

Idioms & Phrases (मुहावरे)

SSC CGL English Vocabulary / 60 Most Important Idioms with Usage

1. Idiom kya hai?

Idiom = aisa phrase jiska matlab uske shabdon se alag hota hai. Jaise "kick the bucket" = marna (bucket ko laat marna nahi). Question me sentence ke context se option chuno; shabdik matlab (literal) mat lo.

Trick / Yaad rakhne ka tareeka

- Idiom ko pehchano: agar literal matlab se sentence ajeeb lage to idiom hai.
- Idiom me shabd ya order change nahi hota: "a blessing in disguise" [RIGHT].
- Idiom ko apne sentence me use karke yaad rakho: *Winning the lottery was a blessing in disguise for him.*
- Context dekho: positive/negative mood se 2 options kat jate hain.

2. Idioms List (60)

Idiom	Meaning (अर्थ)
A blessing in disguise	Aisi cheez jo pehle bura lage par baad me achhi nikle
A bolt from the blue	Achanak aane wali buri khabar
A piece of cake	Bahut aasaan kaam
A white elephant	Aisi cheez jo kharcheeli aur bekaar ho
Achilles' heel	Kamzor pehlu
At the eleventh hour	Aakhri waqt par
Bag and baggage	Poore saman ke saath
Beat about the bush	Ghuma-phira kar baat karna
Bed of roses	Aaram aur sukh ki sthiti
Bite the bullet	Dard/kasht sehna
Break the ice	Baatcheet shuru karna
Burn the midnight oil	Raat bhar jaag kar padhna/kaam karna
By hook or by crook	Kisi bhi tarah
Call it a day	Kaam band karna
Cry over spilt milk	Beeti baat par pachhtana

Idiom	Meaning (अर्थ)
Cut a sorry figure	Haas-yaspad lagna
Dark horse	Ajnaat jo achanak jeet jaye
Cock and bull story	Jhooti, bani-banayi kahani
Come to blows	Haath-paai par utarna
Crocodile tears	Nakli aansoo
Do or die	Karo ya maro
Draw a line	Seema tay karna
Eat humble pie	Apni galti maan kar sharminda hona
Every cloud has a silver lining	Har museebat me ummeed ki kiran
Fish in troubled waters	Museebat me apna fayda dekhna
Fall flat	Asafal hona
Go through fire and water	Bahut kasht sehna
Hand in glove	Gehri dosti / mile hue
Hit the nail on the head	Bilkul sahi baat kehna
In a nutshell	Sankshep me
Jack of all trades	Sab kuch thoda, kisi me maahir nahi
Kill two birds with one stone	Ek teer se do shikar
Let the cat out of the bag	Raaz khol dena
Make a clean breast of	Saaf-saaf kabool karna
Make hay while the sun shines	Mauke ka fayda uthana
Man of straw	Kamzor/nakli aadmi
Once in a blue moon	Bahut kam, kabhi-kabhar
Out of the blue	Achanak
Pay through the nose	Bahut zyada dam dena
Pull someone's leg	Mazaak udana
Put up with	Bardasht karna
Raining cats and dogs	Moosladhar baarish
Read between the lines	Chhipa hua matlab samajhna
Rub salt on the wound	Zakhm par namak chhidakna
See eye to eye	Poori tarah sahmat hona
Spill the beans	Raaz khol dena
Take the bull by the horns	Himmat se musibat ka saamna

Idiom	Meaning (अर्थ)
The lion's share	Sabse bada hissa
Throw in the towel	Haar maan lena
Turn a deaf ear	Andekha/ansuna karna
Under the weather	Beemar/pareshan
Wash one's dirty linen in public	Ghar ki baat bahar batana
Wild goose chase	Nirarthak khoj
With flying colours	Shandaar safalta se
Win the day	Jeet jana
Add fuel to the fire	Aag me ghee dalna
Apple of one's eye	Behad pyara
At daggers drawn	Jaani dushman
Barking up the wrong tree	Galat disha me koshish
Cut the Gordian knot	Mushkil samasya turant hal karna

Exam Trap (SSC)

- Similar looking idioms: Spill the beans (raaz kholna) vs Beat about the bush (ghuma kar baat).
- Dark horse ka matlab kaala ghoda nahi, anjaan jeetne wala.
- Cry over spilt milk negative: bekaar pachhtana. "Don't cry over spilt milk."
- Under the weather mausam nahi, tabiyat kharab.
- Raining cats and dogs - billi-kutte nahi, tez baarish.

3. Kuch aur frequently asked (Phrases)

Phrase	Meaning
A matter of life and death	Bahut zaroori mamla
Hue and cry	Shor-sharaba
Ins and outs	Poori jaankari / baarikiyan
Odds and ends	Chhoti-moti cheezein
Part and parcel	Anivarya hissa
Rank and file	Aam log/sainik
Tooth and nail	Poori taakat se
Heart and soul	Poore dil se

Phrase	Meaning
Neck and neck	Barabari ki takkar
Black sheep	Parivaar/group ki badnaam shakhs

Q. "A blessing in disguise" kab bolte hain?

Ans. Jab koi shuru me buri lagne wali cheez baad me fayda kar de.

Q. "To beat about the bush" ka matlab?

Ans. Seedhi baat na karke ghuma-phira kar baat karna.

– Teacher: Abhishek Sir / Practice: is topic ke 100 MCQs ka CSV zaroor solve karo.