

SR	IDIOM	MEANING	EXAMPLE	TOPIC
1	asleep at the wheel	If you say that someone is asleep at the wheel, you mean that they are not sufficiently attentive, especially at a critical moment when vigilance is required.	When the firemen arrived too late at the scene, the night watchman was accused of being asleep at the wheel.	Sleep And Tiredness
2	cat nap	If you have a short sleep during the day, you have a cat nap.	My dad often has a cat nap on a Sunday afternoon.	Sleep And Tiredness
3	forty winks	If you have forty winks, you have a short sleep or rest, generally during the day.	Dad likes to have forty winks after a game of golf.	Sleep And Tiredness
4	hit the hay / hit the sack	When you hit the hay (or hit the sack), you go to bed.	The boys were so exhausted that they hit the hay as soon as they reached the campsite.	Sleep And Tiredness
5	lie in	If you lie in, you stay in bed after the normal time for getting up.	Great! Tomorrow I'm not on duty so I can lie in!	Sleep And Tiredness
6	out like a light	If a person is out like a light, they are so tired that they fall asleep very quickly.	As soon as his head touched the pillow, he was out like a light.	Sleep And Tiredness
7	ready to drop	Someone who is ready to drop is extremely tired and nearly too exhausted to stay standing.	I've been shopping all day with Judy. I'm ready to drop!	Sleep And Tiredness
8	sleep like a log	If you sleep like a log, you sleep deeply or soundly.	After a day at the beach, I usually sleep like a log.	Sleep And Tiredness
9	sleep on it	If you take time (until the next day) to think something over before making a decision, you sleep on it.	I suggest you sleep on it. You can give me your decision tomorrow.	Sleep And Tiredness
10	not sleep a wink / not get a wink of sleep	If someone doesn't get a wink of sleep, they don't sleep at all.	It was so noisy in the hotel, I didn't get a wink of sleep.	Sleep And Tiredness
11	not lose (any) sleep	When something happens that in your opinion is not a cause for worry, you can say that you will not lose (any) sleep over it.	I've mislaid the book but I'm not going to lose any sleep over it.	Sleep And Tiredness
12	let sleeping dogs lie	If you tell someone to let sleeping dogs lie, you are asking them not to interfere with a situation because they could cause problems.	Look, they've settled their differences. It's time to let sleeping dogs lie	Sleep And Tiredness

13	sleeping partner	The term 'sleeping partner' refers to a person who invests in a business without taking an active part in its management, and whose association with the enterprise is not public knowledge.	He works alone but his business is partly financed by a sleeping partner.	Sleep And Tiredness
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40	at the drop of a hat	If you do something at the drop of a hat, you do it quickly and immediately, without hesitation.	I've got great friends. They're ready to help out at the drop of a hat.	Speed And Rapidity
41	at/in one fell swoop	If something is accomplished at (or in) one fell swoop, it is done in a single action, usually rapidly and ruthlessly.	The three houses were demolished at one fell swoop.	Speed And Rapidity
42	beat to the draw	If you beat someone to the draw, you react more quickly and manage to do something before they do.	Ross was determined to be the first to arrive. He managed to beat the others to the draw.	Speed And Rapidity
43	before the ink is dry	If people reach an agreement, and then change their minds immediately afterwards, the change occurs 'before the ink is dry'.	Be careful if you do business with that man. He's capable of changing his mind before the ink is dry!	Speed And Rapidity
44	before you know it / before you know where you are	If something takes place so rapidly that you don't have time to become aware of it, it happens before you know it or before you know where you are.	The doorbell rang, and before we knew it a surprise birthday party was under way!	Speed And Rapidity
45	fast and furious	If an activity is fast and furious, it is done quickly and with a lot of energy.	Eager to win the race, the competitors came fast and furious around the bend.	Speed And Rapidity
46	fast talker	A person who speaks quickly and easily but cannot always be trusted is called a fast talker.	The salesman was a fast talker who persuaded the old lady to buy a new washing machine.	Speed And Rapidity

47	get a move on	If you advise someone to get a move on, you are telling them to hurry up.	You'd better get a move on or you'll miss the bus!	Speed And Rapidity
48	get your skates on	If you tell someone to get their skates on, you are urging them to do something more quickly..	You'd better get your skates on or you'll be late for the meeting!	Speed And Rapidity
49	go hell for leather	If you go hell for leather, you go somewhere or do something very fast.	I saw Tom going hell for leather towards the station.	Speed And Rapidity
50	in the blink of an eye	If something happens in the blink of an eye, it happens so fast or instantaneously that you have hardly enough time to notice it.	The pickpocket disappeared in the blink of an eye.	Speed And Rapidity
51	in/by leaps and bounds	If you do something in leaps and bounds, you make rapid or spectacular progress or growth.	The number of subscribers to the newsletter has grown in leaps and bounds.	Speed And Rapidity
52	in the twinkling of an eye	Something that happens in the twinkling of an eye happens very fast or instantaneously.	Public opinion can change in the twinkling of an eye.	Speed And Rapidity
53	in two shakes (of a lamb's tail)	To do something in two shakes of a lamb's tail means to do it very quickly.	Wait for me. I'll be ready in two shakes (of a lamb's tail).	Speed And Rapidity
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82	(the) ball is in your court	If the ball is in your court, it is your turn to speak or act next.	We gave the manager a list of complaints, so the ball is in his court now.	Sports, Games And Athletics
83	have a ball	If you have a ball you enjoy yourself immensely.	The party was great. We all had a ball.	Sports, Games And Athletics
84	(be) on the ball	If you are on the ball, you are aware of what is happening and are able to deal with things quickly and intelligently.	We need someone who is really on the ball to head the fund-raising campaign.	Sports, Games And Athletics
85	start the ball rolling	If you start the ball rolling, you begin an activity in which other people will join.	Let's start the ball rolling by calling on our first speaker.	Sports, Games And Athletics
86	that's the way the ball bounces	Things don't always work out as planned, and there's nothing we can do about it - that's life.	He didn't get the prize he expected, but never mind - that's the way the ball bounces.	Sports, Games And Athletics
87	(a) whole new ball game	To refer to something as a whole new ball game means that it is a completely different situation due to a new set of circumstances.	Email and text messaging have made communication a whole new ball game.	Sports, Games And Athletics
88	dive in headfirst	If you begin something enthusiastically, without thinking about the possible consequences, you dive in headfirst.	Tony accepted the project without calculating the time it would take; he always dives in headfirst!	Sports, Games And Athletics
89	fishing expedition	If someone is on a fishing expedition, they are trying to obtain information in any way possible, often using secretive or improper methods.	The lunch invitation was clearly a fishing expedition to obtain information about his private life.	Sports, Games And Athletics
90	fishing for compliments	When someone is obviously waiting for you to say something nice, they are fishing for compliments.	I know why she invited us to her new house - she's just fishing for compliments.	Sports, Games And Athletics
91	at this stage of the game	The expression 'at this stage of the game' refers to the current point reached in a process, activity or developing situation.	I think any further intervention would be unwise at this stage of the game. Let's wait and see how things develop.	Sports, Games And Athletics
92	give the game away	If you give the game away, you reveal a secret or a plan, often unintentionally.	He hoped nobody in the hotel would recognize him, but an employee gave the game away.	Sports, Games And Athletics

93	play the game	If you play the game, you accept to do things according to generally-accepted customs or code of behaviour.	Not all website owners play the game. Some download content from other sites without permission.	Sports, Games And Athletics
94	play games with someone	If you are not completely honest, or behave in a way that is insincere, evasive or intentionally misleading, you are playing games with someone.	Look, stop playing games with us. Just tell us if you're interested in the project or not.	Sports, Games And Athletics
95	play hard to get	When someone plays hard to get, they deliberately pretend to be uninterested in another person in order to appear more attractive, interesting or seductive.	Kelly decided to play hard to get in the hope that her uninterested attitude would attract Alex.	Sports, Games And Athletics
96	play a waiting game	A person who plays a waiting game delays taking any action or making any decision because they prefer to wait and see how things develop, usually in the hope that this will put them in a stronger position.	Our competitors are not reacting. They're playing a waiting game.	Sports, Games And Athletics
97	play by the rules	If you play by the rules, you behave in a fair and honest way with people.	You can trust him, don't worry. He always plays by the rules.	Sports, Games And Athletics
98	play into someone's hands	If you play into someone's hands, you do exactly what your opponent or enemy expects you to do, so that they gain an advantage over you.	When the leaders of the protest movement became violent, they played right into the hands of the police.	Sports, Games And Athletics
99	two can play at that game	You say this to tell someone that you can behave towards them in the same unpleasant way that they have behaved towards you.	He refuses to take my call? Tell him two can play at that game!	Sports, Games And Athletics
100	hang up your boots	When a sports player hangs up their boots, they stop playing and retire. (This expression is often used to refer to retirement in general.)	Dad says he's going to hang up his boots at the end of the year.	Sports, Games And Athletics
101	learn the ropes	If you learn the ropes, you learn how to do a particular job correctly.	He's a bright young man. It won't take him long to learn the ropes.	Sports, Games And Athletics

102	make the cut	If you make the cut, you reach a required standard or succeed in passing from one round of a competition to another.	After intensive training, Sarah made the cut and joined the team.	Sports, Games And Athletics
103	paddle your own canoe	If you paddle your own canoe, you do what you want to do without help or interference from anyone.	David decided to paddle his own canoe and set up his own business.	Sports, Games And Athletics
104	a race against time	When someone is in a race against time, they have to work very quickly in order to do or finish something before a certain time.	It was a race against time to get everything ready for the inauguration.	Sports, Games And Athletics
105	ride (someone's) coattails	If you use your connections with someone successful in order to achieve fame or success for yourself, without any personal effort, you ride their coattails.	The candidate rode his uncle's coattails in the hope of being elected.	Sports, Games And Athletics
106	take for a ride	To take someone for a ride means to cheat or deceive them.	I discovered he had charged me double the normal fee. He really took me for a ride!	Sports, Games And Athletics
107	ride roughshod	If you ride roughshod over something, you behave in a harsh or thoughtless manner, or you treat a situation with contempt.	The government rode roughshod over all opposition to the new measures.	Sports, Games And Athletics
108	ride it out / ride out the storm	If you manage to survive a dangerous or very unpleasant situation, like a ship sailing through a storm, you ride it out.	His business was hit by the recession but he managed to ride it out.	Sports, Games And Athletics
109	let something ride	When you decide to do nothing about a particular situation and allow it to remain as it is, you let it ride.	Bill didn't like the way his wife spoke to the operator, but he let it ride to avoid another quarrel.	Sports, Games And Athletics
110	riding high	Someone who is riding high is enjoying a period of success or popularity.	He's been riding high since the success of his last film.	Sports, Games And Athletics
111	run with the hare and hunt with the hounds	If you run with the hare and hunt with the hounds, you want to stay on friendly terms with both sides in a quarrel.	Bob always wants to keep everyone happy, but he can't run with the hare and hunt with the hounds this time - the issue is too important.	Sports, Games And Athletics
112	sail close to the wind	If you sail close to the wind, you do something dangerous or act just within the limits of what is legal or acceptable.	He seems to invest his money well although he often sails close to the wind.	Sports, Games And Athletics

113	sail through something	If you sail through something, for example a test or an exam, you succeed in doing it without difficulty.	The English test was no problem for Pedro. He sailed through it.	Sports, Games And Athletics
114	plain sailing	An activity or task that is plain sailing is without difficulty or free from trouble.	Once the plans were accepted, it was plain sailing all the way.	Sports, Games And Athletics
115	take the wind out of someone's sails	If someone or something takes the wind out of your sails, they make you feel less confident by doing or saying something that you do not expect.	The manager's rejection of our marketing strategy really took the wind out of our sails.	Sports, Games And Athletics
116	skating on thin ice	If you are skating on thin ice, you are doing or saying something risky, or something that could cause trouble.	Don't mention that subject during the negotiations or you could be skating on thin ice.	Sports, Games And Athletics
117	sink or swim	If someone has to sink or swim, they have to do something alone, and their success or failure depends entirely on their own efforts.	The sink-or-swim attitude in the company can be very difficult for young recruits.	Sports, Games And Athletics
118	swim against the tide	A person who is doing or saying the opposite to most other people is said to be .	Perhaps it's because she always swims against the tide that her books are successful.	Sports, Games And Athletics
119	swim with sharks	If you swim with sharks, you take a major risk by becoming involved with devious, possibly dangerous people.	Charlie shouldn't have associated with those people. He obviously didn't realize he was swimming with sharks!	Sports, Games And Athletics
120	ace a test	If you obtain a very high score or an excellent result, you ace a test or exam.	Maria's parents said she could go to the party if she aced her English test.	Success And Failure
121	(an) ace in the hole	A poker term which means an advantage or resource kept hidden until needed.	Our candidate has an ace in the hole that will ensure victory ... you'll see!	Success And Failure
122	(have an) ace up your sleeve	If you have an ace up your sleeve, you have something in reserve with which you can gain an advantage and obtain success.	I'm well prepared for the negotiations. I've got an ace up my sleeve	Success And Failure
123	hold all the aces	A person who holds all the aces is in a very strong position because they have more advantages than anyone else.	Given the high unemployment rates today, employers hold all the aces.	Success And Failure

124	also ran	The term also ran refers to an unsuccessful competitor whose performance is so much poorer than the winner's that it appears insignificant.	He entered the contest hoping that he wouldn't end up as an 'also-ran'.	Success And Failure
125	back to square one	To say that someone is back to square one means that they have not succeeded in what they were trying to do, so they have to start again.	When the plans were refused, it was 'back to square one' for the architect.	Success And Failure
126	in the bag	People use the expression 'in the bag' when it becomes obvious that success or victory is going to be achieved.	An hour before the polling stations closed, victory seemed in the bag for the Conservative candidate.	Success And Failure
127	bear fruit	If something bears fruit, it produces positive or successful results.	After years of hard work, his research finally began to bear fruit.	Success And Failure
128	blind alley	If you go up, or a lead up, a blind alley, you follow an ineffective course of action which leads nowhere or produces no results.	The suspect's 'revelations' lead the police up a blind alley.	Success And Failure
129	(a) blockbuster	Something that is outstanding, impressive or particularly successful, such as a film or a book, is called a blockbuster.	The TV series was a blockbuster.	Success And Failure
130	blood, sweat and tears	A project or action which involves blood, sweat and tears requires a lot of effort and hard work.	His success wasn't due to luck; it was blood, sweat and tears all the way.	Success And Failure
131	blow up in your face	When working on a plan or project, if it suddenly goes wrong or fails, it blows up in your face.	The trip was difficult to organise, but it blew up in his face when the airline company went on strike.	Success And Failure
132	(the) bottom falls out / drops out	When something causes a plan, project or venture to collapse or fail, the bottom falls out of it.	When heavy rain was announced, the bottom fell out of their plans for a beach party.	Success And Failure
133	bring the house down	If you bring the house down, you give a very successful performance.	If he sings like that on Saturday, he'll bring the house down.	Success And Failure
134	(the) cake not worth the candle	To say that the cake is not worth the candle means that the advantages to be gained from doing something are not worth the effort involved.	He recorded an album but sold very few copies; the cake wasn't worth the candle.	Success And Failure

135	take a chance	If you take a chance on something, you take action in the hope of success even though you know that the result may be negative.	My proposal may not be accepted, but I'll take a chance on it.	Success And Failure
136	chance one's arm	If you chance your arm, you decide to do something even though there is little hope of success.	Tony knew there was little hope of getting into Harvard but he decided to chance his arm anyway.	Success And Failure
137	had one's chips	To say that someone has had their chips means that they have completely failed in what they set out to achieve.	After the second round, it looked as though Watson had had his chips.	Success And Failure
138	close but no cigar	This expression refers to an effort to do something which was a good attempt but not quite good enough to succeed.	The ball touched the goal post - close but no cigar!	Success And Failure
139	come to grief	If someone or something comes to grief, they either have an accident, are destroyed or end in failure.	Their plans for a golf course came to grief when it was decided to build a motorway.	Success And Failure
140	come up in the world	A person who has come up in the world is richer than before and has a higher social status.	My old school friend has bought an apartment overlooking Central Park. She has certainly come up in the world.	Success And Failure
141	come up roses	If something comes up roses, especially in the face of doubts, the end result is successful or the situation turns out well in spite of the difficulties.	After several disappointments, everything seems to be coming up roses for the tennis player this year.	Success And Failure
142	come up trumps	To say that someone has come up trumps means that they have achieved unexpectedly good results.	Against all expectations, our team came up trumps in the cup final.	Success And Failure
143	cook somebody's goose	To cook somebody's goose means to spoil that person's chances of success.	When the burglar saw the police car arriving, he knew his goose was cooked!	Success And Failure
144	on course for	If you are on course for something, you are likely to achieve it.	Our team is on course for a victory in the national championship.	Success And Failure
145	on the crest of a wave	If you are on the crest of a wave, you are very successful in what you are doing.	Our company is going from success to success. We're on the crest of a wave right now.	Success And Failure

146	cut your losses	If you end or withdraw from something that is already failing, in order to reduce the loss of money, time or effort invested in it, you cut your losses.	The project is heading for failure. Let's cut our losses before it's too late.	Success And Failure
147	cut your own throat	If you cut your own throat, you do something that will be the cause of your own failure or ruin your chances in the future.	Tony has already missed a lot of classes. He's cutting his own throat.	Success And Failure
148	a dead cert	Something that is certain to happen or be achieved is a dead cert.	After such praise, his appointment as captain of the team is a dead cert.	Success And Failure
149	a dead duck	A dead duck refers to a project or scheme which has been abandoned or is certain to fail.	The new cinema is going to be a dead duck because it's too far away from the town centre.	Success And Failure
150	a dead loss	Someone or something described as a dead loss is absolutely useless or a complete failure.	When it comes to gardening, my brother is a dead loss.	Success And Failure
151	a dead in the water	A plan or project that is dead in the water is at a standstill or has ceased to function and is unlikely to be reactivated in the future.	Because of the crisis, the planned housing development is now dead in the water.	Success And Failure
152	the dice are loaded against you	If everything seems to work to your disadvantage, and you are not likely to succeed, the dice are loaded against you.	I applied for the job, but being a woman, and over forty, the dice were loaded against me.	Success And Failure
153	disaster written all over it	If something, such as a plan or idea, has disaster written all over it, it is thought to be heading for complete failure, or will cause a lot of trouble.	Mary's idea of a holiday with her in-laws has disaster written all over it!	Success And Failure
154	down the drain	To say that money, time or energy has gone down the drain means that it has been wasted or lost.	His years of research went down the drain when the company went bankrupt.	Success And Failure
155	all downhill / downhill all the way	If something is or downhill all the way, it is very easy to achieve considering the difficulties encountered beforehand.	The hardest part for the burglars was turning off the alarm system. After that it was all downhill.	Success And Failure

156	draw a blank	If you look for or try to remember something, and draw a blank, you fail to find it.	I nearly won the quiz; unfortunately I drew a blank at the last question!	Success And Failure
157	every dog has its day	This expression means that everyone can be successful at something at some time in their life.	I didn't win this time, but I'll be lucky one day. Every dog has its day.	Success And Failure
158	fall at the first hurdle	If you fall at the first hurdle, you fail to overcome the first difficulty encountered.	Scott fell at the first hurdle. He didn't study enough and failed his first exam.	Success And Failure
159	fall by the wayside	If a plan or project falls by the wayside, it remains unfinished or people stop trying to do it.	Local residents protested so strongly that plans for a new motorway fell by the wayside.	Success And Failure
160	fall flat	If a joke, a story or a form of entertainment falls flat, it does not amuse people, or fails to have the effect that was intended.	He made a few attempts at humour during his speech but most of his jokes fell flat.	Success And Failure
161	fall from grace	To say that someone has fallen from grace means that they have done something wrong, immoral or unacceptable, and as a result have lost their good reputation.	The Finance Minister fell from grace as a result of a sex scandal.	Success And Failure
162	fall short	If something proves inadequate or insufficient, or fails to reach the required number or standard, it falls short of what is expected.	Sales of the new product fell short of the company's expectations.	Success And Failure
163	fall on your sword	If you fall on your sword, you accept the consequences of an unsuccessful or wrong action.	The organiser of the referendum resigned when the poor results were announced. It was said that he 'fell on his sword'.	Success And Failure
164	(a) feather in one's cap	To describe someone's achievement as a feather in their cap means that it is something they can be proud of.	The overwhelming victory of the team was a feather in the cap for the new manager.	Success And Failure
165	can't fight the city hall	This expression means that it is useless to fight a battle against a politician, an establishment or bureaucracy in general that you can't win.	Brian decided it was a waste of energy trying to obtain a tax refund - you can't fight the city hall.	Success And Failure

166	fight a losing battle	If someone is fighting a losing battle, they are trying to do something even when there is little chance of succeeding.	The headmaster is fighting a losing battle trying to ban mobile phones at school.	Success And Failure
167	get to (or reach) first base	When you get to (or reach) first base, you make progress or begin to have success with someone or something.	If you go to the interview dressed like that, you won't get to first base!	Success And Failure
168	a flash in the pan	If you refer to somebody's success as a flash in the pan, you mean that it is not likely to be repeated.	The manager hoped that the team's unexpected victory was not just a flash in the pan.	Success And Failure
169	will never fly	To say that something will never fly means that it will not be successful.	He's got incredible ideas, but none that will ever fly!	Success And Failure
170	with flying colours	To achieve something with flying colours means to do it very successfully.	My daughter passed the entrance exam with flying colours. I'm so proud of her.	Success And Failure
171	a flying start	If something gets off to a flying start, it is immediately successful.	Sales of the book got off to a flying start and exceeded our expectations.	Success And Failure
172	a fool's errand	If you go on a fool's errand, you try to do something which is useless, unnecessary or has no chance of success.	I knew it was a fool's errand to look for a bank in such an isolated region.	Success And Failure
173	a foot in the door	To say that someone has a foot in the door means that they have a small but successful start in something and will possibly do well in the future.	With today's unemployment, it is difficult to get a foot in the door in any profession.	Success And Failure
174	get a foothold	If you get a foothold somewhere, you secure a position for yourself in a business, profession or organisation.	The contract got the firm a foothold in the local administration.	Success And Failure
175	the front runner	In a contest, race or election, the front runner is the person who is most likely to succeed or win.	Who are the front runners in the coming elections?	Success And Failure
176	get the better of you	If someone or something gets the better of you, they defeat you.	She went on a diet but it didn't last long - her love of chocolate got the better of her!	Success And Failure
177	go belly up	If a business or project goes belly up, it is unsuccessful or goes bankrupt.	The restaurant went belly up before the end of the first year.	Success And Failure

178	go to the dogs	To say that a company, organisation or country is going to the dogs means that it is becoming less successful or efficient than before.	Some think the company will go to the dogs if it is nationalised.	Success And Failure
179	go downhill	When something goes downhill, it deteriorates or gets worse little by little.	The restaurant has been going downhill since it changed owners.	Success And Failure
180	go great guns	If someone or something is going great guns, they are successful or doing very well.	Fred's night club is going great guns. It's becoming hard to get in!	Success And Failure
181	go off/over with a bang	If something such as an event or performance goes off with a bang, it is very successful.	The party went off with a bang - everyone enjoyed it.	Success And Failure
182	go out of business	If a shop, firm or enterprise goes out of business, it closes down or goes bankrupt.	If the new road bypasses the town, a lot of shops will go out of business.	Success And Failure
183	go up in smoke	If a plan or project goes up in smoke, it fails or ends before producing a result.	When Amy and Tom separated, my mother's dream of a romantic wedding went up in smoke.	Success And Failure
184	have got it made	Someone who has got it made is so happy and successful in life that they have no worries.	With a happy family life, a new house and a super job, Sam's got it made.	Success And Failure
185	hit pay dirt	If you hit pay dirt, you are lucky and suddenly find yourself in a successful money-making situation.	Charlie finally hit pay dirt with his latent invention.	Success And Failure
186	be on its knees / bring to its knees	When something such as a country or organisation is on its knees, or brought to its knees, it is in a very weak situation or on the verge of failure.	The civil war brought the country to its knees.	Success And Failure
187	landslide victory	The victory of a candidate or a political party by an overwhelming majority is called a landslide victory.	Major newspapers predict a landslide victory for the Democratic Party.	Success And Failure
188	lead to a dead end	If a plan or project leads to a dead end, it develops no further because it has no future.	In spite of the scientists' efforts, the research lead to a dead end.	Success And Failure
189	in leaps and bounds	If you do something in leaps and bounds, you make rapid or spectacular progress or growth.	The number of subscribers to the newsletter has grown in leaps and bounds.	Success And Failure

190	let slip through your fingers	If you let something slip through your fingers, such as a good opportunity, you fail to obtain it or keep it.	He should have accepted the job when it was offered. He let the opportunity slip through his fingers.	Success And Failure
191	live to fight another day	This expression means that even though you have not been successful, you will have another chance in the future to try again.	He was defeated in the final match but he lived to fight another day.	Success And Failure
192	come a long way	When someone has come a long way, they have made a lot of progress or have become successful.	Tony has come a long way since he opened his first little restaurant.	Success And Failure
193	at a low ebb	A person or organisation at a low ebb is not as strong or successful as usual.	The recent political crisis has left the country at a low ebb.	Success And Failure
194	make or break	Circumstances or events that will make or break someone or something will cause either total success or total ruin.	We'll see what happens. The assignment will make or break his career.	Success And Failure
195	make a comeback	When someone makes a comeback, they succeed in returning to their former successful career.	After devoting several years to her children, she made a comeback on Broadway.	Success And Failure
196	make the cut	If you make the cut, you reach a required standard or succeed in passing from one round of a competition to another.	After intensive training, Sarah made the cut and joined the team.	Success And Failure
197	make a go of something	When you make a go of something, you succeed in your enterprise or produce good results.	He opened a restaurant and worked hard to make a go of it.	Success And Failure
198	make headway	If you make headway, you make progress in what you are trying to achieve.	Investigators have made little headway in their search for the causes of the catastrophe.	Success And Failure
199	makes inroads	If someone or something makes inroads, for example in a new field or area, they advance successfully or make progress.	Foreign car manufacturers have made inroads into the European market.	Success And Failure
200	make a killing	If you say that someone has made a killing you mean that they have had great financial success.	He made a killing on the stock market.	Success And Failure

201	make a pig's ear of something	If you make a pig's ear of something, you do a task or a chore very badly or make a complete mess of it.	Gary offered to paint the kitchen but he made a pig's ear of it.	Success And Failure
202	miss the boat	If you miss the boat, you fail to take advantage of an opportunity because you don't act quickly enough.	I managed to get my order through before the end of the special offer - but I nearly missed the boat!	Success And Failure
203	the moment of truth	A critical or decisive time when you face the reality of a situation, and find out if your efforts have succeeded or not, is called the moment of truth.	The moment of truth has arrived - I'm going to serve my first soufflé!	Success And Failure
204	money pit	A place, project or financial commitment that requires you to spend an increasingly large amount of money, more than was initially anticipated, is referred to as a 'money pit'.	The renovation of the charming old house turned out to be a money pit.	Success And Failure
205	money spinner	If an activity is a money spinner, it is a very successful way of making money.	Washing cars was quite a money spinner when I was a student.	Success And Failure
206	rake in the money	If someone rakes in the money, they make money in large quantities.	Bob's business is extremely successful. He's raking in the money.	Success And Failure
207	move up in the world	A person who moves up in the world becomes more important in society or successful in their career.	Rachel Jones has moved up in the world since we were kids.	Success And Failure
208	Murphy's law	Referring to Murphy's law expresses a sentiment of bad luck and the idea that if anything can go wrong, it will.	We've tried to prepare for every possible incident, but remember Murphy's law ...!	Success And Failure
209	not getting anywhere	If you are not getting anywhere, you are making no progress at all.	I've spent the whole day looking for a solution but I'm not getting anywhere.	Success And Failure
210	nothing succeeds like success	This expression means that success often leads to further successes.	The success of my first book encouraged me to continue writing. Nothing succeeds like success!	Success And Failure
211	nothing ventured, nothing gained	You cannot expect to achieve anything if you risk nothing.	He's going to ask his boss for a promotion even though he has little chance of obtaining satisfaction. Nothing ventured, nothing gained!	Success And Failure

212	on the up and up	A person who is on the up and up is becoming increasingly successful.	The architect has been on the up and up since he designed a building in Dubai.	Success And Failure
213	out of the picture	To say that a person or group is out of the picture means that they have been eliminated in a contest or tournament.	We were beaten in the semi-finals, so that's us out of the picture!	Success And Failure
214	ahead of the pack	If a person or organisation is ahead of the pack, they are better or more successful than their rivals.	Our products will have to be more innovative if we want to stay ahead of the pack.	Success And Failure
215	pack something in	If you pack something in, you abandon it or give it up.	She found city life so stressful, she decided to pack it in and move to the country.	Success And Failure
216	pass muster	If someone or something passes muster, they are considered to be satisfactory or acceptable.	The interview went well. I hope I'll pass muster.	Success And Failure
217	on the pig's back	A person who is on the pig's back is in a successful situation and everything is going well for them.	Before the recession, the country was on the pig's back, but the situation has changed greatly.	Success And Failure
218	a place in the sun	If you find a place in the sun, you reach a position which provides you with success, wealth and/or happiness, or whatever you have been hoping to obtain in life.	She finally found a place in the sun with the triumph of her latest book.	Success And Failure
219	play your cards right	If you play your cards right, you do all that is necessary to succeed or to obtain what you want.	If we play our cards right, we'll get the contract.	Success And Failure
220	price yourself out of the market	If you price yourself out of the market, you charge such a high price for your goods or services that nobody wants to buy them, and the result is a loss in sales.	He was so eager to make money that he priced himself out of the market.	Success And Failure
221	put the kibosh on something	If you do something to prevent a plan or activity from happening or being successful, you put the kibosh on it.	The bank's refusal to grant him a loan put the kibosh on Jack's project.	Success And Failure

222	Pyrrhic victory	A victory that is obtained at a tremendous cost, or causes such a great loss that it is not worth winning, is called a Pyrrhic victory.	It was a Pyrrhic victory. The shop owner won the lawsuit but went bankrupt because of the legal expenses involved.	Success And Failure
223	(go from) rags to riches	If a person goes from rags to riches, they start off being very poor and become very rich and successful.	By renovating old houses in the right places, he went from rags to riches.	Success And Failure
224	riding high	Someone who is riding high is enjoying a period of success or popularity.	The actor has been riding high since the success of his last film.	Success And Failure
225	rise to the occasion	If you rise to the occasion, you manage to do something successfully in difficult circumstances.	When her boss broke his leg, Julie had to represent the company at the congress, and she rose to the occasion extremely well	Success And Failure
226	run rings (or circles) around someone	If you show much more skill or ability than your opponent, you run rings (or circles) around them.	In a quiz show on TV yesterday, a teenage girl ran rings around the other contestants.	Success And Failure
227	sail through something	If you sail through something, for example a test or an exam, you succeed in doing it without difficulty.	The English test was no problem for Pedro. He sailed through it.	Success And Failure
228	save the day	If you find a solution to a serious problem, and ensure the success of something that was expected to fail, you save the day.	The dog ate the apple pie I had made for my guests, but my sister saved the day by making one of her speedy desserts!	Success And Failure
229	sink or swim	If someone has to sink or swim, they have to do something alone, and their success or failure depends entirely on their own efforts.	The sink-or-swim attitude in the company can be very difficult for young recruits.	Success And Failure
230	the sky's the limit	To say the sky's the limit means that there is no limit to the possibility of success or progress for someone or something.	How successful do you think the project will be? Who knows ... the sky's the limit!	Success And Failure
231	slam dunk	A basketball term which means that success or victory will be easily achieved.	Our lawyer will win the case easily. It's a slam dunk.	Success And Failure
232	smash hit	A very successful performance in music, films, theatre, etc. is called a smash hit.	The film 'Titanic' was a smash hit all over the world.	Success And Failure

233	snatch victory from the jaws of defeat	If you manage to win something such as a match or a contest, when you are on the verge of losing, you snatch victory from the jaws of defeat.	With a last-minute goal, the team snatched victory from the jaws of defeat.	Success And Failure
234	spread yourself too thin	If you spread yourself too thin, you do too many things at the same time and can't do any of them well.	Don't spread yourself too thin or you'll get nowhere.	Success And Failure
235	stay one jump ahead	If you stay one jump ahead, you are more successful than your competitors because you keep an advantage over them by making sure you are better informed or taking action before they do.	He is a successful journalist because he always stays one jump ahead of the others.	Success And Failure
236	strike while the iron is hot	This expression means that you should do something immediately because now is the ideal time to do it and you should not miss the opportunity.	They're offering a really good deal. If I were you, I'd strike while the iron is hot!	Success And Failure
237	throws a spanner (or a wrench) in the works	If someone or something throws a spanner (or a wrench) in the works, they do something that causes problems and prevents the success of a plan or event.	The two companies are keen to sign the agreement before anything happens to throw a spanner in the works.	Success And Failure
238	throw in the towel	If you throw in the towel, you admit that you cannot succeed.	After unsuccessfully competing in several championships, she decided to throw in the towel and go back to college.	Success And Failure
239	top dog	To say that a person, group or country is top dog means that they are more successful or more powerful than others.	Elizabeth is top dog in cosmetics today.	Success And Failure
240	come up trumps	To say that someone has come up trumps means that they have succeeded in achieving unexpectedly good results.	Against all expectations, our team came up trumps in the cup final.	Success And Failure
241	on the up and up	If you are on the up and up, you are becoming increasingly successful.	The architect has been on the up and up since he designed a building in Dubai.	Success And Failure

242	weather the storm	If you weather the storm, you succeed in surviving a difficult period or situation.	Given the current recession, the company is weathering the storm better than most.	Success And Failure
243	win-win	The term win-win refers to a situation or proposition where both or all parties benefit from the outcome.	There were smiles all round when the contract was signed - it was a win-win situation.	Success And Failure
244	wither on the vine	If something withers on the vine, it fails or ceases to exist because people do not support or encourage it.	Let's hope the recent efforts towards peace will not wither on the vine.	Success And Failure
245	wooden spoon	The person who finishes last in a race or competition receives an imaginary prize called the wooden spoon.	Our team got the wooden spoon in this year's tournament.	Success And Failure
246	have the world at your feet	If you have the world at your feet, you are extremely successful and greatly admired.	The talented young actress has the world at her feet.	Success And Failure
247	have the world by its tail	Someone who has the world by its tail is very successful and has many opportunities to choose from.	Due to her intelligence and hard work, she now has the world by its tail.	Success And Failure
248	(a) bolt from the blue	To refer to something as a bolt from the blue means that it happened totally unexpectedly and was a complete surprise.	The chairman's resignation came as a bolt from the blue.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
249	out of the blue	If something happens out of the blue, it happens unexpectedly and causes a surprise.	I had nearly given up hope when out of the blue I was offered a job	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
250	caught unawares	If someone is caught unawares, they are surprised and unprepared for what happens.	The security guard moved so silently that the thief was caught unawares.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
251	credibility gap	The extent of disbelief, of the difference between what you are asked to believe and what you are able to believe, is called a credibility gap	The growing credibility gap may lead to a serious loss of votes in the next elections.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
252	do a double take	Someone who does a double take looks again in surprise at something unexpected.	He did a double take when he saw his wife in a restaurant with another man.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
253	drop a bombshell	If you drop a bombshell, you make an unexpected announcement which will greatly change a situation.	The chairman dropped a bombshell when he announced the merger with the company's biggest rival.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe

254	eyes on stalks	If your eyes are on stalks when you look at something, they are wide open with surprise or amazement.	The child's eyes were on stalks as he watched the magician's performance.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
255	(your) jaw drops	If someone's jaw drops, they show total amazement.	When the prize was announced, the winner's jaw dropped.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
256	it's a small world	People use this expression to show surprise when, for example, unexpectedly meeting someone they know in an unusual place, or discovering that they have a friend or acquaintance in common, etc.	My new colleague is your brother's girlfriend? Wow, it's a small world!	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
257	jump out of one's skin	If you jump out of your skin, you are extremely surprised or shocked.	Jane nearly jumped out of her skin when the horse put its head through the kitchen window!	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
258	knock your socks off	If something amazes you, or impresses you greatly, it knocks your socks off.	The magnitude of the project will knock the socks off everyone in the office.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
259	knock down with a feather	To say 'you could have knocked me down with a feather' emphasizes the fact that you were extremely surprised.	When I heard the name of the winner, you could have knocked me down with a feather!	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
260	lo and behold!	The term 'lo and behold' is used to express surprise, especially at a sudden or unexpected appearance.	I was watering the flowers when, lo and behold, there was the watch I'd lost	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
261	(a) nine-day wonder	An event which is a nine-day wonder causes interest, surprise or excitement for a short time, but it doesn't last.	His sudden departure was a nine-day wonder but he was soon forgotten.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
262	raise eyebrows	Someone who raises their eyebrows at something shows surprise or disapproval by the expression on their face.	When the boss arrived in jeans, there were a lot of raised eyebrows	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
263	rooted to the spot	If you are so shocked, surprised or scared that you are rooted to the spot, your reaction is so strong that you are unable to move.	Joe stood rooted to the spot as the plane landed on the water.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe

264	seeing is believing	The expression 'seeing is believing' means that when you actually see something that seems incredible you can be sure it exists, or that what you have been told is really true.	Mark says bananas grow in his garden, but seeing is believing!	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
265	stop dead in tracks	If you stop dead in your tracks, you stop suddenly because you are totally surprised or frightened.	When Steve saw the snake, he stopped dead in his tracks.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
266	struck dumb	If someone is struck dumb, they are unable to speak because they are so surprised, shocked or frightened by something.	The accused man was struck dumb when the verdict was announced	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
267	taken unawares	If something takes you unawares, it surprises you because you were not expecting it.	The driver's angry reaction took me unawares.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
268	there's no accounting for taste	This expression is used to indicate surprise at another person's likes or dislikes.	She fell in love with a guy who's short, fat, bald and poor ... there's no accounting for taste!	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
269	wonders will never cease	The expression 'wonders will never cease' is used to express pleasure or surprise at something.	The price of petrol has dropped! Wonders will never cease!	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
270	words fail me	The expression 'words fail me' is often used when someone is so shocked, surprised or touched by something that they don't know what to say.	What do you think of Bob's attitude? Words fail me!	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
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296	caught unawares	If someone is caught unawares, they are surprised and unprepared for what happens.	The security guard moved so silently that the thief was caught unawares.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
297	credibility gap	The extent of disbelief, of the difference between what you are asked to believe and what you are able to believe, is called a credibility gap	The growing credibility gap may lead to a serious loss of votes in the next elections.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
298	do a double take	Someone who does a double take looks again in surprise at something unexpected.	He did a double take when he saw his wife in a restaurant with another man.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
299	drop a bombshell	If you drop a bombshell, you make an unexpected announcement which will greatly change a situation.	The chairman dropped a bombshell when he announced the merger with the company's biggest rival.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
300	eyes on stalks	If your eyes are on stalks when you look at something, they are wide open with surprise or amazement.	The child's eyes were on stalks as he watched the magician's performance.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
301	(your) jaw drops	If someone's jaw drops, they show total amazement.	When the prize was announced, the winner's jaw dropped.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
302	it's a small world	People use this expression to show surprise when, for example, unexpectedly meeting someone they know in an unusual place, or discovering that they have a friend or acquaintance in common, etc.	My new colleague is your brother's girlfriend? Wow, it's a small world!	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
303	jump out of one's skin	If you jump out of your skin, you are extremely surprised or shocked.	Jane nearly jumped out of her skin when the horse put its head through the kitchen window!	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
304	knock your socks off	If something amazes you, or impresses you greatly, it knocks your socks off.	The magnitude of the project will knock the socks off everyone in the office.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
305	knock down with a feather	To say 'you could have knocked me down with a feather' emphasizes the fact that you were extremely surprised.	When I heard the name of the winner, you could have knocked me down with a feather!	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe

306	lo and behold!	The term 'lo and behold' is used to express surprise, especially at a sudden or unexpected appearance.	I was watering the flowers when, lo and behold, there was the watch I'd lost	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
307	(a) nine-day wonder	An event which is a nine-day wonder causes interest, surprise or excitement for a short time, but it doesn't last.	His sudden departure was a nine-day wonder but he was soon forgotten.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
308	raise eyebrows	Someone who raises their eyebrows at something shows surprise or disapproval by the expression on their face.	When the boss arrived in jeans, there were a lot of raised eyebrows	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
309	rooted to the spot	If you are so shocked, surprised or scared that you are rooted to the spot, your reaction is so strong that you are unable to move.	Joe stood rooted to the spot as the plane landed on the water.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
310	seeing is believing	The expression 'seeing is believing' means that when you actually see something that seems incredible you can be sure it exists, or that what you have been told is really true.	Mark says bananas grow in his garden, but seeing is believing!	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
311	stop dead in tracks	If you stop dead in your tracks, you stop suddenly because you are totally surprised or frightened.	When Steve saw the snake, he stopped dead in his tracks.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
312	struck dumb	If someone is struck dumb, they are unable to speak because they are so surprised, shocked or frightened by something.	The accused man was struck dumb when the verdict was announced	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
313	taken unawares	If something takes you unawares, it surprises you because you were not expecting it.	The driver's angry reaction took me unawares.	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
314	there's no accounting for taste	This expression is used to indicate surprise at another person's likes or dislikes.	She fell in love with a guy who's short, fat, bald and poor ... there's no accounting for taste!	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
315	wonders will never cease	The expression 'wonders will never cease' is used to express pleasure or surprise at something.	The price of petrol has dropped! Wonders will never cease!	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe

316	words fail me	The expression 'words fail me' is often used when someone is so shocked, surprised or touched by something that they don't know what to say.	What do you think of Bob's attitude? Words fail me!	Surprise - Astonishment - Disbe
317	against one's better judgement	If you do something even though you think it is not a sensible thing to do, you do it against your better judgement.	Bob persuaded her to go by car, against her better judgement, and she regretted it as soon as she saw the heavy traffic.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
318	at the back of your mind	Something at the back of your mind is something that you are not thinking about right now but is in your thoughts.	At the back of my mind is the fear of failing the exam.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
319	change your mind	If you change your mind you change your original opinion, plan or decision.	At first I intended to rent a car, but then I changed my mind and decided to use public transport.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
320	(have) a mind of your own	If you have a mind of your own, you are capable of forming an opinion and making decisions without being influenced by others.	The boy doesn't need any advice; he's got a mind of his own.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
321	(have) something in mind	If you have someone or something in mind, you have a plan or intention concerning them.	The boss has Julie in mind for the job. He thinks she's got the right qualifications.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
322	(have) something on your mind	If you have someone or something on your mind, you think a lot about it, to the point of being troubled or preoccupied.	You look worried. Have you got something on your mind?	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
323	by no stretch of the imagination	The expression 'by no stretch of the imagination' means 'however hard you may try to believe or imagine it'.	By no stretch of the imagination could he be called handsome.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
324	(have a) bee in one's bonnet	Someone who has a bee in their bonnet has an idea which constantly occupies their thoughts.	Eva's got a bee in her bonnet about moving to New York.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
325	(live/be in) cloud cuckoo land	'Cloud cuckoo land' refers to an imaginary unrealistic place where everything is perfect and impossible things can happen.	Anyone who thinks these measures are going to solve the crisis is living in cloud cuckoo land!	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination

326	(a) figment of one's imagination	A figment of one's imagination is an appearance, event or incident that is not considered to be real but only imaginary.	Other people saw the car, so it's not a figment of my imagination!	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
327	(a) flight of fancy	To refer to an idea or plan as a flight of fancy means that it is very imaginative but not at all practical or sensible.	Jimmy often has good ideas but his latest proposal is just a flight of fancy!	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
328	great minds think alike	This expression means that very intelligent people often have the same idea at the same time, but it is generally used jokingly by two people who think of the same thing at the same time.	I think we should take the kids to the playground." "That's just what I was thinking too. Great minds think alike!	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
329	(be) all in your head	If something is all in your head, it is not real. It is in your imagination.	Don't be silly. Nobody is trying to harm you. It's all in your head!	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
330	(a) harebrained idea	A harebrained idea is an idea or suggestion that is considered to be silly, foolish or totally impractical.	We'll never make any progress if you have nothing but harebrained ideas to offer!	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
331	toy with the idea	If you consider something without giving it serious thought, you toy with the idea.	Sally has often toyed with the idea of moving abroad, but she's still here!	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
332	(have a) light bulb moment	A light bulb moment is when you have a sudden moment of inspiration, comprehension or realisation.	Harry had a light-bulb moment when he finally realised what was blocking the mechanism.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
333	lose your train of thought	If you forget what you were saying, for example after a disturbance or interruption, you lose your train of thought.	Now where was I? I'm afraid I've lost my train of thought.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
334	bear/keep in mind	If you bear or keep something in mind, you remember it.	Bear in mind that no food will be served on board.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
335	bring to mind	If a place, person or object brings (something) to mind, it causes you to think of someone or something, or it evokes a memory.	This place brings to mind the small town where I grew up.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination

336	broadens the mind	Something that broadens the mind helps you understand more about different subjects, people, ideas and places.	It is often said that travel broadens the mind.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
337	change your mind	If you change your mind you change your decision.	I was going to go sailing but I changed my mind when I saw the weather.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
338	cross your mind	If an idea or thought crosses your mind, you suddenly think of it.	It has just crossed my mind that the shops are closed today.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
339	mind over matter	The mental power to influence one's body and overcome physical difficulties is said to be a question of mind over matter.	He know he could not be cured, but he managed to live until the baby was born - a case of mind over matter.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
340	a mind of your own	If you have a mind of your own, you are capable of forming an opinion and making decisions without being influenced by others.	The boy doesn't need any advice; he's got a mind of his own.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
341	your mind goes blank	If your mind goes blank, you forget everything momentarily or you are unable to think clearly.	I was so nervous during the test that my mind went blank!	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
342	one-track mind	Someone who has a one-track mind, has a tendency to think about only one subject.	The boy has a one-track mind; all he thinks about is football!	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
343	take your mind off (something)	If an activity takes your mind off something that is worrying you, it helps you to stop thinking about it for a while.	Sarah was worrying about the result of the test so Tom took her to the cinema to take her mind off it.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
344	set great store by (something)	When you think that something is very important or valuable, you set great store by it.	The company sets great store by its after-sales service.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
345	think again	If you tell someone to think again, you advise them to reconsider the situation and perhaps change their decision.	Your apartment is very well located; you should think again before selling it.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
346	think better of it	If you think better of something, you decide not to do something that you intended to do.	I wanted to go shopping, but when I saw the crowded car park I thought better of it.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination

347	think on your feet	A person who thinks on their feet is capable of adjusting rapidly to new developments and making quick decisions.	Good lawyers need to be able to think on their feet when pleading a case.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
348	think outside the box	People who think outside the box try to find innovative ideas or solutions.	Our competitors are more creative than us - they really think outside the box!	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
349	think the sun rises and sets on someone	If you consider someone to be the most wonderful person in the world, you think the sun rises and sets on them.	Mary adores her husband - she thinks the sun rises and sets on him!	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
350	think the world of (someone)	If you think the world of someone, you like or admire them very much.	She's a wonderful grandmother - the children think the world of her.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
351	(a) penny for your thoughts	This expression is used to ask someone what they are thinking about.	You look pensive. A penny for your thoughts.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
352	perish the thought	The expression 'perish the thought' is used when the speaker really hopes that something will not happen.	If I lost my job, perish the thought, I don't know how we'd survive.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
353	(a) shot in the dark	To refer to a question or statement as a shot in the dark means that it is a complete guess, but at the same time it might be close to the truth.	He didn't know which players had been selected, so mentioning Carter's name was just a shot in the dark..	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
354	(a) train of thought	A sequence of connected ideas is called a train of thought.	I was considering the different options when the noise outside broke my train of thought.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
355	out of sight, out of mind	The expression 'out of sight, out of mind' means to forget someone you don't see frequently.	As soon as Jimmy retired he was forgotten by his colleagues. Out of sight, out of mind!	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
356	(a) voice in the wilderness	If you are the only person to express a warning or an opinion on a matter which is ignored by most others, you are a voice in the wilderness.	For many years she was a voice in the wilderness protesting against child labour.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
357	wool-gathering	A person who is wool-gathering is daydreaming and not concentrating on what his happening; their thoughts are elsewhere.	Justin spent the whole afternoon wool-gathering. He must be in love!	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination

358	in a world of your own	If you are in a world of your own, you are so concentrated on your own concerns that you are unaware of what is happening around you.	Dad's out there in the garden in a world of his own.	Thoughts - Ideas - Imagination
359	against the clock	If you do something against the clock, you are rushed and have very little time to do it.	They are working against the clock to have the presentation ready for Monday.	Time
360	on the cusp	On the cusp refers to a point in time that marks a transition or the beginning of a change.	Some people think the world is on the cusp of a new era.	Time
361	all along	If something has existed or been somewhere all along, it has been there all the time, from the beginning.	I had been looking for my keys for some time before I realized they had been in my pocket all along.	Time
362	better late than never	When someone does something late, this remark means that it is better to do it late than not do it at all.	Do you know what time it is? You promised you'd come early to help me - but better late than never I suppose!	Time
363	in the blink of an eye	If something happens in the blink of an eye, it happens nearly instantaneously, with hardly enough time to notice it.	The pickpocket disappeared in the blink of an eye.	Time
364	by degrees	If something happens or develops by degrees, it happens gradually or little by little as time goes by.	By degrees their business relationship grew into friendship.	Time
365	clock in/out	When you clock in or out, you record the time you arrive or leave your job by punching a time clock to show the number of hours you have worked.	I'm going to clock out early today. I've got a dental appointment	Time
366	cut it fine / cut things fine	If you cut it/cut things fine, you leave barely enough time to do something.	You're counting just an hour between the airport and the train station - isn't that cutting things a bit fine?	Time
367	(a) day late and a dollar short	If something is a day late and a dollar short, it comes too late and is not good enough.	They offered me an internship when I had already found a job - a day late and a dollar short!	Time
368	(for) donkey's years	If someone has been doing something for donkey's years, they have been doing it for a very long time.	He knows the town inside out. He's been living here for donkey's years.	Time

369	down to the wire	If something such as project or a match goes down to the wire, the situation can change up until the last possible moment.	There's nothing as exciting as watching a game that goes down to the wire.	Time
370	at the eleventh hour	If something happens at the eleventh hour, it happens when it is almost too late, or at the last possible moment.	Our team won after they scored a goal at the eleventh hour.	Time
371	five o'clock shadow	This expression refers to a patch of stubble on the face of a man who hasn't shaved for at least a day.	He looked tired and had a five o'clock shadow.	Time
372	in the interim	Something that happens in the interim takes place during a period of time between two events.	I won't have the apartment until next month. In the interim I'm staying at a local hotel.	Time
373	in the long run	The term 'in the long run' refers to something that will have effect over or after a long period of time.	Learning Chinese is going to be difficult, but it'll be worth it in the long run because it will help me to get a better job.	Time
374	in your own sweet time	If you do something in your own sweet time, you take as long as you please to do it, in spite of the wishes of others.	OK, I'll do it - but in my own sweet time!	Time
375	just around the corner	If something is just around the corner, it will happen very soon.	With spring just around the corner, the new collection should begin to sell.	Time
376	the moment of truth	A critical or decisive time when you face the reality of a situation, and find out if your efforts have succeeded, is called the moment of truth.	The moment of truth has arrived - I'm going to serve my first soufflé!	Time
377	in a month of Sundays	This expression is an amusing way of referring to a very long period of time.	I haven't been to the theatre in a month of Sundays.	Time
378	never in a million years	This expression means 'absolutely never'.	I will never in a million years understand why Anne married Bob.	Time
379	once in a blue moon	If something occurs once in a blue moon, it happens very rarely.	Bill has very little contact with his brother. They see each other once in a blue moon.	Time
380	time after time	If you do something time after time, you do it repeatedly or on many occasions.	He was surprised when the teacher punished him although he had been warned time after time.	Time

381	time flies	This expression is used to express surprise at how fast time passes (usually in a very active or happy situation).	It's hard to believe we've been living here two years already. Time flies!	Time
382	time on your hands	If you have time on your hands, you have a lot of free time, usually more than you need or want.	Since he retired, Bill has too much time on his hands. He should take up a hobby.	Time
383	have the time of your life	If you have the time of our life, you enjoy yourself very much.	The kids had the time of their lives at Disneyland.	Time
384	time on your side	If you have time on your side, you can afford to wait before doing or achieving something.	He didn't succeed this time, but he's young enough to try again. He's got time on his side.	Time
385	the time is ripe	If the time is ripe for something, it is the right moment to do it.	He sold his business when the time was ripe.	Time
386	time is ticking away	The expression 'time is ticking away' can be used when you see the minutes or seconds going by as the clock ticks, especially when you are waiting anxiously for something to happen.	We need to intervene before it's too late. Time's ticking away.	Time
387	a time-honoured practice	A custom that is universally respected, or a traditional way of doing something, is called a time-honoured practice.	Guests were greeted according to a time-honored practice.	Time
388	for the time being	If you talk about how a situation is for the time being, you mean that it is temporary and will probably change in the future.	Laura has left John and is living with her parents for the time being.	Time
389	living on borrowed time	This expression refers to a period of time after an illness or accident which could have caused death.	After heart surgery, many patients feel that they're living on borrowed time.	Time
390	lose track of time	When you give all your attention to something and become so engrossed in it that you don't realize what time it is, you lose track of time.	Whenever I start surfing on the web, I lose track of time.	Time
391	make up for lost time	If you make up for lost time, you increase your efforts or work harder to complete something or meet a deadline.	Progress has stopped because of bad weather, but we are determined to make up for lost time.	Time

392	only/just a matter of time	If you say that it is only or just a matter of time before (or until) something happens, it is certain to happen or will inevitably take place, although you do not know when.	Restrictive measures will have to be introduced. It's just a matter of time.	Time
393	in the nick of time	If something happens in the nick of time, it happens at the last minute, when it is nearly too late.	The child was standing in front of the open window. His mother caught him in the nick of time.	Time
394	play for time	If you play for time, you try to delay or prevent something from happening in order to gain an advantage.	He decided to play for time in the hope that the price would decrease.	Time
395	pressed for time	If you are pressed for time, you have hardly enough time to do something, so you must hurry.	Sorry, I can't talk to you now. I'm a bit pressed for time.	Time
396	since time immemorial	If something has existed since time immemorial, it has been there for such a long time that nobody can recall a time without it.	I don't know when that bridge was built. It's been there since time immemorial.	Time
397	stand the test of time	If something stands the test of time, people continue to find it valuable or useful after many years.	The teaching method has stood the test of time. It is still used in schools today.	Time
398	stuck in a time warp	Something that has not changed at all from some time in the past, when everything else has, is caught or stuck in a time warp.	This place seem to be stuck in a time warp. It's exactly as it was in the 1950's.	Time
399	a race against time	When someone is in , they have to work very quickly in order to do or finish something before a certain time.	It was a race against time to get everything ready for the inauguration.	Time
400	shelf life	If something such as food, drink or medicine has a particular shelf life, it must be used or sold before the end of that period of time.	Dairy products have quite a short shelf life.	Time

401	that ship has sailed	The expression 'that ship has sailed' means that a particular opportunity has passed by and now it's too late.	Is the offer still open?' 'Sorry, that ship has sailed - you missed your chance!'	Time
402	a sign of the times	This expression refers to something that shows the nature of today's society.	The rising level of violence is a sign of the times.	Time
403	the small hours	The term 'the small hours' means after midnight or the very early hours of the day.	Sarah worked until the small hours on her speech for the ceremony.	Time
404	until hell freezes over	If you tell someone that they can do something until hell freezes over, you mean that they can do it for a very long time but they won't obtain what they want.	You can ask until hell freezes over; I will not allow you to go bungee-jumping!	Time
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441	pressed for time	If you are pressed for time, you have hardly enough time to do something, so you must hurry.	Sorry, I can't talk to you now. I'm a bit pressed for time.	Time
442	since time immemorial	If something has existed since time immemorial, it has been there for such a long time that nobody can recall a time without it.	I don't know when that bridge was built. It's been there since time immemorial.	Time
443	stand the test of time	If something stands the test of time, people continue to find it valuable or useful after many years.	The teaching method has stood the test of time. It is still used in schools today.	Time
444	stuck in a time warp	Something that has not changed at all from some time in the past, when everything else has, is caught or stuck in a time warp.	This place seem to be stuck in a time warp. It's exactly as it was in the 1950's.	Time

445	a race against time	When someone is in , they have to work very quickly in order to do or finish something before a certain time.	It was a race against time to get everything ready for the inauguration.	Time
446	shelf life	If something such as food, drink or medicine has a particular shelf life, it must be used or sold before the end of that period of time.	Dairy products have quite a short shelf life.	Time
447	that ship has sailed	The expression 'that ship has sailed' means that a particular opportunity has passed by and now it's too late.	Is the offer still open?' 'Sorry, that ship has sailed - you missed your chance!'	Time
448	a sign of the times	This expression refers to something that shows the nature of today's society.	The rising level of violence is a sign of the times.	Time
449	the small hours	The term 'the small hours' means after midnight or the very early hours of the day.	Sarah worked until the small hours on her speech for the ceremony.	Time
450	until hell freezes over	If you tell someone that they can do something until hell freezes over, you mean that they can do it for a very long time but they won't obtain what they want.	You can ask until hell freezes over; I will not allow you to go bungee-jumping!	Time
451	against the clock	If you do something against the clock, you are rushed and have very little time to do it.	They are working against the clock to have the presentation ready for Monday.	Time
452	on the cusp	On the cusp refers to a point in time that marks a transition or the beginning of a change.	Some people think the world is on the cusp of a new era.	Time
453	all along	If something has existed or been somewhere all along, it has been there all the time, from the beginning.	I had been looking for my keys for some time before I realized they had been in my pocket all along.	Time
454	better late than never	When someone does something late, this remark means that it is better to do it late than not do it at all.	Do you know what time it is? You promised you'd come early to help me - but better late than never I suppose!	Time
455	in the blink of an eye	If something happens in the blink of an eye, it happens nearly instantaneously, with hardly enough time to notice it.	The pickpocket disappeared in the blink of an eye.	Time

456	by degrees	If something happens or develops by degrees, it happens gradually or little by little as time goes by.	By degrees their business relationship grew into friendship.	Time
457	clock in/out	When you clock in or out, you record the time you arrive or leave your job by punching a time clock to show the number of hours you have worked.	I'm going to clock out early today. I've got a dental appointment	Time
458	cut it fine / cut things fine	If you cut it/cut things fine, you leave barely enough time to do something.	You're counting just an hour between the airport and the train station - isn't that cutting things a bit fine?	Time
459	(a) day late and a dollar short	If something is a day late and a dollar short, it comes too late and is not good enough.	They offered me an internship when I had already found a job - a day late and a dollar short!	Time
460	(for) donkey's years	If someone has been doing something for donkey's years, they have been doing it for a very long time.	He knows the town inside out. He's been living here for donkey's years.	Time
461	down to the wire	If something such as a project or a match goes down to the wire, the situation can change up until the last possible moment.	There's nothing as exciting as watching a game that goes down to the wire.	Time
462	at the eleventh hour	If something happens at the eleventh hour, it happens when it is almost too late, or at the last possible moment.	Our team won after they scored a goal at the eleventh hour.	Time
463	five o'clock shadow	This expression refers to a patch of stubble on the face of a man who hasn't shaved for at least a day.	He looked tired and had a five o'clock shadow.	Time
464	in the interim	Something that happens in the interim takes place during a period of time between two events.	I won't have the apartment until next month. In the interim I'm staying at a local hotel.	Time
465	in the long run	The term 'in the long run' refers to something that will have effect over or after a long period of time.	Learning Chinese is going to be difficult, but it'll be worth it in the long run because it will help me to get a better job.	Time
466	in your own sweet time	If you do something in your own sweet time, you take as long as you please to do it, in spite of the wishes of others.	OK, I'll do it - but in my own sweet time!	Time

467	just around the corner	If something is just around the corner, it will happen very soon.	With spring just around the corner, the new collection should begin to sell.	Time
468	the moment of truth	A critical or decisive time when you face the reality of a situation, and find out if your efforts have succeeded, is called the moment of truth.	The moment of truth has arrived - I'm going to serve my first soufflé!	Time
469	in a month of Sundays	This expression is an amusing way of referring to a very long period of time.	I haven't been to the theatre in a month of Sundays.	Time
470	never in a million years	This expression means 'absolutely never'.	I will never in a million years understand why Anne married Bob.	Time
471	once in a blue moon	If something occurs once in a blue moon, it happens very rarely.	Bill has very little contact with his brother. They see each other once in a blue moon.	Time
472	time after time	If you do something time after time, you do it repeatedly or on many occasions.	He was surprised when the teacher punished him although he had been warned time after time.	Time
473	time flies	This expression is used to express surprise at how fast time passes (usually in a very active or happy situation).	It's hard to believe we've been living here two years already. Time flies!	Time
474	time on your hands	If you have time on your hands, you have a lot of free time, usually more than you need or want.	Since he retired, Bill has too much time on his hands. He should take up a hobby.	Time
475	have the time of your life	If you have the time of our life, you enjoy yourself very much.	The kids had the time of their lives at Disneyland.	Time
476	time on your side	If you have time on your side, you can afford to wait before doing or achieving something.	He didn't succeed this time, but he's young enough to try again. He's got time on his side.	Time
477	the time is ripe	If the time is ripe for something, it is the right moment to do it.	He sold his business when the time was ripe.	Time
478	time is ticking away	The expression 'time is ticking away' can be used when you see the minutes or seconds going by as the clock ticks, especially when you are waiting anxiously for something to happen.	We need to intervene before it's too late. Time's ticking away.	Time

479	a time-honoured practice	A custom that is universally respected, or a traditional way of doing something, is called a time-honoured practice.	Guests were greeted according to a time-honored practice.	Time
480	for the time being	If you talk about how a situation is for the time being, you mean that it is temporary and will probably change in the future.	Laura has left John and is living with her parents for the time being.	Time
481	living on borrowed time	This expression refers to a period of time after an illness or accident which could have caused death.	After heart surgery, many patients feel that they're living on borrowed time.	Time
482	lose track of time	When you give all your attention to something and become so engrossed in it that you don't realize what time it is, you lose track of time.	Whenever I start surfing on the web, I lose track of time.	Time
483	make up for lost time	If you make up for lost time, you increase your efforts or work harder to complete something or meet a deadline.	Progress has stopped because of bad weather, but we are determined to make up for lost time.	Time
484	only/just a matter of time	If you say that it is only or just a matter of time before (or until) something happens, it is certain to happen or will inevitably take place, although you do not know when.	Restrictive measures will have to be introduced. It's just a matter of time.	Time
485	in the nick of time	If something happens in the nick of time, it happens at the last minute, when it is nearly too late.	The child was standing in front of the open window. His mother caught him in the nick of time.	Time
486	play for time	If you play for time, you try to delay or prevent something from happening in order to gain an advantage.	He decided to play for time in the hope that the price would decrease.	Time
487	pressed for time	If you are pressed for time, you have hardly enough time to do something, so you must hurry.	Sorry, I can't talk to you now. I'm a bit pressed for time.	Time

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497	jump on the bandwagon	If a person or organisation jumps on the bandwagon, they decide to do something when it is already successful or fashionable.	When organic food became popular, certain stores were quick to jump on the bandwagon and promote it.	Travel And Transport

498	in the same boat	If two or more parties are in the same boat, they are in the same unpleasant or difficult situation.	When the factory closed down, employees of all levels found themselves in the same boat.	Travel And Transport
499	miss the boat	If you miss the boat, you fail to take advantage of an opportunity because you don't act quickly enough.	I managed to get my order through before the end of the special offer - but I nearly missed the boat!	Travel And Transport
500	(not) rock the boat	If you tell someone not to rock the boat, you are asking them to do nothing that might cause trouble or upset a stable situation.	After the recent riots, it was decided not to rock the boat by introducing strict measures.	Travel And Transport
501	paddle one's own canoe	If you paddle your own canoe, you do what you want to do without help or interference from anyone.	He decided to paddle his own canoe and set up his own business.	Travel And Transport
502	(put the) cart before the horse	A person who puts the cart before the horse is doing things in the wrong order.	Building a school before knowing the age of the population is putting the cart before the horse.	Travel And Transport
503	drive a hard bargain	A person who drives a hard bargain always makes sure they gain advantage in a business deal.	Be prepared for tough negotiations with Dan. He drives a hard bargain.	Travel And Transport
504	drive (someone) up the wall	If somebody or something drives you up the wall, they do something that greatly annoys or irritates you.	I can't concentrate with all the noise - it's driving me up the wall.	Travel And Transport
505	backseat driver	A passenger in a car who gives unwanted advice to the driver is called a backseat driver.	I can't stand backseat drivers like my mother-in-law!	Travel And Transport
506	highways and byways	If you travel the highways and byways, you take large and small roads to visit every part of the country.	He travelled the highways and byways looking for traces of his ancestors.	Travel And Transport
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509	on the home stretch	To say that you are on the home stretch means that you are approaching the end of something such as a task, a race or a journey.	Don't give up - we're on the home stretch now.	Travel And Transport
510	itchy feet	A person who has itchy feet is someone who finds it difficult to stay in one place and likes to travel and discover new places.	Andrew's got itchy feet again. He says he's going to teach in China for a few years.	Travel And Transport
511	jump the lights	If you continue driving when the traffic lights turn red, you jump the lights.	It's very dangerous to jump the lights. No wonder he was stopped by the police.	Travel And Transport
512	fall off the back of a lorry	Goods that have fallen off the back of a lorry are stolen goods.	Judging by the selling price of that camera, it must have fallen off the back of a lorry!	Travel And Transport
513	make your way to (somewhere)	If you make your way to a destination, you manage to get there without difficulty.	Don't worry. I'll make my way to your home from the station.	Travel And Transport
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515	any port in a storm	When you are in difficulty, any port in a storm refers to a solution you accept which in normal circumstances you would find unacceptable.	The hotel was substandard, but it was a case of any port in a storm; all the others were full.	Travel And Transport
516	take someone for a ride	To take someone for a ride means to cheat or deceive them.	I discovered he had charged me double the normal fee. He really took me for a ride!	Travel And Transport
517	road rage	Aggressive driving habits sometimes resulting in violence against other drivers is called road rage.	A number of accidents today are a direct result of road rage.	Travel And Transport
518	middle of the road (MOR)	The term middle of the road refers to anything moderate, unadventurous or inoffensive that avoids extremes and appeals to the majority of people.	He's a successful middle-of-the-road entertainer. My mother wouldn't miss a show!	Travel And Transport
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525	train of thought	A sequence of connected ideas is called a train of thought.	I was considering the different options when the noise outside broke my train of thought.	Travel And Transport
526	hitch your wagon to a star	Someone who hitches their wagon to a star has great ambitions and is very determined to reach their goal.	At an early age she decided to hitch her wagon to a star and become famous.	Travel And Transport
527	(be) on the wagon	Someone who is on the wagon is no longer drinking alcohol.	No wine for me please - I'm on the wagon.	Travel And Transport
528	asleep at the wheel	If you say that someone is asleep at the wheel, you mean that they are not sufficiently attentive, especially at a critical moment when vigilance is required.	When the firemen arrived too late at the scene, the night watchman was accused of being asleep at the wheel.	Travel And Transport
529	fifth wheel	The expression fifth wheel refers to a person who finds themselves in a situation where their presence is unnecessary and as a result they feel useless.	Everyone seemed to have a specific role except me. I felt like a fifth wheel.	Travel And Transport
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594	hitch your wagon to a star	Someone who hitches their wagon to a star has great ambitions and is very determined to reach their goal.	At an early age she decided to hitch her wagon to a star and become famous.	Travel And Transport
595	(be) on the wagon	Someone who is on the wagon is no longer drinking alcohol.	No wine for me please - I'm on the wagon.	Travel And Transport
596	asleep at the wheel	If you say that someone is asleep at the wheel, you mean that they are not sufficiently attentive, especially at a critical moment when vigilance is required.	When the firemen arrived too late at the scene, the night watchman was accused of being asleep at the wheel.	Travel And Transport
597	fifth wheel	The expression fifth wheel refers to a person who find themselves in a situation where their presence is unnecessary and as a result they feel useless.	Everyone seemed to have a specific role except me. I felt like a fifth wheel.	Travel And Transport

598	wheels fall off	When a situation gets out of control and everything starts to go wrong, the wheels fall off.	The wheels fell off her career when she started taking drugs and cancelling concerts.	Travel And Transport
599	bandit territory	A geographical area where law enforcement is practically impossible, because people ignore all rules, is called 'bandit territory'.	There are a certain number of bandit territories in the world where travellers are advised not to go.	Violence And Aggressiveness
600	beat someone black and blue	If a person is covered with bruise marks caused by being hit, they have been beaten black and blue.	The passenger was beaten black and blue by a gang of thugs.	Violence And Aggressiveness
601	beat/knock the (living) daylight out of someone	If a person beats the (living) daylight out of another, they hit them very hard and repeatedly.	If I catch you stealing again I'll beat the daylight out of you!	Violence And Aggressiveness
602	bite someone's head off	If you bite someone's head off, you suddenly criticize them angrily (and perhaps unfairly).	I worked 10 hours a day all week and my boss bit my head off , accusing me of not doing my share of the work!	Violence And Aggressiveness
603	come to blows	If two or more people come to blows, they start to fight.	The debate was so intense that the participants almost came to blows.	Violence And Aggressiveness
604	fight like cat and dog	Two people who fight or argue like cat and dog frequently have violent arguments, even though they are fond of each other.	They fight like cat and dog but they're still together after 30 years.	Violence And Aggressiveness
605	fight tooth and nail	If you fight tooth and nail for something, you fight with energy and determination.	The Transport Minister fought tooth and nail to have the proposed road safety law accepted.	Violence And Aggressiveness
606	(fight an) uphill battle	A person faced with an uphill battle has to struggle against very unfavourable circumstances.	After the terrible accident, his recovery was an uphill battle all the way.	Violence And Aggressiveness
607	(a) free-for-all	The term free-for-all refers to an uncontrolled situation such as an argument or fight where everyone present can do what they like.	It started as a serious debate but turned into a free-for-all.	Violence And Aggressiveness
608	(the) gloves are off!	The expression the gloves are off is used when there are signs that a fight is about to start.	The two candidates are out of their seats. The gloves are off!	Violence And Aggressiveness

609	(want someone's) head on a platter	If someone makes you so angry that you want them to be punished, you want their head on a platter.	He was so angry when he read the article about his family that he wanted the journalist's head on a platter.	Violence And Aggressiveness
610	road rage	Aggressive driving habits sometimes resulting in violence against other drivers is called road rage.	A number of accidents today are a direct result of road rage.	Violence And Aggressiveness
611	stab someone in the back	If someone stabs you in the back , they betray you by doing something harmful to you when you thought you could trust them.	His best friend stabbed him in the back by voting against him.	Violence And Aggressiveness
612	let off steam	A person who lets off steam releases surplus energy or strong feelings either through intense physical activity or by talking in an unrestrained manner.	It was such a stressful day for Tom that he decided to go to the gym club to let off steam.	Violence And Aggressiveness
613	take cover	When someone takes cover, they hide from a danger in a place where they find protection.	As soon as the explosion was heard, people ran to take cover.	Violence And Aggressiveness
614	take the law into your own hands	If, instead of calling the police, you act personally against someone who has done something wrong, you take the law into your own hands.	Instead of calling the police, he took the law into his own hands and confronted the youth who had stolen his son's scooter.	Violence And Aggressiveness
615	tit for tat	The expression tit for tat refers to an injury or insult given in return for one received.	He kicked me, so I kicked him - it was tit for tat! said the boy.	Violence And Aggressiveness
616	up in arms	If you are up in arms about something, you are very angry.	The population was up in arms over the demolition of the old theatre.	Violence And Aggressiveness
617	in/through the wars	If someone or something has been in (or through) the wars, they show signs of rough treatment, injury or damage.	He arrived in a car that looked as if it had been in the wars.	Violence And Aggressiveness
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663	freeze someone out	If you deliberately isolate someone or prevent them from participating in a social or business activity by treating them unfairly or harshly, you freeze them out.	Pablo was treated unfairly. He was frozen out of the project by the rest of the team.	Weather And Atmosphere
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731	(keep) in the dark	If someone is kept or left in the dark about something, they are not informed about it.	The personnel was kept in the dark about the merger until the last minute.	Weather And Atmosphere
732	(a) fair-weather friend	Someone who acts as a friend when times are good, and is not there when you are in trouble, is called a fair-weather friend.	I thought I could count on Bill, but I've discovered he's just a fair-weather friend.	Weather And Atmosphere
733	freeze someone out	If you deliberately isolate someone or prevent them from participating in a social or business activity by treating them unfairly or harshly, you freeze them out.	Pablo was treated unfairly. He was frozen out of the project by the rest of the team.	Weather And Atmosphere
734	(the) heavens open	When the heavens open, it suddenly starts to rain heavily.	As soon as the race started, the heavens opened and the runners were soaked.	Weather And Atmosphere
735	heat is on	To say that the heat is on means that you are under a lot of pressure to get something done, usually within a time limit.	The project must be ready for next Friday, so the heat is on.	Weather And Atmosphere

736	turn on/up the heat	If you turn on/up the heat on a person or organisation, you put pressure on them in order to obtain what you want.	If the goods are not delivered this week, we'll have to turn on the heat.	Weather And Atmosphere
737	once in a blue moon	If something occurs once in a blue moon, it happens very rarely.	Bill has very little contact with his brother. They see each other once in a blue moon.	Weather And Atmosphere
738	reach for the moon	If you reach for the moon, you are very ambitious and try to achieve something even if it is difficult.	His parents were hardworking people who encouraged their children to reach for the moon.	Weather And Atmosphere
739	come rain or shine	If a person does something come rain or shine, they do it regularly, whatever the circumstances.	He goes to the gym club every day, come rain or shine.	Weather And Atmosphere
740	(as) right as rain	If someone is (as) right as rain, they are in excellent health or condition.	I called to see my grandmother thinking she was ill, but she was as right as rain.	Weather And Atmosphere
741	it never rains but it pours	This expression is used to comment on the fact that when something bad happens, other bad things often happen too, and make the situation even worse.	First he forgot his briefcase, then he lost his wallet, and when he reached the car park, his car had been stolen - it never rains but it pours!	Weather And Atmosphere
742	take a rain check (on something)	To say that you take a rain check on something means that you cannot accept an invitation or offer now, but you will be happy to accept it later.	Do you mind if I take a rain check on that lunch invitation? I'm going to be away all week.	Weather And Atmosphere
743	chasing rainbows	Someone who is chasing rainbows is trying to get something they will never obtain.	She's trying to get into Oxford, but I think she's chasing rainbows.	Weather And Atmosphere
744	waiting for a raindrop in the drought	When someone is waiting for a raindrop in the drought, they are waiting and hoping for something that has little chance of happening.	For many people, finding a job these days is like waiting for a raindrop in the drought.	Weather And Atmosphere
745	raining cats and dogs	If it's raining cats and dogs, it is raining very heavily.	We'll have to cancel the picnic I'm afraid - it's raining cats and dogs.	Weather And Atmosphere
746	(a) storm is brewing / there is a storm brewing	If you say that a storm is brewing, you mean that the atmosphere indicates that there is going to be trouble, probably with outbursts of anger or emotion.	As soon as we saw Pete's face, we knew there was a storm brewing.	Weather And Atmosphere

747	(a) storm in a teacup	To refer to something as a storm in a teacup means that people are making a lot of unnecessary fuss or getting excited about something unimportant.	They were arguing about who should go to the supermarket, but it was just a storm in a teacup.	Weather And Atmosphere
748	in the eye of the storm	A person or organisation who is in the eye of the storm is deeply involved in a difficult situation which affects a lot of people.	The Prime Minister was often in the eye of the storm during the debate on whether or not to intervene in Syria.	Weather And Atmosphere
749	(the) lull before the storm	A period of unnatural calm before a difficult time or excessive activity is called the lull before the storm.	The sales start on January 1st. The quiet period before that is just the lull before the storm.	Weather And Atmosphere
750	weather the storm	If you weather the storm, you succeed in surviving a difficult period or situation.	Given the current recession, the company is weathering the storm better than most.	Weather And Atmosphere
751	(a) stormy relationship	If you have a stormy relationship with someone, you have a lot of arguments and disagreements.	After a very stormy relationship, they decided to separate.	Weather And Atmosphere
752	a place in the sun	If you find a place in the sun, you reach a position which provides you with wealth and happiness, or whatever you have been hoping to obtain for a long time.	The author finally found a place in the sun with the triumph of her latest book.	Weather And Atmosphere
753	make hay while sun shines	The expression may hay while the sun shines is used as an encouragement to take advantage of a good situation which may not last.	Successful athletes are advised to make hay while the sun shines.	Weather And Atmosphere
754	snowed under	Someone who is snowed under has so many things to do, usually work, that they are unable to cope with it all.	With the 'flu epidemic, doctors and nurses are completely snowed under.	Weather And Atmosphere
755	(a) face like thunder	If someone has a face like thunder, they look very angry.	When Dad is really angry, he has a face like thunder!	Weather And Atmosphere
756	(the) tide has turned	When a trend has changed from one thing to another, the tide has turned.	Before, people wanted to live in residential suburbs; now the tide has turned and warehouses are being converted into fashionable loft apartments.	Weather And Atmosphere
757	under the weather	If you are under the weather, you are not feeling very well.	You look a bit under the weather. What's the matter?	Weather And Atmosphere

758	(the) chill wind of something	If you face or feel the chill wind of something, you are beginning to encounter the problems or trouble it causes.	Many building companies are facing the chill wind of the recession.	Weather And Atmosphere
759	get wind of something	If you get wind of something, you hear about something you were unaware of, usually a private or secret matter.	The chairman didn't want the press to get wind of the takeover before the agreement was signed.	Weather And Atmosphere
760	know which way wind blows	This expression means that it is advisable to know how a situation is developing, or what the tendency is, in order to be prepared for any changes.	Before we decide on anything, we need to know which way the wind is blowing.	Weather And Atmosphere