

**English Idioms Made Easy**  
*for*  
**Indian Students**

by  
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**EMESCO**

## CONTENTS

1	Idioms Related to Animals/ Birds : Part 1	11
2	Idioms Related to Animals/Birds : Part 2	23
3	Idioms Related to Animals/Birds : Part 3	34
4	Idioms Related to Animals/Birds : Part 4	43
5	Idioms on Parts of the Body and Body Functions : Part 1	61
6	Idioms on Parts of the Body and Body Functions : Part 2	70
7	Idioms on Parts of the Body and Body Functions : Part 3	80
8	Idioms on Parts of the Body and Body Functions : Part 4	89
9	Idioms on Parts of the Body and Body Functions : Part 5	98
10	Idioms on Parts of the Body and Body Functions : Part 6	108
11	Idioms on Parts of the Body and Body Functions : Part 7	119
12	Idioms on Parts of the Body and Body Functions : Part 8	128
13	Idioms on Parts of the Body and Body Functions : Part 9	138
14	Idioms on Parts of the Body and Body Functions : Part 10	146
15	Idioms Related to Buildings and Construction	159
16	Idioms Related to Clothing Part 1	174
17	Idioms Related to Clothing Part 2	184
18	Idioms Related to Colours Part 1	196
19	Idioms Related to Colours Part 2	206
20	Idioms Related to Food Part 1	220
21	Idioms Related to Food Part 2	231

22	Idioms Related to Household Articles, Tools and Furniture	245
23	Idioms Related to Music	260
24	Idioms Related to Names	267
25	Idioms on Numbers and Letters of the Alphabet : Part 1	279
26	Idioms on Numbers and Letters of the Alphabet : Part 2	289
27	Idioms Related to Plants and Flowers	301
28	Idioms Related to Sports and Leisure Activities : Part 1	315
29	Idioms Related to Sports and Leisure Activities : Part 2	325
30	Idioms Related to Time : Part 1	339
31	Idioms Related to Time : Part 2	348
32	Idioms Related to War and Weapons	358
33	Idioms Related to Weather and Nature	371
34	Idioms on Miscellaneous Themes	390
35	Miscellaneous Exercises on Idioms : Exercise No. 1	404
36	Miscellaneous Exercises on Idioms : Exercise No. 2	409
37	Miscellaneous Exercises on Idioms : Exercise No. 3	415
38	Miscellaneous Exercises on Idioms : Exercise No. 4	421

# PART 1

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## IDIOMS RELATED TO ANIMALS / BIRDS

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(Idioms with the words *albatross*, *ant*, *bear*, *beaver*, *bee*, *bird*, *bull*, *butterfly*, *calf*, *camel*, *canary* and *cat*)

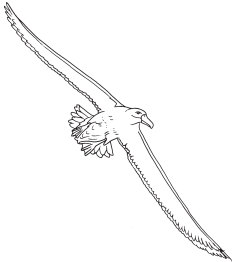
**Note: M refers to Meaning and U to Usage in a sentence**

1. *Albatross around one's neck*

M: a burden one has to carry as a consequence of a previous misdeed

U: Raghavan might have become a director of the company but early in his career he was involved in a forgery case and this misdeed remained an albatross around his neck.

(*Note: An albatross is a large web-footed bird with a hooked beak and long narrow wings.*)



2. Have *ants* in one's pants

M: to be agitated or restless

U: Suresh was so tense and restless in the examination hall that his friends asked him if he had ants in his pants.

3. *Bear* market

M: a period when investors expect financial losses and are likely to sell shares

U: A wise investor can pick up stocks at a bargain during a bear market phase.

4. Eager *beaver*:

M: one who shows keen interest

U: Sudha is an eager beaver and is likely to be promoted soon.

*(Note: A beaver is a large water animal with webbed feet and sharp incisors. It gnaws and fells trees to build dams and other under-water structures.)*



5. Have a *bee* in one's bonnet

M: to talk constantly or be obsessed about something that others may not find important

U: Rajesh seems to have a bee in his bonnet about taxi drivers who do not return change.

*(Note: A bonnet is a hat of cloth or straw, held in place by ribbons tied under the chin. It is worn by women and children.)*