (timber) se bhi jodte hain jo katne aur sukhne ke baad hi construction ke kaam aati hai. 1800s tak aate-aate, log ise boring aur routine waali baaton ke liye use karne lage jo pehle se predictable hon.

Cut corners



To do something perfunctorily so as to save time or money – जल्दबाजी में बिना गुणवत्ता पर ध्यान रखे काम करना

Ex - The company was accused of cutting corners to reduce costs.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase ghoda-gaadi (horse carriages) chalane walo se aaya hai.**
Achhe drivers mod (corner) par poora ghum kar gaadi chalate the. Par jo drivers jaldi mein hote the, wo mod ko 'cut' kar dete the. Isse aksar gaadi kisi cheez se takra jati thi ya palat jati thi.

Cut down on



To reduce – कम करना

Ex - The doctor advised him to cut down on sugar to control his diabetes.

Origin/Tricks - Iska seedha sambandh pedon ki katai se hai. Jab ek bada ped 'cut down' kiya jata hai, toh uski height aur uska asar zameen par kam ho jata hai.
19th century tak aate-aate, log ise kharchon (expenses) aur khorak (diet) ke liye use karne lage. Agar aap apne kharche "cut down" karte hain, toh aap apni 'financial tree' ko manage kar rahe hain.
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Cut from the same cloth



To be of a similar nature – एक समान होना

Ex - These two brands seem cut from the same cloth in terms of quality and pricing.

Origin/Tricks - Ek bada thaan (bolt) kapda hai. Uska texture, rang, aur mazbooti poore kapde mein ek jaisi hai.
Agar aap usme se do alag-alag tukde kaat kar do alag shirts banayein, toh wo dikhne mein alag ho sakti hain, par unka "Asal" (material) wahi rahega.
Insaan bhi alag dikh sakte hain, par unki "Nature" (cloth) agar ek jaisi hai, toh wo "Cut from the same cloth" hain.

Cut no ice



Have no influence or effect – कोई प्रभाव न पड़ना

Ex - His apology cut no ice with the teacher after he was caught cheating.

Origin/Tricks - **Purane zamane mein skates ki blades lohe ki hoti thi. Agar wo tez nahi hoti thi, toh wo barf ko 'cut' nahi kar pati thi, jisse skater control kho deta tha ya move nahi kar pata tha.**
Log pehle nadiyon se barf kaat kar bechte the. Agar unka saw (aari) barf nahi kaat pata tha, toh unhe koi munafa nahi hota tha. Yahin se ye phrase "failure to make an impact" ke liye popular ho gaya.

Cut off without a shilling



To refuse to let somebody receive any of your property after you have died – वसीयत न देना

Ex - She was cut off without a shilling after she left the family business.

Origin/Tricks - Purane waqt mein, agar koi pita apne bete ko vasiyat mein bilkul yaad nahi karta tha, toh beta court mein keh sakta tha ki "Papa mera naam likhna bhool gaye honge. Isse bachne ke liye, log jaan-boojh kar vasiyat mein likhte the- "Main apne bete ko ek shilling deta hoon." Yeh is baat ka saboot hota tha ki pita usey bhoola nahi hai, balki usey 'nichi nazar' se dekhta hai.

Cut one short



To interrupt someone – किसी को बाधित करना, दखल देना

Ex - The teacher cut him short when he started giving excuses.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai. Purane zamane mein 'Short' ka matlab sirf 'un-tall' nahi hota tha, balki 'abrupt' (achanak) bhi hota tha. Jaise ek darzi (tailor) kapde ko uski poori lambai tak pahunchne se pehle hi kaat deta hai, waise hi logon ne ise "baat kaatne" ke liye use karna shuru kar diya.

Cut someone slack



To not manage someone very strictly or critically – किसी को बहुत सख्ती से प्रतिबंधित न करना

Ex - The coach cut the team slack after their first loss of the season.

Origin/Tricks - Imagine kijiye ek rassi (rope) hai jo bahut kassi hui (tight) hai. Ye 'Strict Management' ka symbol hai.
'Slack' ka matlab hota hai rassi ka wo hissa jo dheela (loose) hai.
Jab aap kisi ko 'slack' dete hain, toh aap un par se 'tension' kam kar rahe hain. Aap unhe thoda hilaane-dulne ya galti karne ki jagah de rahe hain.

Cut straight to the chase



To avoid unnecessary introduction and go to the more important part – महत्वपूर्ण भाग पर ध्यान केंद्रित करना

Ex - The manager cut straight to the chase and asked about the sales figures.

Origin/Tricks - Hollywood mein shuruat mein silent movies banti thi. Aksar un movies mein romance ya drama bahut lamba khinch jata tha jisse audience bore ho jati thi.
Film ke bade directors aur producers aksar editors se kehte the "Cut to the chase" (Baaki sab hatao aur seedha pichhe-bhagne wala scene lao). 1929 tak aate-aate, ye aam bolchal ka hissa ban gaya.

Cut the Gordian knot



To solve a difficult problem in a very direct way by doing something forceful or extreme – किसी जटिल समस्या का समाधान निकालना

Ex - The new CEO cut the Gordian knot by restructuring the entire company.

Origin/Tricks - Kahani hai King Gordius ki, jisne apne rath (chariot) ko ek khambe se aisi ajeeb gaanth (knot) se bandha tha jise koi nahi khol sakta tha.
Ek bhavishyavani (prophecy) thi ki jo is gaanth ko kholega, wahi poore Asia par raaj karega.
Kai bade-bade log aaye par fail ho gaye. Phir aaya Alexander. Usne rassi ko dekha, samjha ki ye haath se nahi khulegi, aur apni talwar nikaalkar usey do tukdon mein kaat diya. Usne rassi "kholi" nahi, balki "kaat" di. Tabse ye phrase "Bold Solution" ka symbol ban gaya..

Cut the mustard



To reach the expected or necessary standard – सफल होना

Ex - His performance didn't cut the mustard, so he wasn't selected for the team.

Origin/Tricks - Kahani hai King Gordius ki, jisne apne rath (chariot) ko ek khambe se aisi ajeeb gaanth (knot) se bandha tha jise koi nahi khol sakta tha.
Ek bhavishyavani (prophecy) thi ki jo is gaanth ko kholega, wahi poore Asia par raaj karega.
Kai bade-bade log aaye par fail ho gaye. Phir aaya Alexander. Usne rassi ko dekha, samjha ki ye haath se nahi khulegi, aur apni talwar nikaalkar usey do tukdon mein kaat diya. Usne rassi "kholi" nahi, balki "kaat" di. Tabse ye phrase "Bold Solution" ka symbol ban gaya.

Cut to the quick



To hurt intentionally – जानबूझ कर चोट पहुँचाना

Ex - The criticism about his family cut her to the quick.

Origin/Tricks - "Cwic" shabd ka matlab zinda hota tha (jaise 'quickened' yaani zinda hona).
Shuruat mein ye physical zakhamon ke liye use hota tha jo gehare hote the.
16th century ke baad se Shakespeare aur baaki writers ne ise "emotional pain" ke liye use karna shuru kiya. Jab koi kisi ka mazaak udata hai jo uski asliyat ho, toh wo ye phrase use karte the.

Black market

Illegal trade – काला बाजार/अवैध व्यापार

Ex - Medicines were sold on the black market.



In the black

Financially profitable – लाभ में

Ex - The company is finally in the black.



Black out

Fainting or loss of power – बेहोशी/बिजली गुल

Ex - He had a blackout during the match.



Black eye

Damage to reputation – बदनामी

Ex - The scandal gave the party a black eye.

Blacklist

List of banned people – प्रतिबंधित सूची

Ex - The actor was blacklisted for years.



Black day

Unfortunate day – अशुभ दिन

Ex - The accident was a black day in my life.



Black swan

Rare unpredictable event – दुर्लभ अप्रत्याशित घटना

Ex - The pandemic was a black swan event.

In black and white

In writing – लिखित रूप से

Ex - The rules are clearly stated in black and white.



The pot calling the kettle black



People are guilty of the very fault they identify in others – उल्टा चोर कोतवाल को डांटे

Ex - Criticizing others for gossiping while you gossip too is just the pot calling the kettle black.

A black plum is as sweet as a white

People should not be judged by their appearance – बाहरी रूप से अधिक अंदरूनी गुण महत्वपूर्ण

Ex - The story teaches us that a black plum is as sweet as a white.

White lie



Harmless lie – हानिरहित झूठ

Ex - She told a white lie to avoid hurting him.

Raise a white flag



Surrender – आत्मसमर्पण करना

Ex - The team raised a white fl ag after defeat.

White collar

Office worker – दफ्तर का कर्मचारी

Ex - He works in a white-collar job.



Whitewash

Hide faults / defeat completely – लीपापोती करना/ गलती छिपाना

Ex - The committee tried to whitewash the issue.



White as a sheet

Very pale from fear – डर से पीला पड़ जाना

Ex - She turned white as a sheet after hearing the news.





White knight

Rescuer – उद्धारकर्ता/रक्षक

Ex - The investor acted as a white knight for the company.



Go red in the face

To feel embarrassed – शर्मिंदगी महसूस करना

Ex - She went red in the face when everyone stared at her.



See red

Become very angry – गुस्से से भर उठना

Ex - He sees red when insulted.



Red flag

Warning sign – चेतावनी संबेत

Ex - His lies were a red fl ag.



In the red

In debt – घाटे में

Ex - The business has been in the red for months.



Red carpet treatment

Special welcome – शाही स्वागत

Ex - The celebrity got red carpet treatment.



Red letter day

Very important day – विशेष दिन

Ex - Her wedding was a red letter day.



Red rag to a bull

Something that specially provokes – उकसाने वाला

Ex - The topic of politics is a red rag to a bull in that family.



Red herring

Misleading clue – भ्रामक सुराग

Ex - That evidence was a red herring.



Once in a blue moon

Very rarely – बहुत कम

Ex - He visits us once in a blue moon.



Provide a blueprint

To give a detailed plan or scheme – किसी की विस्तार में योजना बनाना

Ex - The architect provided a blueprint for the new building.



Feeling blue

Gloomy – उदास होना

Ex - She's feeling blue today.



A bolt from the blue

An unexpected event – कुछ ऐसा जो अचानक हो

Ex - The accident was a bolt from the blue for everyone.



Out of the blue

Suddenly – अचानक

Ex - He called me out of the blue.



Blue blood

Noble birth – कुलीन वंश

Ex - He comes from a blue-blood family.



Blue ribbon

Highest honor – सर्वोच्च सम्मान

Ex - She won the blue ribbon prize.



Blue chip

Reliable investment – भरोसेमंद निवेश

Ex - That company is a blue-chip stock.



Green with envy

Very jealous – ईर्ष्या से जलना

Ex - She was green with envy.



Greenhorn

Inexperienced person – अनुभवहीन व्यक्ति

Ex - He's a greenhorn in this field.



Green light

Permission – अनुमति

Ex - The boss gave the green light.



Green thumb

Skill in gardening – बागवानी में निपुण

Ex - My mother has a green thumb.



Yellow-bellied

Cowardly – डरपोक

Ex - Don't be yellow-bellied.



Yellow streak

Cowardice – कायरता

Ex - He has a yellow streak.



Purple patch

Period of success – सफलता

Ex - She's going through a purple patch.



Purple prose

Overly decorative writing – अतिशयोक्तिपूर्ण लेखन

Ex - His essay was full of purple prose.

Brownie points

Favor gained by pleasing someone – खुशामद से लाभ

Ex - He earned brownie points with his boss.



A brown study

A mood in which you are paying attention to own thought – विचारमग्न

Ex - The professor seemed in a brown study during the meeting.



Brown-nose

Flatter excessively – चापलूसी करना

Ex - Stop brown-nosing the teacher.



Brown bag it

Bring your own lunch – घर से खाना लाना

Ex - I brown-bag it to save money.



In the pink

In good health – पूर्णतः स्वस्थ

Ex - Grandpa is in the pink.



Tickled pink

Very pleased – अत्यंत प्रसन्न

Ex - She was tickled pink with joy.



Pink slip

Dismissal notice – नौकरी से निकालने का नोटिस

Ex - He got a pink slip from the company.



Silver lining

Hopeful aspect – आशा की किरण

Ex - Every problem has a silver lining.



Born with a silver spoon

Born rich – अमीर घर में जन्म लेना

Ex - He was born with a silver spoon.

Silver bullet

Simple solution – आसान समाधान

Ex - There's no silver bullet for success.



Golden opportunity

Excellent chance – सुनहरा अवसर

Ex - This job is a golden opportunity.



Golden rule

Basic principle – मुख्य सिद्धांत

Ex - Honesty is the golden rule.



Golden years

Retirement period – बुढ़ापे का सुखद समय

Ex - They're enjoying their golden years.



Get a gold star

To earn a merit point for doing well – शाबाशी पाना

Ex - The team got a gold star for completing the project on time.



Sit on a gold mine

To own something potentially valuable – मूल्यवान वस्तु का मालिक होना

Ex - That old property may look ordinary, but you're sitting on a gold mine.



Worth his weight in gold

Extremely valuable and useful – उपयोगी वस्तु

Ex - A good teacher is worth his weight in gold.



As good as gold

A person who is obedient and well behaved – शिष्टाचारी और आज्ञाकारी व्यक्ति

Ex - The children were as good as gold during the ceremony.



Grey area

Unclear situation – अस्पष्ट स्थिति

Ex - This law falls in a grey area.



Grey matter

Intelligence – बुद्धि/दिमाग

Ex - Use your grey matter.



Damp squib



Something that fails to meet expectations or disappoints despite initial excitement – निराशाजनक परिणाम

Ex - His grand announcement was a damp squib with no real news.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s se use ho raha hai. Miners aur soldiers explosives ka use karte waqt "squibs" use karte the. Agar barood (gunpowder) geela ho jata, toh unka poora mission fail ho jata tha.

Dead heat



Close contest that ends in a tie – बराबरी का मुकाबला

Ex - The election results were a dead heat between the two candidates.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh term England mein ghoda-gaadi (horse racing) se shuru hua.
Purane zamane mein cameras nahi hote the. Agar do ghode saath aate, toh judge winner decide nahi kar paate the. Us round ko "Dead Heat" declare kar diya jata tha aur aksar un do ghodon ke beech dobara race karwayi jati thi.
Aaj ye election results ya kisi bhi competition ke liye use hota hai jahan fasla (margin) zero ho.

Dead in the water



No chance of succeeding or making any progress – सफल होने की कोई आशा ना होना

Ex - His proposal was dead in the water after the committee rejected it..

Origin/Tricks - Imagine kijiye ek bada jahaaz (ship) samundar ke beech mein hai. Uska engine kharab ho gaya hai aur hawa bhi nahi chal rahi. Wo tair toh raha hai, par kahin ja nahi raha. Wo "Dead" hai kyunki uski "Motion" khatam ho chuki hai.

Dead men's shoes



A job that one takes over from somebody who has unexpectedly deied – आकस्मिक मृत्यु के बाद उसके काम को दूसरे को देना

Ex - He waited years for the manager's post, knowing it would be a case of dead men's shoes.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein joote bahut mehange hote the aur haath se banaye jate the. Gareeb parivaaron mein jab kisi buzurg ki maut hoti thi, toh uske joote phenke nahi jate the, balki parivaar ka dusra sadasya unhe pehen leta tha.

Dead set against



Disapproved – अस्वीकृति

Ex - My parents are dead set against the idea of me leaving my studies.

Origin/Tricks - Yahan 'Dead' ka matlab marna nahi, balki "Completely" ya "Absolutely" hai (jaise 'dead right' ya 'dead certain'). 'Set' ka matlab hai jam gaya (fixed). Jaise cement jamne ke baad hilta nahi, waise hi aapka opinion 'set' ho gaya hai.
Aap ek aisi deewar ban gaye hain jise hilaana namumkin hai. Aapka virodh (opposition) 'dead' (utter) aur 'set' (firm) hai.

Die hard



Unwilling to change – दृढ़ या न झुकने वाला

Ex - Old traditions die hard in rural areas.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase military itihaas se aaya hai. Peninsular War ke dauran, British 57th Regiment ke Colonel William Inglis ne apne ghayal (wounded) soldiers se chillakar kaha tha— "Die hard, 57th, die hard!"
Unka matlab tha ki dushman ke samne surrender mat karo, aakhiri dum tak ladte raho aur "mushkil se maro" (meaning, give them a tough fight before dying).

Die in harness



To continue an occupation till death/ To die while working – सेवा के दौरान मृत्यु हो जाना

Ex - The devoted professor died in harness, teaching until his last day.

Origin/Tricks - 'Harness' un patton (straps) ko kehte hain jo ek ghode ya bael ke shareer par bandhe hote hain taaki wo gaadi ya hal (plow) khinch sake. Jab tak ghoda "harness" mein hai, iska matlab hai wo kaam kar raha hai.
Agar ghoda kaam karte-karte hi gir kar mar jaye, toh wo "harness" mein mara. Insaan ke liye uski "Job" ya "Responsibility" hi uska harness hai.

Dig around



Investigating – खोजबीन करना

Ex - The journalist dug around to uncover the truth behind the scandal.

Origin/Tricks - Information ya sachai mitti ke neeche dabi hoti hai.
Agar aapko khazana ya purani haddiyaan chahiye, toh aapko yahanwahan 'Dig' (khodna) karna padega.

Dig up dirt on someone



Discover damaging information about somebody – किसी का भेद पता करना

Ex - The reporter tried to dig up dirt on the politician before the election.

Origin/Tricks - Insaan ki galtiyan ya scandals "Gindagi" (dirt) ki tarah hote hain jinhe wo chupa kar rakhta hai. Jab aap mitti khodte hain (dig), toh aap satah (surface) ke neeche ki cheezein nikaalte hain. Insaan ke 'shareef' chehre ke neeche dabi hui buraiyon ko kured kar nikaalna hi "Digging up dirt" hai.

Discretion is the better part of valour



It is always wise to be careful and not show any unnecessary bravery – समझदारी ही असली बहादुरी है

Ex - The climbers postponed their attempt, realizing discretion is the better part of valour.

Origin/Tricks - **Valour**: Iska matlab hai bahaduri (bravery).
Discretion: Iska matlab hai faisla lene ki samajh (judgment/caution).
Bahaduri ek talwar ki tarah hai, par 'discretion' wo dhaal (shield) hai jo aapko bachaati hai. Bina dhaal ke sirf talwar lekar ladna maut ko bulava dena hai. Isliye, samajhdari (discretion) bahaduri ka sabse zaruri hissa hai.

Do a roaring trade



To sell a lot of goods very quickly – बहुत सफल व्यवसाय करना

Ex - The ice-cream shop did a roaring trade during the summer.

Origin/Tricks - Purane waqt mein 'roaring' shabd ka istemal kisi aisi cheez ke liye kiya jata tha jo bahut hi 'boisterous' (shorgul wali) aur 'vigorous' (joshili) ho. Sadak par saaman bechne wale (hawkers) aksar chilla-chilla kar (roaring) saaman bechte the. Jiski 'roar' jitni tez hoti, uska saaman utna bikta. Wahin se ye phrase business ki success se jud gaya.

Do away with



To abolish – खत्म करना

Ex - The government decided to do away with outdated laws.

Origin/Tricks - "Do" ka matlab yahan kisi kaam ko anjaam dena hai. "Away" ka matlab hai door bhej dena. Kisi cheez ko pakad kar itni door bhej dena ki wo wapas na aa sake. Jaise hum kachre ko ghar se 'away' kar dete hain taaki ghar saaf rahe, waise hi samaj ya system se buraiyon ko 'do away with' kiya jata hai.

Do something by the skin of one's teeth



Just manage to do something – मुश्किल से कुछ कर पाना

Ex - He passed the exam by the skin of his teeth.

Origin/Tricks - Kya aapne kabhi apne daanton (teeth) ki chamdi (skin) dekhi hai? Nahi, kyunki daanton par chamdi hoti hi nahi! Daanton par jo enamel ki sabse patli layer hoti hai, usey hi metaphorically 'skin' kaha gaya hai. Yeh layer itni patli hoti hai ki usey mehsoos karna bhi mushkil hai. Isliye, agar aap "skin of your teeth" se bachte hain, toh iska matlab hai ki aapke paas bachne ka 'zero' margin tha.

Doctor the accounts



To manipulate or influence the accounts – हेर-फेर करना

Ex - The auditor suspected the company had doctored its accounts.

Origin/Tricks - 1700s mein "to doctor" ka matlab kisi cheez mein milawat karna (adulterate) shuru hua. Log wine ya khaane mein "doctoring" karte the taaki wo fresh lage. Baad mein ye term legal aur financial documents ke liye use hone laga. Agar aapne record badal diya, toh aapne usey "doctor" kar diya.

Dodge a bullet



To narrowly avoid a situation – बाल-बाल बचना

Ex - She dodged a bullet when she decided not to travel on that cancelled flight.

Origin/Tricks - 'Dodge' ka matlab hai achanak se rasta badal lena ya jhuk jana.
Agar koi goli aapke kaan ke paas se guzre aur aapko chhu bhi na paye, toh aapne maut ko hara diya hai. Life mein bhi, jab koi 'scam' ya 'galat rishta' aapko nuksan pahunchane hi wala ho aur aap piche hat jayein, toh aapne bullet dodge kar di.

Dog eat dog



Ruthlessly competitive – कठारे और प्रतिस्पर्धात्मक माहौल

Ex - He cast aside his fears and spoke confidently.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein ek Latin kahawat thi— "Canis caninam non est" jiska matlab tha "Ek kutta dusre kutte ka maas nahi khata." Yeh vafadari ka prateek (symbol) tha.
16th century tak aate-aate, logon ne ise ulta karke use karna shuru kar diya yeh dikhane ke liye ki ab duniya badal gayi hai aur log itne gir gaye hain ki wo "dog eat dog" (apno ko hi khana) mode mein aa gaye hain.

Dog in a manger



One who prevents others from enjoying something despite having no use for it – कबाब में हड्डी होना/ स्वार्थी व्यक्ति

Ex - The manager was a dog in a manger, refusing to approve the project he didn't support.

Origin/Tricks - Manger wo jagah hoti hai jahan gaaye-bael (cattle) ke liye chara (hay) rakha jata hai. Kutta kabhi ghas ya bhoosa (hay) nahi khata.
Kutta us manger mein so raha hai. Jab ek bhooka bael (ox) wahan khana khane aata hai, toh kutta us par bhonkta hai aur usey bhaga deta hai. Kutta wo ghas kha nahi sakta, par wo bael ko bhi nahi khane de raha.

Dog tired / Done up/in



To be extremely tired – बहुत ज्यादा थका हुआ

Ex - She felt dog tired after the long journey.

Origin/Tricks - Kaha jata hai ki England ke Raja Alfred apne beton ko shikaar ke kutto (hunting dogs) ke saath bhejte the. Jo beta sabse zyada kutto ko wapas laata tha, raja usey zyada samman dete the.
Kutto ke piche bhagte-bhagte wo ladke itne thak jate the ki wo kehte the— "I am as tired as the dogs" (Main kutto jitna thak gaya hoon). Wahin se ye "Dog tired" ban gaya.

Dole out



To distribute something, either physically or verbally – बांटना, वितरित करना

Ex - The charity doled out food to the homeless.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh shabd Old English ke dal se aaya hai, jiska matlab tha "baantna" (to divide). 1930s mein jab bahut gareebi thi, toh government logon ko paise aur khana deti thi. Usey "being on the dole" (sarkari madad par hona) kaha jane laga. Wahin se ye phrase "Dole out" popular ho gaya.

Donkey's years



A very long time – लंबा समय

Ex - We've been waiting here for donkey's years!

Origin/Tricks - Ghadhe (donkey) ke kaan (ears) bahut lambe hote hain. English mein "Ears" aur "Years" ka pronunciation milta julta hai. Isliye 'Long Ears' ko mazak mein 'Long Years' se jod diya gaya. Saath hi, ghadhe kafi saal tak zinda rehte hain (30-50 years), jo ki ek working animal ke liye kafi lamba samay hai.

Don't count one's chickens before they hatch



Do not count on a good thing that has not happened – एक ऐसी चीज पर भरोसा मत करो जो अभी तक नहीं हुई है।

Ex - Investors should never count their chickens before they hatch in uncertain markets.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh mashhoor kahanikar Aesop ki ek kahani "The Milkmaid and Her Pail" se aaya hai.
Ek doodh wali (milkmaid) apne sir par doodh ka bartan lekar ja rahi thi. Wo raste mein sochne lagi ki wo is doodh ko bechegi, phir ande khareedegi, phir unse chooje nikalenge, phir wo ameer ban jayegi aur naya kapda pehen kar sabko jalayegi. Khayalon mein khoyi wo ladki koodne lagi aur uska doodh ka bartan gir gaya.
Sab kuch khatam! Isliye kaha gaya—"Ande phootne (hatch hone) se pehle chooje mat gino."

Dot one's I's and cross one's T's



Be detailed and exact/To pay attention to minute details of a task – विस्तृत और सटीक होना

Ex - She double-checked everything to dot her I's and cross her T's.

Origin/Tricks - 19th century mein jab log haath se sundar akshar (calligraphy) likhte the, toh 'i' aur 't' ki bariki ye dikhati thi ki likhne wala kitna mehnati aur dhyan dene wala hai.
Editors aur teachers aksar students ko kehte the ki apni galtiyan check karo aur "dot your i's". Wahin se ye business aur legal duniya mein 'perfection' ka symbol ban gaya.

Down and out



Without money – बिना पैरों का, बहुत गरीब

Ex - The gambler became down and out after losing all his savings.

Origin/Tricks - Jab boxer ko ghusa lagta hai aur wo zameen par gir jata hai, toh wo 'Down' hota hai.
Agar wo 10 seconds tak nahi uth pata, toh referee usey 'Out' declare kar deta hai. Yaani khel khatam! Life mein jab mushkilein aapko gira dein (Down) aur aapke paas uthne ka koi sadhan/paisa na bache (Out), toh aap "Down and out" kehlate hain.

Down in the drain/Down the tubes



Spoiled or wasted – बर्बाद हो जाना

Ex - The money we invested went down the drain after the business failed.

Origin/Tricks - Imagine kijiye aapne sink mein koi keemti cheez gira di. Ek baar koi cheez naali (drain) ke andar chali jaye, toh wo sewer mein mil jati hai. Usey wapas pana lagbhag namumkin hai.
Aapka 'Investment' ya 'Effort' wo paani hai jo bina kisi fayde ke naali mein beh gaya.

Down in the dumps/mouth



Sad and depressed – हताश

Ex - She has been down in the dumps since her exam results.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase 1500s se use ho raha hai. Purane zamane mein "dump" shabd ka matlab hota tha "ek aisi sthiti jahan insaan soch mein dooba ho ya daze mein ho.“**
Kabhi-kabhi "dump" ek slow aur udaas gaane (melancholy tune) ko bhi kaha jata tha. Wahin se ye "sadness" ke liye popular ho gaya.

Down to the wire



To the last minute; to the very end – अंतिम क्षण तक

Ex - The election results came down to the wire.

Origin/Tricks - **Purane zamane mein horse racing mein camera nahi hote the. Toh judges finish line par ek patla taar (wire) baandh dete the.**
Jo ghoda sabse pehle us taar ko chhuta tha, wo winner hota tha.
Agar race bahut 'close' hai, toh log kehte the ki ye "down to the wire" hai, yaani jab tak wire touch nahi hota, winner ka pata nahi chalega.

Draconian law



Extremely severe law – कठोर कानून

Ex - The government introduced a Draconian law to control corruption.

Origin/Tricks - Athens mein ek kanoon banane wala (legislator) tha jiska naam tha Draco.
Usne pehli baar Athens ke kanoon likhe the. Par wo itne sakht the ki lagbhag har galti ke liye "Maut ki saza" (Death penalty) thi.
Us zamane mein log kehte the ki Draco ne ye kanoon syahi se nahi balki khoon se likhe hain. Tabhi se "Draconian" shabd "extreme severity" ka symbol ban gaya.

Drag one's feet



To delay taking a decision – निर्णय लेने में देर करना

Ex - The committee is dragging its feet on the final decision.

Origin/Tricks - Jab aap chalte hain, toh aap pair uthakar aage badhte hain. Par jab aapka mann nahi hota, toh aap pair nahi uthate balki unhe zameen par ghiseet-te (drag) hain.
Ghiseetne se friction badhta hai aur aapki speed kam ho jati hai. Life mein bhi, jab aap kisi project par "drag your feet" karte hain, toh aap usme rukaawat paida kar rahe hote hain.

Drastic times call for drastic measures



When you are extremely desperate you need to take drastic actions – कठोर परिस्थिति निवारण के लिए कठोर फैसले लेना

Ex - The government imposed strict restrictions, believing drastic times call for drastic measures.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Greece ke mashhoor vaidya (doctor) Hippocrates ke ek purane quote se aaya hai. Unhone kaha tha— "For extreme diseases, extreme remedies are most appropriate" (Badi bimaariyon ke liye bade ilaj hi sahi hote hain). 16th century ke baad se ye siraf medical nahi, balki war, politics aur personal life ke "emergency decisions" ke liye use hone laga.

Draw a blank



To get no results – असफल होना

Ex - She drew a blank when asked about the formula.

Origin/Tricks - Pehle zamane mein lotteries mein do bags hote the.
Ek bag mein logon ke naam hote the aur dusre mein prizes.
Prize wale bag mein bahut saari 'Blank' parchiyan bhi hoti thin. Agar aapka naam nikla aur uske saath prize bag se 'blank' parchi nikli, toh aap haar gaye. Wahin se ye "failed attempt" ke liye use hone laga.

Draw first blood



Be the first to gain an advantage or score against an opponent – पहले लाभ पाना या बढ़त बनाना

Ex - Our team drew first blood by scoring in the first minute.

Origin/Tricks - "Draw" ka matlab yahan 'nikalna' hai (jaise sharir se khoon nikalna).
Purane zamane mein talwarbazi (fencing) ya boxing mein, pehla zakham lagna is baat ka saboot hota tha ki dusra banda zyada tez hai.
Aajkal iska matlab khoon-kharaba nahi hai. Agar business mein do companies ek hi product nikaal rahi hain aur ek ne pehli sale kar di, toh usne "first blood" draw kar liya.

Dressing down



A severe reprimand or scolding – डांट फटकार

Ex - The players received a dressing down after their poor performance.

Origin/Tricks - 18th century mein British Navy mein jab koi sailor ya officer koi badi galti karta tha, toh usey saare crew ke samne bulaya jata tha.
Wahan unki rank ke badges ya unka 'formal uniform' utaar liya jata tha (literally dressing them down) taaki unhe sharam mehsoos ho. Is physical action se ye "verbal scolding" (zubani fatkar) ka idiom ban gaya.

Draw on one's fancy



Used his imagination – अपनी कल्पना का सहारा लेना

Ex - The writer drew on his fancy to create a magical world in his story.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Shakespeare ke zamane ke aas-paas popular hua. Tab 'Fancy' aur 'Imagination' ko ek hi maana jata tha.
Pehle log kehte the "to catch a fancy," par jab writers ne apni kahaniyon ke liye dimaag ka zyada istemal shuru kiya, toh ye "Draw on" ban gaya, yani kisi resource ki tarah use karna.

Drill into one's heads



To emphasize repeatedly – बार-बार समझाना

Ex - The coach drilled the rules into their heads before the match.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase woodworking aur construction se aaya hai. Jis tarah ek karigar (carpenter) ko lakdi mein gehra ched karne ke liye mehnat karni padti hai, waise hi teachers ne ise "education" se jod diya.**

Drive someone up the wall



To make someone extremely angry – क्रोधित करना

Ex - Small mistakes like this drive the teacher up the wall.

Origin/Tricks - Pehle zamane mein, jab log bahut zyada bechain (restless) ya pareshan hote the, toh wo aksar deewaron ke sahare upar ki taraf dekhte the ya unpar hath-pair marte the (climbing-like behavior). Wahin se ye "annoyance" ka idiom ban gaya.

Dropping like flies



Collapsing in large numbers/A large number of people either falling ill or dying – बड़ी संख्या में गिरना या मरना

Ex - The team members were dropping like flies from exhaustion.

Origin/Tricks - Makkhiyan (flies) bahut kamzor hoti hain aur unki life bahut chhoti hoti hai.
Agar aap ek kamre mein insecticide (machhar maarne wali dawai) spray karein, toh saari makkhiyan ek saath zameen par gir jati hain.
Insaan bhi jab kisi 'Epidemic' (mahamari) ya 'Heatwave' ki chapet mein aate hain, toh wo unhi makkhiyon ki tarah tezi se dher hone lagte hain.

Dropping names



Casually mention the names of famous people one knows or claims to know in order to impress others – प्रभावित करने के लिए प्रभावशाली लोगों का नाम लेना

Ex - His habit of name-dropping makes him seem arrogant.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century ke mid mein popular hua jab London aur New York ke 'High Society' mein log ek-dusre se badhkar dikhna chahte the.
Columnists aksar celebrities ke naam likhte the ye dikhane ke liye ki unki pohunch (access) kahan tak hai. Wahan se ye "fake superiority" ka symbol ban gaya.

Ducks and drakes



To treat someone badly – बुरी तरह बर्ताव करना

Ex - He made ducks and drakes of his inheritance within a year.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1500s se popular hai. Tab bachhe nadi ke kinare flat stones dhoondte the aur dekhte the ki kiska patthar zyada door tak "ducks" (tappe) khata hai.
Kyunki is khel mein patthar ka koi kaam nahi hota siwaye pani mein doobne ke, isliye ise "bekaar kharcha" (useless spending) se jod diya gaya.

Dust and ashes



Something that is very disappointing – निराशा और उदासी

Ex - The victory turned to dust and ashes when the truth came out.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh ek purani kahani (mythology) se aaya hai. Kaha jata tha ki Dead Sea ke paas aise ped hote hain jinke phal (apples) bahar se bahut sundar dikhte hain, par jaise hi koi unhe khata hai, wo dhuen aur raakh (dust and ashes) mein badal jate hain.
Shauk (mourning) ke samay log apne sir par raakh dalte the ye dikhane ke liye ki unki duniya ujad gayi hai.



Easy does it



Used to tell someone to do something slowly and carefully – धीरे और सावधानी से काम करना

Ex - Easy does it, or you might spill the paint.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century ke shuruat mein popular hua. Jahazon par bhaari saaman (cargo) chadhaate waqt ya badi imaratein banate waqt, workers ek-dusre ko chilla kar kehte the—"Easy does it!" taaki koi rassi na toote ya saaman na gire. Dhire-dhire ye physical kaam se nikal kar dimaagi halat par bhi lagne laga. Agar koi gusse mein hai, toh log kehte hain "Easy does it" yani "Shaant ho jao, thanda lo."

Easy handed



An easy job – एक सरल कार्य

Ex - The king was known for being easy-handed with rewards.

Origin/Tricks - Aksar mushkil kaamon ko "Heavy handed" (bhaari hath/ mehnat wala) kaha jata hai.
Iska ulta hota hai 'Easy-handed'. Jab kaam itna halka ho ki aapke hath ko mehnat mehsoos hi na ho.

Eat a humble pie



To feel sorry and apologies for a mistake – विनम्रता से माफी मांगना, नाक रगड़ना

Ex - She boasted she would win, but later she had to eat humble pie.

Origin/Tricks - 14th century mein, shikar (hunting) ke baad hiran (deer) ka jo sabse accha maas hota tha, wo ameer log khate the.
Hiran ke andarooni hisse (dil, liver, etc.) jise "umbles" kaha jata tha, unhe gareeb naukar ek 'pie' banakar khate the. "Umble" aur "Humble" ki awaz ek jaisi hone ki wajah se, "Umble pie" khana 'neechi position' ka symbol ban gaya. Dhire-dhire ye "maafi maangne" ka idiom ban gaya.

Eat crow



To admit that one is wrong – गलती स्वीकार करना

Ex - He had to eat crow after his prediction proved false.

Origin/Tricks - Kauwa (Crow) ek aisa pakshi hai jise koi khana nahi chahta kyunki uska maas bahut sakht, ganda aur kadva mana jata hai.
Aapki "Galti" us kauwe ki tarah hai. Usey 'Khana' (yaani manna) bahut mushkil aur sharminda karne wala kaam hai, par kyunki aap galat hain, aapko wo kadva ghoot peena hi padega.

Eat like a horse



To eat too much – बहुत अधिक खाना

Ex - After football practice, he eats like a horse.

Origin/Tricks - Ghadhe ya Insaan ke muqable Ghodha (Horse) ek bahut bada aur takatwar janwar hai.
Itne bade sharir ko chalane ke liye ghode ko din bhar charte (grazing) rehna padta hai.
Wo ek baar mein kafi kgs ghaas ya anaaj kha jata hai.
Agar koi insaan bhi ghode ki tarah badi-badi servings khata hai, toh log uski bhook ki tulna ghode se karte hain.

Eat one's hat



To be certain about outcome being in a particular way – किसी घटना के परिणाम को लेकर पूर्णतः आश्वस्त होना

Ex - I'll eat my hat if this plan fails.

Origin/Tricks - Topa (hat) kapde ya leather ka bana hota hai, ise khana namumkin aur ganda hai.
Jab aap kehte hain "I will eat my hat," toh aap maante hain ki aapki baat 100% sahi hai aur aapko kabhi apna hat khane ki naubat (situation) nahi aayegi.
Yeh aapke Self-Confidence ka level dikhata hai.

Eat one's words



To retract what one has said – कही हुई बात को वापस लेना

Ex - She mocked his idea and later had to eat her words.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein mana jata tha ki "shabd" ek shakti hote hain. Agar wo galat hain, toh unhe "destroy" karne ka ek hi tarika hai—unhe wapas nigal (swallow) lena.

Eggs on one's face



Embarrassed because of one's action – अपनी हरकत के कारण शर्मिंदा होना

Ex - He had egg on his face after his prediction proved wrong.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein (19th century), agar koi actor stage par kharab acting karta tha ya koi politician jhoot bolta tha, toh gusse mein log unpar rotten eggs (sade huye ande) phekte the.
Jis insaan ke chehre par anda lagta tha, wo sabse zyada beizzat maana jata tha. Wahin se ye phrase "sharmindagi" ke liye pakka ho gaya.

Elbow grease



Hard physical efforts – कठिन शारीरिक प्रयास

Ex - The old car shines now thanks to a lot of elbow grease.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein ye ek mazaak (joke) tha. Log kehte the ki "is furniture ko chamkane ke liye 'Elbow Grease' ki zarurat hai."
Naye naukar ya apprentices ko aksar dukaan par bheja jata tha "Elbow Grease" ka ek dabba kharidne ke liye. Jab wo dukan pahunchte, toh dukan-dar unpar hansta tha kyunki aisi koi dawa nahi milti—ye toh khud ki mehnat hoti hai!

Elbow room



Very little freedom – ना के बराबर छूट

Ex - The new office gives employees more elbow room to work comfortably.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Shakespeare ke zamane ke aas paas popular hua. Purane theaters mein seating bahut tight hoti thi. Agar kisi ko "Elbow room" milta tha, toh wo kismat wala maana jata tha.

Ethnic cleansing



Deliberate killing of people of an ethnic or religious group – जनहत्या

Ex - Thousands fled the region to escape ethnic cleansing.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh term sabse zyada tab popular hua jab 1990s mein Yugoslavia ke batware ke waqt Serbs, Croats aur Bosniaks ke beech jung hui thi. Wahan "Etni□ko □iš□enje" (Ethnic Cleansing) ka istemal pehli baar bade star par hua. Halanki term naya hai, par ye practice purani hai (jaise Nazi Germany mein Jews ke saath hua ya history mein kai jagah indigenous logon ke saath).

Every cloud has a silver lining



Every difficult situation has a hopeful aspect to it – किसी भी कठिन परिस्थिति में कुछ आशाजनक होता है।

Ex - She failed once but learned a lot; after all, every cloud has a silver lining.

Origin/Tricks - Ek bada kaala baadal (dark cloud) dukh ya musibat ka prateek hai jo suraj (khushi) ko dhak leta hai.
Agar aap us baadal ko dhayan se dekhein, toh uske kinaron par ek chamakti hui safed/silver laker dikhayi deti hai.
Yeh lining is baat ka saboot hai ki baadal ke peeche suraj abhi bhi chamak raha hai aur wo jaldi hi bahar aayega.

Every dog has its day



Everyone has good luck or success at a point of time – समय आने पर ही किसी को सफलता मिलती है।

Ex - Even the weakest team can win sometimes; every dog has its day.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein, kutton (dogs) ko bahut hi nichla (lowly) janwar mana jata tha jinhe koi izzat nahi milti thi.
Agar ek sadak ke mamuli kutte ko bhi din mein ek baar accha khana ya sukoon mil sakta hai, toh insaan toh phir bhi mehnat karta hai.
Yeh dikhata hai ki kismat ka pahiya (wheel of fortune) ghoomta rehta hai. Aaj koi niche hai, toh kal wo upar hoga.

Eye for an eye



Someone should be harmed as they harmed someone else – बदला/प्रतिशोध लेने की एक नीति

Ex - The old code of justice followed the rule of an eye for an eye.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh duniya ke sabse purane likhit kanoonon mein se ek hai (approx 1754 BC). Isme saaf likha tha— "If a man put out the eye of another man, his eye shall be put out." Mahatma Gandhi ne is par ek bahut mashhoor baat kahi thi— "An eye for an eye will only make the whole world blind." (Agar har koi badla lega, toh poori duniya andheri ho jayegi).

Egged you on



To urge or encourage (someone) to do something that is usually foolish or dangerous – किसी को उकसाना

Ex - His friends egged him on to jump into the river.

Origin/Tricks - Iska "Murgi ke ande" (Hen's egg) se koi lena-dena nahi hai! Yeh purani bhasha (Old Norse) ke shabd "eggja" se aaya hai, jiska matlab hota hai "Edge" (dhara ya kinara).
"To egg" ka matlab pehle hota tha kisi cheez ki dhaar tez karna ya kisi ko "edge" (kinare) tak dhakelna. 16th century tak aate aate ye "uksane" (to urge) ka idiom ban gaya.

Ended in a fiasco



Finished disastrously or with a complete failure – बुरी तरह फेल होना

Ex - The match ended in a fiasco after the players started fighting.

Origin/Tricks - "Fiasco" Italian bhasha ka shabd hai jiska matlab hota hai "Flask" ya "Bottle." Venice ke glassmakers duniya mein sabse best vase banate the.
Agar koi artist ek mehanga aur sundar glass vase bana raha ho aur usse ek choti si galti ho jaye, toh wo usey 'Vase' nahi keh sakta tha. Usey majbooran ek sasti aur mamuli 'bottle' (fiasco) mein badalna padta tha. Yani ek "Great Art" banane ki koshish ka "Mamuli Bottle" mein badal jana hi "Fiasco" ban gaya—yani ki sharmnaak failure.

Enough rope



To give someone enough freedom of action to bring about their own downfall – खुली छूट देना ताकि अपनी गलतियों से सीख सके

Ex - The manager let him continue, knowing that giving him enough rope would expose his mistakes.

Origin/Tricks - PYeh ek purani English kahawat hai— "Give a thief enough rope and he'll hang himself."
Purane zamane mein mana jata tha ki ek jhootha insaan tab tak jhoot bolega jab tak uske apne hi shabd usey phansi ke fande tak na le jayein. Aaj kal ye office politics ya investigation mein bahut use hota hai.

Evening of life



The later part of one's life, especially when approaching old age – जीवन का अंतिम चरण

Ex - The poet wrote his best works in the evening of his life.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase kisi ek insaan ne nahi banaya, balki ye sadiyon se poets aur writers use karte aa rahe hain. Aristotle ne bhi "Life" ko "Day" se compare kiya tha.
Kayi cultures mein 'Evening' ko wisdom (samajhdari) se joda jata hai kyunki aapne poora din (zindagi) dekh liya hota hai.

Every inch a gentleman



Every inch a gentleman – पूरी तरह से सभ्य व्यक्ति

Ex - The host was every inch a gentleman, welcoming everyone warmly.

Origin/Tricks - Agar aap kisi ko sir se pair tak (from head to toe) har ek inch par check karein, aur har jagah aapko "gentlemanly" qualities hi milein, toh wo "Every inch a gentleman" hai.
Yeh dikhata hai ki unki sharafat koi "dikhawa" nahi hai jo sirf upar-upar se ho, balki wo andar se bhi waisa hi hai.

Excuse my French



Said when you are pretending to be sorry for using a word that may be considered offensive – मेरी भाषा के लिए माफ करे

Ex - That movie was awful excuse my French but it was rubbish.

Origin/Tricks - 1830s ke aas-paas, jab English log apne aap ko bahut 'classy' dikhana chahte the, wo beech-beech mein asli French words use karte the. Agar listener ko samajh nahi aata tha, toh wo kehte the "Excuse my French."
Dhire-dhire logon ne iska mazaak banana shuru kiya. Jab koi gusse mein gaali nikal deta, toh wo mazaak mein kehta "Excuse my French" taaki aisa lage ki usne gaali nahi, balki koi foreign language boli hai.

Ease somebody's mind



Alleviate someone's anxiety – किसी की चिंता को कम करना

Ex - The doctor's words eased her mind about the test results.

Origin/Tricks - Chinta (worry) ek dimaagi bojh (mental weight) ki tarah hoti hai jo aapko daba deti hai.
"Ease" ka matlab hota hai aaram ya sukoon. Jab wo bojh hat jata hai, toh dimaag 'free' aur 'light' mehsoos karta hai. Yeh bilkul waisa hi hai
jaise tight joote utaarne ke baad pairon ko sukoon milta hai.

Eat anyone's salt



To be one's guest – किसी का मेहमान होना

Ex - In old traditions, once you eat someone's salt, you must not betray them.

Origin/Tricks - Pahle Salt itna keemti tha ki Roman soldiers ko salary ke badle namak diya jata tha (Isi se "Salary" shabd aaya hai).
Arab countries mein ye maana jata tha ki agar do dushman bhi ek saath namak kha lein, toh wo tab tak ek-dusre par hamla nahi karenge jab tak wo namak unke pet mein hai.
Humare yahan "Namak-halal" (Loyal) aur "Namak haram" (Disloyal) isi logic par bane hain.

Explore all avenues



Try out every possibility to get a result – सफलता पाने के लिए हर संभव प्रयास करना

Ex - The police are exploring all avenues to find the missing child.

Origin/Tricks - England aur France mein bade-bade bagichon aur shehron mein "Avenues" (pedon wali sadkein) banayi jati thi.
Agar kisi mujrim ko pakadna hota tha, toh police ko har 'avenue' check karni padti thi. Wahin se ye phrase "deep research" aur "exhaustive effort" ke liye use hone laga.

Face up to



To accept a difficult situation – कठिन परिस्थिति को स्वीकार करना

Ex - He refused to face up to his responsibilities.

Origin/Tricks - Jab hum kisi cheez se darte hain, toh hum apni peeth (back) uski taraf kar lete hain ya bhagne lagte hain.
"Face" karne ka matlab hai apna rukh (direction) us problem ki taraf karna.
Yeh 'himmat' (courage) ko dikhata hai. Sir jhuka kar nahi, balki sir utha kar (Face up) baat ko manna.

Faint hearted

Timid – डरपोक, कायर

Ex - Adventure sports are not meant for the faint-hearted.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane se hi "Dil" (heart) ko himmat ka kendra (center) mana jata hai.
"Faint" ka matlab hota hai behosh hona ya kamzor padna.
Agar kisi ka dil hi "faint" ho gaya hai, toh uske sharir mein darr ke maare jaan hi nahi bachegi. Isliye, kamzor irade wale ko "Faint-hearted" kaha jata hai.



Fair and square /Fairly and squarely

Honest/Honestly – ईमानदारी से/ नियमों के अनुसार

Ex - She won the competition fair and square.

Origin/Tricks - **Badhai (Carpenters) jab lakdi kaat-te hain, toh agar wo "Square" nahi hai, toh wo furniture kabhi sahi nahi baithega. Wahin se ye "Accuracy" aur "Honesty" ka symbol bana.**



Fair's fair/Fair do's

Equal treatment – सबके साथ एक जैसा व्यवहार

Ex - She agreed to share the prize money because fair's fair.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh British slang hai. Kuch log mante hain ki ye "Fair Dues" (jo kisi ka karz ya haq hai) ka bigda hua roop hai. Iska use aksar tab hota hai jab aap kisi ki tareef karna nahi chahte, par unka kaam itna accha hai ki aapko "Fair" banna padta hai.**



Fall flat

To fail to have an effect – प्रभाव डालने में विफल

Ex - The presentation fell flat and didn't impress the judges.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase theater aur music se aaya hai. Agar koi actor stage par bahut mehnat karta tha par audience taaliyan nahi bajati thi, toh kaha jata tha ki performance "fell flat on the stage."
Jaise ek "Flat tire" (panchar) gaadi ko aage nahi le ja sakta, waise hi ek "Flat" idea kisi ka dil nahi jeet sakta.



Fall foul of



To get into trouble because of failing to do what is required by (the law, a rule, etc.) – गैर कानूनी काम करके परेशानी में पड़ना

Ex - The player fell foul of the referee for rough play.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein "foul" ka matlab hota tha "tangled" (uljha hua).
Agar ek jahaz (ship) dusre jahaz ya kisi chattan se takara jaye aur uske rasse ulajh jayein, toh wo "fall foul" ho jata tha. Rules aur law ek rasse ki tarah hain. Agar aap unse 'takrayenge', toh aap ulajh jayenge aur aapki progress ruk jayegi.

Fall head over heels



To fall deeply in love with someone – किसी के प्यार में खो जाना

Ex - She fell head over heels in love with her classmate.

Origin/Tricks - 18th century mein writers ne ise galti se flip karke "Head over heels" kar diya. Halanki physically humara head humesha heels ke upar hi hota hai, par ye phrase "falling" aur "excitement" ko dikhane ke liye itna popular ho gaya ki ab yahi sahi mana jata hai.

Fall on deaf ears



To be ignored – नजरअंदाज करना

Ex - The teacher's advice fell on deaf ears because the students were distracted.

Origin/Tricks - Agar koi insaan 'deaf' (behra) hai, toh aap chahe kitna bhi chillayein, wo sun nahi sakta.
Aapke shabd hawa mein 'travel' karte hain aur samne wale ke kaan tak pahunche, par wahan se wo 'brain' mein jaane ki jagah niche gir gaye (fall) kyunki kaan 'band' the.
Yeh un logon ke liye hai jo sun toh sakte hain, par mann se nahi sunna chahte.

Fall out with someone



To stop being friendly after an argument – किसी से दोस्ती खत्म करना

Ex - The brothers fell out with each other about property matter.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane military commands se aaya hai. Jab soldiers ko "Fall in" kaha jata tha, toh wo ek seedhi line mein khade ho jate the. Jab "Fall out" kaha jata, toh line
toot jati aur sab apne-apne raste chale jate. Dhire-dhire ye dosti ke "tootne" ke liye use hone laga, kyunki jhagda hone par bhi log dosti ki 'line' se bahar nikal jate hain.

Familiarity breeds contempt



The better you know someone the less you like him – जितना किसी को जानना उतना ही किसी को कम पसंद करना

Ex - When employees become too casual with their boss, familiarity breeds contempt.

Origin/Tricks - Jab hum kisi se dur hote hain, hum sirf unka 'best side' dekhte hain (jaise celebrities). Jab hum sath rehne lagte hain, hum unki buri aadtein (jaise kharrate lena ya jhoot bolna) bhi dekh lete hain.

Feast one's eyes on



To gaze at something with pleasure – किसी चीज को खुशी से देखना

Ex - He feasted his eyes on the delicious dishes laid out on the table.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein jab log bade mahalon ya art galleries mein jate the, toh wo is phrase ka use karte the kyunki aam log roz aisi sundar cheezein nahi dekh pate the.

Feather their own nest



To promote their own interest – अपने हित को बढ़ावा देना

Ex - The official was accused of feathering his own nest through corrupt deals.

Origin/Tricks - **Birds apne ghosle ko naram banane ke liye feathers (pankh) ka use karte hain. Agar koi pakshi dusron ke pankh chura kar apna ghosla sajaye, toh wo galat hai. Waise hi, agar koi insaan dusron ka haq maar kar apni life "comfortable" banaye, toh wo "feathering his own nest" hai.**

Feeding frenzy



A situation in which a lot of people become very excited about something often in a destructive or negative way – किसी चीज को पाने के लिए लोगों में होड़ मच जाना

Ex - Shoppers went into a feeding frenzy during the huge discount sale.

Origin/Tricks - Jab paani mein khoon (blood) ki mehak aati hai, toh sharks pagal ho jati hain. "Frenzy" ka matlab hota hai pagalpan. Wo itni tezi se khana chahti hain ki wo galti se ek dusre ko bhi kaat leti hain. Media mein ya business mein jab koi scandal ya 'sale' aati hai, toh log sharks ki tarah behave karte hain—sirf apne fayde ke liye bina ye soche ki kiska nuksan ho raha hai.

Feel blue



Gloomy – उदास होना

Ex - He felt blue after hearing the disappointing news.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein jab kisi jahaz (ship) ke captain ya kisi officer ki maut ho jati thi, toh wo jahaz bandargah (port) par laut-te waqt Blue Flag (neela jhanda) fahrata tha aur jahaz par ek Blue Stripe (neeli patti) paint ki jati thi. Tab se "Blue" ka matlab dukh aur mourning (shok) se jud gaya.

Feel someone's pulse



Find someone's views – किसी के विचार समझना

Ex - The manager spoke informally with staff to feel the pulse of the team.

Origin/Tricks - **Pulse (Dhadkan) sharir ke andar ki halat batati hai jo bahar se nahi dikhti.**
Doctor pulse feel karke samajh jata hai ki patient andar se theek hai ya nahi.
Kisi ka opinion bhi unke "Pulse" jaisa hai. Aap unki baaton ko "feel" karte hain taaki aapko pata chale ki wo aapke plan ke liye "raazi" hain ya "khilaaf."

Feel the pinch



To have less money than you used to have before / Experience hardship – पैसों की तंगी महसूस होना/ परेशानी का सामना करना

Ex - After losing his job, he began to feel the pinch.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se chala aa raha hai. Shuruat mein ye sirf "tight shoes" ke liye use hota tha. Shakespeare ne apne play King Lear mein iska zikr kiya tha jab unhone "pinch" ko zaroorat aur tangi se joda tha. 19th century tak aate-aate ye puri tarah se "paisa" aur "economy" se jud gaya.

Feet of clay



A weakness or hidden flaw in the character of a greatly admired or respected person – छिपी हुई कमी

Ex - The biography showed that the genius scientist had feet of clay.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Bible (Book of Daniel) se aaya hai. King Nebuchadnezzar ne ek sapna dekha tha jisme unhone ek aisi hi murti dekhi jiske pair lohe aur mitti (iron and clay) ke bane the.
Ek patthar us mitti ke pairon par gira aur puri mahan murti toot kar bikhar gayi. Wahin se ye "hidden flaw" ka symbol ban gaya.

Fell foul of



Come into conflict with – झगड़ा करना

Ex - The company fell foul of safety regulations.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh 17th-century ke mard-e-mahi (sailors) ki bhasha se aaya hai. Samundari jahazon ka aapas mein takrana ya rassi mein phans jana "foul play" se pehle "falling foul" kehlata tha.
Aaj kal ye tab use hota hai jab koi company tax niyam todti hai ya koi neta kanoon se bhidta hai.

Few and far between



Not very many or not appearing very frequently – बहुत कम

Ex - Rainfall is few and far between in desert regions.

Origin/Tricks - Poet Thomas Campbell ne apni poem "The Pleasures of Hope" (1799) mein likha tha— "Like angel-visits, few and far between."
Unka kehna tha ki farishte (angels) dharti par bahut kam aate hain aur jab aate hain toh unke visits ke beech bahut saalon ka gap hota hai. Wahin se ye phrase kisi bhi "rare" cheez ke liye pakka ho gaya.

Fight fire with fire



To fight against an opponent by using the same methods or weapons that the opponent uses – दुश्मन के प्रति उसी के जैसा व्यवहार करना

Ex - The team fought fire with fire by adopting the same aggressive strategy.

Origin/Tricks - Aag ko phailne ke liye ghas aur lakdi (fuel) chahiye hoti hai.
Jab ek taraf se badi aag aa rahi hoti hai, toh firefighters dusri taraf se ek chhoti aag laga dete hain. Yeh chhoti aag raste ka saara fuel jala deti hai.
Jab badi aag wahan pahunchti hai, toh usey jalne ke liye kuch nahi milta aur wo bujh jati hai. Matlab, Aag ne hi Aag ko roka.

Fight shy of



To try to avoid something – दूर रहना

Ex - She fights shy of discussing personal matters.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane "Boxing" ya "Cockfighting" (murghon ki ladai) se aaya hai. Agar koi fighter darpok hota tha aur apne virodhi (opponent) se dur bhagta tha, toh usey kaha jata tha ki wo "fighting shy."

Fight tooth and nail



To fight or compete with great ferocity and intensity – कड़ी टक्कर देना, जी-जान से लड़ना

Ex - The teams fought tooth and nail for the championship.

Origin/Tricks - Agar aapke paas koi talwar ya gun nahi hai, toh ek insaan ya janwar ke paas ladne ke liye kya bachta hai? Sirf unke Daant (Tooth) aur Nakhun (Nail).
Yeh wo halat hai jahan aap bilkul "desperate" hain. Aap nochne aur kaatne tak ke liye taiyar hain taaki aap jeet sakein ya bach sakein.
Aaj kal iska matlab kaatna nahi, balki har wo koshish karna hai jo insaan ke bas mein ho (hard work, arguments, money, etc.).

Find one's feet



To begin to understand the work and feeling confident – काम को समझने लगना

Ex - Once she found her feet, she performed very well.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein jab log pehli baar samundari jahaz (ship) par jate the, toh unhe 'Sea Sickness' hoti thi aur wo chal nahi pate the. Kuch dinon baad unhe "Sea Legs" mil jate the, jise "finding their feet" kaha jata tha kyunki ab wo jahaz ke hilne par bhi balance bana sakte the.

Fine kettle of fish



An awkward situation – बड़ी समस्या

Ex - The misunderstanding turned into a fine kettle of fish.

Origin/Tricks - River Tweed ke paas log "Kettle of Fish" naam ka ek picnic manate the jahan machhliyan taaza pakad kar ubaali jati thi.
Agar wo machhliyan bartan se bahar gir jayein ya jaal mein phans jayein, toh wo ek "mess" ban jata tha. Dhire dhire, writers ne ise kisi bhi "bad situation" ke liye use karna shuru kar diya.

Fire the imagination



To make someone feel very interested in something and excited about it – उत्साहित करना

Ex - The movie's visuals fired the audience's imagination.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase poets aur writers ne popular kiya. Unka manna tha ki dimaag ek "koyla" (coal) hai jise inspiration ki aag chahiye chamakne ke liye. Aksar kaha jata hai ki Space travel ki baaton ne logon ki "imagination fire" kar di, jiski wajah se asliyat mein log chand par pahunche.

First and foremost



Most important aspect – सबसे महत्वपूर्ण पहलू

Ex - The teacher said that discipline should be first and foremost.

Origin/Tricks - "Foremost" shabd Old English ke formest se aaya hai, jiska matlab hota hai "front-most." 16th century mein writers ne "First" aur "Foremost" ko ek saath use karna shuru kiya taaki wo kisi baat par Dugna zor (Double emphasis) de sakein. Yeh ek tarah se "Priority ka King" ban gaya.

Fit like a glove



To fit snugly – बहुत अच्छी तरह से फिट होना

Ex - The dress fits like a glove.

Origin/Tricks - Glove (dastana) ek aisi cheez hai jo tabhi kaam karti hai jab wo aapki ungliyon ke har mod (curve) par sahi baithe. Agar glove bada ho, toh kaam nahi hota; agar chota ho, toh pehna nahi jata. Jab hum kehte hain "Fit like a glove," toh hum us 'skin-tight' perfection ki baat karte hain jo bina kisi extra jagah ke fit ho jaye.

Flea market



A market where old or used goods are sold cheaply, usually outside – पुरानी वस्तुओं को बेचने का बाजार

Ex - Tourists love visiting the local flea market on weekends.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh term French phrase "Marché aux puces" ka English translation hai. 1860s mein Paris ke bahar ek aisa bada bazaar lagta tha jahan gareeb log kachre se bachi hui cheezein bechte the. Ameer log wahan jane se darte the kyunki unhe lagta tha ki wahan se 'fleas' ghar aa jayenge. Dhire-dhire ye naam puri duniya mein "Saste bazaar" ke liye pakka ho gaya.

Flesh and blood



You are denoting that they are, or are like, part of your family – परिवार के सदस्य

Ex - She forgave her sister because she was her flesh and blood.

Origin/Tricks - Insaan ka sharir maans (Flesh) aur khoon (Blood) se bana hai. Kyunki aapka aur aapke parivaar ka sharir ek hi "khoon" se bana hai, isliye wo aapke "flesh and blood" hain.

Flex one's muscles



To give or make a show of one's strength – शक्ति प्रदर्शन करना

Ex - The company flexed its muscles by launching a powerful campaign.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se insani fitrat se juda hai. Purane zamane mein pehalwan aur yoddha (warriors) ladne se pehle aisa hi karte the.
20th century mein ye term politics aur economics mein zyada popular hua. Jab koi badi company chhoti company ko kharidne ki dhamki deti hai, toh wo apne "Financial muscles" flex karti hai.

Fly high



To make a good progress – अच्छी प्रगति करना

Ex - The team is flying high after winning the championship.

Origin/Tricks - Jo pakshi (bird) jitna uncha udta hai, wo utna hi bada nazaara dekh sakta hai aur utna hi "superior" (behtar) maana jata hai.
Zameen par bheed (crowd) hoti hai, par aasmaan mein sirf wahi hota hai jo "exceptional" mehnat karta hai. Isliye unchi udaan ka matlab hai "Top performance."

Fly into a passion/ Fly into a rage



To become angry suddenly – अचानक गुस्सा होना

Ex - The teacher flew into a passion at the noisy class.

Origin/Tricks - Jab koi bird ya plane "fly" karta hai, toh wo zameen chhod kar achanak tezi se upar jata hai. Purane zamane mein "Passion" ka matlab sirf 'shauk' nahi hota tha, balki iska matlab "Strong Emotion" (khaskar dukh ya gussa) hota tha. Insaan ka mood achanak "take-off" karke gusse ki unchayion par pahunch jata hai. Isme dimaag ka control khatam ho jata hai.

Fly off at a tangent



Starts discussing something irrelevant /Change the subject immediately – मुद्दे से भटकना

Ex - The discussion flew off at a tangent and lost focus.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh term 18th century se use ho raha hai. Geometry mein "Tangent" ka matlab hota hai 'touching'. Shuruat mein ye sirf science aur maths mein use hota tha, par dhire-dhire logon ne ise aisi baaton ke liye use karna shuru kiya jo "out of focus" hoti hain.

Fly the nest



Children leaving their parents' home to live on their own – अपने पैरों पर खड़ा होना

Ex - She felt emotional when her son flew the nest for college.

Origin/Tricks - Ghonsla (nest) bache ke liye ek surakshit jagah hai jahan maa-baap usey khana khilate hain.
Jab bache ke pankh (wings) aa jate hain, toh wo udna (fly) seekhta hai. Usey apna khana khud dhoondhne ke liye ghar chhodna padta hai.
Insaan ke bache bhi jab itne bade ho jate hain ki wo apna kharch khud utha sakein, toh wo "ghonsla" (ghar) chhod dete hain.

Foam at the mouth



To be enraged and show it – क्रोध प्रदर्शन करना

Ex - The coach was foaming at the mouth after the team's poor performance.

Origin/Tricks - Jab kisi jaanwar ko 'Rabies' hota hai, toh uske dimaag par asar padta hai aur uske muh se safed jhaag nikalne lagta hai. Wo bahut aggressive ho jata hai.
Insaan ke case mein asli jhaag toh nahi nikalta, par uska gussa itna "wild" hota hai ki wo ek pagal jaanwar jaisa lagta hai. Iska matlab hai "Out of control anger."

Food for thought



Something worth thinking seriously about – कोई चीज जिसके बारे में चिंतन किया जा सके

Ex - The documentary provided real food for thought about climate change.

Origin/Tricks - Iska concept purane "Metaphors of Digestion" se aaya hai.
Writers ne mehsoos kiya ki jaise pet (stomach) ko khana chahiye, waise hi dimaag (intellect) ko 'Mental Food' chahiye grow karne ke liye. Tab se ye kisi bhi serious topic ke liye use hone laga.

Foot the bill



To make payment – भुगतान करना

Ex - The government will foot the bill for the new project.

Origin/Tricks - Kisi bhi lambe paper ya document ke sabse nichle hisse (bottom) ko 'foot' kaha jata hai.
Purane zamane mein, jab hisaab-kitab hota tha, toh saari list ke neeche "Total" likha jata tha. Jo insaan us total ke samne sign karta tha, wahi paise deta tha.
"Footing the bill" ka matlab hai us nichle hisse (foot) par apni zimmedari ki mohar lagana.

For all intents and purposes



Essentially; in all important respects – व्यवहारिक रूप से

Ex - The two plans are, for all intents and purposes, the same.

Origin/Tricks - Ek digital signature sirf computer code hai, aur ek asli signature kagaz par ink hai. Dono technically alag hain.
Par dono ka maqsad (purpose) ek hi hai—agreement ko sign karna.
Isliye, kanoon ki nazar mein, digital signature "for all intents and purposes" ek asli signature hi hai.

For better or (for) worse



To accept whatever results; good or bad – परिणाम स्वीकार करना चाहे अच्छा हो या बुरा

Ex - They agreed to move abroad, for better or worse.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sabse zyada shadi ke vaadon (marriage vows) mein suna jata hai.
Insaan shadi karte waqt ye nahi jaanta ki aage amiri hogi ya gareebi, sehat hogi ya bimari.
"For better or worse" kehne ka matlab hai ki aapne "Option B" (bhagne ka rasta) band kar diya hai. Aapne halat ko uski sacchai ke saath "Accept" kar liya hai.

For good



For ever – हमेशा के लिए

Ex - The old shop closed for good last year.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane English expression "For good and all" ka chota roop hai.
1500s mein "for good and all" ka matlab hota tha "sabhi natijon aur sabhi waqt ke liye."
Dhire dhire "and all" hat gaya aur sirf "For good" reh gaya, par matlab wahi raha - Finality.

For old time's sake



Because of sentimental memories of the past – अतीत के अच्छे समय को याद करना

Ex - He kept the watch for old time's sake.

Origin/Tricks - "Sake" ka matlab hota hai 'kisi ke liye' ya 'benefit ke liye'. Yahan "Old Time" ka matlab beeta hua sunhera waqt hai.
Jab hum koi aisa kaam karte hain jiska aaj ki lifestyle mein shayad koi logic nahi hai (jaise purana video game khelna), toh hum usey sirf un yaadon ki "khushi ke liye" karte hain.

Forty winks



A short nap – एक छोटी सी झपकी

Ex - He had forty winks during the lunch break.

Origin/Tricks - "Wink" ka matlab hota hai ek baar palak jhapkana (blink). Ek wink bahut chota hota hai, usme neend nahi ho sakti. Purane zamane mein "Forty" (40) ka istemal "bahut saare" (a significant number) ke liye kiya jata tha. Imagine kijiye aapne 40 baar apni aankhein jhapkayi hain. Itna waqt ek halki si neend ke liye kaafi hai jo aapko 'reset' kar de.

Fought to the bitter end



Carried on a contest regardless of the consequences

– परिणाम की परवाह किए बिना अंत तक लड़ना

Ex - The soldiers fought to the bitter end to defend their land.

Origin/Tricks - Pahle jab jahaz toofan mein hota tha, toh saari rassi khol di jati thi. Jab "bitter end" tak baat pahunchti thi, toh sailors ke paas koi aur chara nahi bachta tha—ya toh rassi tike rahegi ya jahaz doob jayega.
Dhire-dhire logon ne "bitter" ka matlab "kadwa" (unpleasant) samajh liya, isliye aaj iska matlab "bure natije tak ladna" ban gaya hai.

Four corners of the earth



From all parts of the world – विश्व के सभी हिस्सों से

Ex - Students from the four corners of the earth attend that university.

Origin/Tricks - Bhale hi dharti gol (round) hai, par purane zamane mein log ise char pramukh dishaon mein baant-te the: North, South, East, aur West.
In chaaron dishaon ke aakhri binduon (points) ko "corners" kaha gaya.
Jab hum kehte hain "four corners," toh hum dharti ki limit ki baat kar rahe hote hain. Iska matlab hai ki koi bhi jagah chhuti nahi hai.

Free and easy



Casual and informal – अनऔपचारिक

Ex - The party had a free and easy atmosphere.

Origin/Tricks - London mein kuch aisi pubs aur clubs hote the jinhe "Free and Easies" kaha jata tha.
In clubs mein log sharab peene aur gaane gaane ke liye ikatthe hote the. Wahan koi social status (amir-gareeb) mayne nahi rakhta tha. Sab barabar the aur mahuul bilkul casual hota tha. Wahin se ye phrase aam bhasha mein casual attitude ke liye pakka ho gaya.

From cradle to grave



Throughout one's life – पहले से कब्र तक, जीवनपर्यंत

Ex - The policy supports citizens from cradle to grave.

Origin/Tricks - Cradle (jhoola/palna) bachpan ka pehla bistar hota hai. Yeh "Shuruat" ka symbol hai.
Grave (qabr) insaan ka aakhri thikana hota hai. Yeh "Anth" ka symbol hai.
Jab hum in dono ko jodte hain, toh hum beech ke poore "Safari" (life) ki baat kar rahe hote hain. Isme bachpan, jawani aur budhapa sab aa jata hai.

From far and wide



In all directions – सभी दिशाओं में

Ex - Students arrived from far and wide to attend the seminar.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai. Purane English mein "wide" ka istemal aksar "vast space" ya "badi duniya" ke liye hota tha.
Jab pehle log samudri yatraon (sea voyages) se laut-te the, toh wo batate the ki unhone "far and wide" (door aur har disha mein) kya dekha. Dhire-dhire ye aane-jane wale logon ke liye use hone laga.

From rags to riches



To go from very poor to being very wealthy – रंक से राजा

Ex - The novel tells a rags to riches tale of success.

Origin/Tricks - ek American writer the, Horatio Alger. Unhone aisi bahut saari kahaniyan likhi thin jisme ek gareeb ladka apni mehnat aur imandari se amir ban jata hai.
Yeh phrase "American Dream" ka ek bada hissa ban gaya, jahan mana jata hai ki koi bhi insaan mehnat karke unchayion tak pahunch sakta hai.

From stem to stern



All the way from the front of a ship to the back – आगे से पीछे तक

Ex - The inspector examined the building from stem to stern.

Origin/Tricks - The Stem: Yeh jahaz ke sabse aage wale hisse (bow) ki khadi lakdi ya lohe ka pillar hota hai. Yeh "shuruat" hai.
The Stern: Yeh jahaz ka sabse pichla hissa hota hai. Yeh "anth" hai.
Agar koi sailor kehta hai ki usne jahaz ko "stem to stern" saaf kiya hai, toh iska matlab hai usne ek inch bhi nahi chhoda.

Full of beans



Lively/full of energy – जोश से भरा हुआ

Ex - The puppy was full of beans, running around the house.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein ghodo (horses) ko taqat dene ke liye protein-rich beans (faba beans) khilaye jate the. Beans khane ke baad ghode itne energetic ho jate the ki wo uchhalne koodne lagte the. Insaan ke liye "beans" ka matlab protein nahi, balki wo "energy" hai jo usey har kaam ke liye taiyar rakhti hai.

Full of hot air



To talk a lot of rubbish/talking nonsense – मूर्खतापूर्ण बातें करना

Ex - The politician's speech was just full of hot air.

Origin/Tricks - Hawa (air) dikhayi nahi deti aur usme koi vazan (weight) nahi hota. "Hot air" aur bhi halki hoti hai aur upar ud jati hai.
Ek hot air balloon. Jo dikhne mein bahut bada aur bhari lagta hai, par asliyat mein wo andar se khali hota hai, usme sirf garam hawa hoti hai. Insaan jo badi baatein karta hai wo us balloon jaisa hai—bahut saara shor (noise) aur dikhava (show), par andar "content" bilkul nahi hai.

Full of sound and fury



Merely loud and angry words but ineffective – गुस्से और ऊँची आवाज में कही गई अप्रभावी बातें

Ex - The protest speech sounded powerful but was full of sound and fury.

Origin/Tricks - Imagine kijiye ek toofan jo bahut garaj raha hai (sound) aur bijli chamka raha hai (fury), par ek boond barish nahi hoti. Wo toofan "full of sound and fury" hai par uska maqsad (rain) poora nahi hua.

Full steam ahead



Move onward with determination – पूरा जोर लगाना

Ex - The team is moving full steam ahead toward the finals.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein jahaz aur train "Steam" (bhaap) se chalti thin. Boiler mein jitni zyada steam banti thi, engine utni hi taqat se chalta tha.
Jab captain ya driver kehta tha "Full steam ahead," toh iska matlab tha ki boiler ko full pressure par rakho taaki jahaz apni maximum speed pakad sake. Aaj ke waqt mein "Steam" hamara 'josh' aur 'mehnat' hai.

Gall and wormwood



Bitterness and resentment – कड़वाहट, मनमुटाव

Ex - The speech was dripping with gall and wormwood.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Bible (Lamentations 3:19) se aaya hai, jahan sufferer apni takleef aur dukh ko "gall and wormwood" kehta hai.
William Shakespeare ne bhi iska istemal 'Hamlet' mein kiya tha jab koi baat bahut chubhne wali hoti thi. Tab se ye "Emotional Bitterness" ka symbol ban gaya.

Gate crasher



Someone who attends an event without being invited – बिना नीमंत्रण के आने वाला

Ex - The event was so crowded that it was hard to spot a gatecrasher.

Origin/Tricks - **eh phrase 1920s mein America mein bahut popular hua. Us waqt "Jazz parties" aur "Theatrical shows" bahut hote the. Jo log bina ticket liye ya bina invite ke doston ke saath ghus jate the, unhe "Gate crashers" kaha jane laga. 1927 ke ek newspaper article mein ise pehli baar "Uninvited guest" ke taur par define kiya gaya tha.**

Gather roses only



Seek all enjoyments of life – खुशहाल जीवन जीना

Ex - Some people want to gather roses only instead of working hard.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh term 1920 ke dashak mein America mein mashhoor hua. Tab log bade sports events aur high-society parties mein bina ticket ke ghusne ki koshish karte the. Shuruat mein ye sirf "stadium gates" todne ke liye use hota tha, par dhire-dhire ye har us insaan ke liye use hone laga jo "muftkhor" (freeloader) ki tarah parties mein jata hai.**

Gave a single shot



Attempted something with a single try – एक ही प्रयास करना

Ex - She gave the test a single shot without any preparation.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century ke aas-paas popular hua jab guns aur arrows ka use hota tha. "Taking a shot" ka matlab koshish karna ban gaya.
Kabhi-kabhi iska use "Last bet" (aakhri daanv) ke liye bhi kiya jata hai jahan insaan apni saari kismat ek hi baar mein aazmata hai.

Get a foot in the door



To have a chance to do something – कुछ करने के लिए मौका पाना

Ex - He took a small job to get his foot in the door.

Origin/Tricks - 20th century ki shuruat mein salesmen ghar-ghar jakar saman bechte the. Aksar log unhe dekhte hi darwaza band kar dete the.
Chalaak salesmen apna paon darwaze ke beech mein rakh dete the. Isse unhe apna "pitch" (sales talk) khatam karne ka mauka mil jata tha. Wahin se ye phrase business aur career mein "first step" ke liye mashhoor ho gaya.

Get a gold star



To earn a merit point for doing well – अच्छा काम करने में शाबाशी पाना

Ex - The team got a gold star for completing the project on time.

Origin/Tricks - America aur Europe ke schools mein 1800s se merit marks dene ka riwaz tha. Pehle cards diye jate the, phir dhire-dhire gummed stickers (starshaped) ka fashion aaya.

Get a second wind



To have renewed energy – पुनः शक्ति/जोश/ऊर्जा प्राप्त करना

Ex - The runner got a second wind near the end of the race.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein jab jahaz (ships) bina hawa ke samundar mein ruk jate the, toh sailors ek "fresh breeze" (wind) ka intezar karte the. Jab doosri baar hawa chalti thi, toh jahaz ko 'second wind' milti thi aur wo aage badh pata tha.

Get a taste of your own medicine



To be given the same treatment that you have given to others – जैसे को तैसा

Ex - The bully finally got a taste of his own medicine when someone stood up to him.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh kahani 2,500 saal purani hai. Ek dhongi (swindler) doctor logon ko 'fake medicine' bechta tha ye keh kar ki ye har dard ki dawa hai. Jab wo khud beemar pada, toh logon ne usey wahi 'fake medicine' pilayi. Usne peene se mana kar diya kyunki usey pata tha ki wo kachra hai. Tab logon ne kaha, "Now you are getting a taste of your own medicine!"

Get away



To leave – चले जाना

Ex - The thief managed to get away before the police arrived.

Origin/Tricks - "Get" ka matlab hota hai 'prapt karna' ya 'pahunch jana' aur "Away" ka matlab hai 'door'. Shuruat mein ye sirf physical bhagne ke liye use hota tha. 19th century mein jab "Tourism" ka fashion aaya, toh logon ne ise "getting away from it all" (sabse door jana) ke taur par chuttiyon ke liye bhi use karna shuru kar diya.

Get cracking



To start doing something immediately – तुरंत कोई काम शुरू करना

Ex - The teacher told the students to get cracking on their assignments.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase British English mein 1920 ke dashak mein bahut popular hua. Soldiers aur sailors ise "speed up" karne ke liye use karte the. Kuch log ise "cracking on sail" (jahaz ke parde kholna) se bhi jodte hain taaki jahaz tez chale.

Get down to brass tacks



To start taking up the most important facts of a situation – किसी स्थिति के सबसे महत्वपूर्ण तथ्यों को समझना

Ex - After the introductions, the manager got down to brass tacks.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase 1800s mein America mein popular hua. Kuch log ise "Upholstery" (sofa banana) se bhi jodte hain. Kisi purane furniture ko theek karne ke liye pehle uska kapda hatana padta hai jab tak aap "brass tacks" (jo frame ko pakde rakhte hain) tak na pahunch jayein. Yani "Gehrai tak jana."**

Get in someone's hair



To annoy someone, usually by being present all the time – हर समय मौजूद रहकर परेशान करना

Ex - The kids were getting in my hair while I was working.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s mein popular hua. Purane zamane mein log baal banane (grooming) ko lekar bahut serious hote the. Agar koi beech mein aa jata tha, toh saara look kharab ho jata tha. Dhire-dhire ye har us distraction ke liye use hone laga jo aapke "Personal Space" mein ghusta hai.

Get into a scrape



To get involved in a difficult or troublesome situation, often due to one's own actions or decisions – मुसीबत में पड़ जाना

Ex - The boys got into a scrape after breaking the window..

Origin/Tricks - Ek aur theory ye hai ki "Scrape" ek tarah ka Pranam (Bow) hota tha jisme log apna paon piche khurachte (scrape) the.
Agar koi ye bow galat tarike se karta tha, toh wo bahut embarrassing ho jata tha. Tab se "getting into a scrape" ka matlab ho gaya "apne hi actions se embarrassment paida karna."

Get into a soup



To make things difficult – मुसीबत मोल लेना

Ex - The boys got into a soup for breaking the window.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase 1800s ke aakhir mein America mein popular hua. Pehle ke zamane mein "Soup" ka istemal kisi 'muddle' (gadbad) ya 'thick mixture' ke liye hota tha. Jab halat bahut gadbad ho jayein, toh usey 'thick soup' ki tarah dekha jata tha jahan se nikalna mushkil ho.**

Get into hot water



To get into trouble – मुसीबत में फंसना

Ex - The employee got into hot water for leaking confidential information.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein, jab khana pakane ke liye janwaro ko saaf karna hota tha, toh unhe ubalte paani mein dala jata tha taaki unke baal ya par (feathers) nikal sakein. Dhire-dhire ye phrase un logon ke liye use hone laga jo "trouble" mein hain aur jinke "par katarne" (punish karne) ki taiyari ho rahi hai. 1500s se ye English bhasha ka hissa hai.

Get it off the chest



To tell someone something that was worrying you – दिल का बोझ हल्का करना

Ex - She finally got it off her chest after weeks of worry.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein mana jata tha ki insan ki "atma" aur uske "ehsaas" uske dil aur chaati mein baste hain. Isliye dukh ya paap (sin) ko "chest" par ek bojh mana jata tha. 1700s ke baad se ye phrase English bhasha mein "confession" (ikraar) ke liye bahut popular ho gaya.

Get itchy feet



To want to travel or do something new – घुमने या कुछ नया करने की चाहत होना

Ex - She always gets itchy feet and plans a new trip.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1900s ki shuruat mein popular hua. Pehle "itchy feet" ka matlab sach mein ek beemari (fungal infection) hota tha jo un logon ko hota tha jo bahut chalte the. Dhire-dhire, logon ne ise "ghoomne ke shauk" se jod diya, kyunki ghoomne walo ke paon kabhi shant nahi rehte.

Get mixed up



To get confused about something – भ्रमित होना

Ex - She got mixed up between the two similar names.

Origin/Tricks - "Mix" shabd purana hai, par "Get mixed up" ka idiomatic use 1800s mein shuru hua. Jab log shehron mein rehne lage aur bheed badhi, toh "galat logon ke saath mil jana" (mixing with the wrong crowd) ek bada mudda ban gaya. Wahin se ye phrase "trouble mein phansne" ke liye bhi use hone laga.

Get off on the wrong foot



To start a relationship or activity with a mistake – बुरी शुरूआत करना

Ex - The project got off on the wrong foot due to poor planning.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein (khaskar Ancient Rome mein) ye mana jata tha ki "Left Foot" (baaya paon) manhoos hota hai. Agar koi kisi ke ghar mein left foot se pehle ghusta tha, toh wo "galat shuruat" maani jati thi. Soldiers ko hamesha "Left foot" se march shuru karni hoti hai. Agar koi "Right" se shuru kar de, toh wo apne sath wale soldier se takra jata hai aur poori line bigad jati hai.

Get on one's nerve



To annoy or irritate someone – परेशान करना

Ex - Her rude behavior really got on his nerves.

Origin/Tricks - 1800s mein jab doctors ne nerves ke baare mein seekha, toh logon ko samajh aaya ki "irritation" physical hoti hai. Wahin se ye phrase aam bhasha mein aa gaya. "Nerves" ko 'patience' ka symbol mana jane laga. Agar koi nerves par 'savaar' hai, toh wo aapka sabr (patience) khatam kar raha hai.

Get on/along like a house on fire



To get on extremely with someone – किसी के साथ मिलकर रहना

Ex - The children got along like a house on fire at the party.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s ke shuruat se use ho raha hai. Iska pehla bada mention writer Thomas De Quincey ke works mein milta hai. Shuruat mein ye sirf kisi kaam ko bahut tezi se karne ke liye use hota tha, par dhire-dhire ye "Social Relationships" (Dosti) ke liye fix ho gaya.

Get one's dander up



To lose one's temper – आग बूबला होना

Ex - The unfair decision got the players' dander up.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s ke shuruat mein America mein popular hua Kuch log maante hain ki ye Dutch shabd donder (thunder/bijli) se aaya hai. Jaise bijli kadakti hai, waise hi insaan ka gussa phat-ta hai. Purane zamane mein jab murgon ki ladayi (cockfighting) hoti thi, toh ladne se pehle unke gale ke par (hackles) khade ho jate the. Wahin se ye "fighting mode" ka symbol ban gaya.

Get one's ducks in a row



To have everything properly organized – सब-कुछ ठीक से व्यवस्थित करना

Ex - He spent the morning getting his ducks in a row for the presentation.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein bowling ki tarah ek game hota tha jise "Ten-pins" kehte the. Pin ko girane ke baad unhe wapas line mein khada karna hota tha. Un pins ko kabhi-kabhi "ducks" kaha jata tha. Ek aur theory ye hai ki jab shikari (hunters) batakh ka shikar karte the, toh wo unhe ek line mein aane ka intezar karte the taaki ek hi shot mein kaam ho jaye. Wahin se ye "perfect alignment" ka symbol ban gaya.

Get oneself into a mess



To involve oneself into a difficult situation – मुश्किल में पड़ जाना

Ex - The company got itself into a mess because of poor management.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein "Mess" ka matlab hota tha wo jagah jahan soldiers saath baith kar khana khate the. Agar khana gir jata tha ya wahan bheed ki wajah se shor aur gandagi hoti thi, toh usey "messy" kaha jane laga. 1800s tak aate-aate ye shabd kisi bhi "confusing situation" ke liye use hone laga jahan discipline ki kami ho.

Get out of hand



To become difficult to control – स्थिति का नियंत्रण से बाहर हो जाना

Ex - The party got out of hand when too many people arrived.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane zamane mein ghode sawari (horse riding) se aaya hai. Ghode ko control karne ke liye "Reins" (lagaam) haath mein pakadni hoti hai. Agar ghoda bhadak jaye aur lagaam haath se chhoot jaye, toh ghoda "get out of hand" ho jata tha. Wahin se ye kisi bhi uncontrollable situation ke liye use hone laga.

Get someone's goat



To irritate someone – किसी को परेशान करना

Ex - The loud noise got his goat during the meeting.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase American horse racing se aaya hai. 1910-1912 ke aas-paas ye newspapers mein dikhne laga. Goats ko "calming influence" mana jata tha. Isliye bakri churana ek purana tareeka tha doosre ka game bigadne ka.

Get the axe



To lose the job – नौकरी खोना

Ex - The manager warned that anyone breaking the rules would get the axe.

Origin/Tricks - Kuch log ise purane zamane ki saza-e-maut (execution) se jodte hain jahan kulhadi se sar kalam kiya jata tha. Job jana bhi ek tarah ki "economic maut" maani jati thi. 1880s ke aas-paas ye phrase business ki duniya mein popular hua. Jab koi factory band hoti thi ya "costcutting" hoti thi, toh usey "swinging the axe" kaha jata tha.

Get the ball rolling



Set an activity in motion – कोई विशेष प्रक्रिया/काम को चालू रखना

Ex - The manager got the ball rolling on the new project.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s ke "Croquet" ya "Football" jaise khelon se aaya hai. Khel tabhi shuru hota hai jab ball ko pehli baar hit kiya jaye.
America mein 1840 ke elections mein William Henry Harrison ne ek asli badi "paper ball" banayi thi jise log shehar-shehar dhakka de kar le jate the unke prachar ke liye. Wahin se ye "shuruat" ka symbol ban gaya.

Get the game in the bag



To win the game certainly – पूर्णतः जीत

Ex - She thought the competition was in the bag after the first round.

Origin/Tricks - Shikari (hunters) jab parindo ya chote janwaro ka shikar karte the, toh unhe ek "Game Bag" mein rakhte the. New York Giants ke players ne ek baar lagatar 26 matches jeete the. Unka ek superstition tha—ek purana bag jise wo dugout mein rakhte the. Unka manna tha ki jab tak wo bag wahan hai, "The game is in the bag" (Jeet hamari hai).

Get the hang of



To learn how to operate or do (something) – किसी कला को सीखना

Ex - She quickly got the hang of using the new software.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein lakkadhare (woodcutters) jab nayi kulhadi (axe) lete the, toh uska balance (jise 'hang' kehte the) check karte the.
Agar kulhadi ka sar (head) sahi se handle par 'hang' nahi kar raha, toh kaam nahi ho pata tha. Jab unhe sahi "feel" mil jati thi, toh wo kehte the—"I've got the hang of it."

Get the message



Understand what is implied by a remark or action – भाव समझना

Ex - I hope he gets the message that we are not interested.

Origin/Tricks - 20th century mein jab telegrams aur phone aam huye, toh "getting a message" ka matlab tha jaankari milna
Dhire-dhire ye phrase physical messages se hatkar "Social Intuition" ke liye use hone laga. 1960s ke baad se ye 'ishara samajhne' ke liye pakka ho gaya.

Get the sack

To be fired from a job or task – नौकरी से निकाल दिया जाना

Ex - He got the sack for coming late every day.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sabse pehle French bhasha (on luy a donné son sac) mein 1600s mein dikha tha. Us waqt koi "termination letter" nahi hota tha. Sirf aapka saaman wapas kar dena hi is baat ka saboot tha ki ab aapki naukri khatam ho gayi hai.

Get through with (something)



To finish something – काम पूरा करना

Ex - She got through with her homework before dinner.

Origin/Tricks - "Through" (Thurh) ka matlab shuru se hi "ek taraf se doosri taraf jana" raha hai. 1700s mein ye phrase "completion" ke liye use hone laga. Jab log koi kheti ka kaam ya construction khatam karte the, toh wo kehte the ki hum is mushkil raste se "through" ho gaye hain.

Get up on the wrong side of the bed



Someone who is having a horrible day – दिन बहुत बुरा गुजराना

Ex - The boss looked like he had gotten up on the wrong side of the bed.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein Romans bahut andhvishwas (superstitious) hote the. Unka manna tha ki "Left Side" (baayi taraf) buri kismat lati hai. Agar koi galti se bed ki baayi taraf se utar jata tha, toh mana jata tha ki uska poora din manhoos jayega. "Left" ko Latin mein 'Sinister' kaha jata tha (jiska matlab aaj 'bura' hota hai). Isliye log hamesha "Right Side" se utarne ki koshish karte the.

Get wind of something



Hear about something/Come to know/To learn something secret – हवा लगना

Ex - The manager got wind of the employees' plan to protest.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein shikari (hunters) hamesha hawa ke ulat (downwind) khade hote the taaki janwar unki smell na paa sakein. Agar janwar ko "wind" mil gayi, toh wo bhag jata tha. 19th century tak aate-aate ye phrase "Social Secrets" ke liye use hone laga. Jaise janwar khatre ki smell paate hain, waise hi log raaz ki "bhanak" paane lage..

Get your act together



To start to organize yourself so that you do things in an effective way – प्रभावी रूप से कार्य करना

Ex - The team must get its act together before the final match.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s ke aakhir mein theatre ki duniya se aaya. Actors ko warn kiya jata tha ki agar wo stage par jane se pehle "ready" nahi hain, toh unhe nikal diya jayega. 1970s ke baad se ye aam bolchal mein "self-improvement" ke liye use hone laga.

Get your money's worth



To pay and get something of good value – भरपूर लाभ कमाना/पाना

Ex - The durable shoes helped me get my money's worth.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century se business aur trade mein use ho raha hai. Purane zamane mein log "Value for money" ko lekar bahut strict hote the. "Worth" ka matlab hota hai 'keemat' (value). 1920s ke baad, jab "Advertising" (vigyapan) badha, toh companies ne is phrase ka use logon ko ye yakin dilane ke liye kiya ki unka product "Sasta aur Tikau" (cheap and durable) hai.

Getting in someone's hair



Annoying them – परेशान करना

Ex - The kids kept getting in my hair while I was studying.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s ke beech mein popular hua. Kuch log maante hain ki ye baalon mein hone wali Lice (juein) se aaya hai. Ek baar wo baalon mein ghus jayein, toh wo tab tak pareshan karti hain jab tak unhe nikaala na jaye. Shuruat mein ye sirf physical "tangle" ke liye tha, par dhire-dhire ye "annoying behavior" ke liye fix ho gaya.

Gird up your loins



To prepare oneself for a difficult situation – कठिन परिस्थिति के लिए खुद को तैयार रखना

Ex - The team girded up their loins for the final match.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Bible mein kai baar aaya hai (Exodus aur Job mein). Iska istemal hamesha "Physical Readiness" ke liye hota tha.
Yeh wahan ki rozana ki life ka hissa tha. Koi bhi mehnat ka kaam shuru karne se pehle ye pehla step hota tha..

Give a free hand

To exercise complete control over something/Complete liberty – खुली छूट देना

Ex - The director gave her a free hand in designing the project.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s mein business aur diplomacy mein popular hua.
Artistic Roots: Kuch log ise drawing se bhi jodte hain—"Freehand drawing" wo hoti hai jisme aap kisi scale ya compass ka use nahi karte, balki sirf apne haath aur dimaag ki sunte hain. Wahin se ye "Unrestricted Authority" ka symbol ban gaya.

Give a piece of one's mind



To rebuke someone strongly – किसी को कड़ी फटकार लगाना

Ex - The teacher gave the students a piece of her mind for cheating.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1500s se use ho raha hai. Pehle iska matlab sirf "apni rai (opinion) dena" hota tha.
1800s tak aate-aate, ye phrase "Negative Opinion" ke liye fix ho gaya. Log samajh gaye ki agar koi "piece of mind" de raha hai, toh wo tareef toh bilkul nahi hogi!

Give and take



Adjustment/Obliging each other mutually – आपसी समझौता

Ex - Friendship is based on give and take.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s se English mein popular hai. Shuruat mein ye "Horse Racing" mein use hota tha jahan ghode ke wazan (weight) aur uski speed ke beech ka balance "give and take" kehlata tha. Baad mein ye "Marriage" aur "Politics" ke liye ek standard rule ban gaya. "London Gazette" jaise purane newspapers mein iska zikr ' आपसी samjhauta' ke roop mein milta hai.

Give it a whirl



To attempt to do something, often for the first time – पहली बार कोशिश करना

Ex - She decided to give it a whirl and learn painting.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s ke aakhir mein popular hua. Kuch log maante hain ki ye "Wheel of Fortune" (kismat ka pahiya) se aaya hai. Aap pahiya ghumate (whirl) hain ye dekhne ke liye ki aap jeet-te hain ya nahi. Aaj kal ye technology ya naye khaane (food) ke liye bahut use hota hai.

Give one's shirt off one's back



To do anything to help someone – किसी के मदद के लिए हर संभव प्रयास करना

Ex - My father would give the shirt off his back for anyone in trouble.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s se English bhasha mein hai. Yeh ek purani kahawat se aaya hai ki "Ek sachha dost wahi hai jo apni shirt bhi de de." Iska zikr kai purane kanooni dastavezon (legal documents) mein bhi milta hai jahan "garibon ki shirt" ko unki aakhri sampatti mana jata tha.

Give oneself airs



Pretend to be good than someone or others – घमंड दिखाना

Ex - The actor gave himself airs when fans surrounded him.

Origin/Tricks - eh phrase French shabd air se aaya hai, jiska matlab hota hai "andaz" (manner/look). Jab hum "Air" (hawa) ki baat karte hain toh wo natural hai. Par jab hum "Airs" (plural) bolte hain, toh iska matlab hai "Banaawati andaz." Purane zamane mein raees log bahut hi ajeeb aur mushkil manners dikhate the taaki wo "common people" se alag lagein.

Give somebody a ring



Call someone on the telephone – टेलीफोन करना

Ex - She gave her friend a ring to share the news.

Origin/Tricks - Jab Alexander Graham Bell ne telephone invent kiya, toh usme "Ringer" lagaya gaya taaki pata chale ki call aa raha hai. Yeh phrase UK (England) mein bahut zyada popular hua aur dhire-dhire poori duniya mein fail gaya. 1920s ke baad se ye "Telephone call" ke liye ek standard informal expression ban gaya.

Give someone the cold shoulder



To ignore someone – किसी को अनदेखा करना

Ex - The manager gave the employee the cold shoulder during the meeting.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein England mein jab koi mehmaan (guest) ghar aata tha, toh usey garam aur swadisht khana khilaya jata tha. Lekin agar koi mehmaan bin-bulaye aa jata ya ghar wale usey jaldi bhagana chahte the, toh wo usey garam khane ki jagah "Cold shoulder of mutton" (bakre ka thanda kandha) khane ko dete the.

Give the benefit of doubt

To believe something good about someone, rather than something bad – संदेह का लाभ

Ex - The teacher gave her the benefit of the doubt about the late assignment.

Origin/Tricks - eh phrase 18th century ke kanooni (legal) system se aaya hai. English law mein ek rule hai— "In dubio pro reo" (sandehaaspad sthiti mein apradhi ke paksh mein). Court mein jab tak jurm 100% sabit na ho jaye, judge hamesha defendant ko "benefit of doubt" deta hai aur usey chhod deta hai. 1800s ke baad ye rozana ki dosti aur baaton mein bhi use hone laga.

Give the game away



To tell a person something that you are trying to keep secret – रहस्य उजागर करना

Ex - Her reaction gave the game away before the announcement.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s ke aakhir mein popular hua. Shuruat mein ye physical games (jaise cards ya hide and seek) ke liye use hota tha. Agar "chor" (thief) ne haste huye apni jagah bata di, toh he "gave the game away."

Give the slip



To escape – भाग जाना

Ex - The thief gave the police the slip and disappeared in the crowd.

Origin/Tricks - 16th century mein, jab jahaz (ships) ko dushman se bachkar raat ke andhere mein bhagna hota tha, toh wo apne anchor (langar) ki chain ko "slip" kar dete the (yani chain kaat kar chhod dete the) taaki awaaz na ho aur wo chup-chap nikal sakein. William Shakespeare ne bhi apne plays mein is phrase ka use "escape" ke liye kiya hai.

Give up the ghost



To stop working/to die – कोई काम करना बंद कर देना, मर जाना

Ex - My old laptop finally gave up the ghost last night.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Bible (King James Version) se aaya hai. Wahan "Ghost" ka prayog "Spirit" ke liye kiya gaya tha. Jab koi marta tha, toh likha jata tha—"He gave up the ghost. "Ghost" shabd Old English ke 'gast' se aaya hai, jiska matlab hota tha "breath" (saans). Saans chhod dena hi maut hai.

Give vent to



To express (a strong emotion, such as anger) in a forceful and open way – अपनी भावनाओं को व्यक्त करना

Ex - He gave vent to his anger during the meeting.

Origin/Tricks - "Vent" shabd French ke vent (hawa) se aaya hai. 1400 mein iska matlab sirf "hawa nikalne ka raasta" hota hai. Dhire-dhire writers ne ise emotions ke liye use karna shuru kiya. Unka manna tha ki jaise dhuaan (smoke) ghar se bahar nikalna zaroori hai, waise hi gussa dimaag se bahar nikalna zaroori hai.

Give way



To break or fail down suddenly – ढह जाना

Ex - The old bridge suddenly gave way under the heavy truck.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane zamane ke jahazon (ships) se aaya hai. Jab do jahaz aamne-saamne aate the, toh ek ko apna raasta "chhodna" (give) padta tha taaki takrav na ho.
Iska istemal "tootne" ke liye 1500s mein shuru hua. Jab koi diwar ya chattanya gir jati thi, toh kehte the—"It gave way."

Giving a false alarm



A situation when people wrongly think that something bad is going to happen – झूठी चेतावनी

Ex - The boy was punished for giving a false alarm.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein qilon (forts) par pehredar hote the jo "bell" bajakar dushman ke aane ki khabar dete the. Agar koi pehredar neend mein ya galti se bell baja deta tha, toh usey "False alarm" kaha jata tha. Iska sabse bada example Aesop ki kahani "The Boy Who Cried Wolf" (Gaderiya aur Bhediya) hai. Wo ladka baar-baar "Sher aaya!" chillakar "false alarm" deta tha.

Glad to see the back of



To be happy when a person leaves – किसी के चले जाने के बाद खुश रहना

Ex - The team was glad to see the back of the difficult project.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s ke beech mein aam hua. Iska koi ek mukhya source nahi hai, balki ye ek "Visual Observation" hai. Purane zamane mein guest-hosting bahut zaruri maani jati thi. Kabhi-kabhi "Annoying Guests" hafte-bhar ruk jate the. Jab wo jaate the, toh gharwale darwaze par khade hokar unki "Back" dekh kar muskurate the. Wahin se ye mashhoor ho gaya.

Gnash your teeth



To express anger, frustration, or despair – दांत पीसना

Ex - The rival team at the unexpected defeat.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Bible mein bahut baar aaya hai— "Wailing and gnashing of teeth." Wahan iska matlab hota tha "Bahut zyada dukh aur pachtawa" (extreme suffering and regret). Shakespeare aur Milton jaise writers ne ise "Shaitani gusse" (devilish rage) ko dikhane ke liye use kiya. Dhire-dhire ye rozana ke 'Frustration' ke liye use hone laga.

Go a long way



To become successful in life – सफलता प्राप्त करना

Ex - A positive attitude goes a long way in building good relationships.

Origin/Tricks - Shuruat mein ye sirf physical dhoori (distance) ke liye use hota tha. Jab jahaz (ships) bina ruke lambe safar par nikalte the, toh unhe "long way" ka rasta tay karne wala mana jata tha. 1800s tak aate-aate, ye phrase "Paisa" aur "Insani Kabliyat" ke liye use hone laga. Log kehne lage, "Ye 5 rupaye bahut aage tak jayenge" (meaning, ye bahut kaam aayenge).

Go against the grain



Something in conflict with one's value system – जो आपके विचारों के विरुद्ध हो

Ex - His decision went against the grain of family traditions.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase sadiyon se karigaron dwara use kiya ja raha hai. Lakdi (wood) ke andar fibers hote hain jo ek fix disha mein chalte hain, ise "grain" kehte hain. Agar aap lakdi ko grain ki disha mein kaat-te ya sand (ghiste) karte hain, toh wo smooth hota hai. Par agar aap ulati disha (against the grain) mein kaam karte hain, toh lakdi tootne lagti hai aur bahut mehnat lagti hai.**

Go around in circles



To be very active but with no results – मेहनती होने के बाद भी सफल ना होना

Ex - The discussion went around in circles for hours.

Origin/Tricks - **Science kehta hai ki agar kisi insaan ki aankhon par patti (blindfold) bandh di jaye aur usey seedha chalne ko kaha jaye, toh wo anjane mein gol ghoomne lagta hai. Iska karan hamare dimaag aur dono pairon ki taqat mein thoda sa fark hona hai. Purane zamane mein jo log registan (desert) ya jungle mein kho jate the, wo aksar wapas usi jagah pahunch jate jahan se unhone shuruat ki thi. Wahin se ye "Failure to progress" ka symbol ban gaya.**

Go bananas



To become angry, irrational or excited – पगला जाना

Ex - The crowd went bananas when the singer appeared on the stage.

Origin/Tricks - Bandaron (monkeys) ko kele (bananas) bahut pasand hote hain. Jab wo kele dekhte hain, toh wo khushi ke maare cheekhne aur uchhalne lagte hain. Jab koi insaan kisi excitement mein bandaron ki tarah "wild" behave karne lage, toh hum kehte hain ki wo "Go bananas" ho gaya hai.

Go belly up



To fail completely/to go bankrupt – असफल होना, दिवालिया होना

Ex - The company went belly up due to poor management.

Origin/Tricks - Ek zinda machhli hamesha seedhi tairti hai aur uska pet (belly) niche ki taraf hota hai. Jab machhli mar jati hai, toh wo pani ki satah (surface) par ulti ho jati hai, yani uska pet upar ki taraf (belly up) aa jata hai.
Kisi business ka "Belly up" hona ye dikhata hai ki usme ab "jaan" nahi bachi hai. Wo ek mari hui machhli ki tarah pani par tair raha hai, jo ab kabhi tair nahi payegi.

Go cold turkey



To stop an addiction completely – किसी आदत को पूरी तरह छोड़ देना

Ex - After the doctor's advice, she went cold turkey on junk food.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sabse pehle 1921 ke ek newspaper article mein dekha gaya tha jo drug addicts ke baare mein tha.
Ek aur theory ye hai ki "Cold Turkey" ek aisa khana hai jise pakaane mein mehnat nahi lagti (seedha fridge se nikala aur khaya). Waise hi, bina kisi plan ya dawa ke "direct" aadat chhodna "Cold Turkey" kehlaya.

Go down in flames



To fail completely – पूरी तरह से विफल होना

Ex - His attempt to impress the audience went down in flames.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase World War I aur II ke dauran pilot's slang se aaya hai. Jab kisi plane ko goli lagti thi aur wo aag pakad kar niche girta tha, toh usey literal sense mein "going down in flames" kaha jata tha.
Jung ke baad, logon ne ise kisi bhi bade fail (failure) ke liye use karna shuru kar diya, chahe wo business ho ya sports.

Go down like a lead balloon

To receive badly by an audience – बुरी तरह असफल होना

Ex - The teacher's sarcastic comment went down like a lead balloon in the class.

Go easy on something

To use only a small amount of – कम मात्रा में उपयोग करना

Ex - The doctor advised him to go easy on sugar.

Go Dutch

Each person participating in a paid activity covers their own expenses – आपस में खर्चे बाँटना



Ex - During the trip, the friends agreed to go Dutch on all expenses.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Britain aur Netherlands (Dutch log) ke beech ki dushmani se aaya hai. Angrezon ne Dutch logon ko "kanjoos" ya "zayda hisaabi" dikhane ke liye ye term banaya tha.

Go for a song

To be sold for an unexpectedly low price – कम मूल्य पर बेचना



Ex - The old house went for a song at the auction.

Origin/Tricks - **Shakespeare ke zamane mein "Ballad-mongers" (gaane bechne wale) hote the. Wo kagaz par likhe huye gaane sirf ek "penny" (chota sikka) mein bech dete the.**
Sir Philip Sidney ne 1590s mein is phrase ka zikr kiya tha. Tab se, "a song" ka matlab "bahut kam paisa" ho gaya.

Go for the jugular

Be aggressive or unrestrained in making an attack – तुरंत हमला करना



Ex - The lawyer went for the jugular while questioning the witness in court.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase janwaron ke shikar karne ke tareeke se aaya hai. 1900s ke shuruat mein ye phrase politics aur courtroom debates mein popular hua. Jab koi lawyer kisi gawah (witness) se aisa sawal puchta tha jo uska poora jhooth pakad le, toh log kehte the, "He went for the jugular."

Go getter



A real achiever – तेजी से तरक्की करने वाला

Ex - Our team needs go-getters who are ready to work hard.

Origin/Tricks - 1921 mein Peter B. Kyne ne ek mashhoor motivational kahani likhi thi jiska naam tha "The Go-Getter". Isme ek aise soldier ki kahani thi jo namumkin kaam ko bhi 'Action' lekar poora karta hai. Tab se ye 'Corporate' duniya ka favourite word ban gaya.

Go pear-shaped



To fail completely – पूरी तरह बर्बाद होना

Ex - The project went pear-shaped due to poor management.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase 1940s mein British pilots ke beech popular hua. Jab trainee pilots ko hawa mein "Loop-the-loop" (gol chakkar) lagana sikhaya jata tha, toh aksar wo perfect circle nahi bana paate the. Unka chakkar niche se bhari ho jata tha—bilkul ek nashpati ki tarah. Pilots kehte the, "The loop went pear-shaped."**

Go red in the face



To feel embarrassed – शर्मिंदगी महसूस करना

Ex - The boy went red in the face when everyone started laughing at his joke.

Origin/Tricks - Jab hum "embarrass" hote hain, hamara 'Sympathetic Nervous System' activate ho jata hai. Isse hamare chehre ki blood vessels fail jati hain aur zyada khoon flow karne lagta hai. Yeh ek aisi cheez hai jise aap chupa nahi sakte. Aapka chehra "chilla-chilla" kar bata deta hai ki aap andar se kitne awkward mehsoos kar rahe hain.

Go the extra mile



To go above and beyond whatever is required for the task at hand – किसी काम के लिए जो कुछ भी आवश्यक है उससे परे जाना

Ex - A good teacher always goes the extra mile to help students succeed.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Bible (Matthew 5:41) se aaya hai. Us zamane mein kanoon tha ki agar koi Roman soldier kisi citizen ko apna bojh (gear) uthane ko kahe, toh citizen ko usey ek mile tak le jana zaroori tha. Jesus ne apne followers se kaha ki sirf ek nahi, balki unke saath do mile tak jao. Wahin se "extra mile" ka matlab "zimmedari se badhkar madad karna" ban gaya.

Go through a rough patch

To experience problems – समस्याओं का अनुभव करना

Ex - The company is going through a rough patch due to financial losses.

Go/Start with a bang

Very exciting and successful – धमाकेदार सफलता

Ex - The new movie went with a bang on its opening day.

Go through the hoops/fire and water



To pass through all types of hardships – सभी प्रकार की कठिनाइयों से गुजरना

Ex - The soldiers go through fire and water to protect their country.

Origin/Tricks - The Fire: Aag garmi, jalan aur turant vinash (destruction) ko dikhati hai.
The Water: Pani gehrai, thand aur doobne ke darr ko dikhata hai.
Duniya mein ye do sabse bade khatre mane jate hain. Agar koi insaan in dono se guzre, toh iska matlab hai ki usne "mushkil" ki har hadd ko paar kar liya hai. Yeh dikhata hai ki aapka irada "pathar ki lakeer" hai.

Go to the dogs/rack and ruin



Get into a bad condition – बर्बाद हो जाना

Ex - The old house went to rack and ruin after being abandoned for years.

Origin/Tricks - "Wrack" shabd ka use samundari tufaano mein toote huye jahazon ke liye hota tha.
1500s ke aas-paas "Rack and Ruin" ek jodi (rhyming pair) ban gaye. Log ise kisi bhi aisi sampatti (property) ke liye use karne lage jo maalik ki laparwahi ki wajah se kachra ho gayi ho.

Go to the wall



To fail – असफल होना

Ex - The company went to the wall because of heavy losses.

Origin/Tricks - 16th century mein, girjagharon (churches) mein sabke liye seats nahi hoti thi. Log poori service ke dauran khade rehte the.
Sirf deewaron ke saath bani stone benches par bimar aur buzurg log baithte the. Isliye ek kahawat bani—"The weakest go to the wall" (Kamzor log deewar ki taraf jate hain).
Samay ke saath iska matlab badal kar "khatam ho jana" ya "fail hona" ho gaya.

Go with the flow



Do what others are doing – अन्य लोगों के अनुसार करना

Ex - When I joined the new team, I decided to go with the flow.

Origin/Tricks - Agar aap nadi (river) ki dhaara ke khilaaf tairne (swim) ki koshish karenge, toh aap thak jayenge aur shayad doob bhi jayein. Agar aap sirf haath-pair dhile chhod dein, toh paani aapko apne saath le jayega. Isme mehnat kam aur sukoon zyada hai. Zindagi mein har cheez ko control karna mushkil hai. Kabhi-kabhi "flow" ke saath chalne mein hi bhalayi hoti hai.

God's ape



A born fool – पैदाइशी मूर्ख

Ex - The villagers considered him God's ape because of his silly actions.

Origin/Tricks - "God's Ape" wo insaan hai jo dikhne mein toh insaan hai, par uski harkatein kachchi aur moorkhta-purn (foolish) hain, jaise bhagwan ne usey sirf nakal karne ke liye banaya ho.

Got down to business



Began to work seriously – गंभीरता से काम करना

Ex - The students stopped talking and got down to business before the exam.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century ke American business world se aaya hai. Us waqt vyapari (traders) sauda karne se pehle kafi social talk karte the. "Business" us waqt sirf paise se nahi, balki kisi bhi "zaruri kaam" se juda tha. 1800s ke ant tak, ye phrase common English ka hissa ban gaya jiska matlab tha—"Chalo, ab waqt barbaad band karo."

Grasp/clutch/catch at a straw/straws



Trying to find some way to succeed when nothing you choose is likely to work – सफलता के लिए रास्ता खोजना

Ex - He was grasping at straws to pass the exam after failing many tests.

Origin/Tricks - Ek doobta hua insaan ghabrahat mein (panic) har us cheez ko pakadne ki koshish karta hai jo uske haath lage. Tinka (straw) bahut hi kamzor hota hai. Wo ek insaan ka wazan (weight) nahi utha sakta. Agar aap tinke ko pakad rahe hain, toh iska matlab hai ki aapke paas koi real solution nahi bacha hai. Aap bas koshish kar rahe hain kyunki aap haar nahi manna chahte, bhale hi wo koshish be-asar ho.

Grave error/ Himalayan blunder



Big mistake – बहुत बड़ी भूल

Ex - The manager made a grave error in judging the situation.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh shabd Latin ke 'gravitas' se aaya hai, jiska istemal 'importance' aur 'seriousness' dikhane ke liye hota tha. Bharat mein Mahatma Gandhi ne 1919 mein 'Satyagraha' ko suspend karte waqt is phrase ka istemal kiya tha. Unhone ise "Himalayan miscalculation" kaha tha. Tab se "Himalayan blunder" aur "Grave error" ek-doosre ke paryayvachi (synonyms) ban gaye hain.

Graveyard shift



A work shift that occurs late at night – रात के समय की कार्यपाली

Ex - The security guard is on the graveyard shift tonight.

Origin/Tricks - Ek purani kahani hai ki pehle zamane mein log galti se zinda dafna diye jate the. Isliye qabron mein ek "ghanti" (bell) lagayi jati thi. Raat bhar ek pehredar ko baithna padta tha ye sunne ke liye ki kahin koi ghanti toh nahi baji. Us "raat ki duty" ko log Graveyard shift kehne lage.

Grease someone's palm



To bribe someone – रिश्वत देना

Ex - He tried to grease the officer's palm to get the license quickly.

Origin/Tricks - Agar koi machine jaam ho jaye, toh hum usme tel ya "grease" dalte hain taaki wo bina shor kiye chalne lage.
System mein jab files ya log "jaam" ho jate hain (kaam nahi karte), toh paisa "grease" ka kaam karta hai. Paisa milte hi system bina kisi rukawat ke chalne lagta hai.

Great oaks grow from small acorns



Large successful operations can begin in a small way – बड़े काम छोटे-छोटे प्रयासों से होते है

Ex - Many famous companies prove that great oaks grow from small acorns.

Origin/Tricks - The Acorn: Acorn ek bahut hi chota sa phal (seed) hota hai, jise aap apni mutthi mein band kar sakte hain. The Oak: Oak (Baloot ka ped) duniya ke sabse bade aur mazboot pedon mein se ek hai, jo sadiyon tak khada rehta hai. Iska matlab hai ki Potential (kaabliyat) size mein nahi hoti. Jaise ek nanhe se acorn ke andar ek vishal ped banne ka naksha chupa hota hai, waise hi aapke aaj ke ek ghante ki padhai ke andar "Officer" banne ka raaz chupa hai.

Green pastures



A place or thing that is an improvement on one's current situation – सही स्थिति की ओर बढ़ना

Ex - After graduation, students often look for greener pastures in big cities.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai. Kisaano ne dekha ki unke janwar hamesha doosre khet ki haryali dekhkar wahan jane ke liye betab rehte the. 19th century tak ye business aur career ke liye ek standard term ban gaya. Isse milta-julta ek aur idiom hai—"The grass is always greener on the other side" (Doosre ki thali mein ghee zyada dikhta hai).

Grin/Beam from ear to ear



To smile a lot because of happiness – ठहाका लगाना

Ex - The boy beamed from ear to ear when he received his prize.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s se English mein istemal ho raha hai. Iska koi specific creator nahi hai, balki ye insaani chehre ki banawat (anatomy) ko dekhkar banaya gaya hai. Hamara muh (mouth) ek hadd tak hi khul sakta hai. Is idiom mein hum 'exaggerate' (badha-chadhakar) bolte hain.
Jab hum kahte hain "ear to ear," toh hum keh rahe hain ki muskurahat ne chehre ki poori 'width' (choudai) cover kar li hai.

Grist to one's mill



Something that provides useful advantage – लाभदायक

Ex - Any criticism from opponents is grist to his mill.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein millers (chakki wale) bahut hi "resourceful" hote the. Wo kisi bhi customer ko mana nahi karte the. 1500s mein ye phrase pehli baar likha gaya tha. Tab iska matlab tha ki chakki ko chalte rehne ke liye anaaj chahiye. Aaj iska matlab hai "kaamyabi ke liye har cheez ka sahara lena."

Not have a leg to stand on



Not have much hope of getting it – ज्यादा उम्मीद नहीं होना

Ex - Without any evidence, he hadn't a leg to stand on in court.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se chala aa raha hai. Purane zamane mein court cases mein lawyers iska istemal karte the ye dikhane ke liye ki vipakshi (opponent) ka case kitna khokhla hai. Iska literal matlab wahi hai—ek aisa janwar ya furniture jo bina pairon ke apna wazan nahi sambhal sakta.

Halcyon days



Period of calm during the winter, when storms don't occur/Peaceful days – आनंदमय दिन

Ex - He often remembers the halcyon days of his childhood.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh kahani Alcyone aur Ceyx ki hai. Alcyone (pawan ki beti) ne apne pati ki maut ke baad samundar mein kood kar jaan de di thi. Devtaon ne un dono ko "Halcyon" birds bana diya. Har saal sardi ke waqt (winter solstice), samundar 14 dino tak ekdum shant ho jata tha taaki ye birds apna ghosla (nest) bana sakein. In shant dino ko hi "Halcyon days" kaha jane laga.

Hand and glove

Very intimate terms – घनिष्ट संबंध

Ex - The two partners work hand and glove in the business.

Handle with kid gloves

To treat something very delicately or carefully – किसी काम को सावधानी से करना

Ex - The negotiations must be handled with kid gloves to avoid conflict.

Hang in the balance

Remains undecided – अनिश्चितता की स्थिति में होना

Ex - The result of the election hangs in the balance.

Hang one's head

To be ashamed – शर्मिंदा होना

Ex - She hung her head in shame after failing the exam.

Hands down



Easily and without a doubt – आसानी से और बिना किसी संदेह के

Ex - He won the race hands down.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s ke beech mein horse racing se hi aaya. Shuruat mein iska matlab tha "Winning a race with little effort.
1900s tak aate-aate, ye race se nikal kar har us cheez ke liye use hone laga jise log "the absolute best" maante hain.

Hang by a thread



In a dangerous situation – खतरनाक परिस्थिति में होना

Ex - The success of the mission was hanging by a thread.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh ek purani Greek kahani se aaya hai. Ek raja (Dionysius) ne apne ek darbaari (Damocles) ko dikhane ke liye ki raja banna kitna khatarnak hai, usey apne takht par bithaya.
Raja ne Damocles ke sir ke thik upar ek bhari talwar latka di, jo sirf ek ghode ke baal (horsehair) se bandhi thi. Damocles ko pal bhar mein samajh aa gaya ki "Power" hamesha khatre ke saath aati hai. Wahin se ye idiom bana.

Hang in there

Don't give up – हार न मानना

Ex - She encouraged her friend to hang in there during hard times.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1970s mein America mein ek poster ki wajah se bahut mashhoor hua. Us poster mein ek choti si billi (kitten) ek dandi se latki hui thi aur niche likha tha-"Hang in there, baby!"
Yeh poster un logon ke liye ek symbol ban gaya jo stress ya kaam ke bojh se dabbe huye the. Tab se ye dosti aur support ka ek standard idiom ban gaya.



Hang on every word

To listen very carefully – बड़े ध्यान से सुनना

Ex - Fans hung on every word of the famous actor during the interview.

Origin/Tricks - Iska logic Attraction par based hai. Jaise ek magnet lohe ko apni taraf khinchta hai, waise hi ek prabhavshali (charismatic) speaker apne shabdon se aapke kaanon ko "bandh" leta hai. Aap physicaly hil nahi paate kyunki aapka dimaag har ek word ko process karne mein laga hota hai.



Hang up your boots

To take retirement – सेवानिवृत्ति लेना

Ex - The famous footballer hung up his boots at the age of forty.

Origin/Tricks - **YYeh phrase 20th century mein football se popular hua. Jab koi player retire hota tha, toh wo symbolic taur par apne boots locker room mein tang deta tha.**
Dhire-dhire ye business aur normal office jobs ke liye bhi use hone laga.



Hard and fast

Strict/not to be changed – कठोर

Ex - There are no hard and fast rules for success.

Origin/Tricks - British Navy mein jab jahaz poori tarah zameen se lag jata tha, toh usey 'Hard and Fast' kaha jata tha. 1800s ke ant tak, ye phrase office aur kanoon ke rules ke liye use hone laga jahan koi "flexibility" nahi hoti.



Hard to swallow



Difficult to believe – अविश्वनीय

Ex - His explanation for being late was hard to swallow.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein dawaiyan aaj ki tarah 'sugar-coated' nahi hoti thi. Wo bahut hi bad-zayka (tasteless) aur kadwi hoti thi. Wahin se ye metaphor bana ki "Kadwa sach nigalna mushkil hota hai."
1600s se ye phrase English literature mein dikhne laga tha, jahan "Acceptance" ko "Eating/Swallowing" se compare kiya jata tha.

Haste is waste



Doing things in a hurry does not give fruitful results – जल्दबाजी में किया गया काम खराब होता है।

Ex - She spoiled the project by rushing through it; haste is waste.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century ke American business world se aaya hai. Us waqt vyapari (traders) sauda karne se pehle kafi social talk karte the.
"Business" us waqt sirf paise se nahi, balki kisi bhi "zaruri kaam" se juda tha. 1800s ke ant tak, ye phrase common English ka hissa ban gaya jiska matlab tha-"Chalo, ab waqt barbaad band karo."

Have a bash



To try or attempt (something) – प्रयास करना

Ex - He decided to have a bash at starting his own business.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase British English mein 20th century ke shuruat mein popular hua. "Bash" ka ek matlab "Party" bhi hota hai (Have a birthday bash), par jab iske saath "at" lagta hai (Have a bash at something), toh iska "Attempt" ban jata hai.

Have a bee in bonnet



To talk and think a lot/An obsessed person – भूत सवार होना

Ex - The manager has a bee in his bonnet about punctuality.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai. 1500s mein jab log khet mein kaam karte the aur unke hat mein bee ghus jati thi, toh wo pagalon ki tarah behave karne lagte the.
Samuel Butler ne 1600s mein iska istemal kiya tha ye dikhane ke liye ki kisi ka dimaag kitna "restless" ho sakta hai ek khayal ki wajah se.

Have a brush with (something)



To encounter or come in conflict with – सामना होना

Ex - The climber had a brush with death during the difficult expedition.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein fox-hunting ke waqt, loombdi (fox) ki punch (tail) ko "brush" kaha jata tha. Hunter hamesha us brush ko pakadne ki koshish karte the.
1800s ke baad se ye "contact" ke liye use hone laga. Jab aap kisi cheez ke itne paas pahunch jayein ki uska "brush" (tail/ halka hissa) aapko touch kar jaye, wahan se ye idiom bana.

Have a nodding/ passing acquaintance



Know somebody/something slightly – किसी वस्तु/व्यक्ति के नाम-मात्र से परिचित होना

Ex - She has a passing acquaintance with French.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein (Victorian era), har kisi se baat karna badtameezi mani jati thi. Log sirf unhi ko Nod karte the jinhe wo halka-fulka jaante the.
Dhire-dhire ye padhai aur skills ke liye bhi use hone laga.
Agar aapne Physics sirf exam ke liye padhi hai, toh aapki Physics se sirf nodding acquaintance hai, aap uske scientist nahi hain.

Have one's back



To support – सहारा देना

Ex - Good friends always have each other's back in difficult times.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein yudh (war) ke waqt soldiers "Back-to-back" khade hote the. Isse unhe 360-degree ka view milta tha aur unka pichla hissa hamesha safe rehta tha.
Trenches (khai) mein ladte waqt soldiers ek-doosre ki peeth ki raksha karte the. Wahin se ye dosti aur vishwas ka sabse bada symbol ban gaya.

Have skin in the game



To directly involved or affected by something – जोखिम भरा कार्य करना

Ex - The manager has skin in the game because he invested his savings in the project.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase investment ki duniya mein sabse zyada mashhoor hua jab Warren Buffett ne kaha ki unhe un companies mein invest karna pasand hai jahan ke managers ka apna paisa bhi company mein laga ho.
Kuch log ise purane zamane ke "Shake hands" ya "Deals" se jodte hain jahan log apne vachan (word) ko pakka karne ke liye kuch keemti cheez girvi rakhte the.

Have the ball at your feet



To be in the best position to do something – अवसर पाना

Ex - After winning the scholarship, she had the ball at her feet.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh ek direct sporting metaphor hai jo 19th century mein football se popular hua. Iska use tab badha jab log business aur politics mein "Winning" ko sports se compare karne lage.

Have the last laugh



To succeed when others thought you would not – अंततः सफल होना

Ex - His critics were silent when he had the last laugh in the final results.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh idiom ek purane angrezi kahawat se aaya hai- "He laughs best who laughs last." Iska sabse purana zikr 1600s ke plays (natak) mein milta hai, jahan koi chhota character bade villain ko ant mein harata tha.

Head in the clouds



Being absent minded – दिन में सपने देखना

Ex - She had her head in the clouds during the meeting.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai. Purane zamane mein log badalon ko "unreachable" aur "mysterious" maante the. Jo log kaam chhod kar sirf baatein karte the, unhe kaha jata tha ki wo badalon mein reh rahe hain.
Greek writer Aristophanes ne apne ek play "The Clouds" mein "philosophers" ka mazaak udaya tha ki wo itni gehri baatein karte hain ki unka dimaag badalon mein chala gaya hai.

Head and shoulders above



To be far superior – सबसे बेहतर

Ex - The new model of the phone is head and shoulders above the previous one.

Origin/Tricks - Iska zikr purani kitabon mein milta hai jahan "Giants" (daanav) ya mahan rajaon ko dikhane ke liye kaha jata tha ki wo aam logon se "head and shoulders" unche the. Aaj kal ye physical height ke bajaye "Intellect" (dimaag) aur "Skills" ke liye zyada use hota hai. (Aur haan, 'Head & Shoulders' shampoo ne bhi is naam ka use isi 'Superiority' ko dikhane ke liye kiya!)

Heads will roll



Someone will be punished – कड़ी सजा मिलेगी

Ex - The coach said heads will roll if the players don't follow discipline.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se chala aa raha hai jab raja-maharaja galti karne par darbaariyon ke sir kalam kar dete the.
Modern history mein kaha jata hai ki Hitler ne ek baar apne officers ko dhamki dete huye kaha tha, "If the plan fails, heads will roll!" Tab se ye political aur business world mein sakt karwayi (strict action) ka prateek ban gaya.

Hear someone out



Let somebody complete what they are saying – आज्ञा का पालन करना

Ex - The teacher asked the students to hear him out quietly.

Origin/Tricks - **Purane zamane mein courts mein ye bahut zaruri tha ki dono taraf ke log apni baat "Out" (poori tarah) kahein, warna faisla galat ho sakta tha. 1600s se ye phrase casual English ka hissa ban gaya jahan dosti aur rishton mein "fairness" dikhane ke liye log iska use karne lage.**

Heart and soul



With all effort you can put – पूर्णतः समर्पित होकर

Ex - She worked heart and soul to complete the project on time.

Origin/Tricks - **Purane zamane se hi "Heart" aur "Soul" ko insaan ke sabse zaruri hisse mana gaya hai. 1600s-1700s ke literature mein ye phrase ek saath use hone laga ye dikhane ke liye ki kisi ne apna "Sab kuch" (everything) de diya hai.**

Heart missed a beat



Very excited – बहुत उत्सुक होना

Ex - My heart missed a beat when the phone rang late at night.

Origin/Tricks - Insaan ne hamesha se notice kiya hai ki emotions ka sidha asar dil par padta hai. 1800s ke novels mein ye phrase "romantic shock" ke liye bahut use hone laga. Shayeron (poets) ne ise "love at first sight" se joda, jahan mehboob ko dekh kar dil ki dhadkan ka rhythm bigad jata hai.

Hearts go out to

To feel sympathy for someone when they are distressed – किसी के प्रति सहानुभूति महसूस करना

Ex - Our hearts go out to the families affected by the earthquake.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se dukh aur shok (mourning) ke waqt use kiya jata hai. Purane zamane mein mana jata tha ki emotions "physical" hote hain jo ek insaan se dusre tak travel kar sakte hain. Jab hum kisi ko comfort karte hain, toh hum apni "Heart's energy" unhe dete hain.



Heavy duty

Designed for heavy work – अत्यधिक टिकाऊ

Ex - The workers use heavy-duty tools to complete the project.

Origin/Tricks - 1800s aur 1900s mein jab bade-bade engines aur machines banne lage, toh unhe "Heavy Duty" kaha gaya taaki log samajh sakein ki ye ordinary machines nahi hain. Jung ke waqt un kapdon aur vehicles ko "Heavy Duty" bola jata tha jo dushman ki goliyon aur kharab rasto ko jhel sakein.



Henpecked husband

Oppressed husband – पत्नी द्वारा दबाया गया पति

Ex - The character in the comedy movie was a henpecked husband.

Origin/Tricks - 1800s aur 1900s mein jab bade-bade engines aur machines banne lage, toh unhe "Heavy Duty" kaha gaya taaki log samajh sakein ki ye ordinary machines nahi hain. Jung ke waqt un kapdon aur vehicles ko "Heavy Duty" bola jata tha jo dushman ki goliyon aur kharab rasto ko jhel sakein.



High and dry

Abandoned – छोड़ा हुआ, परित्यक्त

Ex - The sudden cancellation of the deal left them high and dry.

Origin/Tricks - Shuruat mein ye sirf un jahazon ke liye use hota tha jo sach mein mitti par phans jate the.
1800s ke baad se ye un logon ke liye use hone laga jinhe doston ya business partners ne dhokha de kar akela chhod diya ho.



High and low



Everywhere – हर जगह

Ex - The police searched high and low for the missing person.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 15th century se bhi purana hai.
Purane zamane mein "High and Low" ka matlab "Ameer aur Gareeb" (Rich and Poor) bhi hota tha. Yaani poore samaj (society) mein dhundna. Dhire-dhire ye "Jagah" (Places) ke liye fix ho gaya.

High and mighty



Proud people – घमंडी या अहंकारी लोग

Ex - The officer spoke in a high and mighty tone to the workers.

Origin/Tricks - Shuruat mein ye phrase sach mein "Rajaon aur Mahan logon" (High and Mighty Lords) ke liye izzat se use hota tha.
1800s tak aate-aate log ise un logon ka mazaak udane ke liye use karne lage jo bina wajah "rajaon" ki tarah nakhre dikhate the. Ab ye sirf ek "negative" word reh gaya hai.

High horse



An attitude of moral superiority – सज्जन लोग

Ex - The manager spoke from his high horse while criticizing the staff.

Origin/Tricks - **Purane zamane mein, bade ghode (great horses) sirf ameer log ya unche rank ke soldiers (knights) rakhte the.**
Jitna bada ghoda, utni badi izzat. Jab ye log bheed se guzarte the, toh aam log unke ghodo ke saamne bahut chote lagte the. Wahin se ye "ghamand" ka symbol ban gaya.

High on the hog



To live in a luxurious or costly way – ऐशो-आराम से जीना

Ex - The rich family lives high on the hog in their huge mansion.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century mein popular hua. American Civil War ke waqt soldiers ko jo khana milta tha, usme rank ke hisaab se "hogs" (pigs) ke hisse diye jate the. Officers ko "High" (upar wale) hisse milte the, aur aam soldiers ko niche wale.

High time

Used to say that you think somebody should do something soon – किसी कार्य को तुरंत करने के लिए कहना

Ex - It is high time we cleaned the house.

Hit a bad patch

Experienced difficulty – कठिनाई का अनुभाव

Ex - The team hit a bad patch and lost several matches in a row.

To one's heart's content



As much as one wanted to – जरूरत के अनुसार प्राप्त

Ex - The children played to their heart's content in the park.

Origin/Tricks - Is phrase ko mashhoor karne ka shrey William Shakespeare ko jata hai. Unhone apne play Henry VI, Part 2 mein iska istemal kiya tha.
1500s se lekar aaj tak, ye phrase "azadi" aur "khushi" ka symbol bana hua hai.
Aapka dil ek "khali bartan" ki tarah hai. Jab aap apni pasand ka kaam karte hain, toh wo bartan bharne lagta hai. Jab wo "content" (full) ho jaye, wahi hai heart's content.

Hit a brick wall



To encounter an obstacle – रुकावट का सामना करना

Ex - The investigation hit a brick wall due to lack of evidence.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1900s mein popular hua, khaas-taur par sports aur business mein. Jab koi strategy kaam karna band kar deti thi, toh log kehte the ki hum "deewar se takra gaye hain."
Woh deewar paison ki kami ho sakti hai, kanooni panga (legal issue) ho sakta hai, ya dimaag ka khali ho jana (writer's block).

Hit a dead end



Reach a situation that leads to nothing further – ऐसे स्थिति पर पहुंचना जिससे आगे नहीं बढ़ सकते है।

Ex - The police investigation hit a dead end due to lack of evidence.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase literal "Dead-end streets" (jinhe Cul-de-sacs bhi kehte hain) se aaya hai.
1800s ke baad se ise abstract kamo (jaise research ya career) ke liye use kiya jane laga jahan insaan "stuck" mehsoos karta hai.

Hit the books



To study hard – बहुत मेहनत से पढ़ाई करना

Ex - After the holidays, the students started hitting the books.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 20th century ke mid mein American students ke beech popular hua. Yeh doosre idioms ke pattern par hai jaise "Hit the road" (safar shuru karna) ya "Hit the hay" (sone jana). Yahan "Hit" ka matlab hai "shuruat karna."

Hit the nails on the head



To do something exactly right – सही वक्त पर सही काम करना

Ex - The teacher hit the nail on the head while describing the reason for the mistake.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai. 15th century se hi ise English literature mein "accuracy" dikhane ke liye use kiya ja raha hai. Ye ek aise hunar (skill) ko dikhata hai jahan mehnat se zyada "sahi jagah" par dhyan dena zaruri hai.

Hit the roof



To become angry suddenly – अचानक गुस्सा हो जाना

Ex - The manager hit the roof when he saw the poor performance.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1900s ke shuruat mein popular hua.
Ise "Hit the ceiling" bhi kaha jata hai. Dono ka matlab bilkul same hai-extreme anger. Iska connection "High jump" se bhi hai, jaise gusse mein koi uchhal raha ho.

Hit the sack/hay



To go to sleep – सोने जाना

Ex - The children hit the sack after finishing their homework.

Origin/Tricks - Aaj kal toh foam ke gappe-dar gadde (mattresses) hote hain, par pehle log ek bade "Bore" (Sack) mein "Ghaas-phoos" (Hay/Straw) bhar kar us par sote the.
Yeh phrase 19th-20th century mein American farmers aur soldiers ke beech shuru hua. Unke paas hamesha fancy beds nahi hote the, toh wo "Hay" (ghaas) ka hi istemal karte the.

Hold a brief for



To support someone's cause – समर्थन करना

Ex - The lawyer held a brief for his client in court.

Origin/Tricks - Agar ek lawyer ne aapka "brief" pakda (hold) hua hai, toh iska matlab hai ki wo judge ke saamne aapko defend karega.
Yeh phrase 19th century ke British legal system se aaya hai. Jab ek barrister (lawyer) ko koi case milta tha, toh usey "holding a brief" kaha jata tha. Dhire-dhire ye court se nikal kar aam baatcheet mein shamil ho gaya.

Hold good



To remain valid – वैध/मान्य होना

Ex - His statement holds good even today.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se kanooni dastavezon (legal documents) mein use hota aa raha hai. Jab koi agreement ya contract "expire" nahi hota, toh usey "holding good" kaha jata tha.
Dhire-dhire ye science aur aam baatcheet mein bhi aa gaya (jaise: "Newton's laws still hold good").

Hold his tongue



Learn to keep quiet – चुप रहना

Ex - The boy held his tongue when the teacher entered the class.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh us mental effort ko dikhata hai jo humein apni baaton ko rokne ke liye karna padta hai.
Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai aur King James Bible mein bhi milta hai. Purane zamane mein "Silence" ko ek bahut bada gun (virtue) mana jata tha, isliye logon ko sikhaya jata tha ki wo kab apni "tongue" ko "hold" karein.

Hold one's horses



To tell someone to stop and consider carefully – *किसी को संयम/धैर्य से काम करने की सलाह देना*

Ex - The teacher asked the students to hold their horses and listen carefully.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s mein America mein popular hua. Log aksar jaldbaazi mein apni gadiyan nikaal lete the, toh log chillate the "Hold your horses!"
Kuch log maante hain ki iska ek version purane Greek mahakavya Iliad mein bhi hai, jahan ek warrior ko apne ghode rokne ko kaha gaya tha.

Hold out an olive branch



Do something to show that you want to end a disagreement with them – *शान्ति का प्रस्ताव*

Ex - The manager held out an olive branch to the angry employees.

Origin/Tricks - Greek mythology mein, Athena ne olive ka ped diya tha jo shanti ka prateek bana.
Noah's Ark ki kahani mein, jab mahan pralay (flood) khatam hui, toh ek kabootar (dove) olive branch lekar aaya tha, jiska matlab tha ki bhagwan ka gussa shant ho gaya hai aur zameen ab rehne layak hai.

Hold someone or something at bay



Prevent someone or something from moving closer – *पास आने से रोकना*

Ex - The police tried to hold the crowd at bay during the protest.

Origin/Tricks - 14th century mein shikaar ke waqt jab koi janwar (jaise stag) thak jata tha aur kutton ka saamna karta tha, toh usey "at bay" kaha jata tha.
Jung mein jab ek choti sena badi sena ko border par hi rokk leti hai, toh usey bhi "holding them at bay" kaha jata hai.

Hold the fort



To take responsibility for a situation temporarily – *अस्थायी रूप से किसी स्थिति की जिम्मेदारी लेना*

Ex - She held the fort at the office while her boss was on leave.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase American Civil War (1864) ke waqt bahut mashhoor hua. General William Tecumseh Sherman ne apne ek officer ko signal bheja tha-"Hold the fort, for I am coming!"
Is incident ke baad ek bahut famous religious gana (hymn) bhi bana jiska naam tha "Hold the Fort." Wahin se ye aam zindagi mein "zimmedari sambhalne" ke liye use hone laga.

Hold up one's head



To be proud – गर्व करना

Ex - A person who lives honestly can always hold up his head.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se honor (izzat) se juda hai. Purane zamane mein "Bowed head" (jhuka hua sir) ghulami ya jurm ki nishani hota tha, jabki "Upright head" azadi aur sachai ki. Jab koi insaan sharminda hota hai ya darta hai, toh wo natural tarike se niche (ground ki taraf) dekhta hai taaki kisi se nazar na milani pade.

Hook, line and sinker



Emphasize that someone is tricked or forced into a situation completely – पूरी तरह से फंसना

Ex - The customer swallowed the salesman's lie hook, line and sinker.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1830s ke aas-pass American English mein popular hua. Shuruat mein ye sirf machli pakadne ke liye tha, par jaldi hi ise un logon ke liye use kiya jane laga jo kisi bhi "thagi" (fraud) ka shikaar ho jate the.

Hope against hope



Nurture an impossible hope – असंभव आशा

Ex - The family hoped against hope that the missing child would return safely.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Bible (Romans 4:18) se aaya hai, jahan Abraham ke baare mein likha hai— "Who against hope believed in hope." Abraham budhe ho chuke the, phir bhi unhe ummeed thi ki unka beta hoga. Wahin se ye "miraculous hope" ke liye use hone laga.

Horse sense



Basic common sense – मूलभूत व्यवहारिक ज्ञान

Ex - Good leaders rely on horse sense to make practical decisions.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase American West mein popular hua. Wahin ke log maante the ki ghode aksar apne "sawar" (rider) se zyada samajhdaar hote hain jab baat rasta dhundne ki aati thi.Variation: Ise "Common sense" ka ek rugged aur dehati (rural) version mana jata hai.

Horses for courses



Different people are suited for different jobs – अलग काम के लिए अलग विशेषज्ञ

Ex - He is good at mathematics while she is better at art horses for courses.

Origin/Tricks - Horse racing mein har track (course) alag hota hai. Kuch ghode gili mitti par tez bhagte hain, toh kuch sakht zameen par.
Yeh phrase 1890s ke aas-pass England ke horse racing circles se aaya. Trainers ne notice kiya ki ghodo ki performance track ki condition par depend karti hai. □.□.□.
Watson ne apni kitab mein iska zikr kiya tha, aur dhire-dhire ye business aur life mein bhi use hone laga.

Hue and cry



Protest – विरोध करना

Ex - The decision created a hue and cry among the employees.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein jab koi jurm (crime) hota tha, toh victim ko zor se chillana padta tha-"Hue and cry!" * Social Duty: Kanoon ke hisaab se, jo bhi us shor ko sunta tha, usey apna kaam chhod kar us mujrim ka peecha karna padta tha. Agar aapne peecha nahi kiya, toh aapko bhi saza milti thi! Aaj ye sirf "shor-sharaabe" ke liye use hota hai.

Hustle and bustle



Busy and excited activity – भागदौड़ भरी जिंदगी

Ex - The market is always full of hustle and bustle.

Origin/Tricks - "Hustle" Dutch word 'husselen' se aaya hai, jiska matlab tha "shake karna" ya "jhatkana." "Bustle" purane English word 'busken' se aaya hai, jiska matlab tha "taiyari karna.
19th century tak aate-aate, ye dono ek saath "Modern City Life" ka ek standard description ban gaye.

I don't buy it



I am not convinced – यकीन ना होना

Ex - He claimed he finished the work, but I don't buy it.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1920 ke aas-pass American English mein popular hua. "To buy" ka ek purana matlab "to accept as true" bhi hota tha. Jab log kisi propaganda ya jhooti afwah (rumor) ko reject karte the, toh wo isi phrase ka use karte the.
Sochiye koi aapko ek purani, tooti hui cycle "Nayi" bol kar bech raha hai. Kya aap usey kharidenge (buy)? Nahi!

Icing on the cake



Something that makes a good situation even better – अतिरिक्त लाभ

Ex - The bonus was the icing on the cake after getting a promotion.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein "Icing" banana bahut mehnat ka kaam tha kyunki sugar aur butter ko haath se ghantonn tak phentna (whisk) padta tha. Isliye, har cake par icing nahi hoti thi. Jis cake par icing hoti thi, wo "extra special" mana jata tha. Tabhi se ye phrase "extra happiness" ka symbol ban gaya.

Ignorance is bliss



To remain ignorant of things that may cause stress – कभी-कभी अनजान रहना अच्छा रहता है

Ex - Sometimes ignorance is bliss when the truth can hurt you.

Origin/Tricks - "Ignorance" ka matlab hai anjan hona. Agar aapko nahi pata ki aapke peeche sher (lion) khada hai, toh aap kam se kam us ek minute ke liye toh khush reh sakte hain.

Yeh phrase ek mashhoor kavi Thomas Gray ki kavita "Ode on a Distant Prospect of Eton College" se aaya hai. Unhone likha tha: "Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise" (Jahan anjan rehne mein hi sukh ho, wahan samajhdaar banna murkhata hai).

Ill at ease



Feel uncomfortable or worried in a situation – चिंतित या सहज महसूस करना

Ex - The student felt ill at ease when the teacher asked a difficult question.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase sadiyon se chala aa raha hai. Shuruat mein ise un logon ke liye use kiya jata tha jo social status mein niche hote the aur ameeron ki mehfil mein nervous ho jate the. Aaj ye kisi bhi tarah ki "anxiety" dikhane ke liye use hota hai.**

In (the) light of



Considering or taking into account – ध्यान में रखते हुए

Ex - The decision was made in the light of expert advice.

Origin/Tricks - Roshni (Light) ko hamesha se "Gyan" (Knowledge) ka prateek mana gaya hai. 16th century se hi English mein "Light" ka matlab "Samajh" (Understanding) ke liye use hota aa raha hai. Jab koi nayi baat "prakash" mein aati hai, toh hum apna nazariya badal lete hain. Sochiye ek andhera kamra hai jahan aapko nahi pata ki rasta kahan hai. Aapne ek andaza lagaya aur chalne lage

In a brown study



In a state of reverie – विचारमग्न/ख्यालों में खोया हुआ

Ex - The professor was in a brown study while reading the book.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1500s se use ho raha hai. Pehle "Brown" ka matlab sirf ek rang nahi hota tha balki "udaasi" se juda hota tha. Us waqt log maante the ki jab koi insaan bahut gehri soch mein hota hai, toh uska chehra thoda 'dark' ya 'brown' dikhne lagta hai.

In a flutter



In a nervous state – घबराया हुआ

Ex - The students were in a flutter while waiting for the exam results.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s ke aas-pass se use ho raha hai. Shuruat mein ise dil ki dhadkan (heartbeat) ke liye use kiya jata tha jo achanak tez ho jati hai. Dhire-dhire ye poori mental state ko dikhane ke liye use hone laga.
Jab ek choti chidiya dar jati hai ya uttejit hoti hai, toh wo apne pankh (wings) bahut tezi se phadphadaati hai.

In a lather



Very angry, worried or upset about something – घबराया हुआ

Ex - The manager was in a lather when the project was delayed.

Origin/Tricks - Jab ek ghoda bahut tez daudta hai ya bahut zyada stressed hota hai, toh uske shareer par paseene ki wajah se ek safed jhaag (foam/lather) ban jata hai.
19th century mein ghodo ki halat ko dekh kar ye phrase bana. Jab ghoda "in a lather" hota tha, toh iska matlab hota tha ki wo bahut mehnat kar chuka hai ya bahut darr gaya hai. Dhire-dhire ye insaanon ke "Gusse" aur "Anxiety" ke liye use hone laga.

In a jiffy



Very quickly; in an instant – तुरंत, पलक झपकते ही

Ex - The waiter brought the food in a jiffy.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1780s ke aas-pass London ke "thieves' slang" (choron ki bhasha) se aaya tha. Us waqt "jiffy" ka matlab "lightning" (bijli) ya "very quick" hota tha.
Mazedar baat ye hai ki physics mein bhi "Jiffy" ek unit hai (the time light takes to travel one centimeter in a vacuum), jo lagbhag 33.3564 picoseconds hota hai!
Yaani sach mein bahut fast!

In a nutshell



Briefly and concisely – संक्षिप्त रूप से

Ex - The teacher explained the lesson in a nutshell.

Origin/Tricks - Kaha jata hai ki Roman writer Pliny the Elder ne ek baar likha tha ki unhone Homer ki puri mahakavya (epic poem) 'Iliad' ko itne barik aksharon mein ek parche par likha dekha jo ek nutshell mein fit ho gaya tha!
Hamlet mein Shakespeare ne bhi iska use kiya tha: "I could be bounded in a nutshell and count myself a king of infinite space."

In a pickle



In trouble – मुसीबत में होना

Ex - The company was in a pickle due to financial problems.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century se hai. Shakespeare ne apne play The Tempest mein iska use kiya tha.
Iska ek connection Dutch phrase "In de pekel zitten" se bhi hai, jiska matlab hota tha "namkeen paani (brine) mein baithna." Purane zamane mein ye "nasha karne" ya "pareshani" dono ke liye use hota tha.

In deep water

In great difficulty – बड़ी मुश्किल में

Ex - He found himself in deep water after losing his job.

In dire straits

In a very bad or difficult situation – मुश्किल में होना

Ex - The family was in dire straits during the economic crisis.

In a soup

In trouble – मुसीबत में होना

Ex - He was in a soup after losing the important documents.

In a tight corner/spot

A very difficult situation to escape from – विषम परिस्थिति

Ex - The team was in a tight corner when they were losing the match.

In bad/poor taste



Not suitable or offensive – अपमानजनक

Ex - His joke about the accident was in bad taste.

Origin/Tricks - "Taste" shabd ka use pehle sirf khane ke liye hota tha. Lekin 1600s ke baad, log ise "Art" aur "Manners" (tameez) ke liye use karne lage. Agar kisi ko painting ki samajh nahi hoti thi, toh kehte the "he has no taste."
Wahi se ye social comments ke liye "In bad taste" ban gaya.
"Jab aap koi aisi baat bol dein jo us mauke (occasion) ke hisaab se bahut 'ghatiya' ya 'rude' ho."

In cahoots with



In an alliance or partnership with – साझेदारी में

Ex - The politician was in cahoots with businessmen for personal gain.

Origin/Tricks - Aksar iska maqsad (goal) kisi ko dhokha dena ya koi fayda uthana hota hai.
Yeh phrase 1820s ke aas-pass American English mein aaya. Mana jata hai ki ye French word 'cahute' se aaya hai, jiska matlab hota hai "cabin" ya "hut" (ek choti jhopdi). The Idea: Log ek choti jhopdi (hut) mein chup kar koi khufiya baat kar rahe hain. Wahin se "In Cahoots" (In the same hut) ka matlab "Mili-bhagat" ban gaya.

In cold blood



Deliberately and cruelly – जानबूझकर

Ex - The thief stole the money in cold blood without any fear.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein log maante the ki insaan ke sharer mein alag-alag tarah ke "humors" (fluids) hote hain. "Heat" ko passion aur gusse se joda jata tha. 18th century tak aate-aate, "Cold blooded" un logo ke liye use hone laga jo saazish rachte the aur bina kisi emotion ke jurm karte the.

In fits and starts



Irregularly – अनियमित

Ex - The project progressed in fits and starts due to lack of funds.

Origin/Tricks - **Agar koi kaam "fits and starts" mein ho raha hai, toh wo ek purani "Khatara Cycle" ki tarah hai jo do kadam chalti hai aur phir chain utar jati hai. Isme "Consistency" ki bahut kami hoti hai. Shuruat mein ye phrase bimariyon ke liye use hota tha, jahan mareez ko achanak "fits" (daure) padte the. 1600s ke baad, log ise kaam karne ke tarike ke liye use karne lage-khaskar jab koi artist ya mazdoor bina kisi schedule ke kaam karta tha.**

In for a penny, in for a pound



One should finish what one has started to do even though it may be difficult or expensive – शुरू काम को खत्म करना चाहिए

Ex - They invested more money in the business because in for a penny, in for a pound.

Origin/Tricks - **Log sochte the ki jab saza milni hi hai, toh kyun na bada kaam kiya jaye! Life mein iska matlab hai "Full Commitment." Agar risk le hi liya hai, toh poora lo. Yeh phrase tab se popular hai jab legal system bahut sakht tha. Iska pehla written record 1695 ke aas-pass milta hai. Yeh un logo ke liye tha jo kaam ko adha chhodne mein vishwas nahi rakhte the.**

In full swing



To be very active – जोर शोर में

Ex - The festival celebrations are in full swing.

Origin/Tricks - Jab aap jhoola shuru karte hain, toh wo dhire-dhire hilta hai. Lekin jab jhoola "Full swing" mein hota hai, toh wo apni maximum speed aur unchai (height) par hota hai. Us waqt usse rokna mushkil hota hai. Yeh phrase 1500s se use ho raha hai. Shuruat mein "Swing" ka matlab sirf jhoola nahi, balki kisi bhi cheez ka "tezi se hilna" (vigorous motion) hota hai.

In groove



Starting to perform very well – अच्छा काम शुरू करना

Ex - The batsman is now in the groove and scoring runs easily.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1930s aur 40s ke Jazz musicians ke beech bahut popular hua. Jab koi drummer ya pianist bahut hi jabardast rhythm mein bajata tha, toh log kehte the, "He's really in the groove tonight!" Tab se ye kisi bhi field mein "Best performance" ke liye use hone laga.

In lieu of



In the place of – के बदले में

Ex - She accepted extra leave in lieu of a cash bonus.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 13th century mein French word 'lieu' (jiska matlab hai 'place') se English mein aaya. Aapne "Lieutenant" shabd suna hoga? Usme bhi 'lieu' hota hai, kyunki wo captain ki "jagah" leta hai. 16th century tak aate-aate, ye English mein "instead of" ka ek formal alternative ban gaya.

In ones and twos



In small numbers – कम मात्रा में

Ex - The audience entered the hall in ones and twos.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh dikhata hai ki koi bada dhamaka nahi ho raha, balki cheezein dheere aur chhote groups mein ho rahi hain.
Yeh phrase kisi purani kahani se nahi, balki insani fitrat se aaya hai. Jab hum kisi event ka intezar karte hain, toh hum count karte hain-"Arre, ek aaya... ab do aaye." Wahin se ye "In ones and twos" ban gaya, jo 19th century se English literature mein common hai.

In queer street



In debt – कर्ज में

Ex - Bad investments pushed the businessman into queer street.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase London se aaya hai. Wahan ek Carey Street hua karti thi jahan "Bankruptcy Courts" (diwaliya hone wali adalatein) thi.
Kuch log maante hain ki "Queer" aur "Carey" sunne mein ek jaise lagte hain, isliye Carey Street ko "Queer Street" kaha jane laga. Agar koi Carey Street jata tha, toh log samajh jate the ki uski financial halat kharab hai.

In raptures



Extremely delighted – अत्यधिक आनंदित

Ex - The fans were in raptures after the singer appeared on stage

Origin/Tricks - Yeh word Latin ke 'raptus' se aaya hai, jiska matlab hota hai "Seized" (pakad lena) ya "Carried away" (bahakar le jana).
Pehle ise dharmik (religious) context mein use kiya jata tha jab koi ishwar ki bhakti mein "kho" jata tha. 17th century ke baad, ise kisi bhi badi khushi (jaise music, art, ya love) ke liye use kiya jane laga.

In seventh heaven/on cloud nine

Extremely happy – अत्यधिक खुश होना

Ex - She was in seventh heaven when her novel got published.

In the fast lane

A life filled with excitement – उत्साह से भरा जीवन

Ex - After moving to Mumbai, he began living in the fast lane.

In high spirits

Cheerful – आनंद एवं जोश से भरपूर

Ex - The children were in high spirits during the picnic.

In the ascendant



Rising in power or influence – वर्चस्व में वृद्धि होना

Ex - Digital payments are now clearly in the ascendant.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century se use ho raha hai. Purane zamane mein log maante the ki jo sitara "Ascendant" mein hai, uska asar sabse zyada hota hai. Baad mein, Shakespeare aur doosre writers ne ise general success aur power ke liye use karna shuru kar diya.

In the blink of an eye



Within a very short period of time – बहुत ही कम समय मे

Ex - The thief vanished in the blink of an eye.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai aur dunya ki lagbhag har bhasha mein kisi na kisi roop mein milta hai. Literature: Shakespeare ne bhi isse milte-julte phrases use kiye the. Iska istemal aksar "Life ke badlav" (sudden changes in life) ko dikhane ke liye hota hai taaki bataya ja sake ki kismat kab palat jaye, kisi ko nahi pata.

In the blues



Cheerless and depressed/low spirited – उदास

Ex - He has been in the blues since the exam results came out.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein, agar samundar mein kisi jahaj (ship) ke Captain ya kisi bade officer ki maut ho jati thi, toh wo jahaj wapas aate waqt ek Blue Flag (neela jhanda) lagata tha. Yeh puray sheher ko batata tha ki jahaj par log "Udaas" hain.
America mein 19th century mein "Blues" music shuru hua jo dukh aur takleef ko dikhane ke liye gaya jata tha.

In the doldrums



In low spirits and despair – उदास या निराश अवस्था मे

Ex - Sales remained in the doldrums throughout the winter.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein jab jahaj sirf hawa se chalte the, toh wo is ilaqe mein phans jate the. Hafton tak jahaj wahi khada rehta tha, log bore ho jate the aur unka khana-paani khatam hone lagta tha.
Bilkul waise hi, jab career ya economy "Doldrums" mein hoti hai, toh wo "Hawa ke intezar" mein ruk jati hai.

In the eye of a storm



Deeply involved in a difficult situation – विवादास्पद स्थिति में शामिल होना

Ex - The minister found himself in the eye of a storm after the leaked video.

Origin/Tricks - 19th century ke sailors ne notice kiya ki sabse khatarnak toofanon ke beech mein ek ajeeb si shanti hoti hai. Unhone ise "Eye" naam diya. Baad mein, journalists ne ise un netaon ya celebrities ke liye use karna shuru kiya jo kisi bade scandal ya vivad ke beech phanse hote the.

In the flesh



In bodily form – आमने सामने

Ex - I had seen the actor only on screen, but yesterday I met him in the flesh.

Origin/Tricks - 19th century ke sailors ne notice kiya ki sabse khatarnak toofanon ke beech mein ek ajeeb si shanti hoti hai. Unhone ise "Eye" naam diya. Baad mein, journalists ne ise un netaon ya celebrities ke liye use karna shuru kiya jo kisi bade scandal ya vivad ke beech phanse hote the.

In the good books



To be greatly treated or favoured by someone – किसी के द्वारा अत्यधिक लाभ

Ex - She stayed in the principal's good books by being punctual.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se chala aa raha hai. Shuruat mein ye dharmik (religious) context mein hota tha, jahan maana jata tha ki bhagwan ke paas ek "Good Book" hai jisme achhe logo ke naam likhe hain. 1800s tak aate-aate, ye office aur dosti mein "favor" ke liye use hone laga.

In the heat of the moment



At time when you cannot think carefully – क्रोध में अनाब सनाब बकना

Ex - In the heat of the moment, he said things he later regretted.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se un logo ke liye use ho raha hai jo "Sudden passion" ya "Anger" mein galtiyan karte hain. Iska pehla written record 1700s ke baad zyada milta hai, khaas kar legal cases mein jahan log kehte the ki "Maine ye jaan-boojhkar nahi kiya, bas aavesh (heat of the moment) mein ho gaya."

In the limelight



The centre of attraction – आकर्षण का केंद्र होना

Ex - The young scientist came into the limelight after her discovery.

Origin/Tricks - Sir Goldsworthy Gurney ne ise invent kiya tha. Pehle ye "Lighthouses" (samundari rasta dikhane wale tower) mein use hota tha, phir 1837 mein pehli baar London ke ek theater mein ise stage par use kiya gaya. Tab se, limelight mein hona "Fame" ka symbol ban gaya.

In the long run



Eventually/In the end – अंत में

Ex - Saving a little every month helps in the long run.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane zamane ke vyapariyon arthshastriyon (economists) dwara use kiya jata tha. Unka manna tha ki market mein rozana utaar-chadaav hote hain, par "In the long run" (lambe samay mein) market hamesha balance ho jata hai. John Maynard Keynes ka ek mashhoor quote bhi hai: "In the long run, we are all dead," jo is idiom ko aur popular bana gaya.

In the nick of time

At the last possible moment – अंतिम संभव क्षण में

Ex - The ambulance arrived in the nick of time.

Origin/Tricks - 1500s mein log "Tally Sticks" ka use karte the. Har nishaan (nick) ek specific waqt ya amount ko dikhata tha. Agar koi apna karz ya kaam bilkul us nishaan tak khatam kar leta, toh use "In the nick" kaha jata tha. 18th century tak aate-aate, isme "of time" jod diya gaya taaki ye emergency situations ke liye use ho sake.

In the offing



Appear soon – शीघ्र होने वाला

Ex - A major policy change seems to be in the offing.Origin/Tricks - Samundar ka wo hissa jo kinare se dikhta hai, lekin bandargah (harbor) se thoda door hota hai.
Jab log kinare par khade hokar kisi jahaj (ship) ko "offing" mein dekhte the, toh wo samajh jate the ki jahaj bas aane hi wala hai.
Bilkul waise hi, jab koi kaam "In the offing" hota hai, toh iska matlab hai ki wo hamari nazar mein hai aur jald hi sach hone wala hai.

In the prime of life

In the best period of life – सबसे सुनहरे दौर में

Ex - He died tragically in the prime of life.

Origin/Tricks - "Prime" shabd Latin ke primus (first) se aaya hai. Purane zamane mein ise din ke shuruati ghante (sunrise) ya saal ke shuruati mausam (Spring) ke liye use karte the. Baad mein, poets ne ise insani umar se jod diya taaki us waqt ko dikhaya ja sake jab insaan sabse zyada "zinda-dil" mehsoos karta hai.



In the running

Contesting for the seat – किसी सीट, स्थान, सम्मान, जीत के लिए प्रतियोगिता में भाग लेना

Ex - Three candidates are still in the running for the post.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase shuruat mein "Ghud-daud" (Horse racing) ke liye use hota tha. Agar koi ghoda race mein bhag le raha hota tha, toh use "In the running" kaha jata tha. Baad mein ise politics (elections) aur job applications ke liye bhi use kiya jane laga.



In the same boat

To be in the same difficult situation as someone else – किसी और के समान कठिन परिस्थिति में होना

Ex - Small shopkeeper and farmers are in the same boat during inflation.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh metaphor sadiyon philosopher Aristotle khayalaat diye the. purana hai. Greek ne bhi isse milte-julte
English mein ye phrase 1500s ke baad bahut popular hua. Sailors (mallaah) aksar ise un logo ke liye use karte the jinhe milkar kaam karna padta tha taaki toofan se bacha ja sake.



In the same Breath

To say two different (contrary) things at one instant – एक ही समय पर दो विपरीत बातें कहना

Ex - She praised discipline and, in the same breath, defended indiscipline.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1500s se use ho raha hai. Iska istemal aksar un logo ki ninda (criticism) karne ke liye hota tha jo bahut jaldi apni baat se palat jate the. Purane zamane ke writers ise "Hypocrisy" (pakhand) dikhane ke liye use karte the.



In the swim



Well-informed and up-to-date – अच्छी तरह से सूचित होना

Ex - Journalists usually stay in the swim about current affairs.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s mein popular hua. Shuruat mein ye un logo ke liye use hota tha jo 'High Society' (ameer log) ki parties aur events mein aksar dikhte the. Jaise machhliyan hamesha pani mein rehti hain, ye log hamesha 'Social Life' mein dube rehte the.

In the teeth of



In direct opposition to – सीधे विरोध में

Ex - They marched on in the teeth of heavy opposition.

Origin/Tricks - Sailors (mallaah) ise tab use karte the jab unka jahaj (ship) seedha us direction mein ja raha hota tha jahan se tez hawa aa rahi ho. Hawa ki raftaar aur uski "Chubharn" ko unhone "Teeth" se compare kiya. Baad mein, Shakespeare aur doosre writers ne ise "Opposition" (virodh) ke liye use karna shuru kiya.

In two minds



To be in a dilemma – असमंजस में होना

Ex - I am in two minds about quitting my job.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1500s se English mein use ho raha hai. Purane zamane mein log maante the ki insaan ka "Soul" (atma) aur "Intellect" (buddhi) kabhi-kabhi alag disha mein kaam karte hain. Baad mein ye simple indecision (faisla na le pana) ke liye ek standard idiom ban gaya.

In weal and woe



In prosperity and adversity – सुख और दुख में

Ex - A true friend stands by you in weal and woe.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai (lagbhag 14th century). Shuruat mein ye shaadi ki kasmon (wedding vows) aur dosti ke vaadon mein use hota tha. "Weal" aur "Woe" dono rhyming words hain, isliye inhen ek saath bolna aur yaad rakhna

Jump down someone's throat



To respond angrily to someone – किसी को गुस्से से जवाब देना

Ex - When I asked about the missing money, he started jumping down my throat.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s se English mein use ho raha hai. Iska koi specific "Ship" ya "War" origin nahi hai, balki ye ek "Hyperbolic" (badha-chadha kar kahi gayi) baat hai. Purane zamane mein log gusse ko "devouring" (kha jane) se jodte the, wahin se ye "Jumping down the throat" ban gaya.

Jumping in with both feet



Coming to conclusion too quickly – बहुत जल्दी निष्कर्ष पर पहुँचना

Ex - Without checking the facts, he kept jumping in with both feet during the debate.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 20th century ke shuruat mein popular hua. Iska koi ek mukhya kissa nahi hai, par ye swimming aur physical sports se nikla hai. Ise hamesha "Dipping your toe in the water" (dhire-dheere shuruat karna) ke opposite ke taur par dekha jata hai. Zyadatar log pehle ek pair ka angutha (toe) paani mein dalkar dekhte hain ki paani thanda hai ya garam.

Kangaroo court



False court that doesn't follow the legal standards – गैर-कानूनी कचहरी

Ex - The villagers called it a kangaroo court because the accused was punished without proper evidence.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh term America se aaya hai. Us waqt log sone (gold) ki khoj mein bhagte the. Wahan ki local "illegal courts" bina kisi saboot ke logon ko saza deti thin. Jo log doosron ki khadanon (mines) par kabza karte the unhe "Claim Jumpers" kaha jata tha. Unpar chalne wali farzi adalat ko isi wajah se "Kangaroo (Jumper) Court" kaha jane laga.

Keep a civil tongue



To speak with great politeness – बड़ी शिष्टता से बोलना

Ex - You should keep a civil tongue while speaking to your elders.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s ke aas-pass popular hua. Us waqt "Civil" ka matlab sirf 'Government' se juda nahi hota tha, balki iska matlab "Polite" bhi hota tha. Courtrooms aur bade gharon mein ye ek standard command thi—"Keep a civil tongue in your head!"

Keep a good table



To offer sumptuous food to one's guests – मेहमानों को शानदार भोजन प्रदान करना

Ex - My grandmother always keeps a good table whenever guests visit our home.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein (England aur Europe mein), kisi ki "Richness" ya "Class" is baat se maapi jati thi ki wo apne mehmanon ko kaisa khana khilata hai. Jo log apne ghar par mehngi wine aur behtareen chefs rakhte the, unke liye kaha jata tha ki they "keep a good table." Yeh unki reputation ka hissa hota tha.

Keep a low profile



Not to draw any attention towards oneself – अपनी ओर ध्यान आकर्षित करने से बचना

Ex - After the controversy, the actor decided to keep a low profile.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1940s-50s mein popular hua. Radar technology mein, agar kisi jahaj ya building ka "Profile" (un-chai) kam hoti thi, toh radar usey detect nahi kar pata tha. 1970s ke baad se ye aam logon ke liye "Publicity se bachne" ke liye use hone laga.

Keep a stiff upper lip



To remain expressionless – अभिव्यक्तिहीन होना

Ex - Even in hardship, she tried to keep a stiff upper lip.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century mein Britain mein bahut popular hua. British logon ko unke "Stoicism" (dukh mein bhi shant rehna) ke liye jana jata tha. Victorian era mein bachon ko sikhaya jata tha ki chahe kuch bhi ho jaye, kabhi rona nahi chahiye. Wahi se ye "British identity" ka ek hissa ban gaya.

Keep a straight face



Not laugh or change your expression even though you want to laugh – अपने हावभाव छुपाना मुख्यतः हँसी

Ex - I could hardly keep a straight face when he told that funny story

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s se common hai. Iska use aksar "Poker" (taash ka khel) ya "Pranks" (mazak) mein hota tha. Poker mein agar aapke paas achhe cards hain aur aap hass diye, toh log samajh jayenge—isliye wahan "straight face" rakhna zaruri hota hai.

Keep abreast of



To keep oneself updated – किसी चीज की जानकारी रखना

Ex - Students should keep abreast of current affairs for competitive exams.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh term purane zamane mein jahajon (ships) ya sainikon (soldiers) ke liye use hota tha. Jab do jahaj ek hi line mein barabar chalte the, toh unhe "Abreast" kaha jata hai. 18th century tak aate-aate, ise "Jankari" ke liye use kiya jane laga—yaani knowledge ke saath barabari mein chalna.

Keep count of



To remember a total – पूरी तरह याद रखना

Ex - The teacher asked us to keep count of the number of pages we read.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase utna hi purana hai jitni purani insani "Counting" hai. Iska koi ek mukhya kissa nahi hai, par ye vyapaar (trade) aur bhed-bakriyon ki ginti karne se shuru hua taaki malik ko pata rahe ki koi janwar khoya toh nahi. Purane zamane mein jab computers nahi the, log lakdi par nishaan lagakar ya kagaz par "Tally marks" banakar ginti karte the.

Keep him posted



To keep sharing the latest information – नई जानकारी साझा करना

Ex - Please keep him posted about any changes in the meeting schedule.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase accounting aur ledger books se aaya hai. Accountants jab naye transactions ko main book mein likhte the, toh use "Posting the accounts" kaha jata tha. Wahin se ye aam baatcheet mein aaya—yaani kisi ke dimaag ke ledger mein "New information" post karna.

Keep one's cards close to one's chest



To keep one's plans and thoughts hidden – अपनी योजनाओं को छुपाकर रखना

Ex - The politician kept his cards close to his chest before the election.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s ke card games se aaya hai. Shuruat mein ye sirf gambling ke liye use hota tha, lekin 20th century tak aate-aate ye business aur politics mein "Secret strategy" ke liye ek standard expression ban gaya.

Keep one's head



To remain calm – शांत करना

Ex - During the crisis, the captain kept his head and handled the situation calmly.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane zamane ke karigaron (craftsmen) se aaya hai. Jab koi senior karigar retire ho jata tha, toh wo kabhi-kabhi workshop aa kar thoda kaam karta tha taaki uska haath "set" rahe. 18th century ke baad se ye sports aur professional skills ke liye bhi use hone laga.

Keep one's temper

To remain calm – शांत रहना

Ex - It is difficult to keep one's temper when someone insults you.

Keep your shirt/pants on

To remain cool – शांत रहना

Ex - Keep your shirt on; the problem will be solved soon.

Keep own's word



To do as one has promised – वचन का पालन करना

Ex - A trustworthy person always keeps his word.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai. Likhit dastawezon (written contracts) se pehle, saare vyapaar aur samjhote sirf "Zubaan" par hote the. "A man's word is his bond" (ek insaan ki zubaan hi uska kanoon hai) ki wajah se ye idiom har bhasha aur culture ka hissa ban gaya.

Keep someone at arm's length



To avoid becoming too close or friendly with someone – घनिष्ट मित्रता से बचना

Ex - She kept him at arm's length because she did not trust him.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se chala aa raha hai. Purane zamane mein, log anjaan logon se milte waqt hamesha itni doori rakhte the ki agar wo 'Talwar' (sword) nikaale, toh bachne ka mauka mile. Aaj kal ye talwar ke liye nahi, balki 'Mental Peace' aur 'Privacy' ke liye use hota hai.

Keep something under your hat



To not tell anyone about something – जानकारी छिपाना

Ex - Please keep this news under your hat until the official announcement.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s ke baad popular hua. Us waqt bina hat ke bahar nikalna badtameezi maani jati thi. Log aksar apne zaruri documents ya chithiyan (letters) apni hat ke andar chhupa kar rakhte the taaki wo safe rahein. Wahin se ye "Secret" ke liye metaphor ban gaya.

Keep the pot boiling



To make sure that a process does not stop – किसी कार्य को जारी रखना

Ex - His small job helped keep the pot boiling for the family.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh term aksar un writers ke liye use hota tha jo 'Great Literature' nahi, balki saste novels ya articles likhte the sirf isliye taaki unhe paise milte rahein aur unka "Chulha jalta rahe." Ise "Pot-boilers" bhi kaha jata tha. Agar pot (patila) ubal raha hai, toh iska matlab hai andar khana ban raha hai aur aap bhookhe nahi marenge.

Keep the wolf from the door



To avoid starvation – भुखमरी से बचना

Ex - His salary is just enough to keep the wolf from the door.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1400s-1500s se chala aa raha hai jab Europe mein asli bhediye khatarnak hote the. Lekin kavi aur lekhak bhediye ka use "Starvation" (bhukh mari) ko dikhane ke liye karte the. Agar aapne thoda kama liya hai, toh aapne "Wolf" ko darwaze se bahar rakha hua hai.

Keep up appearances



To maintain an expression of well being – अपने दुख/स्थिति को जाहिर न होने देना

Ex - Despite financial problems, they tried to keep up appearances.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase England mein un logon ke liye shuru hua tha jo bade gharon se aate the par unka paisa khatam ho chuka tha. Wo apni purani dignity bachane ke liye purane kapde dho-dho kar pehente the aur servant rakhte the, bhale hi unhe khane ke lale pade hon. Unke liye kaha jata tha—"They are struggling, but they keep up appearances."

Keep up with the Joneses



To show that one is as good as other people by getting what they have and doing what they do – देखा-देखी करना

Ex - Many people buy expensive things just to keep up with the Joneses.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh idiom ek American comic strip se aaya hai jiska naam hi "Keep Up With The Joneses" tha. Iske creator, Arthur R. Momand, ne ye dikhaya tha ki kaise ek family (The McGinis) hamesha apne padosi "The Joneses" se behtar dikhne ki koshish karti thi. Mazedaar baat ye hai ki poore comic mein Jones family ko kabhi dikhaya hi nahi gaya—wo sirf ek "Standard" ban gaye the.

Keep your chin up



Remain cheerful and hopeful in difficult circumstances – कठिन परिस्थितियों में भी प्रसन्न रहना

Ex - Even after failing the exam, he told his friend to keep his chin up.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1900s ke shuruat mein American English mein popular hua. Iska pehla written record Pennsylvania ke ek newspaper mein milta hai. Yeh ek simple physical advice thi jo waqt ke saath ek powerful emotional metaphor ban gayi.

Keep your ear to the ground



To try to keep informed about something, especially if there are rumours or uncertainties – अफवाहों के बारे में जानकारी देना

Ex - Journalists must keep their ear to the ground to know about new developments.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase America ke purane kisson se aaya hai. Wahan ke log bhed-bakriyon ya dushmanon ki movement track karne ke liye sach mein zameen par kaan lagate the. 19th century ke baad se, ye business aur politics mein "Insider Information" ke liye use hone laga.

Kept a level head



To remain calm – सयंम बनाए रखना

Ex - The pilot kept a level head during the emergency landing.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s ke aas-pass popular hua. Ye "Physical balance" ke idea se aaya hai—jaise ek jahaj (ship) ka level hona zaroori hai taaki wo doobe na, waise hi insaan ke dimaag ka level hona zaroori hai taaki wo life ki lehron mein na doobe.

Kick someone when they are down



To cause further trouble to someone already in a difficult situation – परेशान को और परेशानी में डालना

Ex - It is cruel to kick someone when they are down.

Origin/Tricks - **Purane zamane mein boxing bina gloves ke hoti thi. Wahan ek kanoon tha ki agar koi khiladi ghutno ke bal gir jaye, toh aap usey nahi maar sakte. Jo girne ke baad bhi maarta tha, use "Dishonorable" (be-izzat) mana jata tha. Wahin se ye idiom hamari rozmarra ki zindagi mein aa gaya.**

Kick the bucket



To die – निधन होना, मर जाना

Ex - The old man kicked the bucket after a long illness.

Origin/Tricks - **Asliyat mein "Bucket" shabd Old French ke shabd "buquet" se aaya hai, jiska matlab tha wo "Beam" (lakdi ka latha) jis par jaanwaron ko latkaya jata tha. Jab jaanwar marta tha, toh wo us beam (bucket) ko kick karta tha. 1785 ke aas-pass ye phrase English dictionary mein "to die" ke liye shamil ho gaya.**

Kick up a fuss/row/ stink



To make a big disturbance – बहुत हंगामा मचाना

Ex - The customer kicked up a fuss about the poor service.

Origin/Tricks - Iska origin "Kick up a dust" se hua hai. Purane zamane mein jab log jhagda karte the ya bhagte the, toh mitti udti thi. 19th century tak aate-aate "Dust" ki jagah "Fuss" aur "Row" ne le li. "Stink" shabd 20th century mein aaya, ye dikhane ke liye ki shikari kutte jaise badbu (scandal) ko pakad lete hain, waise hi ye mamla bada ho gaya hai.

Kick up a row



To cause a disturbance – गड़बड़ी पैदा करना

Ex - The students kicked up a row against the unfair decision.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s ke end mein popular hua. Mana jata hai ki ye "Nautical" (jahajon) ya "University slang" se aaya hai. 'Row' ka origin thoda dhundhla hai, par ye hamesha se "Shordar jhagde" ke liye hi use hota aaya hai.
Jab koi gusse mein apne pair patakta hai ya laat (kick) maarta hai, toh shanti bhang ho jati hai aur hungama shuru hota hai.

Kill the goose that lays the golden egg



To destroy something that would make you rich, successful, etc. – फायदे का श्रोत खत्म कर देना

Ex - Over-taxing the company may kill the goose that lays the golden egg.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh kahani sadiyon purani hai. Ek kisaan ke paas ek aisi hans (goose) thi jo roz sone ka ek anda deti thi. Kisaan ameer ban gaya, par wo sabr nahi kar pa raha tha. Usne socha hans ke andar sone ka khazana hoga. Usne hans ko maar diya, par andar kuch nahi mila. Result? Usne apna roz ka sone ka anda bhi kho diya.

Kith and kin



Family relations – पारिवारिक संबंध

Ex - All his kith and kin gathered for the wedding.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai (14th century). Old English mein c□th aur cynn shabd use hote the. Maana jata hai ki log "Alliteration" (ek hi akshar se shuru hone wale shabd) pasand karte the, isliye "Kith and Kin" ek sath mashhoor ho gaya. Aaj ke waqt mein "Kith" ka akele koi use nahi bacha hai, ye sirf "Kin" ke saath hi zinda hai.

Kitty-corner



In a diagonal or oblique position – तिरछा या टेढ़ा

Ex - The bank is kitty-corner to the post office.

Origin/Tricks - Iska asli naam "Cater-corner" tha. French mein "Quatre" ka matlab hota hai 4 (Four). Jaise "Cater" (char-raha ke char kone).
Logo ne "Cater" ko "Catty" bolna shuru kiya aur phir wo badalte-badalte "Kitty" ban gaya. Iska "Billi" (cat/kitty) se koi lena-dena nahi hai, par naam sunne mein aisa hi lagta hai!

Knock around



To spend time in (a place) without having a goal or purpose – समय व्यतीत करना

Ex - After graduation, he knocked around different cities before finding a job.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1830s ke aas-pass popular hua. Shuruat mein ye un "Sailors" (jahajiyon) ke liye use hota tha jo ek port se dusre port bina kisi bade maqsad ke ghumte rehte the. Baad mein ye doston ke saath waqt bitane ke liye ek casual term ban gaya. Sochiye ek ball ek kamre mein "Knock" (takrati) ho rahi hai. Wo kabhi idhar jati hai, kabhi udhar.

Know inside out



To know something thoroughly – किसी चीज को पूरी तरह से जानना

Ex - She knows the rules inside out.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase kapdon (clothes) se aaya hai. Ek darzi (tailor) ya kapde ka expert wahi hota hai jo kapde ko "Inside out" karke uski silayi (stitching) aur fabric ki quality check kar sake.17th century ke aas-pass se ye "Gyaan" (knowledge) ke liye use hone laga.

Know like the back of one's hand



To have detailed knowledge of something – किसी चीज का विस्तृत ज्ञान होना

Ex - He knows this city like the back of his hand.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se English bhasha ka hissa raha hai. Iska koi ek specific inventor nahi hai, balki ye ek "Universal Human Experience" hai. Purane zamane mein jab nakshe (maps) nahi hote the, log raaston ko yaad rakhne ke liye apni body parts se compare karte the. 19th century tak aate-aate ye "Expertise" dikhane ka standard tarika ban gaya.

Learn the ropes

To learn how to do a job or activity – किसी काम को करने का तरीका सीखना

Ex - New employees must learn the ropes quickly.

Know the ropes

To understand the details – काम के तरीकों से वाकिफ होना

Ex - It took him a few weeks to know the ropes of the new job.

Knows how many beans make five



Well informed and intelligent – समझदार और बुद्धिमान होना

Ex - Don't try to cheat him; he knows how many beans make five.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s mein England mein mashhoor hua. Us waqt bachon ko counting sikhane ke liye beans ka istemal hota tha. Agar koi bacha beans nahi ginte paata tha, toh usey kam-akal mana jata tha. Baad mein ye bade logon ke liye "Shrewdness" (chalaaki) dikhane ka tarika ban gaya.

Last but not least



Last in order of mention or occurrence but not last in importance – अंतिम लेकिन किसी से कम नहीं

Ex - Last but not least, I thank my parents for their support.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se chala aa raha hai. Iska pehla bada use Edmund Spenser ne 1595 mein kiya tha, aur baad mein Shakespeare ne bhi apne plays (jaise 'King Lear' aur 'Julius Caesar') mein iska istemal kiya. Tab se ye speeches aur presentations ka ek standard hissa ban gaya hai.

Latched on to



To begin using, doing, or enjoying (something) in an enthusiastic way – उत्साहपूर्वक आनंद लेना

Ex - The child latched on to the new idea quickly.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s ke aas-pass "pakadne" (to grasp) ke sense mein shuru hua. 20th century mein ye "Socially" use hone laga jab log kisi popular cheez ya kisi influential insaan ke peeche lagne lage.

Latin and Greek



Incomprehensible – समझ में न आने लायक

Ex - His explanation sounded like Latin and Greek to me.

Origin/Tricks - Middle Ages mein jab monks (saadhu) purani kitabein copy karte the, toh agar beech mein koi Greek shabd aa jata tha (jo unhe nahi aata tha), toh wo margin mein likh dete the— "Graecum est; non legitur" (It is Greek; it cannot be read)

Laugh like a drain



To laugh loudly – जोर से हंसना

Ex - He laughed like a drain at the comedian's jokes.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1924 ke aas-pass British English mein pehli baar record kiya gaya tha. Iska link shayad purane zamane ke khule drains se hai jinme pani girne ki awaaz kaafi door tak sunayi deti thi. Aaj bhi ye UK aur Commonwealth countries mein kaafi popular hai.

Lay our heads together



To work in consultation – मिलकर काम करना

Ex - Let us lay our heads together to solve this problem.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai aur iska koi ek khaas inventor nahi hai. Yeh ek natural observation se aaya hai—chahe wo kabila (tribal) leaders hon ya purane zamane ke strategists, wo hamesha ghere (circle) mein baith kar "Heads together" karte the taaki dushman ko unki baatein sunayi na dein.

Lay someone by the heels



To confine somebody in prison – किसी को कैद कर लेना

Ex - The police laid the thief by the heels.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Shakespeare ke zamane se bhi purana hai. Us waqt jail mein bediyan aksar pairon (ankles/heels) mein dali jati thi. 16th century ke literature mein iska zikr aksar un logon ke liye hota tha jinhe raja ke sipahi pakad kar le jate the.

Laying it on thick



Emotion in order to try to impress people – बढ़ा-चढ़ा कर कहना

Ex - He was laying it on thick to impress the boss.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane zamane ke karigaron (painters ya plasterers) se aaya hai. Jab wo deewar par rang ya plaster ki bahut moti (thick) teh chadate the taaki purane nishan chhup sakein, toh usey "Laying it on thick" kehte the. Baad mein ye "Baaton mein jhoot ya tareef chhupane" ke liye use hone laga.

Lead someone by the nose



To control someone completely – किसी को पूरी तरह से नियंत्रित करना

Ex - The clever lawyer led the witness by the nose.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase hazaron saal purana hai. Iska zikr Bible aur purane Roman texts mein bhi milta hai. Kheti baari mein janwaro ko kabu karne ka yehi ekmatra tarika tha. 16th century tak aate-aate, log ise un doston ya rishtedaron ke liye use karne lage jo bahut zyada "Dominating" hote the.

Lean and mean



Ready and efficient – कुशल और सक्षम

Ex - The company has become lean and mean after restructuring.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1970s aur 80s mein America ke business world mein bahut popular hua. Jab badi companies mein recession (mandi) aayi, toh unhone faltu employees ko nikala aur kharche kam kiye taaki wo "Competitive" bani rahein. Tab se ye "Efficiency" ka ek bada slogan ban gaya.

Leave no stone unturned



To make all possible efforts – हर संभव प्रयास करना

Ex - The police left no stone unturned to find the missing child.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh idiom 500 BC ke aas-pass ek Greek katha se aaya hai. Ek baar ek Persian general ne apna khazana apne tent ke neeche pattharon mein chhupa diya tha. Jab wo hara, toh logon ne khazana dhoondne ke liye "Every stone unturn" karne ki koshish ki. Tabhi se ye "Total Effort" ka symbol ban gaya.

Left me high and dry



To leave someone in a difficult situation without any help – अकेला छोड़ देना

Ex - My partner left me high and dry during the project.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh ek samundari (nautical) term hai. 1800s mein sailors iska istemal un jahajon ke liye karte the jo kinare par fas jate the. Baad mein ye "General English" mein un logon ke liye use hone laga jinhe doston ya partners ne dhokha de diya ho ya akele chhod diya ho.

Left, right and center



Happening in a lot of places or to a lot of people – एक ही समय पर बहुत से जगहों पर घटित होना

Ex - Complaints were coming left, right and center.

Origin/Tricks - Iska origin shayad boxing se aaya hai, jahan ek boxer apne opponent ko har taraf se (left, right, and center punches) maarta hai. 20th century tak aate-aate, ye "Har jagah" ke liye ek aam phrase ban gaya. Iska matlab hai ki koi bhi jagah baaki nahi bachi hai.

Lend an ear



To pay attention to – ध्यान देना

Ex - Please lend an ear to my suggestion.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se chala aa raha hai, par iska sabse bada credit William Shakespeare ko jata hai. Unke play mein Mark Antony kehta hai— "Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears!" Uska matlab tha—"Meri baat dhyan se suno!" Tabse ye phrase English ka pakka hissa ban gaya.

Lend/give sb a hand



To help someone – किसी की मदद करना

Ex - Can you give me a hand with this heavy box?

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein kheti-baari ya samundari jahajon par saara kaam hathon se hota tha. Jab koi mushkil kaam hota, toh leader chilata tha— "All hands on deck!" (Sab log hath lagao!). Wahin se "Give a hand" ka matlab "Help karna" ban gaya.

Let bygones be bygones



To forgive and forget – माफ करना और भूल जाना

Ex - Let us let bygones be bygones and start fresh.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1500s se English mein use ho raha hai. Iska sabse pehla bada zikr John Heywood ki proverbs ki book (1546) mein milta hai. Yeh ek "Universal Truth" ki tarah hai jo sadiyon se chala aa raha hai—ki purani baaton ko khodne se sirf dukh milta hai.

Let off the hook



To be no longer in difficulty or trouble – संकट से उभरना

Ex - The teacher let him off the hook with just a warning.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh 18th aur 19th century ke fishing slang se aaya hai. Shuruat mein ye sirf machhliyon ke liye use hota tha jo kante se chhoot kar bhag jati thi. Baad mein 1800s ke aakhir tak, ye logon ke liye use hone laga jo kanooni (legal) ya social mushkilon se bach nikalte the.

Let sleeping dogs lie



To leave a situation alone so as to avoid worsening it – किसी समस्या को अनदेखा करना

Ex - It is better to let sleeping dogs lie.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh duniya ke sabse purane idioms mein se ek hai. 1300s mein mashhoor writer Geoffrey Chaucer ne apni kitab Troilus and Criseyde mein likha tha— "It is nought good a slepyng hound to wake." Tabse ye sadiyon se chala aa raha hai aur har bhasha mein iska apna version hai.

Let something slip through one's fingers



To waste opportunity of achieving something – अवसर खोना

Ex - He let the opportunity slip through his fingers.

Origin/Tricks - Iska koi ek source nahi hai, balki ye ek purani physical observation hai. Insaan hamesha se jaanta hai ki slippery (chikni) cheezein ya bahut baariq cheezein ungliyon se nikal jati hain. 17th century tak ye literature mein "Mauke" ke liye use hone laga tha.

Let the cat out of the bag



To reveal a secret – कोई रहस्य उजागर करना

Ex - She accidentally let the cat out of the bag about the surprise party

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein log market mein chhote "Suar" (pigs/piglets) bechte the jo bags mein band hote the. Kuch dhokebaaz log suar ki jagah bag mein "Billi" (cat) daal dete the. Agar koi hoshiyaar grahak bag khol deta, toh "The cat was let out of the bag" aur dhoka (secret) pakda jata.

Let the grass grow under one's feet



To remain idle – निष्क्रिय रहना

Ex - Successful people never let the grass grow under their feet.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane kheti-baari ke zamane se aaya hai. Us waqt mehnat hi sab kuch thi. Jo kisan sust hota tha, uske khet mein ghaas aur weeds (khar-patwar) ug aate the. 1500s ke aakhir tak ye "Sust logon" ke liye ek taana ban gaya.

Let your hair down



Behave freely and uninhibitedly/To take it easy and relax – आराम से निश्चित रहना

Ex - After the exams, the students decided to let their hair down.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1600s ke aakhir se use ho raha hai. Us waqt ke noble families mein aurton ke liye baal kholna sirf unke bedroom tak mahdood tha. Agar koi baal khol raha hai, toh iska matlab hai wo "Duty" par nahi hai aur puri tarah se aaraam kar raha hai.

Level playing field



A situation in which everyone has a fair and equal chance of succeeding – एक समान अवसर

Ex - Fair rules create a level playing field for all players.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1970s aur 80s mein America mein bahut popular hua. Shuruat mein ye sirf sports (jaise American Football) ke liye use hota tha, par baad mein politicians ne ise "Social Justice" aur "Economy" ke liye use karna shuru kar diya taaki choti companies ko badi companies ke khilaaf fair chance mil sake.

Lie in the bed you have made



To face the unpleasant consequences of your own acts – जैसी करनी वैसी भरनी

Ex - You must lie in the bed you have made.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai. Iska ek purana version 1590s mein French mein bhi milta tha ("Comme on fait son lit, on se couche"). Yeh ek moral lesson ki tarah use hota tha bachon ko ye sikhane ke liye ki unka "Raviya" (behavior) hi unka "Bhavishya" (future) teh karega.

Lie low



Try not to be noticed – चुप चाप रहना

Ex - After the scandal, the minister decided to lie low.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se chala aa raha hai. Shikaari (hunters) aksar ghaas mein "Lie low" karte the taaki shikaar unhe dekh na sake. Isi tarah fauji (soldiers) bhi dushman se bachne ke liye zamin se lag kar baithte the. Shakespeare ne bhi iska istemal apne plays mein kiya hai.

Light at the end of tunnel

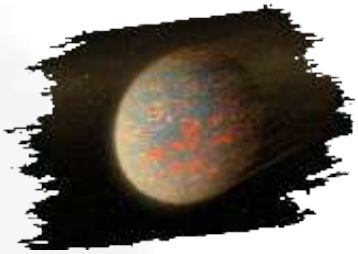


Hope of success, happiness after a long period of difficulty – कठिन समय में सफलता की आशा की खुशी

Ex - After months of unemployment, getting an interview call felt like a light at the end of the tunnel.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s mein tab popular hua jab railway tunnels banne lagi thin. Saalon tak mitti khodne ke baad, jab dusri taraf se roshni dikhti thi, toh workers ko pata chalta tha ki unka kaam poora ho gaya.
1960s mein Vietnam War ke waqt American politicians ne iska bahut istemal kiya tha ye dikhane ke liye ki jung jaldi khatam hogi (bhale hi wo galat the).

Light years away



An extremely long time from now in the past and future – बहुत लंबा समय

Ex - The technology used in that country is light years away from what we have here.

Origin/Tricks - 1838 mein German astronomer Friedrich Bessel ne sabse pehle sitaron ki doori naapne ke liye iska istemal kiya tha. 20th century tak aate-aate, log ise metaphorically un baaton ke liye use karne lage jo bahut mushkil ya "Distant future" ki thin.

Like a cat on a hot tin roof



Being in a state of agitation – व्याकुलता की स्थिति में होना

Ex - He was like a cat on a hot tin roof while waiting for the exam result.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh ek purana angrezi kahawat (proverb) hai jo 1800s se use ho rahi hai. Lekin ise poori duniya mein mashhoor kiya Tennessee Williams ne apne 1955 ke Pulitzer Prize winning play—"Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" se. Tabse ye nervous insaan ke liye sabse bada idiom ban gaya.

Like a dying duck in a thunderstorm



Dejected – उदास

Ex - After losing the match badly, he looked like a dying duck in a thunderstorm.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s mein British navy ke beech popular hua. Sailors un logon ko "Dying duck" bolte the jo samundari bimari (seasickness) ki wajah se bilkul dhaley huye aur bejaan dikhte the. Baad mein ye common English ka hissa ban gaya.

Like a Phoenix



To emerge with new life or strength after a major defeat or disaster – नई शक्ति के साथ फिर से उभरना

Ex - After the company went bankrupt, it rose like a Phoenix and became successful again.

Origin/Tricks - Phoenix ek chamatkari pakshi hai jo 500 saal jeeta hai. Jab wo buddha hota hai, toh wo khud ko aag laga leta hai. Usi aag ki raakh (ashes) se ek naya, jawaan aur pehle se bhi sundar Phoenix paida hota hai.
Zindagi mein "Aag" ka matlab hai Failures aur Problems. Jab aap unse haar nahi maante aur dobara shuruat karte hain, toh aap "Phoenix" ki tarah hote hain.

Like a shag on a rock



Completely alone – बिल्कुल अकेला

Ex - Standing alone in the crowd, he felt like a shag on a rock.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century mein Australia aur New Zealand mein bahut popular hua. Wahan ke samundari kinaron par akele baithe 'Shags' ko dekh kar log unka mazaak udate the ya un par daya karte the. 1845 ke aas-pass ye literature mein pehli baar dekha gaya.

Like a sitting duck



Easy to attack, cheat, or take advantage of – असुरक्षित

Ex - Without security guards, the bank was like a sitting duck for robbers.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase shuruat mein sirf shikaariyon ke beech use hota tha. 1940s ke aas-pass, khaas taur par World War II ke waqt, fauji (soldiers) ise un jahajon ya tankon ke liye use karne lage jo bina kisi protection ke khule maidan mein hote the. Tabse ye aam bhasha ka hissa ban gaya.

Like nailing jelly to the tree



Incredibly foolish and next to impossible – मूर्खतापूर्ण कार्य करना

Ex - Trying to convince him was like nailing jelly to the tree.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1900s mein popular hua. Kehte hain ki America ke President Theodore Roosevelt ne sabse pehle ise use kiya tha Columbian politicians ke saath deal karne ke liye. UK mein log "Tree" ki jagah "Wall" (Nailing jelly to a wall) zyada use karte hain. Dono ka matlab ek hi hai.

Like talking to a brick wall



Completely ignored or disregarded by someone – भैंस के आगे बीन बजाना

Ex - Explaining the rules to him is like talking to a brick wall because he never listens.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se chala aa raha hai. Insaan hamesha se jaanta hai ki deewar se baat karna bevkufi hai. Literature mein 1500s ke aas-pass se aise expressions milte hain jahan "Deewar" ko behre (deaf) insaan ka prateek (symbol) mana gaya hai.

Lily-livered



Coward or fearful – कायर या डरपोक

Ex - The lily-livered soldier ran away from the battlefield.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase 1600s mein mashhoor hua. William Shakespeare ne apne mashhoor plays (jaise Macbeth aur King Lear) mein iska bahut istemal kiya tha darpok logon ko nicha dikhane ke liye. Us waqt ye mana jata tha ki "Fear" (darr) liver se khoon nichod leta hai.**

Little by little



Gradually – धीरे-धीरे से

Ex - Little by little, she improved her English through daily practice.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh koi technical idiom nahi hai, balki English bhasha ke sabse purane phrases mein se ek hai. Iska zikr 14th century ki purani kitabon mein bhi milta hai. Yeh insani fitrat ko dikhata hai ki badi manzilein hamesha chote kadmon se hi shuru hoti hain.

Little/no love lost



Persons who do not like each other at all – एक दूसरे को नापसंद करने वाले लोग

Ex - There is little love lost between the two rival politicians.

Origin/Tricks - Shuruat mein (1600s mein), iska matlab "Dosti" hota tha (ki wo ek-dusre se itna pyar karte hain ki unka pyar kabhi kam ya "lost" nahi hota). Lekin 1800s tak aate-aate, iska matlab bilkul badal gaya aur ye "Mutual dislike" ke liye use hone laga. Aaj ye sirf negative context mein hi pucha jata hai.

Live from hand to mouth



To be extremely poor, having only enough money to provide food and shelter – किसी प्रकार गुजारा करना

Ex - Many daily labourers live from hand to mouth in big cities.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1500s ke aas-pass England mein shuru hua. Us waqt log bahut gareeb the aur faslein kharab hone par bhookmari (famine) phail jati thi. Log itne lachar the ki jo bhi thoda bahut milta tha, wo store karne ke bajaye turant kha lete the taaki zinda reh sakein.

Loaves and fishes



Materialist wealth – किसी कार्य के पीछे का भौतिक लाभ/स्वार्थ

Ex - Some politicians enter politics only for loaves and fishes.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai. Ise pehli baar un logon ke liye use kiya gaya tha jo dharam ka saath sirf isliye dete the taaki unka ghar chalta rahe. Aaj kal ye Politics aur Corporate world mein bahut use hota hai. Bible ke mutabik, Jesus ne sirf 5 loaves (bread) aur 2 fishes (machhliyon) se 5000 logon ka pet bhara tha.

Lock, stock and barrel



Completely/including everything – पूरी तरह/सब कुछ

Ex - The businessman sold his factory lock, stock and barrel.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase tab shuru hua jab log bandookein hath se banate the. Agar koi kehta ki usne bandook "Lock, stock and barrel" kharidi hai, toh uska matlab tha ki usne poora weapon liya hai, koi purza alag se nahi lena pada. Dhire-dhire ye business aur ghar badalne (moving house) ke liye bhi use hone laga.



Long in the tooth



To be too old to do something – बहुत ही पुराना, प्रचलन के बाहर

Ex - At forty-five, he is considered long in the tooth for professional sports.

Origin/Tricks - 1800s mein jab log ghode kharidte the, toh vyapari (traders) unke daant check karte the. Agar daant lambe dikhte, toh kharidar samajh jata tha ki ghoda ab kaam ke layak nahi raha kyunki wo "Long in the tooth" hai. Baad mein ye phrase insaano ke liye bhi mazaak ya taane ke taur par use hone laga.

Look before you leap



To think carefully of the consequences – परिणामों के बारे में ध्यान से सोचना

Ex - You should look before you leap before investing your savings.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase hazaron saal purana hai. Sabse purana zikr Aesop's Fables (The Fox and the Goat) mein milta hai. Ek lomdi (fox) kuen mein gir gayi thi aur usne bakri (goat) ko bhi andar bula liya. Bakri bina soche kood gayi aur phans gayi. Tab lomdi ne kaha tha—"Look before you leap."

Loosen the purse strings



Allow more money to be spent – ज्यादा खर्च करना

Ex - The government finally loosened the purse strings to support farmers.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se chala aa raha hai jab "Drawstring bags" hi paise rakhne ka ek-matra (only) tarika tha. 17th aur 18th century mein British Parliament mein jab budget ki baat hoti thi, toh ministers aksar kehte the ki ab waqt aa gaya hai "To loosen the purse strings of the nation."

Lose (one's) marbles



To go insane/To be or become mentally deficient, incompetent – पागल होना

Ex - If he keeps talking to himself like that, people will think he has lost his marbles.

Origin/Tricks - Iska sahi origin thoda debatable hai, par ye 1800s ke aakhir mein popular hua. Us waqt bachhon ke beech "Marbles" ka khel bahut mashhoor tha. Agar koi bachha apne saare kanche haar jata tha, toh wo gusse mein ya dukh mein "Crazy" behave karne lagta tha. 1954 ki movie The Caine Mutiny ke baad ye phrase poori duniya mein fail gaya.

Lose count of

To forget the accurate total – गिनती भूलना

Ex - I lost count of how many times he repeated the same mistake.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh koi purani kahani se nahi aaya, balki insani fitrat (nature) se aaya hai. Sadiyon se log taaro (stars) ya samundar ki lehron ke liye ye phrase use karte aaye hain. Modern English mein ye 1800s ke baad se "Exaggeration" (baat badha-chadhakar kehne) ke liye popular ho gaya.



Lose face

To become less respected by others – नाक कटाना

Ex - The manager apologized publicly so that the company would not lose face.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh idiom asal mein Chinese phrase "Diu lian" ka English translation hai. China mein "Face" (Reputation) ko sabse keemti cheez mana jata hai. 19th century mein English diplomats ne is concept ko samjha aur ise English bhasha mein "Lose face" ke taur par shamil kar liya.



Lose ground

To become less acceptable – पीछे हटना

Ex - The opposition party is gradually losing ground in the elections.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se chala aa raha hai. Purane zamane mein ladayi sirf "Zameen" jeetne ke liye hoti thi. Jo fauj piche hat-ti thi, usey "Losing ground" kaha jata tha. 1700s ke baad se ye phrase politics aur business mein bhi use hone laga.



Lose your touch

Not to be as successful as previously – पहले की तरह सफल न होना

Ex - The famous writer seems to have lost his touch in recent novels.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s-1800s ke karigaron (craftsmen) se aaya hai. Jo log mitti ke bartan (pottery) ya gehne (jewelry) banate the, unka poora hunar unke "Touch" mein hota tha. Agar wo bimar hote ya boodhe ho jate, toh log kehte—"He has lost his touch."



Lynch law



Law imposed by the government – सरकार द्वारा लगाया गया कानून

Ex - The angry mob followed lynch law and punished the thief without trial.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 18th century America se aaya hai. Virginia ke ek justice of peace, Charles Lynch, ne American Revolutionary War ke waqt dushmano aur choron ko bina kisi pakke kanooni raste ke saza dena shuru kiya tha. Uske is tarike ko "Lynch's Law" kaha jaane laga, jo baad mein "Mob lynching" ka naam ban gaya.

Made light of



Treated it lightly – हल्के में लेना

Ex - He made light of the accident, though it was very serious.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase "Light" (vazan mein halka) ke purane matlab se aaya hai. Shakespeare ke zamane mein bhi "Light" word ka use "Chichora" (frivolous) ya "Kam-vazani" ke liye hota tha. 1500s se hi log iska use "Be-adabi" ya "Be-parwahi" dikhane ke liye kar rahe hain.**

Make a clean breast



To confess one's crime – अपना गुनाह कबूल करना

Ex - The thief decided to make a clean breast of his crime in court.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s mein popular hua. Us waqt "Breast" word ka istemal "Soul" ya "Mind" ke liye hota tha. Scottish literature (jaise Sir Walter Scott ki kitabon) mein iska zikr kafi milta hai jahan log marne se pehle apne gunaho ka "Clean breast" karte the.

Make a clean sweep



To eliminate unwanted persons/things – अनावश्यक चीजों/लोगों को हटाना

Ex - The team made a clean sweep by winning all five matches.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s mein popular hua. Iska ek purana link "New broom sweeps clean" se bhi hai. Samundari jahazon (ships) par jab badi lehr (wave) aati thi aur deck par rakha saara saman baha le jati thi, toh usey bhi "Clean sweep" kaha jata tha.

Make a dent



To decrease something slightly or to make weaker – कमजोर करना

Ex - The new policy failed to make a dent in unemployment.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s mein popular hua jab lohe aur metal ka kaam badh gaya tha. "Dent" ka matlab hota tha mechanical force se kisi cheez ka shape badalna. Baad mein ye "Progress" aur "Finance" ke liye figurative tarike se use hone laga. Woh nishan is baat ka saboot hai ki aapne "Asar" daala hai. "Make a dent" ka matlab hai ki aapne us badi cheez ko thoda sa "Hila" diya hai ya "Kam" kar diya hai.

Make a fuss of somebody



To give someone a lot of attention – किसी को बहुत महत्व देना

Ex - The grandparents made a fuss of the little child.

Origin/Tricks - "Fuss" word 1700s mein shuru hua tha jiska matlab tha "Unnecessary activity" (faltu ki daud-bhag). Shuruat mein ye negative tha (matlab bina wajah pareshan hona), par 1900s tak aate-aate "Make a fuss of" ka matlab positive ho gaya—yani "Love aur Attention" ke liye ki jane wali halchal.

Make a hash of



Made a mess of/To do something very badly – किसी चीज को बिगाड़ना या गड़बड़ कर देना

Ex - He made a hash of the presentation by forgetting important points.

Origin/Tricks - "Hash" word French word hacher se aaya hai jiska matlab hai "to chop" (katna). 1600s mein ye sirf khane ke liye use hota tha, par 1800s tak aate-aate ye "Messing up" ke liye ek popular slang ban gaya kyunki chopped meat kafi "Unorganized" dikhta tha.

Make a living

To earn enough money for things you need – जरूरतों की पूर्ति के लिए धन कमाना

Ex - Many artists struggle to make a living through their work.

Make both ends meet

To have just enough money to live – गुजारा कर पाने जितना ही कमा पाना

Ex - With such a small salary, it is hard to make both ends meet.

Make a pig's ear



To do something badly, wrongly, or awkwardly – अटपटे ढंग से काम करना

Ex - He made a pig's ear of the simple assignment.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Britain mein 1800s ke aakhir mein shuru hua. Yeh wahi "Silk purse" wali kahawat ka extension hai. Jab koi anari darzi (tailor) kapda kharab kar deta tha, toh log kehte the ki usne toh "Suar ka kaan" (pig's ear) bana diya hai.

Make a mountain of a mole hill



To give great importance to trifles – तिल का ताड़ बना देना

Ex - She made a mountain of a mole hill over a small mistake.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase pehli baar 1548 mein Nicholas Udall ki ek kitab mein dekha gaya tha. Tabse ye English bhasha ka ek bahut bada "Classic" idiom ban gaya hai. Duniyabhar ki har language mein iska koi na koi version (jaise Hindi mein 'Rai ka Pahad') zaroor milta hai.

Make a song and dance

To make unnecessary fuss about something – किसी छोटी सी बात पर हंगामा मचाना

Ex - Stop making a song and dance about such a minor problem.

Much ado about nothing

Making a big fuss over a small thing – छोटी बात का बतंगढ़ बनाना

Ex - The entire controversy turned out to be much ado about nothing.

Make a wry face



A disappointment look – मुँह टेड़ा करना

Ex - He made a wry face after tasting the bitter medicine.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh word 16th century ke aas-pass "Wrigian" se aaya jiska matlab tha "Modna" (to turn). Shuruat mein ye sirf physical tedhepan ke liye tha, par 1800s tak aate aate ise "Expression" ke taur par literature mein use kiya jane laga.

Make amends for



To correct a mistake – गलती सुधारना

Ex - He tried to make amends for his rude behaviour.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 13th century mein Old French word amender se aaya, jiska matlab tha "to correct" ya "to improve". Shuruat mein ye kanooni (legal) mamlon mein use hota tha jahan apradhi (criminal) ko jurmana bharna padta tha. Baad mein ye "Apology" aur "Personal relationships" ka hissa ban gaya.

Make an ass out of



Cause someone or oneself to look foolish or stupid – मूर्खतापूर्ण व्यवहार

Ex - If you speak without facts, you will make an ass out of yourself.

Origin/Tricks - Hazaron saal purane kisse-kahaniyon mein gadhe ko hamesha aisi galtiyan karte dikhaya gaya hai jo samajhdaari ke khilaf hoti hain. 1600s mein William Shakespeare ne apne play "A Midsummer Night's Dream" mein ek character ka sir asliyat mein gadhe ka bana diya tha. Tabse ye phrase "Bewakoof dikhne" ke liye pakka ho gaya.

Make an entry



To come into a place – कहीं पर आना

Ex - The celebrity made an entry into the hall amid loud applause.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 14th century se chala aa raha hai. Shuruat mein ye sirf "Accounting" (hisab-kitab) ke liye use hota tha. Jab koi vyapari (merchant) koi saman bechta tha, toh wo register mein "Entry" karta tha. Baad mein kanoon (law) mein "Forcible entry" (zabardasti ghusna) jese terms bhi popular huye.

Make away with



To remove – हटाना, लेकर भाग जाना

Ex - The thief made away with the jewellery.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1500s se chala aa raha hai. Us waqt "Make" word ka use "To move" ke liye kafi hota tha. Agar koi kaid (prisoner) jail se bhagta tha, toh log kehte the "He made away." Baad mein jab wo kisi ke saman ke saath bhagne lage, toh ye "Make away with [something]" ban gaya.

Make believe



To pretend that something is true – किसी चीज के सच होने का दिखावा करना

Ex - Children love to make believe they are superheroes.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s mein popular hua. Shuruat mein ise "Make-believe" (hyphen ke saath) ek adjective ki tarah use kiya jata tha un bachon ke khelon ke liye jahan wo badon ki nakal utarte the. Baad mein ye adults ke liye bhi use hone laga jo kadwi asliyat (harsh reality) se bachne ke liye jhoot ka sahara lete hain.

Make big time

To attain fame and success – यश एवं सफलता प्राप्त करना

Ex - After years of struggle, the singer finally made big time.

Make one's mark

To attain success/Attain recognition – सफलता पाना

Ex - The young entrepreneur hopes to make his mark in the tech industry.

Make it big



To achieve great success, fame, or fortune – अत्यधिक सफल/प्रसिद्ध होना

Ex - She moved to Mumbai hoping to make it big in the film industry.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1900s ke shuruat mein entertainment industry (movies aur music) mein popular hua. Jo actors ya singers choti galliyon se nikal kar bade parde (big screen) par aate the, unhe kaha jata tha ki they have "Made it big."

Make hay while the sun shines



To turn to the best advantage – अवसर का लाभ उठाना

Ex - Farmers must make hay while the sun shines during harvest time.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1546 mein John Heywood ki ek collection mein dekha gaya tha. Us zamane mein koi weather forecast nahi hota tha, isliye dhoop nikalna ek "Golden Opportunity" mani jati thi. Tabse ye har tarah ke fayde (profit) ke liye use hone laga.

Make head or tail of something



Understand/To figure out something – समझना

Ex - I could not make head or tail of his complicated explanation.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai. Purane zamane mein bhi jab log sikka (coin) uchhalte the, toh unhe decide karna padta tha ki "Head" (chehra) hai ya "Tail" (piche ka hissa). Agar sikka ghisa hua hota tha, toh wo "Head or tail" nahi bata paate the. Wahi se ye "Understanding" ke liye use hone laga.

Make no bones about



To state something clearly – स्पष्टरूप से बताना

Ex - The manager made no bones about criticizing the poor performance.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1400s mein shuru hua tha. Us waqt log "Find bones in" use karte the jab unhe kisi baat par aitraz (objection) hota tha. Agar kisi ne bina kisi "Bones" ke baat maan li, toh matlab usne bina kisi objection ke baat swikar kar li.

Make no headway



To be unable to progress ahead – आगे बढ़ने में असमर्थ होना

Ex - Despite hours of discussion, the committee made no headway in solving the dispute.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s mein sailors (mallah) use karte the. Jab jahaz ka "Head" (agla hissa) hawa ke dabaav ki wajah se aage nahi badh pata tha, toh usey "Making no headway" kaha jata tha. Baad mein ye life ki problems aur office ke kaam ke liye bhi use hone laga.

Mealy-mouthed



Afraid to speak frankly or directly – अपनी बात को खुल के न कह पाने वाला

Ex - The politician gave a mealy-mouthed answer to avoid criticism.

Origin/Tricks - Iska origin thoda mysterious hai, par mana jata hai ki ye German word "Mehl-maulig" se aaya hai. Kuch log ye bhi maante hain ki ye "Honey-mouthed" ka ulta tha. Pehle ye un logon ke liye use hota tha jo "Soft-spoken" hote the, par dhiredhire ye "Darpok" aur "Jhoote" logon ke liye ek negative term ban gaya.

Make one's flesh crawl/creep



To make someone feel disgusted, afraid, frightened – डराना

Ex - The sight of insects on the wall made my flesh crawl.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s ke aakhir mein shuru hua tha. Shuruat mein log "My skin crawls" kehte the. Charles Dickens ne apne novels mein is expression ko kafi popular banaya jab wo darawne (scary) scenes describe karte the.

Make one's mouth water



Feel hungry – भूख लगना

Ex - The smell of fresh bread made my mouth water.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh koi naya phrase nahi hai balki sadiyon purana ek "Natural Observation" hai. 1600s ke English literature mein bhi iska zikr milta hai. Ye un chuninda idioms mein se ek hai jo duniya ki lagbhag har bhasha mein ek hi tarah se bola jata hai.

Make out of whole cloth



Entirely false and fabricated – पूरी तरह से झूठा और मनगढ़ंत

Ex - His story about the robbery was made out of whole cloth.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s mein popular hua. Us waqt kuch dhokebaaz darzi (tailors) purane kapdon ko naye kapde (whole cloth) bata kar bech dete the. Baad mein, iska matlab badal kar "Aisi cheez jo sach nahi hai" ho gaya, yani "Pure Invention."

Make room



To create space or opportunity for someone or something – किसी चीज के लिए अवसर उत्पन्न करना

Ex - Please make room for the elderly passenger.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh sirf physical jagah ke liye nahi, balki dimaag ya zindagi mein nayi cheezon ko jagah dene ke liye bhi use hota hai (jaise: "Make room for new ideas").

Make up one's mind

To decide to do something – कुछ करने का ठान लेना

Ex - You must make up your mind before the deadline.

Move heaven and earth

Make every effort to achieve something – हर संभव प्रयास करना

Ex - The parents moved heaven and earth to get treatment for their child.

Make waves



To cause trouble – परेशानी खड़ी करना

Ex - The new manager does not want to make waves in the company.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase samundari jahazon (ships) se aaya hai. Jab ek bada jahaz shant paani mein tezi se nikalta hai, toh wo badi "Waves" banata hai jo choti kashtiyon (boats) ko hila deti hain. 20th century se ise "Social settings" mein use kiya jane laga jab koi naya insaan system ko hilata tha.

Man of parts

Of superior ability – प्रतिभाशाली व्यक्ति

Ex - The professor is a man of parts who excels in many fields.

Mother wit

Natural wit or intelligence – जन्मजात बुद्धिमता

Ex - His mother wit helped him solve the problem without help.

Matter of life and death



Gravely serious – बेहद गंभीर स्थिति

Ex - For the patient, the surgery was a matter of life and death.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s se English mein kafi common hai. Shuruat mein ye sirf "Medical" ya "War" (Yuddh) ke mamlon ke liye use hota tha jahan sach mein kisi ki jaan khatre mein hoti thi. Baad mein, ise 'Exaggeration' (badha-chadhakar bolna) ke taur par har us kaam ke liye use kiya jane laga jo bohot "Urgent" ho.

Meet someone's eyes



To look directly at someone's eyes while they are watching you – नजर मिलाना

Ex - He could not meet my eyes after telling the lie.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh koi purana kanooni term nahi hai, balki ek natural human instinct hai. Sadiyon se "Eye contact" ko taqat aur imaandari (integrity) ki nishani mana gaya hai. 19th-century ke English novels mein iska kaafi use milta hai jab koi character apni baat par pakka hota tha.

Lose by a neck



Lose by a small margin – थोड़े-से अंतर से हारना

Ex - Our team lost the race by a neck in the final round.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s mein England ke horse racing tracks se shuru hua. Us waqt "Photo finish" cameras nahi hote the, toh judges ghode ki gardan (neck) dekh kar faisla karte the. Dhire-dhire ye politics aur exams mein bhi famous ho gaya.

Meet one's waterloo



To be badly defeated in a contest – किसी प्रतिस्पर्धा में बुरी तरह हारना

Ex - The undefeated boxer finally met his Waterloo in the final match.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh asli itihasik ghatna hai. Napoleon Bonaparte ko Duke of Wellington ne haraya tha. Is haar ke baad Napoleon ka raaj khatam ho gaya aur usey qaid kar liya gaya. Tabse "Waterloo" word "Defeat" ka synonym ban gaya.**

Midas touch



Ability to make money – पैसा कमाने की क्षमता

Ex - Whatever business he starts succeeds; he truly has the Midas touch.

Origin/Tricks - King Midas ki kahani kafi purani hai. Shuruat mein ye ek "Abhishap" (curse) tha kyunki wo khana bhi nahi kha pata tha (khana bhi sona ban jata tha!). Par modern English mein hum ise sirf Success aur Wealth ke liye ek positive sense mein use karte hain. Aaj ke zamane mein iska matlab "Magic" nahi, balki "Great Skill" hai. Agar koi investor kisi dubti hui company ko kharidta hai aur wo profit dene lagti hai, toh hum kehte hain uske paas "Midas touch" hai.

Mind one's p's and q's



To be careful about behaving in a polite or proper way – विनम्र व्यवहार को बनाये रखना

Ex - Children should mind their p's and q's in front of guests.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein printers jab metal ke letters set karte the, toh 'p' aur 'q' mein confuse ho jate the. Unhe kaha jata tha "Mind your p's and q's."

Mull something over



To think carefully about something for a long time – ध्यान से सोचना

Ex - She decided to mull over the proposal before accepting it.

Origin/Tricks - Iska talluk "Mulled Wine" se hai. 1600s mein log drinks ko garam karke peete the. Dhire-dhire ye "Garam karne" ka concept dimaag ke liye use hone laga, yani dimaag ko kisi topic par "Warm up" karna aur usse saari jaankari nikalna.

Mumbo jumbo



Nonsense or meaningless speech – बकवास भाषण

Ex - His speech was full of mumbo jumbo and meaningless phrases.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh word "Maamajomboo" se aaya ho sakta hai, jo West Africa ki Mandinka tribe ka ek devta (spirit) tha. Purane zamane mein log ajeeb rituals karte the jise bahar wale log "Mumbo Jumbo" kehne lage kyunki unhe wo sab nonsense lagta tha. 18th century se ye English mein "Nonsense" ke liye fix ho gaya.

No pain no gain



It is necessary to work hard in order to succeed – बिना मेहनत के सफलता नहीं मिलती

Ex - Athletes follow the rule no pain, no gain during training.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1980s mein Hollywood actress Jane Fonda ne apne workout videos mein mashhoor kiya tha. Lekin iska concept bohot purana hai. 17th century ke poets ne bhi likha tha ki "No thorns, no roses" (bina kaanton ke gulab nahi milta). Aaj ye 'Success Mantra' ban chuka hai.

Nail Biting



Suspenseful – असमंजय होना

Ex - The last over of the cricket match was nail-biting, and everyone was extremely tense.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 20th century mein popular hua, khaas karke "Sports" aur "Movies" ke liye. Jab koi "Thriller" film aati thi jisme aakhri tak pata nahi chalta tha ki qatil kaun hai, toh log usey "Nail-biter" kehne lage. Aaj ye har us situation ke liye use hota hai jahan suspense top level par ho.

Neck and crop



Totally and completely – पूर्णतः

Ex - The corrupt officials were removed neck and crop from the department.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 18th century ke as-paas shuru hua. Jab koi ghode se "Neck and crop" girta tha, toh iska matlab wo poori tarah ulta hokar gira hai. Dhire dhire ye kisi bhi kaam ko "Entirely" karne ke liye use hone laga.

Neck of the woods



Neighbourhood – पड़ोसी

Ex - Hardly any buses come to this neck of the woods.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase American settlers se aaya hai jo ghane janglon mein "Colonies" banakar rehte the. "Neck" word purani English mein "Zameen ke ek tukde" (a narrow piece of land) ke liye use hota tha. 1770s tak aate aate, ye logon ke rehne ki jagah ka synonym ban gaya.

Neither fish nor fowl



Something which can neither be categorized easily nor be accepted belittingly – अनिश्चित विशेषताओं वाला वर्गीकरण संभव न हो पाना

Ex - His strange plan was neither fish nor fowl, so nobody supported it.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase English ke purane "Religious Laws" se aaya hai. Log 'Flesh' (Fowl) aur 'Fish' ke beech ka farak bohot dhyan se rakhte the. 1500s tak aate aate ye har us insaan ya cheez ke liye use hone laga jo "Indecisive" (anischit) ho.

Nerves of steel



An absence of fear or anxiety – भय या चिंता का अभाव

Ex - The pilot showed nerves of steel during the emergency landing.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s mein tab popular hua jab "Steel" ka istemal pul (bridges) aur badi buildings banane mein hone laga. Logon ne "Mazbooti" ko steel se jodna shuru kiya. Soldiers aur surgeons (doctor) ke liye ye aksar use kiya jata tha kyunki unhe bina haath kaanpe kaam karna hota tha.

Never test the depth of water with both feet



Do not invest all of your resources in one thing – सोच समझकर आगे बढ़ना

Ex - When investing money, remember never test the depth of water with both feet.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh kafi purani aur mashhoor "African Proverb" (kahavat) hai. Iska istemal kabile (tribes) ke log shikar ya safar ke dauran dete the. Dhire-dhire ye poori duniya mein "Risk Management" ka sabse bada mantra ban gaya. Warren Buffett jaise bade investors bhi aksar is tarah ki baatein karte hain.

Never-never land



An ideal or imaginary place – काल्पनिक दुनिया

Ex - His unrealistic ideas belong to never-never land.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sabse zyada mashhoor hua J.M. Barrie ki kahani "Peter Pan" se. Usme ek jagah thi jiska naam tha "Neverland," jahan bacche kabhi bade nahi hote the. Dhire-dhire ye "Never Never Land" ban gaya aur iska matlab kisi bhi "Unrealistic idea" se jud gaya.

New kid on the block



Someone new to the group or area – किसी दल में आने वाला नया व्यक्ति

Ex - As the new kid on the block, the young employee had to prove himself.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1940s-50s mein America mein aam hua. Ise aur bhi zyada mashhoor kiya 1980s ke ek famous boy band ne jiska naam tha "New Kids on the Block." Tab se ye "Naye aur energetic" logon ke liye ek standard phrase ban gaya.

Nip someone in the bud



To destroy early – शुरुआत में ही खत्म कर देना

Ex - The teacher decided to nip the cheating in the bud.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1600s se English mein use ho raha hai. Maali (gardeners) jaante the ki sardi (frost) aksar nayi kaliyon ko "Nip" (khatam) kar deti hai. Is "Nipping" ko baad mein 'Discipline' aur 'Law' ke liye use kiya jane laga taaki 'Crime' ko shuruat mein hi roka ja sake.

No man is an island



No one is self-sufficient; everyone relies on others – दूसरों के ऊपर निर्भर होना

Ex - We must help each other because no man is an island.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase ek mashhoor English poet John Donne ne apne ek sermon (bhashan) mein likha tha. Unka kehna tha ki jab ek insaan marta hai, toh poori insaniyat ka ek hissa kam ho jata hai, kyunki hum sab ek dusre se jude huye hain. 400 saal baad bhi ye baat bilkul sach hai.**

Rubbing of the shoulders



To meet and spend time with people – लोगों से मिलना और साथ में समय बीताना

Ex - Successful businessmen often rub shoulders with influential people.

Origin/Tricks - **Jab aap kisi ke "Kandhe se kandha mila kar" (rubbing shoulders) chalte hain, toh iska matlab hai aap unke saath ghul-mil rahe hain, unke jitne ameer ya bade hain, aur unke dost hain. Yeh dikhata hai ki aap unke sath ek hi 'Social Circle' mein nahi hain. Aap unhe 'Unworthy' (na-kaabil) maante hain ya unse darta hai ya nafrat karte hain.**

No spring chicken



A person who is no longer young – एक व्यक्ति जो अब युवा न रहा हो

Ex - At sixty he is no spring chicken yet he runs daily.

Origin/Tricks - England ke farmers jab murgiyan bechte the, toh wo "Spring chickens" ko sabse mehenga bechte the kyunki wo naye hote the. Buyers kabhi-kabhi dhoka kha jate the, isliye wo murgi ko check karke kehte the—"This is no spring chicken!" (Yani ye purani murgi hai). 1900s tak aate-aate ye logon ki umar ke liye use hone laga.

No strings attached



Without condition or restrictions – बिना शर्त या प्रतिबंध के

Ex - The charity donated the money with no strings attached.

Origin/Tricks - Kehte hain ki purane zamane mein jab log kapda (fabric) kharidte the, toh kuch saste kapdon mein "Strings" (dhage) nikal rahe hote the jo kapde ki quality kharab dikhate the. "No strings" wala kapda sabse achha mana jata tha. Lekin modern sense mein ye "Puppet" wala logic hi sabse zyada fit baithta hai jo 1900s mein popular hua.

Nobody's fool



Not easily deceived – आसानी से धोका न खाने वाला

Ex - Do not try to cheat her she is nobody's fool.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se chala aa raha hai. Purane zamane mein rajaon ke darbar mein 'Jesters' (fools) hote the jo dusron ke kehne par naachte the. "Nobody's fool" ka matlab tha wo insaan jo kisi ka 'Jester' nahi hai aur apni marzi ka malik hai. 1900s mein ye business aur politics mein 'Sharp minds' ke liye fix ho gaya.

Not fit to hold a candle



Inferior/Cannot be compared to – पाँव की धूल होना

Ex - The cheap copy is not fit to hold a candle to the original painting.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1500s se English mein hai. Us waqt seekhne wale bacchon (apprentices) ko pehle sirf light dikhane ka kaam milta tha. Agar koi bacha wo bhi dhang se nahi kar pata tha, toh usey "Not fit to hold a candle" kaha jata tha. 1600s tak aate-aate ye "Inquality" dikhane ka ek bada muhavara ban gaya.

Not have the ghost of a chance



To not have even the slightest possible chance of something – बिल्कुल भी संभावना ना होना

Ex - Without preparation, he did not have the ghost of a chance in the exam.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s mein popular hua jab log "Ghost" word ko "Very small amount" (thodi si matra) ke liye use karte the. Jaise "A ghost of a smile" (halki si muskan). Wahan se ye competition aur sports mein "Zero chance" ke liye fix ho gaya.

Not mince one's words



To speak in a very direct and honest way without worrying about offending somebody – सीधे बोल देना

Ex - The judge did not mince his words while criticizing corruption.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1500s se English mein maujood hai. Log "Mincing" word ko kisi cheez ko kamzor dikhane ke liye use karte the. Purane zamane ke playwrights aur writers ise tab use karte the jab koi character "Be-baak" (bold) hokar bolta tha. Aaj ye business aur criticism mein ek bohot bada "Trait" (goon) mana jata hai.

Not playing with the full deck



Not to be completely honest – पूरी तरह से ईमानदार न दिखना

Ex - Anyone who believes that rumor is clearly not playing with the full deck.

Origin/Tricks - YYeh phrase 1900s ke beech mein America mein popular hua. Isse pehle "A few bricks short of a load" (load mein kuch eentein kam hona) jise idioms use hote the. Cards ke zariye "Mental health" ya "Stupidity" ko dikhana logon ko kafi mazedaar laga aur tab se ye SSC aur English speaking mein 'Insulting but funny' idiom ban gaya.

Not see eye to eye



To have different opinion – अलग विचार होना

Ex - The two partners do not see eye to eye on business matters.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Bible (Isaiah 52:8) se aaya hai. Wahan iska matlab tha ki jab log "Aankh se aankh" milakar dekhenge, toh wo sachai ko ek saath pehchan lenge. Dhire-dhire ye "Agreement" ke liye use hone laga, aur "Not" lagne par ye "Disagreement" ka sabse bada idiom ban gaya.

Not to look a gift horse in the mouth



Don't find fault with a free gift or chance benefit – मुफ्त की मिली चीज में कमी न खोजें

Ex - When someone offers help, do not look a gift horse in the mouth.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai. 4th Century ke Saint Jerome ne ise sabse pehle likha tha. Us zamane mein ghode sabse bada asset hote the. Aaj ye har us cheez ke liye use hota hai jo humein "Free" milti hai, jaise 'Company Bonus' ya 'Birthday Gift'.

Odd man out



Person who doesn't fit into a group – असंगत

Ex - Because of his different opinion, he felt like the odd man out.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane bachon ke khelon (games) se aaya hai. Jab team banani hoti thi aur ek bacha bach jata tha (kyunki total number 'Odd' hota tha, jaise 11), toh us bachay ko "Odd man out" kaha jata tha. 1900s tak aate-aate ye 'Logic' aur 'Reasoning' ka ek bada hissa ban gaya (jaise SSC exams mein 'Find the odd one out' wale sawal aate hain).

Of the first water



Of the best quality – उत्तम गुणवत्ता का

Ex - Her performance was of the first water.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1500s se English mein hai. French aur Arabic vyapari (merchants) heeron ko unki "Water clarity" ke hisaab se grade karte the. Dhire-dhire ye kanoon (law), art, aur logon ke 'Character' ke liye bhi use hone laga.

Of the old school

Old fashioned in thoughts – पुराने जमाने की सोच वाला

Ex - My grandfather is of the old school and prefers handwritten letters.

Out of date

Something old fashioned – पुराने जमाने का

Ex - This phone model is completely out of date.

Off and on

Sometimes but not regularly – कभी-कभी

Ex - It rained off and on throughout the day.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase tab se popular hai jab log "Off" aur "On" ko physical movement ke liye use karte the (jaise kapde pehenna aur utarna). Dhire-dhire ye "Time" aur "Frequency" ke liye ek standard idiom ban gaya. Iska ek aur version hai "On and off", dono ka matlab bilkul ek hi hai.



On the cards

Possible or likely – संभवतः

Ex - A promotion seems on the cards for her this year.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s-1800s mein Europe mein popular hua. Log apni kismat janne ke liye 'Cards' ka sahara lete the. Agar card par kuch achha dikhta, toh wo kehte—"It's on the cards!" 1900s tak aate-aate ye business aur politics mein "Likely to happen" ke liye ek standard idiom ban gaya.



Off the cuff

Without preparation – बिना तैयारी के

Ex - He answered the difficult question off the cuff.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1930s mein America mein bohot popular hua. Actors aur politicians aksar aakhri waqt par apne shirt ke cuffs par lines likhte the. Dhire dhire ye "Impulse" (turant wala kaam) ke liye ek standard English idiom ban gaya.



On the cuff



With the promise of future payment; on credit – उधार पर

Ex - I bought groceries on the cuff because I had no cash.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 'Prohibition' (sharaab bandi) ke dauran America mein bohot popular hua. Bar mein log "On the cuff" peete the. Dhire-dhire ye business aur retail mein "Credit purchase" ke liye ek standard term ban gaya. SSC exams mein ye "On credit" ke option ke saath pucha jata hai.

Off-colour



Feeling slightly ill – थोड़ा बीमार

Ex - She felt off-colour and decided to rest.

Origin/Tricks - Shuruat mein ye heeron (diamonds) ke liye use hota tha. Jo heera ekdum "Pure white" nahi hota tha, usey "Off-colour" kaha jata tha (yani uski quality kharab hai). Dhire-dhire ye logon ki 'Tabiyat' ke liye use hone laga kyunki beemari mein chehre ka rang ud jata hai.

Oily tongue



Flattery – चापलूसी

Ex - With his oily tongue, he managed to flatter the boss.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se chala aa raha hai. Rome aur Greece ke philosophers bhi "Oily words" ka zikr karte the un logon ke liye jo darbar (court) mein chaploosi karte the. 1800s mein ye English literature mein "Sycophancy" (chaploosi) ke liye fix ho gaya.

Old hand



Experienced person – अनुभवी व्यक्ति

Ex - The mechanic is an old hand at repairing engines.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane zamane ke jahazon (ships) se aaya hai. Jo sailors (mallah) samudr mein saalon bita chuke hote the aur rassi pakadne se lekar disha (direction) pehchanne mein expert hote the, unhe "Old hands" kaha jata tha. Dhire-dhire ye har profession ke expert ke liye use hone laga.

Old head on young shoulders



Someone who is mature or wise beyond their years – छोटी उम्र में ही समझदार होना

Ex - The young leader shows an old head on young shoulders.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1500s se English mein istemal ho raha hai. Iska pehla bada zikr Sir Walter Raleigh ne kiya tha. Purane zamane mein mana jata tha ki samajhdari sirf 'Safed baalon' (old age) ke saath aati hai. Jab koi bacha achanak 'Sane' (wise) baatein karta tha, toh usey 'Ajooba' (wonder) mana jata tha.

On a roll



To be experiencing a successful period/In the midst of successes – सफलता अनुभव करना

Ex - The team is on a roll after winning five matches in a row.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane zamane ke "Dice" (ludo ki goti) wale khelon se aaya hai. Jab koi khiladi baar-baar achhe number lata tha aur jeet-ta jata tha, toh usey kaha jata tha ki "The dice are on a roll." 1900s tak aate-aate ye sports, business aur exams ke liye ek popular idiom ban gaya.

On a wing and a prayer

Hoping that you will succeed, although you are not prepared enough for it – बहुत कम आशा के साथ

Ex - The company launched the project on a wing and a prayer.

On fool's errand

A task that has no hope of success – सफलता की कोई आशा नहीं होना

Ex - Searching for that imaginary treasure is a fool's errand.Origin/

On account of



Because of – के करण

Ex - The match was cancelled on account of heavy rain.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1600s se business aur trade mein use ho raha hai. Pehle ye sirf paison ke len-den ke liye tha (on account of debt), par 1700s tak aate-aate ye aam zindagi mein "Reason" batane ka ek bada zariya ban gaya. SSC exams mein ye aksar 'Sentence Improvement' aur 'Fillers' mein pucha jata hai.

One's back against the wall



Feel extremely worried due to a problem – अत्यधिक परेशान होना

Ex - With debts increasing, he felt his back against the wall.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane zamane ke 'Sword fighting' (talwar-baazi) ya 'Boxing' se aaya hai. Jab ek ladne wala peeche hat-te hat-te deewar tak pahunch jata tha, toh wo "Defensive" se "Aggressive" ho jata tha kyunki ab bhagne ka rasta band tha. SSC exams mein ye "Desperate situation" ke context mein pucha jata hai.

On edge



Nervous and unable to relax – घबराहट

Ex - Everyone felt on edge before the announcement.

On pins and needles

Anxious or nervous, especially in anticipation of something – बेचैन होना

Ex - The students waited on pins and needles for the results.

On tenterhooks



Worried or nervous about something that is going to happen – विस्मय की स्थिति में

Ex - The entire family waited on tenterhooks for the medical report.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1300s-1400s ke England se aaya hai. Us waqt kapda banana sabse bada kaam tha. Kapde ki us "Stretched" halat ko dekh kar logon ne ise insani emotions (tension) se jod diya. 1700s tak aate-aate ye English literature ka ek standard "Stress" idiom ban gaya.

On cloud nine

Very happy – बहुत खुश

Ex - She was on cloud nine after getting the scholarship.

Over the moon

To be extremely happy – बहुत खुश

Ex - She was over the moon after winning the scholarship.

On purpose



Deliberately – जानबूझकर

Ex - He broke the vase on purpose.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1500s se English ka ek mazboot hissa hai. Ye "By design" ya "Intentionally" ka ek aam aur asar-daar (effective) version hai. Law aur ethics mein ye word bohot important hota hai taaki pata chale ki galti 'Galti' se hui hai ya 'Iraade' se.

On shank's mare



On foot – पैरों पर

Ex - Since there was no bus, we went on shank's mare.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s mein Scotland mein shuru hua. Us zamane mein gareeb logon ke paas ghode nahi hote the. "Shank" unka mazaakiya tareeka tha apne pairon ko "Sawaari" batane ka. 1800s tak aate-aate ye poori duniya mein "Walking" ke liye ek stylish idiom ban gaya.

On its last legs

In a bad condition – बुरी अवस्था में

Ex - That old car is on its last legs.

On the hook

To be responsible for something – मुसीबत में फँसना

Ex - If the project fails, the manager will be on the hook for it.

On the back burner



To temporarily not deal with some matter because it is not urgent – मुद्दे को प्राथमिकता के आधार पर कुछ समय के लिए टाल लेना

Ex - The government has put the education reform on the back burner for now.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1900s ke shuruat mein America mein popular hua jab multi-burner stoves aam ho gaye. Politicians aur Businessmen ne ise "Prioritizing" (kaam ki ranking) ke liye use karna shuru kiya. SSC aur Bank exams mein ye "Low priority" ke context mein baar-baar pucha jata hai.

On the breadline

Be very poor – बहुत गरीब

Ex - After losing his job, he was living on the breadline.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s ke aakhir mein New York se shuru hua. Ek 'Fleischmann Model Bakery' thi jo raat ko bachi hui rotiyan gareebon mein baant deti thi. Un logon ki lambi line ko "Breadline" kaha jane laga. Great Depression (1930s) ke waqt ye poori duniya mein 'Gareebi' ka sabse bada symbol ban gaya.



On the brink/verge of

At the point of – कगार पर, बहुत करीब

Ex - The country is on the brink of an economic crisis.

Origin/Tricks - "Brink" shabd purani Danish aur German bhasha se aaya hai jiska matlab tha "Sea-shore" (samudra ka kinara). "Verge" French shabd 'verge' (shakh/rod) se aaya hai jo boundary dikhane ke liye use hota tha. 1600s tak aate-aate ye "Ghatnaon ke kareeb hone" ke liye standard English ban gaye.



On the ball

Doing a job in a competent manner – चौकन्ना रहना

Ex - The new assistant is really on the ball and finishes work quickly.

Once bitten, twice shy

More careful next time – बुरे अनुभव से आगे के लिए सतर्क होना

Ex - After losing money in business once, he became cautious once bitten, twice shy.

On the double

At a fast pace – तेज गति से

Ex - The officer ordered the soldiers to finish the task on the double.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s-1800s ke British aur American military se aaya hai. Drill Sergeant hamesha "Double time, march!" bolte the. 1900s tak aate-aate ye aam logon ki boli mein "Urgency" dikhane ke liye use hone laga. SSC exams mein ye "At once" ya "Very fast" ke option ke saath pucha jata hai.



On the horizon



An event that is likely to happen soon – शीघ्र ही घटित घटना

Ex - New job opportunities are on the horizon for graduates.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane zamane ke sailors (mallahon) se aaya hai. Jab wo mahino tak samudra mein rehte the, toh 'Horizon' par kisi island ya jahaz ka dikhna ek badi khabar hoti thi. 1800s tak aate-aate ye 'Business' aur 'Life events' ke liye "Upcoming" ke roop mein use hone laga.

On the job



Working at a particular job – किसी एक विशेष जगह काम करना

Ex - The trainee is learning many skills on the job.

Origin/Tricks - 1800s mein jab factory ka kaam badha, toh logon ke paas 'College' jane ka waqt nahi tha. Malikon ne naye mazdooron ko seedha machine par bithaya aur kaha—"Kaam karte hue hi seekho." Tab se "On the job training" (OJT) ek bohot bada corporate term ban gaya.

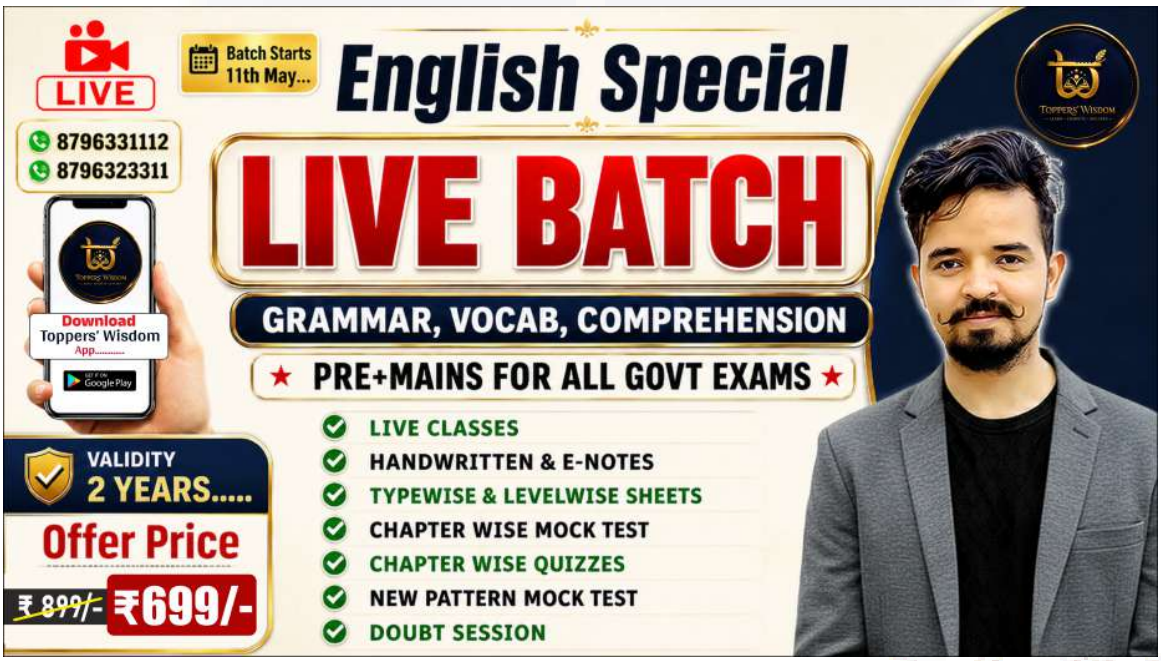
On the level



Honest; truthful – ईमानदार

Ex - I promise you that this deal is on the level.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s mein 'Freemasons' (ek purani brotherhood) se popular hua. Unke liye "Level" barabari (equality) aur imandari ka symbol tha. "Meeting on the level" ka matlab tha bina kisi bhed bhav ke sacha rehna.



Pacing up and down



Stress and anxiety – तनाव और चिंता

Ex - He was pacing up and down outside the exam hall due to anxiety.

Origin/Tricks - Iska itihas purane zamane ke 'Sentries' (pahredaron) ya 'Prisoners' (kaidiyon) se juda hai. Kaidiyon ke paas chhoti si 'Cell' (kothri) hoti thi jahan wo sirf 4-5 kadam hi chal sakte the, isliye wo baar-baar wahi chakkar lagate the. 1800s mein ye phrase un logon ke liye use hone laga jo kisi khabar ya faisle (decision) ke intezar mein bechain hote the.

Paddle one's own canoe



To depend on oneself – खुद पर निर्भर होना

Ex - After losing support, she decided to paddle her own canoe.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s ke shuruat mein American English mein mashhoor hua. Us waqt North America mein 'Canoes' transport ka bada zariya thin. 1850s mein ek mashhoor kavi (poet) Sarah Bolton ne isi naam se ek kavita likhi thi, jisme unhone logon ko sikhaya tha ki dusron ki madad ka intezar karne ke bajaye apne raste khud banao.

Pale into insignificance



To become unimportant or insignificant compared to something else – महत्वहीन हो जाना

Ex - His achievements paled into insignificance compared to hers.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century ke literature mein mashhoor hua. "Pale" shabd ka use hamesha se 'Roshni kam hone' ke liye hota tha. Jab scientists aur writers ne badi-badi khoj (discoveries) ki, toh purani baatein unke saamne "Insignificant" (chhoti) lagne lagin. Wahan se ye idiom bana—ki ek bada 'Event' chhote 'Events' ko dhundhla kar deta hai.

Palm off



To persuade to someone – किसी को बहलाना

Ex - He tried to palm off fake products as genuine ones.

Origin/Tricks - Iska janm 1820s ke 'Magic Tricks' aur 'Gambling' (jua) se hua. Jo log taash (cards) ke khel mein cheating karte the, wo galat card ko apni hatheli (palm) mein chhupa kar game mein "Slip" (off) kar dete the. Baad mein, ye business aur daily life mein un logon ke liye use hone laga jo bekar products ya jhoothi baatein dusron ke 'Sir' mardete hain.

Pandora's Box



A prolific source of trouble – मुसीबतों का पहाड़

Ex - Opening that issue created a Pandora's Box of problems.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Greek Mythology (Yunan ki purani kahaniyan) se aaya hai. 'Pandora' pehli aurat thi jise devtaon ne ek dabba diya tha aur kaha tha ki ise kabhi mat kholna. Par Pandora ne curiosity mein dabba khol diya. Us dabbe se duniya ki saari buraiyan—bimari, dukh, aur nafrat—bahar nikal gayin. Sirf "Hope" (Umeed) andar reh gayi thi.

Paper over the cracks



To hide problems – समस्याओं को छिपाना

Ex - The company tried to paper over the cracks instead of fixing issues.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1865 mein Otto von Bismarck (ek mashhoor German leader) ne use kiya tha. Unhone ek 'Treaty' (samjhauta) ke baare mein kaha tha ki ye do deshon ke jhagde ko khatam nahi karegi, bas uspar "Kaghaz chipka" degi (Paper over the cracks). Tab se ye politics aur relationships mein "Short-term fix" ke liye use hone laga.

Pass the buck



Blaming another person – किसी व्यक्ति पर आरोप लगाना

Ex - Instead of taking responsibility, he kept passing the buck.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century American Poker se aaya hai. Par ise sabse zyada mashhoor kiya America ke President Harry S. Truman ne. Unhone apne office (White House) ki table par ek sign lagaya tha jispar likha tha— "The Buck Stops Here!" Unka matlab tha ki wo aakhiri faisla lenge aur apni zimmedari kisi aur par nahi phenkenge.

Pass the hat



To collect money – धन इकट्ठा करना

Ex - They passed the hat to collect money for charity.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s se English bhasha mein popular hai. Purane zamane mein sadak par 'Circus' dikhane wale ya 'Gana gane wale' (buskers) ke paas koi ticket window nahi hoti thi. Show khatam hone ke baad wo apni topi nikaalte the aur logon ke beech "Pass" karte the. Dhire-dhire ye office, church, aur doston ke beech "Contribution" maangne ke liye use hone laga.

Pat on the back of something



Go praise or approval for doing good – अच्छा करने के लिए प्रशंसा करना

Ex - The teacher gave him a pat on the back for his good performance.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1800s se English bhasha mein bohot popular hai. Iska koi ek mahan origin nahi hai, balki ye insaani fitrat (human nature) se aaya hai. Maa baap hamesha se apne bachhon ko sulaate waqt ya unke achhe kaam par unki peeth thapthapate aaye hain. 1804 ke as-paas ye "Official Praise" ke liye 'Written English' mein use hone laga.

Pay a flying visit



To take a quick trip/visit – छोटी मुलाकात

Ex - I will pay a flying visit to my hometown this weekend.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase 1800s ke as-paas English mein aaya. Us waqt 'Fast Coaches' (tez ghoda gaadiyan) aur baad mein 'Trains' aane lagin thin. Jab log ek shehar se dusre shehar jate the, toh wo raste mein doston se milne ke liye sirf utne hi der rukte the jitni der gaadi rukti thi. Usey "Flying visit" kaha jane laga kyunki wo mulakaat "Udte-udte" hoti thi.**

Pay heed to



To listen carefully – ध्यान से सुनना

Ex - You must pay heed to your teacher's advice.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 14th century (1300s) se English mein hai. "Heed" shabd German aur Dutch bhasha ke purane shabdon se aaya hai jiska matlab hota hai 'Kaan khule rakhna'. Purane zamane mein raja-maharaja apne darbar mein kehte the—"Heed my words!", yani meri baaton ko halke mein mat lo. 1600s tak aate-aate "Pay" shabd iske saath jud gaya.

Pay lip service



To publicly support or approve of something – खुला समर्थन देना

Ex - The government only paid lip service to environmental issues.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Bible aur purani religious stories se aaya hai. Purane zamane mein kuch log dharam (religion) ko sirf 'Read' karte the ya 'Mantron' ka jaap karte the, par unka aachran (behavior) bura hota tha. Tab kaha jata tha ki wo Bhagwan ko sirf "Lip service" de rahe hain, unka "Dil" kahin aur hai. 18th century tak aate-aate ye politics aur daily life mein 'Fake support' ke liye use hone laga.

Pay through his nose



To pay too much money for something – कीमत से ज्यादा भुगतान करना

Ex - He had to pay through his nose for that luxury car.

Origin/Tricks - Iska itihas 9th century ke Vikings (Danish invaders) se juda hai. Jab unhone Ireland par kabza kiya, toh unhone logon par "Nose Tax" (Naak ka kar) lagaya. Jo log ye tax nahi bharte the, Vikings unki Naak kaat dete the (slit their noses). Wahan se ye idiom bana—ki ya toh tax bharo ya apni naak katwao. Dhire-dhire ye "Bohot mehenga padne" ke liye use hone laga.

Pedal to the metal



To go full speed, especially while driving a vehicle – कोई वाहन चलाते वक्त तीव्र गति से जाना

Ex - The driver pushed the car with pedal to the metal.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1950s aur 60s ke American car culture se aaya hai. Us waqt ki gaadiyon mein flooring aksar metal ki hoti thi aur beech mein koi mota carpet nahi hota tha. Truck drivers aur racers is phrase ka use karte the jab unhe bohot jaldi kahin pahunchana hota tha. 1970s ki mashhoor film Smokey and the Bandit ke baad ye aam zindagi mein "Hard work" ke liye bhi use hone laga.

Pell-mell



Great confusion – बहुत बड़ा भ्रम

Ex - The crowd ran pell-mell when the fire broke out.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century mein 'Warfare' (yuddh) ke liye use hota tha. Jab do senayein (armies) bina kisi formation ke ek-dusre se bhid jati thin aur talwaren chalne lagti thin, toh usey "Pell-mell" fight kaha jata tha. Baad mein ye daily life mein 'Shopping sales' ya 'Bhag-daur' ke liye use hone laga.

Pen and ink



Smells foul – कुछ गड़बड़ होना

Ex - Something about this deal smells pen and ink.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase bohot purana hai, us zamane se jab 'Printing' ya 'Digital typing' nahi hoti thi. Har bada faisla, kanoon (law), ya prem-patra (love letter) sirf haath se likha jata tha. 16th century mein ye "Official Record" ke liye ek standard expression ban gaya. Agar koi kehta tha "Put it in pen and ink," toh iska matlab tha ki ab ye baat 'Final' hai.

Penny wise and pound foolish



Careful and Economical in small matters while being wasteful and extravagant in large one – छोटी रकम सोच-समझकर खर्च करना

Ex - Spending less on quality and more on repairs is penny wise and pound foolish.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1600s mein Robert Burton ne apni kitab The Anatomy of Melancholy mein use kiya tha. Us waqt Britain mein 'Pound' aur 'Penny' ka antar bohot bada tha. Yeh un logon ke liye banaya gaya tha jo ghar ka saaman sasta lene ke liye poore din ghoomte the, par gambling (jua) mein sab kuch haar jate the.

People rolling in the aisles



Make an audience laugh uncontrollably – लोगों को अधिक हँसाना

Ex - His jokes had the audience rolling in the aisles.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 20th century ke shuruat mein 'Vaudeville' (purane zamane ke comedy shows) se aaya hai. Us waqt jab koi comedian bohot achha joke marta tha, toh log kursi se fisal kar beech ke raaste (aisles) mein gir jate the. 1930s mein ye newspapers aur reviews mein "Comedy hit" ko dikhane ke liye ek standard expression ban gaya.

Pick a quarrel



To start a disagreement or argument – झगड़ा मोल लेना

Ex - He always tries to pick a quarrel over small matters.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1500s se English bhasha mein hai. "Pick" shabd ka use purane zamane mein 'Rasta dhundhne' ya 'Mauka talaashne' ke liye bhi hota hai. Jab koi "Pick a quarrel" karta tha, toh uska matlab tha ki wo jan-bujhkar aise shabd ya harkat dhundh raha hai jisse dusra insaan bhadak jaye. Shakespeare ke natakon (plays) mein bhi iska zikr milta hai jahan yoddha (warriors) bewajah panga lete the.

Pick up the threads



To restart from the previous closing point – समापन बिंदु से दोबारा शुरू करना

Ex - After the break, let us pick up the threads of the discussion.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1700s ke as-paas 'Textile Industry' (kapda udyog) se aaya hai. Us zamane mein kapda haath se buna jata tha. Agar weaver (bunkar) bimar ho jaye ya break le le, toh usey wapas aakar unhi barik dhaagon ko dhundhna padta tha jahan se kaam ruka tha. 19th century tak ye "Life events" aur "Relationships" ke liye ek standard expression ban gaya.

Pigeon hole



To typecast someone – छाप लगाना

Ex - Do not pigeonhole her based on one mistake.

Origin/Tricks - Iska itihas 16th century se juda hai jab log kabootar palte the aur unke liye deewaron mein chhote surakh (holes) banate the. 1700s mein ye offices mein 'Mail sorting' ke liye use hone laga. 19th century tak aate-aate, philosophers ne iska use psychology mein shuru kiya—ye samjhane ke liye ki kaise dimaag logo ko "Compartments" (alag-alag hisson) mein baant deta hai bina poori baat samjhe.

Pillar to post



From one place or situation to another without rest or stability – एक जगह से दूसरी जगह

Ex - He ran from pillar to post to get his work done.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 15th century (1400s) ke 'Real Tennis' (tennis ka purana roop) se aaya hai. Us waqt tennis courts mein 'Pillars' hote the. Jab ball ek pillar se takra kar doosre post (khambe) tak jati thi, toh khiladiyon ko bohot tezi se idhar-udhar bhagna padta tha. Shuruat mein ye phrase "Post to pillar" tha, par bolne ki rawaani mein ye "Pillar to post" ban gaya.

Pin-money



Allowance made to a lady for her expenses/a small amount of money – जेब खर्च

Ex - She earns some extra pin-money by tutoring children.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 14th century (1300s) se chala aa raha hai. Us waqt pins lohe ya peetal (brass) ki banti thin aur sirf ameer log hi unhe afford kar sakte the. Kanoon (Law) mein bhi "Pin-money" ek legal term tha, jiska matlab tha wo paisa jo ek pati apni patni ko uske niji kapdon aur shauk ke liye deta tha. 1800s ke baad, jab pins sasti ho gayin, toh ye shabd "Pocket money" ka paryayvachi (synonym) ban gaya.

Play a second fiddle



To be less important or in weaker position than someone else – महत्वहीन होना

Ex - He refused to play second fiddle to his junior.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 18th century (1700s) ke classical music orchestras se aaya hai. Us waqt "Fiddle" (violin) bajane walon ko do groups mein baanta jata tha. First fiddle wale ko sabse zyada izzat aur paisa milta tha. 1800s tak aate-aate, ye phrase music se nikal kar politics aur relationships mein "Sidekick" (saathi) ke liye use hone laga.

Play by the ear



To do something without special preparation – तैयारी के बिना शुरू करना

Ex - We will play it by ear and decide later.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) ke music se aaya hai. Us waqt jo log sangeet seekhte the, wo do tarah ke hote the—ek jo kaghaz par dekh kar bajate the aur doosre jo sirf sun kar (by ear) wahi dhun nikaal lete the. 1930s aur 40s mein ye music se nikal kar rozmarra ki baaton mein aam ho gaya, khaas kar tab jab kisi ke paas 'Strategy' banane ka waqt nahi hota tha.

Play ducks and drakes



To use recklessly – लापरवाही से इस्तेमाल करना

Ex - He played ducks and drakes with his inheritance.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) se chala aa raha hai. Us waqt ye sirf ek masoom sa khel tha. Par 1600s tak aate-aate, writers ne ise un ameer logon ke liye use karna shuru kiya jo apne khandaani paise ko bina soche-samjhe kharch karte the. Jaise patthar pani mein doob kar bekar ho jata hai, waise hi unka paisa bhi khatam ho jata tha.

Play fast the loose



To be inconsistent – लापरवाही दिखाना

Ex - He plays fast and loose with facts.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) ke ek fairground game "Prick the Garter" se aaya hai. Isme ek gambler ek rassi (rope) ko fold karke rakhta tha aur logon se kehta tha ki iske beech mein 'Sui' (pin) chubhao taaki wo 'Fast' (phas) jaye. Par wo rassi ko aise khinchta tha ki wo hamesha 'Loose' ho jati thi aur log haar jate the. Shakespeare ne bhi apne plays mein ise "Dhokhebazi" ke liye use kiya tha.

Play one's ace



To use one's best weapon or resource – अपनी सर्वोत्तम चाल चलना

Ex - In the final round, she played her ace.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1500s se English bhasha mein "Ace" card ke mahatva (importance) ke saath juda hua hai. French shabd 'As' se aaya ye "Ace" hamesha se 'Number 1' ya 'Top' ko dikhata hai. 19th century tak aate-aate, ye games se nikal kar politics, business aur wars mein "Final move" ke liye use hone laga.

Play to the gallery



To seek to win approval/To say things that will make people admire you – भीड़ को खुश करने वाला काम करना

Ex - The politician was playing to the gallery.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 17th century (1600s) ke British theater se aaya hai. Us waqt ke actors ko pata tha ki agar wo bohot zyada 'Emotional' ya 'Action' dikhayenge, toh 'Gallery' mein baithe log khush ho jayenge. Dhire-dhire 19th century tak aate-aate, ye phrase "Politics" mein un netaon (politicians) ke liye use hone laga jo sirf vote pane ke liye bade-bade aur jhoote vaade karte the.

Play with fire



To take a foolish risk – बेवजह जोखिम लेना

Ex - Driving rashly is playing with fire.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai aur duniya ki lagbhag har bhasha mein milta hai. Iska sabse purana zikr 1600s ke English literature mein milta hai. Yeh ek "Universal Warning" hai jo bade bachhon ko dete hain—ki jo aag se khelega, uska hath jalna taye (fixed) hai. 19th century tak aate aate, ye business aur politics mein "Bad Decisions" ke liye use hone laga.

Played havoc



To cause chaos or destruction or both – भारी नुकसान करना

Ex - The storm played havoc with the crops.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 14th century (1300s) ke yuddh (war) se aaya hai. Us waqt "Havoc!" ek 'Military Command' (fauji aadesh) hota tha. Jab koi Raja apni sena ko "Havoc!" bolta tha, toh uska matlab hota tha—"Ab loot-paat shuru karo aur sab kuch tabah kar do!" Shakespeare ne apne play Julius Caesar mein likha tha—"Cry 'Havoc!', and let slip the dogs of war!" tab se ye "Bhari nuksan" ke liye use hone laga.

Playing a joke



To crack a joke – मजाक बनाना

Ex - He was just playing a joke on his friend.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon se chala aa raha hai. Purane zamane mein raja-maharajaon ke darbar mein 'Jesters' (vidushak) hote the jo logon par "Jokes play" karte the taaki mahol halka rahe. 1700s ke as-paas ye "Practical jokes" (jaise kisi ki kursi khinch lena) ke liye zyada use hone laga. Aaj ye har us shararat ke liye use hota hai jo sirf hasne ke liye ho.

Pocket an insult



To tolerate insult without protest – बिना विरोध के अपमान सहना

Ex - He quietly pocketed the insult without reacting.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) se chala aa raha hai. Purane zamane mein "Pocket" karna ek sharamnaak baat maani jati thi kyunki mard (men) apni izzat ke liye 'Dand' (punishment) ya 'Duel' (talwar-baazi) karte the. Agar koi ladne ke bajaye insult seh leta tha, toh kaha jata tha ki usne ise apni 'Pocket' mein daal liya hai. Aaj ye office politics aur social situations mein zyada use hota hai.

Point blank



From a very close position/in a very definite way – बहुत समीप से

Ex - He refused point blank to accept the offer.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) ke French shabd point blanc se aaya hai. Archery (teer-andazi) mein safed center ko 'Butt' ya 'Blank' kaha jata tha. Jab koi teer bina 'Arch' (tedha hue) seedha nishane par lagta tha, toh wo 'Point blank' hota tha. 1800s tak aate aate, ye phrase "Straight talking" ke liye mashhoor ho gaya.

Poke your nose



To interfere unnecessarily – टांग अड़ाना

Ex - Stop poking your nose into my personal matters.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 17th century (1600s) se chala aa raha hai. Purane zamane mein "Nosey" un logon ko kaha jata tha jo bohot zyada 'Sawaal' puchte the. Log kehte the ki inki naak har jagah "Poking" (chubhti) rehti hai. 19th century tak aate-aate, ye phrase "Interference" (dakhal-andazi) ke liye ek standard expression ban gaya.

Poker face



An expressionless face that hides one's true feelings or intentions – भावनाहीन चेहरा जो सच्ची भावनाओं को छिपाता है

Ex - She maintained a poker face during the negotiation

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke American card games se aaya hai. Poker us waqt ka sabse popular game tha. 1870s mein newspapers ne iska use politics mein un logon ke liye karna shuru kiya jo bade faisle lete waqt bilkul shaant rehte the. 2008 mein Lady Gaga ke mashhoor gaane "Poker Face" ne ise aaj ki generation mein aur bhi hit kar diya.

Pound the pavement



To walk or run on the street especially in search of something – गली में चलना विशेषकर कुछ ढूँढ़ने के लिए

Ex - He pounded the pavement looking for a job.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1930s ke 'Great Depression' (badi arthik mandi) ke waqt America mein mashhoor hua tha. Us waqt internet nahi tha, toh logon ko naukri ke liye sach mein 'Paidal' chalkar factory aur office jana padta tha. 1950s tak aate-aate, ye 'Police Officers' ke liye bhi use hone laga jo apni beat (area) mein paidal gasht (patrol) lagate the.

Pour cold water on

To spoil someone's plan – किसी की योजना बर्बाद करना

Ex - His negative comments poured cold water on our plan.

Queer pitch

To upset someone's plan – किसी की योजना को बिगाड़ना

Ex - His mistake queered the pitch for the entire team.

Rain on someone's parade



To spoils someone's plans – किसी की योजना बिगाड़ना

Ex - His criticism rained on my parade.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 20th century (1900s) ke America se aaya hai. Wahan 'Parades' (jhaankiyan) bohot lokpriya (popular) thin. 1964 mein mashhoor singer Barbra Streisand ne apne gaane "Don't Rain on My Parade" se ise poori duniya mein amar (famous) kar diya. Tabse ye "Negative criticism" ke liye use hota hai.

Pour out one's heart



To speak very freely to someone – खुलकर बोलना

Ex - She poured out her heart to her best friend.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) se English bhasha mein hai. Iska zikr 'The Bible' mein bhi milta hai, jahan logon ko apne dukh ishwar (God) ke samne "Pour out" karne ko kaha gaya hai. 19th century ke Romantic writers ne ise dosti aur pyaar ke liye mashhoor kar diya.

Practice what you preach



Do the work first before you encourage others to do the same – पहले खुद पर लागू करें फिर दूसरों से बोलो

Ex - You should practice what you preach.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase bohot purana hai aur iske nishaan 14th century (1300s) ke English literature mein milte hain. Mashhoor writer Geoffrey Chaucer ne apni kitab The Canterbury Tales mein ek aise padri (priest) ka zikr kiya tha jo pehle khud nek kaam karta tha aur phir logon ko seekh deta tha. 16th century tak aate-aate ye ek aam kahanwat ban gayi.

Prime the pump



Be in a difficult situation from where escape is difficult – खराब स्थिति में होना जहाँ से निकालना मुश्किल हो

Ex - The government invested money to prime the pump of the economy.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) se chala aa raha hai jab hand-pumps aam the. Par ye "Economics" mein tab mashhoor hua jab 1930s mein America ke President Franklin D. Roosevelt ne "Great Depression" (mandi) se nikalne ke liye sarkari paisa kharch kiya. Unhone kaha ki economy ko chalane ke liye hume "Prime the pump" karna padega.

Pull a rabbit out of a hat



To do something unexpected – कुछ अजूबा करना

Ex - The magician pulled a rabbit out of a hat.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke mashhoor jadugaron (magicians) se aaya hai. Pehle ke jadugar 'Birds' ya 'Flowers' nikaalte the, par Louis Comte namak ek French jadugar ne 1814 mein pehli baar 'Rabbit' nikalne ka khel dikhaya jo bohot hit ho gaya. Tab se, kisi bhi mushkil kaam ko achanak hal karne ke liye ye idiom use hone laga.

Pull all the stops



To make every possible effort – हर संभव प्रयास करना

Ex - The team pulled out all the stops to win the match.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke cathedral organs se aaya hai. Us waqt ke organ players ko pata tha ki agar unhe sabse 'Power' wala music bajana hai, toh unhe saare knobs khinchne padenge. 1860s tak aate-aate, ye phrase music se nikal kar aam zindagi mein "Best performance" dene ke liye use hone laga.

Pull someone up

Criticise someone/Reprimand – आलोचना करना

Ex - The teacher pulled him up for being late.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke ghoda gadi (horse carriages) ke zamane se aaya hai. Jab koi coachman ghode ko rokna chahta tha, toh wo lagaam ko upar ki taraf khinchta (pull up) tha. Dhire-dhire ye discipline aur schooloffice ki baaton mein "Galti par rokne" ke liye use hone laga.



Pull something off

Make something happen – किसी काम को सफल बनाना

Ex - She pulled off the difficult task successfully.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke sports aur gambling (jua) se aaya hai. Jab koi player aakhiri waqt mein 'Prize' (inaam) apni taraf khinch leta tha (pull it off the table), toh usey bada winner mana jata tha. 1870s tak aateaate, ye phrase har us kaam ke liye use hone laga jo "Bohot mushkil" ho par phir bhi ho jaye.



Pull strings

Use personal influence – व्यक्तिगत प्रभाव का प्रयोग करना

Ex - He used his contacts to pull strings for the job.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke kathputli (marionette) shows se aaya hai. Us waqt ke shows mein dhage chhupaye jate the taaki jadu jaisa lage. 1860s tak aate-aate, ye phrase "Politics" aur "Business" mein un logon ke liye use hone laga jo chup-chap rishwat ya pehchan se kaam karwate the.



Pull the plug

To end something – समाप्त कर देना

Ex - The company pulled the plug on the failing project.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke "Toilet flushes" se aaya ho sakta hai jahan rassi khinchne se paani nikalta tha, par ye mashhoor 1920s mein "Hospital" ke context mein hua. Jab koi mareez (patient) machine par zinda ho, toh plug nikalne ka matlab hota tha sab khatam. Aaj ye business aur roz-marra ki baaton mein "End" ke liye use hota hai.



Pull the trigger



To commit course of an action – कार्यवाही शुरू करना

Ex - The company finally pulled the trigger on the new policy.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ki 'Firearms' (bandookon) se aaya hai. Shuruat mein ye sirf yuddh (war) ya shikaar (hunting) ke liye use hota hai. Par 20th century tak aate-aate, ye business aur shopping mein "Commitment" (waada ya faisla) dikhane ke liye ek aam idiom ban gaya.

Pull the wool over someone's eyes



To trick or deceive someone – धोखा देना

Ex - He tried to pull the wool over my eyes, but I knew the truth.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 18th century (1700s) aur 19th century ke Europe se aaya hai. Us waqt bade-bade judges aur ameer log "Powdered Wigs" pehente the jo wool se banti thin. Jab koi chor ya chalak insaan kisi judge ko bewakoof banata tha, toh log mazaak mein kehte the ki usne judge ki "Wig" khinch kar uski aankhon par daal di hai taaki usey sachai na dikhe.

Pull up his socks



To make a greater effort to improve – सुधार के लिए अत्यधिक प्रयास करना

Ex - He needs to pull up his socks to improve his performance.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke sports aur military se aaya hai. Purane zamane mein football aur rugby players lambe socks pehente the. Khel shuru hone se pehle ya 'Half-time' ke baad jab koi player thak jata tha, toh coach kehta tha "Pull up your socks!" taaki wo phir se 'Alert' ho jaye. Aaj ye exams aur office ke liye ek aam 'Warning' ban gaya hai.

Pull yourself together



Calm down after an upsetting incident – शांत होना

Ex - You should pull yourself together after the shock.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) se English bhasha mein use ho raha hai. Iska concept purane zamane ke 'Soldiers' (sainiko) se juda ho sakta hai jo yuddh mein darr jate the. Unhe kaha jata tha ki wo apne darr ko ek taraf rakhein aur apni 'Taqat' ko ek jagah jama karein. Aaj ye har us insaan ke liye use hota hai jo stress mein ho.

Pull/have a long face

To look sad – उदास दिखना

Ex - Why are you pulling a long face today?



Pull a face

To make a silly or rude expression – मुँह बनाना

Ex - The child pulled a face after tasting bitter medicine.



Pulls no punches

To speak in an honest way without trying to be kind – बिना किसी संकोच के बोलना

Ex - The critic pulls no punches while reviewing films.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1930s ke America mein Boxing ke khel se aaya hai. Jab boxers practice (sparring) karte hain, toh wo ek-dusre ko chot nahi pahunchate (pulling punches). Par jab asli muqabla hota hai, toh wo "Pull no punches" karte hain. Dhire-dhire ye politics aur journalism mein un logon ke liye use hone laga jo "Naram" nahi padte.

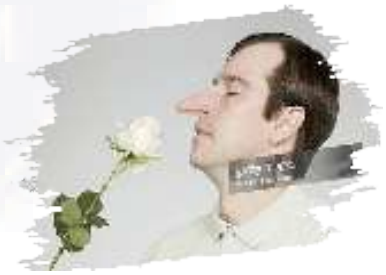


Put a rose on his nose

Nobody cares – लापरवाह

Ex - He doesn't care about anything; just put a rose on his nose.

Origin/Tricks - Iska koi purana itihaas nahi hai, ye sirf ek Nursery Rhyme style ka sentence hai. Angrezi mein aise kai phrases hain jo sirf 'Rhythm' ke liye bole jate hain (jaise: See you later, alligator!). Ye dosti aur bachpan ki yaadon se juda hai.



Put all your eggs in one basket

To depend for your success on a single person or plan of action – अपनी सफलता

Ex - Do not put all your eggs in one basket.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 17th century (1600s) se chala aa raha hai aur iska zikr mashhoor novel Don Quixote (Miguel de Cervantes) mein milta hai. Us waqt log sach mein andon ko mandi (market) le jate waqt darte the. Dhire-dhire ye business aur investment ki duniya ka sabse bada "Rule" ban gaya: Diversify! (Alag-alag jagah invest karo).



Put his foot down



To be very strict in opposing what somebody wishes to do – दृढ़ता के साथ विरोध जारी रखना

Ex - The father put his foot down and refused permission.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke "Driving" se aaya ho sakta hai. Purane zamane ke motorized vehicles mein speed badhane ke liye 'Accelerator' par paon zor se dabana (put the foot down) padta tha. Lekin aam zindagi mein ye "Final order" dene ke liye mashhoor ho gaya, jaise kisi ne rasta rokne ke liye apna paon aage kar diya ho.

Put my nose to the grindstone



To work very hard – कड़ी मेहनत करना

Ex - I must put my nose to the grindstone before exams.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) se English bhasha mein hai. Us waqt ke chaku (knives) aur talwaren (swords) tez karne wale log sach mein saara din grindstone par jhuk kar kaam karte the. Unki thaki hui peeth aur jhuka hua chehra is baat ka saboot hota tha ki unhone "Bohot mehnat" ki hai.

Put on ice



To postpone or delay – देरी करना

Ex - The project has been put on ice for now.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke America se aaya hai. Us waqt log apne khane-peene ki cheezein (meat/fish) barf ke dher par rakhte the taaki wo lambe samay tak bani rahein. 1890s tak aate-aate, ye phrase "Business" aur "Sports" mein un baaton ke liye use hone laga jinhe abhi ke liye 'Pause' karna ho.

Put one's cards on the table



To be honest – ईमानदार होना

Ex - Let's put our cards on the table and be honest.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke card games (khaas kar Poker) se aaya hai. Jab koi player 'Show' karta hai, toh wo apne cards table par rakh deta hai. Dhire-dhire ye business aur relationships mein "Full Disclosure" (sab bata dene) ke liye ek aam idiom ban gaya.

Put our heads together



Consult and work together – मिलकर काम करना

Ex - Let's put our heads together to solve the problem.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) se English bhasha mein mashhoor hai. Iska idea 'Whispering' (phus-phusana) ya 'Confidential Discussion' (gupt charcha) se aaya ho sakta hai, jahan log ek-dusre ke kaan ke paas apna sar lekar aate the taaki koi aur na sun sake. Dhire-dhire ye "Problem solving" ke liye ek standard term ban gaya.

Put someone's back up



To irritate someone – किसी को परेशान करना

Ex - His rude words put my back up.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 18th century (1700s) se English bhasha mein hai. Iska direct connection Billiyon (cats) se hai. Purane zamane mein log dekhte the ki gusse mein billi apni peeth upar kar leti hai, aur wahi se ye "Human annoyance" ke liye ek standard idiom ban gaya.

Put the cart before the horses



Do things in the wrong order – गलत क्रम में चीजों को रखना

Ex - You are putting the cart before the horses by planning before research.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase bohot purana hai aur 16th century (1500s) se English bhasha mein use ho raha hai. Purane zamane mein khetibari (farming) ke waqt agar koi naya kisan galti se gaadi aage laga deta tha, toh log uska mazaak udate the. Cicero (Roman philosopher) ne bhi iska zikr kiya tha, jiska matlab tha "Baaton ko ulta-pulta karna."

Put two and two together



To make a correct guess based on what has been seen or heard – प्राप्त जानकारी के आधार पर सटीक अनुमान लगाना

Ex - I put two and two together and understood the truth.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) se English bhasha mein use ho raha hai. Iska istemal sabse pehle "Common Sense" dikhane ke liye kiya gaya tha. Mashhoor detective stories (jaise Sherlock Holmes) mein ye phrase aksar use hota tha jab koi sarkaari police wala galti karta tha aur detective kehta tha, "It's easy to put two and two together!"

Put up the shutters



To close a business permanently or temporarily – व्यवसाय बंद करना

Ex - The shop had to put up the shutters due to losses.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) se English bhasha mein hai. Us waqt ki dukanon mein glass ki windows hoti thin jinhe raat ko bhari lakdi ke 'Shutters' se dhak diya jata tha taaki koi tod-phod na ho. Agar koi kangaal (bankrupt) ho jata tha, toh wo hamesha ke liye shutters laga deta tha.

Quaking in his boots



To be very nervous – परेशान होना

Ex - He was quaking in his boots before the interview.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke military aur cowboy culture se aaya hai. Jab naye soldiers pehli baar yuddh (war) ke maidan mein jate the, toh unke bhari boots unke darr ki ganti (alarm) bajate the. 1840s tak aateaate, ye har us insaan ke liye use hone laga jo kisi 'Difficult' situation se darta ho.

Quicken the pulse



To quicken something, to make excited – उत्साहित कर देना

Ex - The thrilling movie quickened my pulse.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 18th century (1700s) ke Romantic literature aur poetry se aaya hai. Us waqt ke kavi (poets) 'Dil aur Dhadkan' ki baatein bohot karte the. Dhire-dhire ye medical terms se nikal kar aam bhasha mein "Entertainment" aur "Adventure" ke liye use hone laga.

Rain cats and dogs



To rain very heavily – बहुत तेज बारिश होना

Ex - It began to rain cats and dogs suddenly

Origin/Tricks - Iska origin thoda purana aur ajeeb hai. 17th century (1600s) mein London ki naliyan (drainage) bohot kharab thin. Jab bohot tez baarish hoti thi, toh sadko par kachra aur durbhagya se mare hue 'Cats and Dogs' beh kar aa jate the. Logon ko lagta tha ki shayad aasman se hi ye gir rahe hain. 1738 mein Jonathan Swift ne ise apni kitab mein use kiya aur tabse ye mashhoor ho gaya.

Raise a dust



To cause disruption or confusion – व्यवधान या भ्रम पैदा करना

Ex - His sudden decision raised a dust in the office.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 17th century (1600s) se English bhasha mein hai. Purane zamane mein kacchi sadkon par jab ghode ya log tezi se bhagte the, toh mitti udti thi ("Raising dust"). Isse piche walo ko rasta nahi dikhta tha aur afra tafri mach jati thi. Wahi se ye "Trouble create" karne ke liye use hone laga.

Raise the bar



To be better than before/To set higher goals – पहले से बेहतर बनना

Ex - This performance has raised the bar for others.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 20th century (1900s) ke athletics se aaya hai. Olympic games mein jab koi player naya world record banata tha, toh referees bar ko upar kar dete the. Dhire-dhire ye business, education aur personal life mein "Success" ki nayi definition ban gaya.

Raise the roof



To play or sing very loudly and enthusiastically – उत्साह में

Ex - The fans raised the roof with their cheers.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke Southern America se aaya hai. Us waqt log ghar banane ke liye 'Roof-raising' parties karte the jahan poora mohalla milkar chhat lagata tha aur bohot shor-shaba hota tha. 20th century mein ye concerts aur sports ke liye ek standard expression ban gaya.

Raring to go



Full of enthusiasm or eagerness – उत्साहित होना

Ex - The players were raring to go before the match.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke America se aaya hai. 'Rear' (khada hona) ko 'Rare' bola jata tha dialect mein. 1920s tak aate-aate, ye phrase pilots aur drivers ke liye use hone laga jo apne 'Engines' start karke race ke liye taiyaar khade hote the.

Receive a new lease of life



To become energetic again – फिर से ऊर्जावान होना

Ex - After recovery, he got a new lease of life.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke "Property Law" (zamin ke kanoon) se aaya hai. Jab kisi ki zamin ka kiraya nama (lease) renew hota tha, toh unhe wahan rehne ka naya waqt mil jata tha. Dhire-dhire ye bimar logon ki sehat (health) aur purani machinery ke liye ek aam idiom ban gaya.

Read between the lines



To understand something that is not said outright – छिपी हुई बात/अर्थ को समझना

Ex - You must read between the lines to understand the message.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ki 'Cryptography' (khufiya sandesh) se aaya hai. Purane zamane mein jaasoos (spies) aise khat likhte the jisme ek line aam hoti thi, lekin do lines ke beech ki jagah mein 'Invisible Ink' (invisible ink) se asli message hota tha. Usey padhne ke liye "Lines ke beech mein" dekhna padta tha.

Receiving a kickback



Getting an illegal payment – अवैध भुगतान प्राप्त करना

Ex - The officer was caught receiving a kickback.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1920s ke America se aaya hai. Us waqt 'Mafia' aur 'Politicians' ke beech aisi deals bohot hoti thin. "Kick" ka matlab tha 'paisa nikalna' aur "Back" ka matlab 'lautna'. 1950s tak aate-aate ye business aur political corruption ke liye ek legal term jaisa ban gaya.

Rein in



To limit or control something – नियंत्रण में रखना

Ex - The government must rein in inflation.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai aur seedha seedha 'Ghud-sawari' (horsemanship) se aaya hai. Purane zamane mein ghoda hi transport ka mukhya zariya tha. 16th century (1500s) tak aate-aate ye "Emotions" (gusse) aur "Spending" (kharch) par control dikhane ke liye ek bhasha ka hissa ban gaya.

Reinventing the wheel



Wasting one's time for things that have already been satisfactorily done – जो काम हो गया है उसी काम को करना

Ex - Creating the same system again is reinventing the wheel.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 20th century (1970s) ke business aur software industry se aaya hai. Jab programmers wahi code phir se likhte the jo pehle se maujood tha, toh unhe kaha jata tha—"Don't reinvent the wheel." Pahiya isliye chuna gaya kyunki isse behtar aur simple design kuch ho hi nahi sakta.

Rift in the lute



A problem that causes a break in a relationship – संबंधों में दरार की वजह

Ex - A small misunderstanding created a rift in the lute of their friendship.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1859) ke mashhoor kavi Alfred Lord Tennyson ki ek poem "Merlin and Vivien" se aaya hai. Unhone likha tha: "It is the little rift within the lute, that by and by will make the music mute." (Yeh lute ke andar ki wahi chhoti darar hai, jo dheere-dheere sangeet ko khamosh kar degi.)

Right as rain



Fit and in excellent health – स्वस्थ और अच्छी सेहत को होना

Ex - After taking medicine, he felt right as rain.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke Britain se aaya hai. British log baarish ke bohot aadi (used to) hain aur unke liye baarish hona ek 'Normal' aur 'Sahi' baat hai. 1894 mein ek novel mein iska zikr mila tha, jahan iska istemal "Sab kuch theek hai" dikhane ke liye kiya gaya tha.

Ring a bell



To sound familiar – जानी पहचानी आवाज

Ex - That name rings a bell, but I can't recall clearly.

Origin/Tricks - Iske origin ke do kisse mashhoor hain. Pehla, purane zamane mein 'Servants' (naukar) ko bulane ke liye bell bajayi jati thi, jisse unhe apna 'Kaam' yaad aa jata tha. Dusra, scientist Ivan Pavlov ne kutto par experiment kiya tha jahan wo 'Bell' bajakar unhe khana yaad dilate the. 1930s tak aate-aate, ye phrase dimaag mein yaadon ke jagane ke liye use hone laga.

Rise to the occasion



To Show you can deal with a situation successfully – किसी स्थिति से सफलता पूर्वक निपटने की क्षमता का प्रदर्शन करना

Ex - He rose to the occasion and saved the team.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) se English bhasha mein use ho raha hai. Iska koi ek 'Janmdata' nahi hai, balki ye 'Human Psychology' se aaya hai. Purane zamane mein yuddh (war) ya samudri tufan (sea storms) ke waqt jo log achanak 'Leader' ban kar sabko bachate the, unhe kaha jata tha ki wo "Rise" kar gaye hain.

Road to Damascus



A sudden, radical change in attitude, perspective or belief – किसी के व्यवहार, विश्वास, दृष्टिकोण में अचानक हुआ बदलाव

Ex - His accident became a road to Damascus moment in his life.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase The Bible (New Testament) ki ek sachi kahani se aaya hai. Ek aadmi tha jiska naam 'Saul' tha, jo Christians ko bohot pareshan karta tha. Jab wo Damascus ke raste par ja raha tha, toh achanak aasman se ek tez roshni aayi aur usey 'Ishwar' ki aawaz sunayi di. Us pal uska dil badal gaya, wo 'Saint Paul' ban gaya aur dharam ka prachar karne laga.

Rock the boat



Disturb a stable situation – एक स्थिर स्थिति में समस्या पैदा करना

Ex - Do not rock the boat by creating unnecessary issues.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 20th century (1900s) ki 'Politics' aur 'Corporate life' se aaya hai. Samundri safar (sea travel) mein sabko milkar 'Balance' banana padta tha. 1914 mein American politician William Jennings Bryan ne iska pehla bada zikr kiya tha. Tabse ye "Chup-chap kaam karne" ki salah dene ke liye use hota hai.

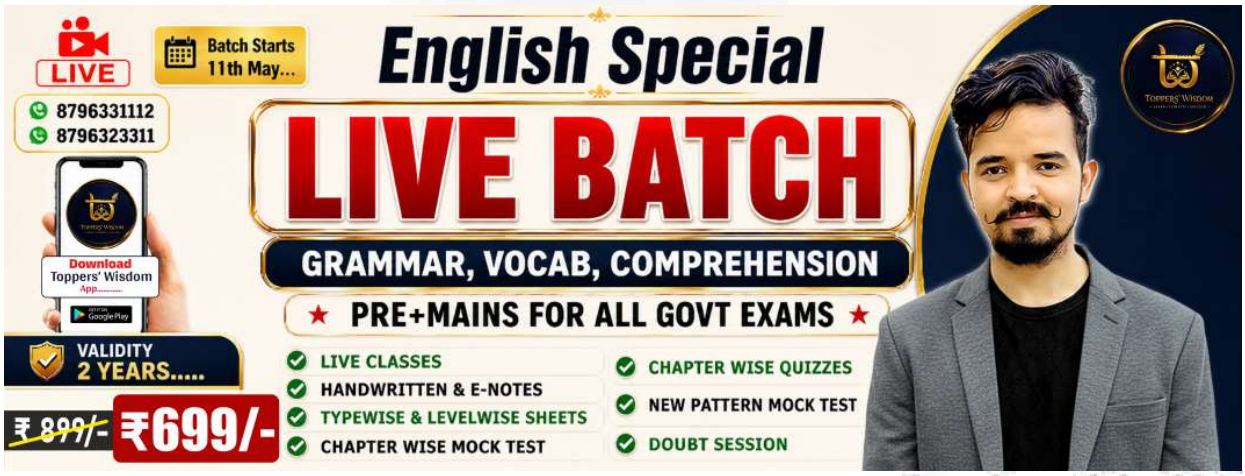
Roll back



To retract someone/To reduce something – पीछे खदेड़ना

Ex - The government decided to roll back the new policy.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 20th century (1940s) ke business aur politics se aaya hai. World War II ke baad jab prices bohot badh gayi thin, toh US government ne 'Price Control' ke liye "Rollback" word use kiya. 1990s mein Walmart jaise bade stores ne isse "Sale" (keematen kam karna) ke liye mashhoor kar diya.



Roll up your sleeves



Get ready to do something difficult or hard work – कमर कसना

Ex - It's time to roll up your sleeves and start working.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai aur 'Manual labor' (hath se hone wale kaam) se aaya hai. Purane zamane mein khetibadi, lohari (blacksmithing), aur safai ke waqt log apni qameez ki aastin upar kar lete the taaki wo kaam mein rukawat na banein. 19th century tak aate-aate, ye corporate aur mental mehnat ke liye bhi ek 'Professional' idiom ban gaya.

Rolling in cash



Have a large quantity of money – अधिक मात्रा में पैसा होना

Ex - After the deal, he was rolling in cash.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke Britain se aaya hai. Shuruat mein log "Rolling in money" ya "Rolling in riches" kehte the. "Rolling" word isliye chuna gaya kyunki ye 'Kutton' (dogs) aur 'Ghodon' (horses) ki ek aadat se juda hai—jab wo bohot khush aur 'Satisfied' hote hain, toh wo ghaas (grass) par 'Roll' karte hain. Wahi "Khushi aur sukoon" ameer logon ke liye use hone laga.

Rose-coloured glasses



A positive outlook of a life – जीवन का एक सकारात्मक दृष्टिकोण

Ex - He sees everything through rose- coloured glasses.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke Britain aur America mein mashhoor hua. Us waqt ke novels mein 'Rose' rang ko khush-haali se joda jata tha. 1861 ke ek article mein iska zikr mila jahan kaha gaya ki log apne 'Bura waqt' ko bhool kar 'Rosecoloured' yaadon mein rehte hain. Aaj ye 'Business' aur 'Love life' mein sabse zyada use hota hai.

Rule the roost



To be in complete control – पूर्ण नियंत्रण में

Ex - She rules the roost in her family.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 15th century (1400s) se chala aa raha hai. Shuruat mein log "Rule the roast" kehte the (jiska matlab tha dinner table par meat kaatne wala boss), lekin 18th century tak aate-aate "Roost" (pakshiyon ka basera) zyada popular ho gaya kyunki 'Rooster' (murga) hamesha apne ilake ka raja hota hai.

Run amok



To suddenly start behaving violently – आपे से बाहर होना

Ex - The mob ran amok in the streets.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh idiom Malaysia (Malay Language) se aaya hai. Purane zamane mein wahan ke yoddha (warriors) kabhi-kabhi achanak gusse mein pagal ho jate the aur raste mein aane wale har kisi par hamla karte the. Ise wahan "Amok" kaha jata tha. 17th century mein jab 'Captain Cook' wahan gaye, toh wo is word ko English mein le aaye.

Rub a person up the wrong way

To annoy or offend a person – किसी को परेशान करना

Ex - His rude tone rubbed me up the wrong way.

Ruffle someone's feathers

To make someone annoyed – परेशान करना

Ex - Her comments ruffled his feathers.

Run around like a headless chicken



To do many things in a disorganized manner – कई कामों को अव्यवस्थित तरीके से एक साथ करना

Ex - He was running around like a headless chicken before exams.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) se farm-life se aaya hai. Kisano ne dekha ki murgi kaatne ke baad bhi wo 'Active' rehti hai par 'Sense' kho deti hai. 20th century tak aate-aate ye 'Office politics' aur 'Busy moms' ke liye ek funny par sateek idiom ban gaya.

Run into rough weather



To experience difficulties – कठिनाइयों का अनुभाव करना

Ex - The company ran into rough weather during recession.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase 17th aur 18th century ke 'Nautical' (samudri) itihaas se aaya hai. Us waqt jahazon ke paas 'GPS' ya 'Weather satellite' nahi hoti thi. Beech samundar mein achanak "Rough weather" mein phans jana maut ke barabar hota tha. Dhire-dhire ye business, politics aur personal life mein aane wali rukawaton ke liye use hone laga.**

Run short



Become insufficient – किसी चीज की कमी हो जाना

Ex - We have run short of time.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 17th century (1600s) ke business aur naval terminology se aaya hai. Samundri safar (sea voyages) par nikalne se pehle sabse bada darr hota tha ki kahin 'Peene ka pani' ya 'Rasad' (provisions) run short na ho jayein. 1800s tak aate-aate ye aam bhasha mein 'Paisa', 'Waqt', aur 'Dhairya' (patience) ke liye use hone laga.

Running behind time



To do work in time – निर्धारित समय में कार्य करना

Ex - The train is running behind time today.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) mein Railways se shuru hua. Trains ka ek fixed timetable hota tha. Agar koi train kisi station par apne taye waqt par nahi pahunchti thi, toh usey official records mein "Running behind time" likha jata tha. Dhire-dhire ye hamari rozmarra ki zindagi (daily life) ka hissa ban gaya.

Rust bucket



A vehicle which very old or almost broken – पुराना

Ex - That old car is just a rust bucket.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 20th century (1940s-50s) mein Navy se shuru hua. Sailors (mallah) un purane jahazon ko "Rust bucket" kehte the jinpar jang lag gayi hoti thi aur jinhe chalana khatarnak hota tha. Dhire-dhire ye 'Cars' aur 'Trucks' ke liye ek funny par sateek insult ban gaya.

Ran riot



Not controlled, running in all directions or being noisy or violent – बेकाबू हो जाना

Ex - The kids ran riot in the playground.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) mein Hunting (shikar) se shuru hua. Jab shikari kutte (hounds) kisi 'Scent' (khushbu) k a peecha karte waqt raasta bhatak kar kisi bhi galat janwar ke peeche pagal hokar daudne lagte the, toh usey "Running riot" kaha jata tha. 1700s tak aate-aate ye 'Bheed' (crowd) ke liye use hone laga.

Reap the whirlwind



Suffer negative consequences as a result of one's actions – परिणाम भुगतना

Ex - If you act carelessly, you will reap the whirlwind.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase The Bible (Old Testament) ki ek line se aaya hai: "For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind." (Unhone hawa boyi thi, aur wo ab bavandar kaatenge.) World War II ke waqt British Air Force ke Marshal Arthur Harris ne iska zikr kiya tha jab unhone Germany par bombing shuru ki thi.

Rest on their laurels



To be satisfied with your achievements – अपनी अफलता से संतुष्ट हो जाना

Ex - Do not rest on your laurels after success.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Ancient Greece (Yunan) se aaya hai. Wahan 'Apollo' devta ke samman mein 'Pythian Games' hote the, jisme winners ko 'Laurel wreath' diya jata tha. Ye izzat ka sabse bada symbol tha. Lekin agar koi champion sirf usi haar ko lekar baitha rehta tha, toh log kehte the ki wo "Resting" kar raha hai. 1920s tak aate-aate ye business aur sports mein 'Warning' ki tarah use hone laga.



Rip up old sores



To revive forgotten quarrel – पुराने घावों को ताजा करना

Ex - Stop ripping up old sores and move on.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 17th century (1600s) se English bhasha mein hai. "Sore" word ka matlab pehle sirf 'Physical pain' hota tha, par dhire-dheere ye 'Emotional pain' ke liye use hone laga. Shakespeare ke zamane ke as-paas ye phrase logon ki "Dosti" aur "Dushmani" ko describe karne ke liye mashhoor ho gaya.

Rise and shine

Used to tell someone to wake up and get out of bed – उठना, जागना

Ex - Rise and shine, it's time for school.

Rises with the lark

Get up early in the morning – बहुत जल्दी उठना

Ex - My grandfather rises with the lark every day.

Rome was not built in a day



Nothing great comes without hard work and time dedication – महत्वपूर्ण कार्य समय लेते है

Ex - Be patient Rome was not built in a day.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase actually French bhasha se aaya hai (Rome ne fut pas faite toute en un jour). Iska sabse purana zikr 1190 AD mein ek medieval French poem mein mila tha. 1545 mein ye English mein translate hokar mashhoor hua. Yeh un logon ko 'Hausla' (courage) dene ke liye use hota hai jo jaldi haar maan lete hain.

Run out of steam



To lose enthusiasm and stop doing something – थक जाना

Ex - He ran out of steam before finishing the project.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) mein Steam Engines ke aane se shuru hua. Us waqt ki technology mein agar pressure kam ho jata tha, toh engine ruk jata tha. Dhire-dhire ye logon ki 'Mental energy' aur 'Physical tiredness' ke liye ek perfect metaphor ban gaya.

Raise an alarm



Warn of a dangerous situation – चेतावनी देना

Ex - The guard raised an alarm when he saw the thief.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane zamane ke Kila (Fort) aur Military se aaya hai. Jab dushman hamla karta tha, toh pehredaari (guards) zor se 'Bugle' bajate the ya 'Dhol' peet-te the. Ise "Raising the alarum" kaha jata tha. 16th century tak aate-aate ye sirf physical ghanti bajane ke liye nahi, balki 'Bhrashtachar' (corruption) ya 'Galti' ke khilaf bolne ke liye bhi use hone laga.

Raise one's hackles



To greatly irritate – गुस्सा दिलाना

Ex - His rude remarks raised my hackles.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) se Cockfighting (murgon ki ladai) aur Dog fights se aaya hai. Log dekhte the ki ladne se pehle murgon ke 'Hackles' (neck feathers) khade ho jate hain. 1800s ke baad se ye "Insaani gusse" ko describe karne ke liye ek standard expression ban gaya.

Sail close to the wind



Do something that is dangerous or even illegal – खतरनाक या अवैध काम करना

Ex - He is sailing close to the wind with illegal activities.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke Sailors se aaya hai. Samundri jahazon ko tez chalane ke liye unhe hawa ke rukh ke bilkul paas rakhna padta tha. Agar zara si galti hui, toh jahaz ruk jata ya doob jata. Dhire-dhire ye business aur politics mein "Rules todne ki koshish karne" ke liye use hone laga.

Salad days



A period of carefree innocence, idealism, and pleasure – जवानी और मसूमियत के दिन

Ex - College life was the salad days of my life.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase kisi aur ne nahi balki mashhoor writer William Shakespeare ne banaya tha! Unke play "Antony and Cleopatra" (1606) mein Cleopatra kehti hai: "My salad days, when I was green in judgment." Tabse ye "Pehli jawani" ke liye ek standard expression ban gaya.

Salt of the earth



A good, reliable, honest person – विश्वसनीय और ईमानदार व्यक्ति

Ex - He is the salt of the earth.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase The Bible (Gospel of Matthew) se aaya hai. Jesus ne apne followers se kaha tha, "Ye are the salt of the earth." Purane zamane mein namak ki keemat 'Sone' (gold) ke barabar hoti thi kyunki wo har cheez ko preserve karta tha. Tabse ye "Kimti aur achhe logon" ke liye use hone laga.

Save your breath



To make an effort that will be futile – व्यर्थ प्रयास करना

Ex - Save your breath, he won't listen.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) se English bhasha mein hai. Purane zamane mein mana jata tha ki bolna shareer ko thaka deta hai. Log aksar kehte the, "Save your breath to cool your porridge" (yani apni saans bachao taaki daliya/khichdi thandi kar sako). Dhire dhire ye "Ziddi logon se behas na karne" ke liye use hone laga.

Saved by the bell



Something happens at the last possible moment – अंतिम समय में मुसीबत से बचना

Ex - I was saved by the bell when the teacher left.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) mein Boxing se shuru hua. Us waqt ke rules ke hisaab se agar koi boxer 'Down' (gira hua) hai aur 'Count' khatam hone se pehle bell baj jaye, toh wo 'Saved' mana jata tha. (Ek purana 'Myth' ye bhi hai ki log zinda dafna diye jaane ke darr se qabar mein ghanti lagate the, par Boxing wala logic hi sahi hai).

Scapegoats



Punished for others misdeeds – बलि का बकरा

Ex - The innocent workers became scapegoats.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh word Ancient Hebrew (purane zamane ke Jewish) rivajon se aaya hai. Saal mein ek baar, ek 'Bakre' (goat) ko chuna jata tha aur mana jata tha ki poore shehar ke 'Paap' (sins) uske sar par hain. Phir us bakre ko 'Registan' (desert) mein akela chhod diya jata tha taaki wo logon ke paap lekar chala jaye. 1530 mein William Tyndale ne iska translation "Scapegoat" kiya.

Scot free



To escape punishment or consequences without paying or suffering any penalty – बिना सजा के बच जाना

Ex - The criminal went scot free.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 13th century (1200s) se chala aa raha hai. 'Scot' ek Scandinavian word 'Skat' se aaya hai jiska matlab tha 'Tax'. Jo log garib hote the ya chalaak hote the aur tax nahi dete the, unhe "Scot-free" kaha jata tha. 16th century tak aate-aate ye "Saza se bachne" ke liye use hone laga.

Scrape the barrel



To be forced to use one's last and weakest resource – अंतिम योजना का प्रयोग करना

Ex - We are scraping the barrel for ideas.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 20th century (1940s) mein World War II ke waqt bohot mashhoor hua. Us waqt har cheez ki kami thi (food, fuel, soldiers). Sarkaron ko majboori mein aise logon ko kaam par rakhna padta tha jo kabil nahi the. Ise "Scraping the bottom of the barrel" kaha jata tha.

Scratch one's head



To think hard in a puzzled way – अच्छे से सोचना

Ex - The puzzle made me scratch my head.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase bohot purana hai aur insaani Fitrat (nature) se juda hai. Duniya ki har language mein 'Sar khujlana' dimaagi kashmakash ka symbol raha hai. 18th century tak aate-aate English literature mein ye "Uljhan" ko dikhane ka ek standard tarika ban gaya.

Sea change



Major transformation – पूर्ण परिवर्तित

Ex - The new policy brought a sea change.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase bhi legendary writer William Shakespeare ki den hai! Unke play "The Tempest" (1610) mein ek gana hai: "Nothing of him that doth fade, But doth suffer a sea-change Into something rich and strange." Tabse ye word "Gehre badlav" ke liye puri duniya mein mashhoor ho gaya.

Second banana



A person in a subordinate position – अधीनस्थ पद पर बैठा व्यक्ति

Ex - He always plays second banana.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Burlesque (Vaudeville) Comedy theatre se aaya hai (early 1900s). Stage par ek comedian ko "Top Banana" kaha jata tha kyunki wo sabse bada star tha. Uske sahayak ko, jo halki phulki comedy karta tha, "Second Banana" kaha jane laga. Aajkal ye office aur politics mein bhi use hota hai.

Second wind



Burst of energy – ऊर्जा का विस्फोट

Ex - After resting, he got a second wind.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 14th century (1300s) se Sports aur Hunting (shikar) se juda hai. Shikariyon ne dekha ki kutte aur ghode thakne ke baad achanak nayi raftaar pakad lete hain. 19th century tak aate aate ye business aur life ki "Mushkil ghadi mein wapsi" (comeback) ke liye ek standard expression ban gaya.

See the light



Suddenly realise something – अचानक से कुछ समझना

Ex - Finally, he saw the light.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane zamane ke Religious (dharmik) contexts se aaya hai. Jab koi insaan apna bura rasta chhod kar ishwar (God) ki raah par chalta tha, toh usey "Seeing the light" kaha jata tha. 19th century tak aate aate ye aam zindagi mein "Galti sudharne" aur "Naya idea samajhne" ke liye use hone laga.

See the light of day



To become publicly known – अस्तित्व में आना

Ex - The project will soon see the light of day.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) se chala aa raha hai. Shuruat mein iska matlab "Paida hona" (birth) hota tha, kyunki bachcha maa ke pet (andhere) se nikal kar duniya ki roshni mein aata hai. 1800s tak aate-aate ye 'Movies', 'Books' aur 'News' ke liye use hone laga jo kaafi waqt se 'Dabi' (suppressed) hui thi.

Sell like hot cakes



To sell quickly – जल्दी से बिकना

Ex - The new phone is selling like hot cakes.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) mein America se shuru hua. Us waqt 'Hot cakes' (jise hum pancakes kehte hain) church fairs aur festivals mein bohot bikte the. Wo itne popular the ki counter par aate hi khatam ho jate the. 1830s tak aate-aate ye har us cheez ke liye use hone laga jiski "Bumper Sale" hoti thi.

Separate the wheat from the chaff



To separate the valuable from the invaluable / worthless – मूल्यवान को बेकार से अलग करना

Ex - The exam helps separate the wheat from the chaff.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase The Bible (New Testament) se aaya hai. Wahan likha hai ki 'John the Baptist' ne kaha tha ki achhe aur bure logon ko alag kiya jayega, jaise gehu se chilka alag hota hai. Tabse ye phrase dunya bhar mein "Filtering" aur "Sorting" ke liye use hone laga.

Set sights on



To set one's goal and do everything possible to achieve it – अपने लक्ष्य को पाने का हर संभव प्रयास करना

Ex - He has set his sights on success.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Military aur Hunting (shikar) se aaya hai. 14th century se hi log 'Bow' (dhanush) aur 'Crossbow' par nishana lagane ke liye iska use karte the. 1900s tak aate-aate ye business, sports aur personal life mein "Bade sapne dekhne" ke liye use hone laga.

Set forth

To start – शुरू करना

Ex - They set forth on a long journey.

Set the wheels in motion

To start something – शुरू करना

Ex - The manager set the wheels in motion.

Set their face against



To be strongly opposed to or disapproving of something – विरोध करना

Ex - He set his face against corruption.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase bohot purana hai aur The Bible (Old Testament) mein kaafi baar use hua hai. Wahan likha hota tha ki jab ishwar kisi ke paapon se gussa hote the, toh he would "set his face against them." 19th century tak aate-aate ye aam logon ke "Strict Disapproval" (namanzoori) ke liye use hone laga.

Shake in one's shoes



To be afraid – भयभीत होना

Ex - The child was shaking in his shoes.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 18th century (1700s) se English bhasha mein hai. Us waqt log aksar "Shake in one's boots" bhi kehte the. Iska simple logic ye tha ki jab koi shariir kaanpta hai, toh jooton ke andar pairon ki thartharahat sabse pehle dikhti hai. Ye darr ko 'Visual' (dekhne layak) banane ka ek purana tarika hai.

Shake off



To get rid off – छुटकारा पाना

Ex - She tried to shake off her fear.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 14th century (1300s) se chala aa raha hai. Shuruat mein ye sirf "Dhool jhatakne" ke liye use hota tha. Lekin 1600s tak aate-aate, writers ne ise "Bura khayal" (bad thoughts) ya "Dushman" se pichha chhudane ke liye use karna shuru kar diya. Aaj ye sports mein dushman team ke 'Defender' ko chakma dene ke liye bhi use hota hai.

Sharp as a tack



Mentally active/A clever person – बहुत ही बुद्धिमान

Ex - He is sharp as a tack.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke America se aaya hai. Us waqt 'Tack' ka istemal carpets aur papers lagane ke liye bohot hota tha. 'Sharp' word ka use dimaag ke liye toh Shakespeare ke zamane se ho raha tha, par 'Tack' ke saath ise jodna ek naya aur mazedaar tarika ban gaya ye dikhane ka ki koi "Sui ki nok" jaisa hoshiyar hai.

Sharp practice



Dishonesty – बेईमानी

Ex - That business deal involved sharp practice.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke Lawyers aur Businessmen se aaya hai. Us waqt kuch vakil kanoon ke 'Loopholes' (kamiyan) ka fayda uthakar dusron ko fasa dete the. Ise "Sharp" isliye kaha gaya kyunki ye 'Tez dimaag' se kiya jata tha, par "Practice" isliye kyunki ye profession mein ek gandi aadat ban gayi thi.

Shed light on



To explain a situation – किसी बात को स्पष्ट करना

Ex - The report shed light on the issue.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 15th century (1400s) se chala aa raha hai. 'Shed' ka purana matlab hota tha "Bikhairna" (to scatter). Shuruat mein ye sirf suraj ki roshni ke liye use hota tha, par dhire-dhire ye "Gyan" (knowledge) aur "Education" ke liye use hone laga. Aaj ye business meetings aur news reports mein sabse zyada use hota hai.

Shook a leg



To make haste – जल्दी करना

Ex - He shook a leg to catch the bus.

Origin/Tricks - Iske peeche do dilchasp kahaniyan hain. Pehli Royal Navy (Ships) se: Sailors ko subah uthane ke liye jab officer chillata tha, toh unhe apna 'Paon' hammock se bahar nikal kar dikhana padta tha ki wo jaag gaye hain. Dusri kahani Dance Halls se hai (early 1900s), jahan log dance floor par "Leg shake" karke maze karte the.

Show a clean pair of heels



To run fast – तेज दौड़ना

Ex - The thief showed a clean pair of heels.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) se chala aa raha hai. Shuruat mein ye sirf "Fair pair of heels" kaha jata tha. Shakespeare ke zamane mein ise dushman se bach nikalne ke liye ek "Stylish" tarika mana jata tha. 19th century tak aate-aate "Clean" word jud gaya, jiska matlab tha "Itna saaf ki koi nishaan na mile."

Show one's true colours



To reveal one's real character – वास्तविक चरित्र दिखाना

Ex - He finally showed his true colours.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Naval Warfare (Samundri jung) se aaya hai. 17th aur 18th century mein, dushman jahaz aksar "Friendly Colours" (dusre desh ka jhanda) lagakar dhokha dete the taaki wo paas aa sakein. Lekin attack karne se thik pehle, unhe apna asli jhanda ("True Colours") fehrana padta tha. Tabse ye "Asliyat dikhane" ke liye use hone laga.

Sing a different tune



To change the way one talks about something – किसी दूसरे के अनुसार चलना

Ex - After losing, he sang a different tune.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase bohot purana hai, lagbhag 14th century (1300s) se chala aa raha hai. 'Tune' hamesha se insaan ki 'Social position' ya 'Attitude' ko darshati hai. Pehle ise "Change one's note" kaha jata tha, par music ke shaukeen logon ne ise "Sing a different tune" bana diya.

Sit on a gold mine



To own something potentially valuable – मूल्यवान वस्तु का मालिक होना

Ex - That landowner is sitting on a gold mine.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke Gold Rush ke zamane se aaya hai. America aur Australia mein log zameen kharidte the aur baad mein pata chalta tha ki uske niche "Sona" hai. Log kehte the, "You are sitting on a gold mine!" Dhire-dhire ye "Great ideas" aur "Unique skills" ke liye bhi use hone laga.

Sit on the fence



To be not able to take decision – कोई निर्णय लेने में असमर्थ होना

Ex - Do not sit on the fence.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) se popular hai. Iska talluk purane 'Court' aur 'Politics' se hai, jahan agar koi judge ya neta kisi ek party ka saath nahi deta tha, toh log mazaak mein kehte the ki wo "Fence par baitha hai." Aaj ye corporate life aur dosti mein sabse zyada use hota hai.**

Sit tight



To wait patiently – धैर्यपूर्वक प्रतीक्षा करना

Ex - Just sit tight and wait.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 18th century (1700s) se chala aa raha hai. Shuruat mein ye Hunting (Shikar) se juda tha. Jab shikari kisi jaanwar ka intezar karte the, toh unhe "Tight" (ekdum shant aur mazbooti se) baithna padta tha taaki koi aahat na ho. 1920s tak aate-aate ye business aur aam baatcheet mein "Sabr rakhne" ke liye use hone laga.

Sit/ride shotgun



To ride in the front passenger seat of a car – ड्राइवर के बगल बैठ कर यात्रा करना

Ex - I will ride shotgun today.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Wild West (America) ke zamane se aaya hai (1800s). Us waqt 'Stagecoaches' (ghoda-gaadi) chalti thi jo 'Sona' (gold) aur 'Mail' lekar jati thi. Driver ke bagal mein ek "Messenger" baithta tha jiske paas asli shotgun hoti thi. 1950s ke baad, jab cars aayi, toh bachhon aur doston ne is term ko "Front seat reserve" karne ke liye use karna shuru kar diya.

Slack off



To be lazy in your work – काम में सुस्त पड़ना

Ex - Do not slack off at work.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase purane zamane ke Sailors (Samundri jahaz) se aaya hai. Jab jahaz ki rassi (rope) ko dheela chhod diya jata tha, toh use "Slacking off the line" kehte the. Agar koi sailor rassi pakadne mein susti dikhata, toh use 'slacker' kaha jata tha. 20th century tak aate-aate ye office aur school mein "Kaamchori" ke liye use hone laga.

Sleep like a log



To sleep soundly – गहरी नींद में सोना

Ex - After work, he slept like a log.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 17th century (1600s) se chala aa raha hai. Purane zamane mein log sote waqt "Lakdi ki tarah" (as a piece of wood) dikhne wale logon ko mazaak mein 'Log' kehte the. Ye ek universal truth hai ki lakdi ko kitna bhi hila lo, wo jagti nahi hai—isliye ye "Hard sleepers" ke liye perfect idiom ban gaya.

Sleep on it



To wait before making a decision – निर्णय लेने से पहले प्रतीक्षा करना

Ex - I will sleep on it before deciding.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase kaafi sadiyon se English bhasha mein hai. Iska talluk is purani maanyata (belief) se hai ki "Night brings counsel" (Raat apne saath salaah lati hai). 1500s mein King Henry VIII ke zamane mein bhi log bade faislon ke liye "Consulting with their pillow" (Takiye se salaah lena) ki baat karte the.

Smash hit



A very successful song, film, show, or performance – अत्यंत सफल गाना

Ex - The movie became a smash hit.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1920s ke Variety Shows aur Music Industry se aaya hai. Us waqt jab koi gana "Billboard" charts par tezi se upar jata tha, toh log kehte the ki isne "Competition ko smash kar diya". Dhire-dhire ye har us cheez ke liye use hone laga jo raato-raat mashhoor ho jati hai.

Smell a rat



To have reason to suspect – दाल में काला नजर आना

Ex - I smell a rat in this deal.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase kaafi sadiyon purana hai. Purane zamane mein, gharon mein chuhon ka hona aam baat thi. Kutte (dogs) aksar chuhon ki mehak sungh kar unhe dhund nikalte the. Insaan ne kutton ki is quality ko dekh kar ye idiom banaya—ki jaise kutta chuhe ko bina dekhe sungh leta hai, waise hi ek hoshiyar insaan dhokhe ko pehle hi sungh leta hai.

Smooth sailing



Easy progress – बिना किसी बाधा के प्रगति करना

Ex - The project is going smooth sailing.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Sailing (Jahaz-rani) ki duniya se aaya hai. Purane zamane mein jab engine nahi hote the, sailors hamesha "Smooth water" aur "Fair winds" ki dua karte the. Agar samundar 'Smooth' hota tha, toh safar aasaan ho jata tha. 19th century tak aate-aate ye business aur exams ke liye ek aam kahawat ban gayi.

So far so good

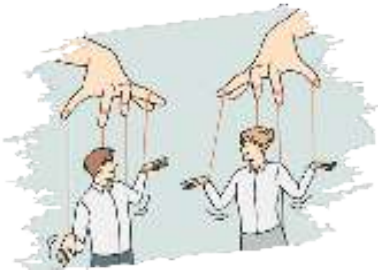


Things are going well so far – फिलहाल सब सही

Ex - So far so good, everything is fine.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 18th century (1700s) se chala aa raha hai. Ek purani mashhoor kahani hai ek aadmi ki jo ek bohot unchi building se gir raha tha. Jab wo beech ki manzil (floor) par pahuncha, toh kisi ne pucha "Kaise ho?", usne jawab diya— "So far, so good!" (Ab tak toh thik hoon!). Tabse ye kisi bhi adhoore kaam ke liye use hone laga jo sahi raste par ho.

Someone eating out of your hand



Easily make someone do or think what you want

– ईशारो पर नाचना

Ex - He has everyone eating out of his hand.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 20th century (1900s) ki shuruat se mashhoor hua. Iska talluk seedha-seedha Animal Training se hai. Shikari ya trainers jab kisi janwar ko sikhate the, toh 'Hath se khana' sabse bada saboot hota tha ki janwar ab "Vash" mein hai. Dhire-dhire ye business aur relationships mein "Control" dikhane ke liye use hone laga.

Someone's heart is in the right place



Someone is good even if they sometimes behave in a wrong manner – अच्छा इंसान से भी कभी गलती हो सकती है

Ex - Though strict, his heart is in the right place.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 18th century (1700s) se English bhasha mein hai. Iska talluk purani "Biology" aur "Philosophy" se hai jahan log maante the ki agar dil sharir mein 'Sahi' jagah par hai, toh insaan ka charitra (character) bhi balance aur achha hoga. Dhire-dhire ye un logon ke liye use hone laga jo "Bhole-bhale" (innocent) hain par hamesha dusron ki madad karna chahte hain.

Sought after



In great demand – काफी मांग में

Ex - Skilled engineers are highly sought after in today's market.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) se chala aa raha hai. Purane zamane mein jab koi rare 'Masala' (spice) ya 'Jewel' (ratna) bazaar mein aata tha, toh log usey "Seek after" (paane ki koshish) karte the. Dhire-dhire ye un logon ke liye use hone laga jo apne kaam mein itne mahir (expert) hain ki har koi unke saath kaam karna chahta hai.

Sow wild oats



To indulge in youthful or irresponsible behavior

– अय्याशी करना

Ex - In his youth, he sowed wild oats and wasted time.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) se chala aa raha hai. Us waqt log kehte the ki "Wild oats" bona bewakoofi hai kyunki unka koi anaj (grain) nahi nikalta. Dhire-dhire ye un naujawano ke liye use hone laga jo apni energy "Sahi kaam" mein lagane ki jagah "Faltu ki masti" mein udate hain.

Speak one's mind



To voice one's thoughts plainly or bluntly – अपने विचारों को स्पष्ट करना

Ex - She is not afraid to speak her mind.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) se chala aa raha hai. Shakespeare ne bhi iska use kiya tha. Purane zamane mein, raja-maharajaon ke saamne bolna khatarnak hota tha, isliye jo log "Speak one's mind" karte the, unhe bohot 'Brave' (bahadur) mana jata tha. Aaj ye "Be-baak" logon ki pehchan hai.

Speak volumes



To express one's opinions without using words – इशारों में कुछ कहना

Ex - His silence spoke volumes about his disappointment.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) se chala aa raha hai. Us waqt log kitabon (books) ko 'Volumes' kehte the. Agar kisi baat par ek "Poori Kitab" likhi ja sakti hai, toh usey 'Speak volumes' kaha jane laga. Yani ek choti si cheez mein "Puri Library" jitni jankari hona.**

Speak/talk of the devil



The person we were just talking about showed up – किसी व्यक्ति का जिक्र करते समय उसी व्यक्ति का आना

Ex - Talk of the devil, here he comes.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase 17th century (1600s) se pehle ka hai. Asli kahawat thi: "Speak of the devil and he will appear." Us waqt log sach mein darte the ki buri takaton ka naam lene se wo aa jati hain. 19th century tak aate-aate, ye ek mazaakiya (funny) idiom ban gaya jo doston ke liye use hone laga.**

Spick and span



Neat and clean – साफ सुथरा

Ex - Her house is always spick and span.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) se chala aa raha hai. Us waqt log 'Spick-and-span-new' bolte the, jiska matlab tha "Abhi-abhi karkhane se nikla hua" (Fresh from the factory). Dhire-dhire ye ships (jahazon) ke liye use hone laga jo bilkul naye lagte the. Aaj ye gharon aur office ki "Super-cleaning" ke liye mashhoor hai.

Spill the beans



To reveal a secret unintentionally – कोई भेद (रहस्य) बता देना

Ex - He accidentally spilled the beans about the surprise.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase Ancient Greece (purane Unan) se aaya hai. Us waqt "Voting" (election) ke liye log 'Beans' ka use karte the. Safed (white) bean ka matlab 'Yes' aur kali (black) bean ka matlab 'No' hota tha. Ye beans ek bartan mein chhupa kar rakhi jati thi. Agar koi galti se bartan gira deta (spill the beans), toh result waqt se pehle hi sabko 'Pata chal jata' tha.

Spin one's wheels



To make ineffective or fruitless efforts – समय बर्बाद करना

Ex - Without planning, you are just spinning your wheels.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 1960s se America mein mashhoor hua. Iska talluk seedha-seedha Automobiles se hai. Jab gaadiyan barf (snow) ya kichad (mud) mein phans jati thi, toh unke pahiye wahi "Spin" karte the. Dhire-dhire ye "Career" aur "Studies" mein "Atakne" ke liye use hone laga.

Split hairs



Making peevish criticisms on trivial matters will not lead us anywhere – छोटी-छोटी बातों पर बहस करना निरर्थक होता है

Ex - Stop splitting hairs over minor issues.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 17th century (1600s) se English bhasha mein hai. Shakespeare ne bhi apne plays mein iska zikr kiya tha. Purane zamane mein 'Hair-splitting' ko ek aisi 'Philosophy' mana jata tha jo bohot hi "Barik" aur "Gunjhal-dar" (complicated) hoti thi. Dhire-dhire ye "Irritating" logon ke liye use hone laga jo har baat mein nuks nikalte hain.

Split one's sides



Be extremely amused – बहुत खुश

Ex - The comedy show made us split our sides laughing.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 17th century (1600s) se chala aa raha hai. Us waqt log maante the ki bahut zyada khushi ya hansi se shareer ke 'Organs' phat sakte hain. Shakespeare ne bhi aise hi expressions use kiye the. Tabse "Sides split hona" ek popular tareeka ban gaya ye batane ka ki "Jokes bohot hi khatarnak (funny) tha."

Spread like wild fire



To Spread rapidly – तेजी से फैलाना/फैलना

Ex - The news spread like wildfire.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 13th century (1200s) se chala aa raha hai. Purane zamane mein "Wildfire" ek tarah ka "Chemical weapon" (Greek Fire) hota tha jo pani se bhi nahi bujhta tha aur har cheez ko jala deta tha. Dhire-dhire ye "Tez afwahon" (fast rumours) ke liye use hone laga jo kisi ka "Character" ya "Reputation" jala kar rakh deti hain.

Square an account



To settle one's debt – कर्ज चुकाना

Ex - He worked hard to square his accounts.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 17th century se Accounting aur Business se aaya hai. Purane zamane mein accountants tab 'Square' term use karte the jab unka 'Credit' aur 'Debit' match ho jata tha. Baad mein ye "Badla" (revenge) lene ke liye bhi use hone laga, jahan ek bura kaam dusre "Saza" ke saath barabar (square) ho jata hai.

Stab in one's back



To betray someone – छल करना, धोका देना

Ex - He stabbed me in the back by betraying trust.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai, par 20th century mein World War I ke baad "Stab-in-the-back myth" ke roop mein bohot popular hua. Itihaas mein bohot saare dhokhe huye hain (jaise Julius Caesar ko uske dost Brutus ne mara tha). Tabse ye har us dhokhe ke liye use hota hai jahan 'Apne' hi 'Dushman' nikalte hain.

Stand in one's own light



To act against one's own interest – अपनी इच्छाओं के खिलाफ काम करना

Ex - By refusing help, he stood in his own light.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai aur 16th century (1500s) se English literature mein use ho raha hai. Iska talluk purane zamane ki 'Candlelight' (mombatti ki roshni) se hai. Agar aap padhte waqt mombatti ke thik samne khade ho jayein, toh aapki apni shadow kitab par andhera kar degi. Wahan se ye "Progress rokne" ke liye use hone laga.

Stand one's ground



To maintain one's position – अपनी स्थिति/पद बरकरार रखना

Ex - She stood her ground despite pressure.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase seedha Military History (fauji itihaas) se aaya hai. Purane zamane mein yuddh ke waqt sipahiyon ko kaha jata tha ki "Apni jagah mat chhodna" (Stand your ground), taaki dushman andar na ghus sake. Dhire-dhire ye "Debates," "Politics," aur "Personal Life" mein apni baat manwane ke liye use hone laga.

Stand-offish



Unfriendly, cold and too formal towards other people – अकेले रहना

Ex - He seemed stand-offish in the meeting.

Origin/Tricks - **Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) se Sailing (Jahaz-rani) se aaya hai. Jab ek jahaz (ship) kinare (shore) se door 'Safe distance' par rehta tha taaki wo takra na jaye, toh usey "Standing off" kaha jata tha. Dhire-dhire ye un logon ke liye use hone laga jo "Socially" logon se safe distance banate hain.**

Stave off



To prevent something bad from happening – कुछ गलत होने से रोकना

Ex - He exercised daily to stave off illness.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) se chala aa raha hai. Iska talluk 'Staving' se hai, jiska matlab tha dande (staves) se hamla rokna. Samundri jahazon par jab bade 'Barrels' (drum) tootne lagte the, toh unhe 'Staves' se thoka jata tha taaki wo bikhrein nahi. Wahan se ye "Nuksan rokne" ke liye use hone laga.

Steal someone's thunder



To get praise for doing something before somebody else – दूसरों का श्रेय छीनना

Ex - She stole my thunder by announcing my idea first.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 18th century (1704) ke ek Playwright (Natak-kaar) John Dennis se aaya hai. Unhone ek natak ke liye "Nakli Bijli" (thunder) ki awaaz banane ki ek nayi machine banayi thi. Unka natak flop ho gaya, par kuch din baad unhone dekha ki ek bade 'Macbeth' natak mein unhi ki banayi hui "Awaaz" (thunder) churai gayi thi. Wo gusse mein bole, "They will not let my play run, but they steal my thunder!"

Step up to the plate



Take control of a situation – किसी परिस्थिति को संभाल लेना

Ex - He stepped up to the plate during the crisis.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century ke American Baseball se aaya hai. Khel mein jab team ko runs ki zaroorat hoti hai, toh sabse 'Brave' player ko plate par aane ke liye kaha jata hai. 1920s tak ye business aur politics mein itna mashhoor ho gaya ki har us insaan ke liye use hone laga jo "Bhari waqt" mein aage aata hai.

Stick to one's guns



Maintain one's own opinion/To stand firm against all difficulties and challenges – अपनी बात पर अड़े रहना

Ex - He stuck to his guns despite criticism.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 18th century ke Naval Warfare (samundri yuddh) se aaya hai. Jab jahaz par hamla hota tha, toh gunners (top chalane wale) ko order diya jata tha ki wo "Apni guns ke paas hi rahein" (Stick to your guns), chahe kitni bhi goli-baari kyun na ho rahi ho. Dhire-dhire ye 'Arguments' aur 'Principles' ke liye use hone laga.

Sticky fingers



An habit of stealing – चोरी करने की प्रवृति

Ex - The shopkeeper suspected the boy had sticky fingers.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke Street Slang se aaya hai. Purane zamane mein jeb-katre (pickpockets) aksar 'Sticky' substances ka use karte the taaki coins ya note asani se unki ungliyon mein phas jayein. Dhire-dhire ye har us insaan ke liye use hone laga jo "Mauka milne par" hath saaf kar deta hai.

Still waters run deep

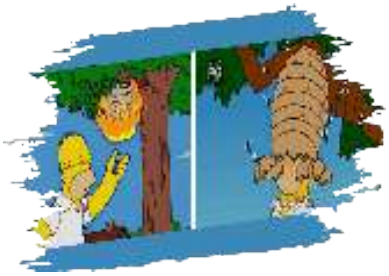


People who are silent have profound thoughts – शांत लोग बुद्धिमान होते है।

Ex - He is quiet but wise still waters run deep.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase sadiyon purana hai aur Latin kahawat "Altissima quaeque flumina minimo sono labi" se aaya hai. Iska matlab tha ki sabse gahri nadiyan sabse kam shor karti hain. 15th century se ye English mein use ho raha hai taaki logon ko samjhaya ja sake ki "Zuban ki khamoshi" ka matlab "Dimaag ki khamoshi" nahi hota.

Stir up a hornet's nest

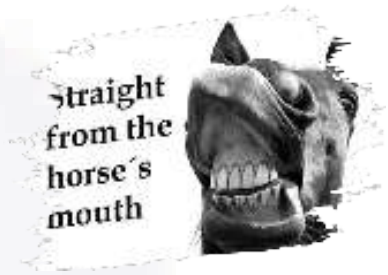


To make trouble – ऐसा काम करना जो परेशानी खड़ी कर दे

Ex - His comment stirred up a hornet's nest.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 18th century (1700s) se chala aa raha hai. Iska talluk seedha Nature (prakriti) se hai. Purane zamane mein kisanon ko pata hota tha ki hornet's nest ke paas shor nahi karna chahiye. Dhire-dhire ye un 'Topics' ke liye use hone laga jo bohot sensitive hote hain, jaise "Religion" ya "Politics."

Straight from the horse's mouth



From the person directly concerned or involved – सीधे तौर से संबंधित व्यक्ति

Ex - I heard it straight from the horse's mouth.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 19th century (1800s) ke Horse Racing (ghoda-daud) se aaya hai. Log 'Bet' (shart) lagane se pehle afwahein sunte the ki kaunsa ghoda jitega. Par sabse 'Pakki Tips' wahi hoti thi jo ghode ke 'Trainer' ya 'Owner' se milti thi. Tabse ye "Asli Source" ke liye mashhoor ho gaya.

Strain every nerve



To try extremely hard to do something – हर संभव प्रयास करना

Ex - She strained every nerve to succeed.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 18th century (1700s) se chala aa raha hai. Us waqt 'Nerve' ka matlab sirf 'Nass' nahi, balki 'Muscle' ya 'Strength' (taqat) bhi hota tha. Jab koi athlete ya soldier yuddh mein apni "Akhri saans" tak ladta tha, toh usey 'Straining every nerve' kaha jata tha. Aaj ye mental aur physical dono tarah ki "Hard work" ke liye mashhoor hai.

Struck a chill to the heart



To make someone extremely frightened – दिल को दहला देना

Ex - The news struck a chill to my heart.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 18th aur 19th century ke Gothic Literature (horror kahaniyon) se aaya hai. Purane zamane mein log maante the ki 'Maut' ya 'Bhoot' ke paas aane se hawa thandi ho jati hai. Dhire-dhire ye har us buri khabar ke liye use hone laga jo "Dil ko thanda" (be-jaan) kar deti hai.

Struck several bad patches



Had many professional difficulties – व्यवसाय-संबंधी मुश्किलें होना

Ex - His business struck several bad patches last year.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 20th century ke Sports (Cricket) aur Aviation (hawai jahaz) se aaya hai. Cricket mein jab pitch kharab hoti hai toh usey 'Bad Patch' kehte hain jahan batting mushkil hoti hai. Jab koi khiladi lagatar zero par out hota hai, toh usey 'Hitting a bad patch' kaha jata hai. Dhire dhire ye "Zindagi ki rukawaton" ke liye mashhoor ho gaya.

Stumbled upon



To find or learn about unexpectedly – अचानक से

Ex - I stumbled upon an old diary.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 14th century (1300s) se chala aa raha hai. Iska talluk purane 'Walking' (pedal chalne) ke tareeke se hai. Jab raste kachhe hote the, toh log pattharon se takra jate the. Kabhi kabhi wo patthar "Sona" (gold) ya "Keemti cheez" nikal jati thi. Tabse ye "Lucky find" ke liye use hone laga.

Suit (one) to a 'T



Something that looks very good on your face – चेहरे पर अच्छा लगना

Ex - That dress suits you to a T.

Origin/Tricks - Purane zamane mein 'Tittle' (chota nishan) ko 'T' kaha jata tha. Jaise "Crossing the T's and dotting the I's" ka matlab hota hai har bariki ka dhyan rakhna. 17th century se ye "Perfect fit" ke liye use hone laga.

Sum and substance



Essence – सारांश, सार

Ex - The sum and substance of his speech was honesty.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 16th century (1500s) se chala aa raha hai. Shakespeare ne apne play 'Hamlet' mein iska use kiya tha. Us waqt 'Substance' ka matlab hota tha wo cheez jo "Badal nahi sakti." Tabse ye kisi bhi lambi chaurasi baat ke "Asli matlab" ko batane ke liye ek standard tareeka ban gaya.

Sweeping statement



A statement which applies to all things of a particular kind – बिना सोचे-समझे सब पर लागू करने वाली बात

Ex - Do not make a sweeping statement.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 18th century (1700s) se chala aa raha hai. 'Sweeping' ka matlab tab 'Wide' ya 'Extensive' hota tha (jaise sweeping views). Dhire-dhire ye 'Statements' ke liye use hone laga jab log "Gehri research" karne ke bajaye "Oopri taur" par badi-badi baatein karne lage.

Swept under the rug

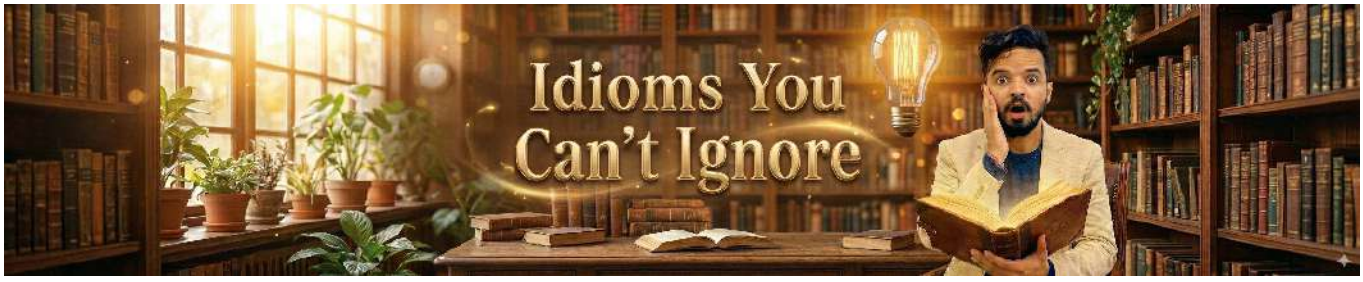


Concealed from others – समस्याओं को छिपाना

Ex - The issue was swept under the rug.

Origin/Tricks - Yeh phrase 20th century (1900s) ke Household Cleaning se aaya hai. Purane zamane mein 'Rug' (carpet) ek expensive cheez hoti thi. Jab achanak mehman (guests) aate the, toh log kachra fenkne ke bajaye carpet ke niche chhupa dete the. Dhire dhire ye "Bad news" aur "Politics" ke liye use hone laga.





- **A drop in the bucket/ ocean**
  A very small part of something big or whole/ Insignificant comparison *(ऊँट के मुँह में जीरा)*
- **A fair-weather friend**
  A selfish friend
- **A fish out of water**
  In an uncomfortable position *(असहज महसूस करनस)*
- **A fool's paradise**
  A state of imaginary happiness *(हवाई महल में रहना)*
- **A full plate**
  Onerous amount of work *(बहुत व्यस्त होना)*
- **A dog's life**
  A miserable existence *(बहुत कष्टदायक और दयनीय जीवन जीना)*
- **A Golden handshake**
  A payment made to an employee when they leave their job as a reward for very long or good service *(सम्मानजनक विदाई राशि)*
- **A daredevil**
  A fearless person *(जोखिम लेने वाला व्यक्ति)*
- **A gut feeling**
  A instinct or intuition feeling *(अंदर की भावना)*
- **A rare bird**
  An exceptional person or thing *(दुर्लभ व्यक्ति)*
- **A piece of cake**
  An easy task *(बहुत आसान काम)*
- **A hair's breadth escape**
  A narrow margin *(बाल-बाल बचना)*
- **A hard/tough nut to crack**
  A problem or situation that is difficult to solve or deal with *(कठिन समस्या)*

- **A kick in the teeth**
  A great disappointment *(करारा झटका)*
- **A laughing stock**
  An object of laughter/an object of ridicule *(हँसी का पात्र)*
- **A lot on one's plate**
  A lot to do/having many responsibilities *(बहुत सारी जिम्मेदारियाँ होना)*
- **A narrow escape**
  Just manage to avoid danger or trouble *(मुश्किल से बचना)*
- **A needle in a haystack**
  Something impossible to find *(बहुत कठिन खोज)*
- **A night owl**
  A person who prefers to be awake late at night *(रात में जागने वाला व्यक्ति)*
- **A hair in the butter**
  A challenging situation *(चुनौतीपूर्ण स्थिति)*
- **A rainy day**
  Time of difficulty *(विपत्ति का सयम)*
- **All eyes**
  Watching eagerly/To be attentive *(पूरा ध्यान लगाए देखना)*
- **A scapegoat**
  A person who is blamed for something that someone else has done *(बलि का बकरा)*
- **A safe pair of hands**
  A person who can be trusted to do something efficiently *(भरोसेमंद व्यक्ति)*
- **Add fuel to the fire**
  To worsen an already bad situation *(आग में घी डालना)*
- **A turning point**
  Anything that brings about changes/The time at which an important change starts *(निर्णायक मोड़)*
- **A slap on the wrist**
  A mild punishment *(हल्की सजा)*
- **A snake in the grass**
  Hidden enemy *(छिपा हुआ दुश्मन)*
- **A rolling stone gathers no moss**
  A person who does not settle in one place for a long time, does not gain any wealth, name or fame *(जो व्यक्ति स्थिर नहीं रहता, वह प्रगति नहीं करता)*

- **A shot/of slab in the dark**
  A guess (अनुमान)
- **Afraid of one's own shadow**
  To be frightened of things in a way that is not reasonable or necessary (बहुत डरपोक)
- **All good things must come to an end**
  Some good or positive events are coming to a close end (कुछ भी हमेशा के लिए नहीं रहता)
- **An ace in the hole/ An ace up your sleeve**
  A major advantage that one keeps hidden until an ideal time. (तुरुप का पत्ता)
- **An ounce of protection is worth a pound of care**
  A little bit of precaution is more powerful than the care after (सावधानी इलाज से बेहतर है)
- **An uphill task**
  Difficult task (चुनौतीपूर्ण कार्य)
- **All's fair in love and war**
  In certain highly charged situations, any method of achieving your objective is Justifiable (प्यार और जंग में सब जायज है)
- **An apple of one's eye**
  A person of that someone loves very much (आँखों का तारा)
- **An eagle eye**
  Sharp vision, Ability to see or observer keenly (पैनी नजर)
- **An eye opener**
  A shocking revelation (आँखें खोल देने वाला अनुभव)
- **An open book**
  A person or thing that is easy to learn about and understand (जो कुछ न छिपाए)
- **Apple of discord**
  The cause of dispute, misunderstanding or fight (झगड़े की जड़)
- **Apples and oranges**
  Unequal comparison (बेमेल तुलना)
- **As Cool as a cucumber**
  Calm and composed (अत्यंत शांस)
- **As good as gold**
  A person who is obedient and well behaved (नेक)
- **At a snail's pace**
  Very slowly (बहुत धीमी गति से)

Prashant Solanki English

- **At a stone's throw**
  At a close distance (*बहुत नजदीक*)
- **At any rate**
  In any case (*किसी भी स्थिति में*)
- **At one's finger tips**
  Readily available and within one's mental grasp (*पूरी जानकारी होना*)
- **At random**
  Without order or fixed purpose (*बिना किसी क्रम के*)
- **At short notice**
  Immediately after one has been told about something (*बहुत कम समय पहले दी गई सूचना पर*)
- **Bear garden**
  A place of noise and disturbance (*शोर और अशांति का स्थान*)
- **Bag and baggage**
  With all one's possessions (*बोरिया-बिस्तर समेत*)
- **Back to basics**
  Returning to the simple and most important things (*मूल बातों की ओर लौटना*)
- **Back me**
  To support or help someone (*मदद करना*)
- **Bark is worse than his bite**
  Someone who seems aggressive or threating but is actually harmless (*गरजने वाले बादल बरसते नहीं*)
- **Bear in mind**
  To remember or consider something (*ध्यान में रखना*
- **Bear a grudge**
  To feel angry against somebody for a past Incident (*आक्रोश की भावना को बनाए रखना*)
- **Be afraid of one's own shadow**
  So nervous (*बेहद डरा हुआ या घबराया हुआ*)
- **Bite the hand that feeds you**
  To harm somebody who has helped you or supported you (*मदद करने वाले को ही धोखा देना*)
- **Beauty is only skin deep**
  Physical appearance is no guide to a person's character (*बाहरी सुंदरता से बढ़ कर भीतरी गुण होते है*)

Prashant Solanki English

- **Behind closed doors**
  Discussed or done secretly *(गुप्त रूप से चर्चित की गई)*
- **Behind the scenes**
  Unknown to everyone *(जिसे कोई न जानता हो)*
- **Bite off more than you can chew**
  To take on more responsibility than one can handle *(क्षमता से अधिक कार्यभार लेना)*
- **Black out**
  Lost consciousness *(बेहोश होना)*
- **Blow one's own trumpet**
  To boast about one's own qualities *(खुद की तारीफ करना/शेखी बघारना)*
- **Bide one's time**
  To wait for the right time *(सही समय का इंतजार करना)* Butter fingers
  A clumsy person/A person who often drops things *(अनाड़ी)*
- **Burst the bubble**
  Suddenly end *(अचानक नष्ट होना)*
- **By and by**
  Gradually *(धीरे-धीरे, क्रमशः)*
- **Button one's lips**
  To keep silence *(चुप रहना)*
- **Butterflies in one's stomach**
  Feel nervous *(किसी कार्य को करने के पहले घबड़ाना)*
- **By word of mouth**
  In spoken form *(मौखिक रूप से)*
- **Chill out**
  To calm down *(शांत होना)*
- **Clear cut**
  Clear or obvious without needing any proof *(स्पष्ट करना)*
- **Closed the book on**
  Stopped working on *(काम रोक देना)*
- **Come about**
  To happen *(घटित होना)*
- **Child's play**
  A very easy task *(आसान काम)*
- **Close to one's heart**
  Dear and important to oneself *(अत्यधिक प्रिय)*

- **Cut a long story short**
  To tell something briefly *(संक्षेप में कुछ बताना)*
- **Cross swords**
  To fight *(लड़ाई करना)*
- **Cover up**
  Hide or conceal *(छिपाना)*
- **Course of events**
  The things that have happened, that are happening, or that will happen *(घटनाओं का क्रम)*
- **Copycat**
  One who imitates another closely *(नकलची बंदर)*
- **Come round**
  To become conscious again *(फिर से होश में आना)*
- **Cool it**
  To relax *(शांत होना)*
- **Crow over something**
  To revel boastfully over something *(किसी बात पर शेखी बघारना)*
- **Come true**
  To happen in the way you hoped or dreamed *(सच होना)*
- **Come to the point**
  To speak plainly about the real issue *(असली मुद्दे पर खुलकर बात करना)*

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- **Follow suit**
  To do the same as others *(दूसरों का अनुसरण करना)*
- **Find oneself in troubled waters**
  To be in difficulties *(कठिन परिस्थितियों में होना)*
- **Fight one's own battles oneself**
  To do things oneself *(अपनी लड़ाई खुद लड़ना)*
- **Fell down**
  To drop the ground suddenly *(अचान गिर जाना)*
- **Flog/beat a dead horse**
  To waste time on useless things *(फालतू कार्यों में समय बर्बाद करना)*
- **Fly off the handle**
  To lose one's temper suddenly and unexpectedly *(अचानक से अपना खोना)*
- **Fix in one's ways**
  Not willing to change of doing something or way of doing something *(जिद्दी जो बदलना ना चाहे)*
- **For keeps**
  Permanently or for a long time *(स्थायी रूप से)*
- **Easy money**
  Money made without much effort, maybe illegally *(असानी से कमाया पैसा मुख्यत; गैर कानूनी रूप से)*
- **Eat like a bird**
  To eat very little *(बहुत कम खाना)*
- **Face to face**
  With another person in their presence rather than, say, by phone or letter *(आमने-सामने)*
- **Fan the flames**
  To make a bad situation worse *(खराब स्थिति को और खराब करना)*

Prashant Solanki English

- **Feel at home**
  To feel comfortable *(सहज महसूस करना)*
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  To do the same as others *(दूसरों का अनुसरण करना)*
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  Permanently or for a long time *(स्थायी रूप से)*
- **Easy money**
  Money made without much effort, maybe illegally *(आसानी से कमाया पैसा मुख्यत; गैर कानूनी रूप से)*
- **Eat like a bird**
  To eat very little *(बहुत कम खाना)*
- **Face to face**
  With another person in their presence rather than, say, by phone or letter *(आमने-सामने)*
- **Fan the flames**
  To make a bad situation worse *(खराब स्थिति को और खराब करना)*
- **Feel at home**
  To feel comfortable *(सहज महसूस करना)*
- **Great minds think alike**
  Intelligent people think like each other *(बुद्धिमान लोग एक जैसे सोचते है)*
- **Gut instinct**
  An intuition *(मन की आवाज)*
- **Hale and hearty**
  Strong and healthy *(मजबूत और स्वस्थ)*
- **Half a loaf is better than none**
  It's better to get less than what you want than get nothing *(कुछ न होने से तो थोड़ा होना बेहतर है)*

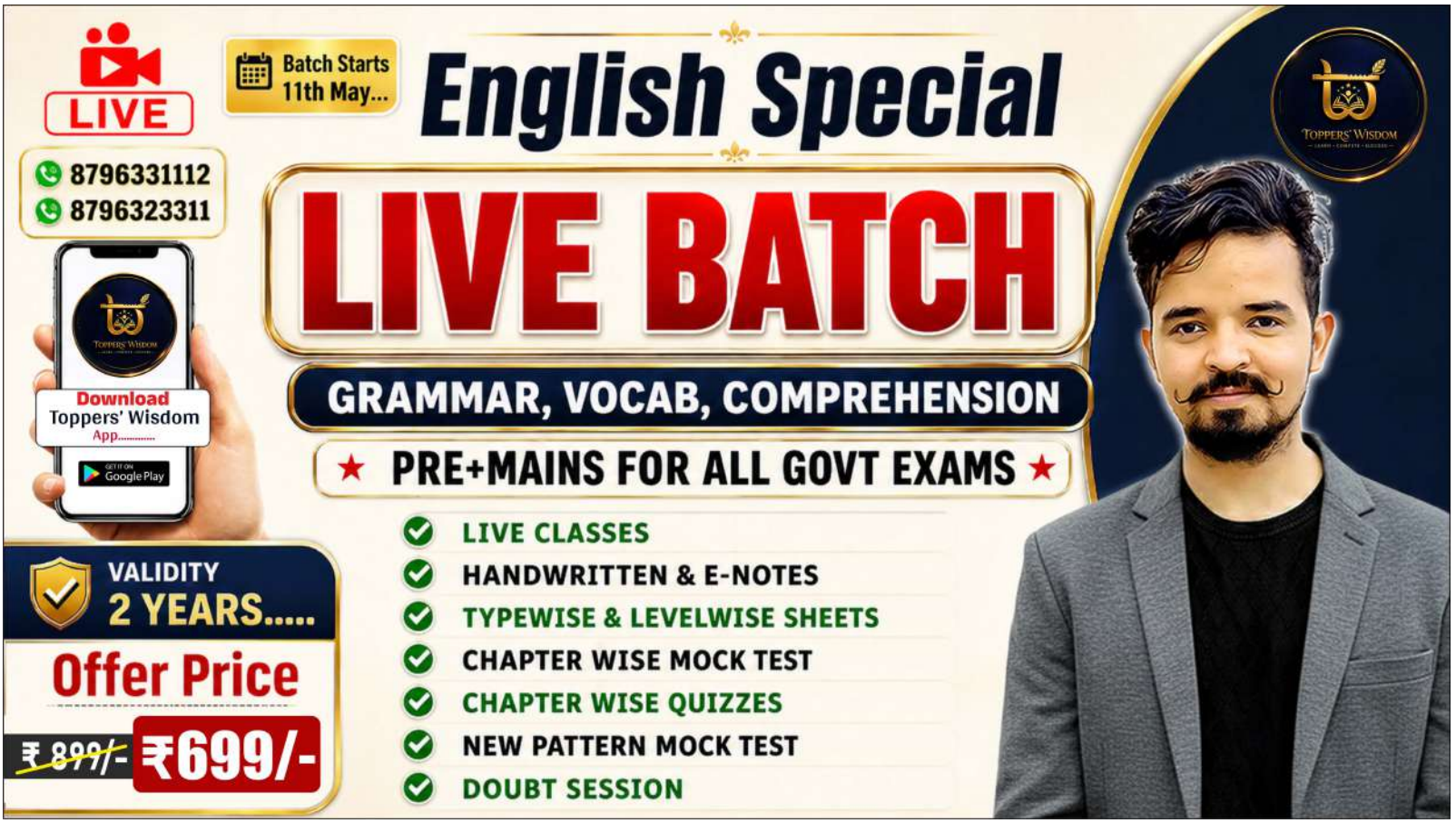
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- **Hard of hearing**
  Partially deaf *(आंशिक रूप से बहरा होना)*
- **Hats off to someone**
  Congratulations to/praise for someone *(प्रशंसा करना)*
- **Heart to heart talk**
  Frank talk/Candid talk *(दिल की बात)*
- **Highest priority**
  First and foremost *(सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण)*
- **Keep an eye on**
  To watch over closely/attentively *(ध्यान से देखना/नजर रखना)*
- **Let down**
  To fail *(असफल होना)*
- **Leave somebody in the lurch**
  To desert someone in his difficulties *(मुसीबत में छोड़ देना)*
- **Learn by heart**
  To memorize something thoroughly *(अच्छी तरह याद कर लेना)*
- **Late in the day**
  Too delayed to be of any use *(किसी काम को होने में बहुत देरी होना)*
- **Last resort**
  Last option after all others have be tried *(अंतिम विकल्प)*
- **Kill two birds with one stone**
  To achieve two things by doing a single action *(एक तीर से दो निशाने)*
- **Keeps an open house**
  Welcome friends or visitors *(खुले दिल से स्वागत करना)*
- **Large-hearted**
  Generous *(उदार)*
- **Keep in touch**
  To maintain contact with another person *(संपर्क बनाए रखना*
- **Keep at bay**
  To keep something or someone at a safe distance *(दूरी बनाए रखना)*
- **More or less**
  Approximately *(लगभग)*
- **Make short work of something**
  To dispose of quickly *(जल्दी से निपटाना)*

- **Memory like sieve**
  Poor memory (*कमजोर याददाश्त*)
- **Make one's blood boil**
  To make someone extremely angry (*किसी को गुस्सा दिलाना*)
- **Make his own way**
  To do what one's wants to do despite the desires, plans, etc. of others (*अपनी इच्छा अनुसार कार्य करना*)
- **Make a scene**
  Make a public disturbance or excited emotional display (*तमाश बनाना*)
- **Make a mockery of**
  There was no serious outcome (*मजाक बनाना*)
- **Make a comeback**
  To return to a former state of success (*पुनः सफलता प्राप्त करना*)
- **Make a bee line**
  To stand in a queue (*कतार में खड़े होना*)
- **Lose one's head**
  To lose one's self-control (*आत्मसयंम खोना*)
- **Lose heart**
  To stop believing that you can succeed (*हतोत्साहित होना*)
- **Lock horns**
  To fight with someone (*किसी से लड़ना*)
- **Nine times out of ten**
  In most cases (*अधिकांश*)
- **Off the record**
  Informally, not officially (*जो अधिकारिक रूप से न हो*)
- **Over one's head**
  Beyond one's capability to understand something (*समझ के परे*)
- **One's hands are full**
  Very busy (*अत्यधिक व्यस्त होना*)
- **One foot in the grave**
  Near of death (*मौत के नजदीक*)
- **On the tip of my tongue**
  Readily available in memory (*दिमाग में आसानी से याद रहना*)

- **Pros and Cons**
  Arguments for and against something (*किसी चीज अच्दाई या बुराइयाँ*)
- **Raise a few eyebrows**
  To cause surprise or shock (*आश्चर्या पैदा करना*)
- **Put your best foot forward**
  To try as hard as one can (*जितना हो सके उतना प्रसास करना*)
- **Put too many irons in**
  Engaged in too many activities (*कई कार्यों में शामिल होना*)
- **Put one's foot in one's mouth**
  To accidentally embarrass or upset someone (*किसी को परेशान करना*)
- **Put in mind**
  To remind (*ध्यान में रखना*)
- **Put a spoke in my wheel**
  Thwarted in the execution of the plan (*अड़चना डालना*)
- **Pull together**
  To work together in harmony (*कठिन समय में मिलकर काम करना*)
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