

**Yazd University**  
**Idioms & Expressions: Text 3**  
**Lecturer: Ali A. Ariamanesh**

1. **Keep sth dark:** To keep sth secret/private  
Apparently, she has a newborn baby, but she has kept that very dark.
2. **Down and out:** To be very poor, having no money  
My friend was down and out for several years before he got this job.
3. **Down to earth:** To be honest, sincere and selfless  
Everybody likes her because of her down-to-earth character.
4. **Dressed to the nines (To dress up):** Dressed in the best clothes. Very fancily dressed  
The singer was dressed to the nines in her first concert.  
I decided to dress up for the opening day of the conference.
5. **Drop one's teeth:** To show somebody got very shocked or surprised  
When I heard the news of his marriage, I dropped my teeth.
6. **Drop a brick:** To disclose a secret when you are expected not to do it  
We wanted to surprise David, but she dropped a brick and began talking about it.
7. **Duck soup:** An easy task. Something that does not require much effort  
The exam was duck soup. I am sure I did very well.
8. **Early bird:** A person who gets up very early in the morning  
My father is such an early bird who is awake every morning at 5 am.
9. **Easy as pie:** Extremely easy  
Be sure you can do it very well. It's easy as pie.
10. **Eat like a horse (Eat like a pig):** To eat too much. To overeat  
Gabriel eats like a horse! You cannot believe how much he can eat.
11. **Eat one's cake and have it too:** To use or spend sth and like to still keep it  
He is never satisfied with his conditions. He wants to eat his cake and have it too.
12. **Eat one's hat:** To bet. To show somebody is very sure about what he/she says.  
You haven't studied enough. I will eat my hat if you pass the test.
13. **Eyes pop out:** To get very surprised.  
When her lost wallet was suddenly found, her eyes popped out.
14. **Fall on deaf ears:** To talk to someone who is not listening  
Stop explaining to him. It's all falling on deaf ears.
15. **Fed up:** To be very tired of sth. To have tolerated all one can  
I'm fed up with my job. It's time I started a new job.
16. **Fat chance:** Sth very unlikely to happen; there is no possibility of that to happen  
Do you think he will lend you the money? Fat chance!

17. **Feel under the weather:** To be depressed; to be out of mood.  
I don't feel like going to the party tonight. I feel under the weather.
18. **Feel on top of the world:** To feel very happy and healthy  
Having married his beloved girl, Alex feels on top of the world.
19. **To get one's feet wet:** To try a new experience. To do sth for the first time  
I had never played golf, but today I got my feet wet.
20. **A fine kettle of fish:** A state of great confusion and disorder  
My room is a fine kettle of fish; I cannot find anything I need.
21. **Have a finger in every pie:** To be involved in many jobs/activities. To have influence  
You can ask Brian for guidance. He has a finger in every pie.
22. **Fish out of water:** Someone who does not fit in a place. To be in a strange situation  
When I first arrived in the U.S., I was just like a fish out of water.
23. **A flash in the pan:** A sudden success that ends quickly and is unlikely to happen again.  
Her new novel proves she isn't just a flash in the pan.
24. **In a flash (Like a flash):** Very quickly  
Just wait here, I will be back in a flash.
25. **Fight tooth and nail:** To fight with all your power. To try hard for sth.  
We fought tooth and nail to get a specialized hospital opened in our city.
26. **Flea market:** A place where antique or second-hand things are sold.  
My grandfather goes to flea markets to look for old houseware.
27. **Flesh and blood:** A close relative such as father, brother, aunt, etc.  
The person you are fighting against is your brother; your own flesh and blood.
28. **Follow one's nose:** To go directly in a straight path  
If you want to get to the airport, just follow your nose!
29. **Foot in the grave:** To be close to death  
The old king is suffering from a bad disease and has one foot in the grave.
30. **Full of beans:** In high spirits, to feel energetic and fresh.  
They are full of beans tonight and won't stop dancing.

#### **Some Proverbs:**

1. **Dog doesn't eat dog (There is honor among thieves):** People of the same [bad] type/family don't hurt each other.
2. **Don't cut the branch you're sitting on:** Don't destroy your own position.
3. **Easy come, easy go:** If you reach sth effortlessly, you won't value it, won't mind it.
4. **Every cloud has a silver lining:** Even in the most hopeless moments, you can be hopeful.
5. **Out of sight, out of mind:** People usually soon forget others when they are gone.
6. **Favor and reject?:** Nobody rejects an advantageous act (sth beneficial) proposed by others.
7. **First come, first served:** Who comes sooner will get the service sooner.
8. **From head to the bottom (Top to toe):** Completely, from the beginning up to the end.