

# Drawing Idioms

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## What is an Idiom?

An idiom is a phrase or saying that has a metaphorical (not literal) meaning, which has become accepted in common usage. An idiom's understood meaning is quite different from its literal meaning or definition of the words. There are a large number of Idioms and they are used very commonly in all languages. There are estimated to be at least 25,000 idiomatic expressions in the English language.

## Example

**Idiom:** Feeling under the weather

**Meaning:** To feel ill.

**Example of Use:** My best friend was out sick yesterday and now I am feeling under the weather.

**Origins:** When a sailor was feeling ill, he would go beneath the bow, which is the front part of the boat. This would hopefully protect him from adverse conditions, as he was literally under the bad weather that could further sicken him.

**Exercise:** Now look at idioms and pick one to illustrate literally. For example, for the idiom, "raining cats and dogs" you can show cats and dogs falling from the sky while a person with an umbrella observes.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Idiom:** \_\_\_\_\_

