

## COMMON IDIOMS IN TOEFL

Apakah kamu mengira *couch potato* itu “kentang bangku”?? atau mungkin kamu juga mengira *butterflies in your stomach* itu artinya “ada kupu-kupu di dalam perut kamu”?? Jika kalimat ini membuat kamu menggaruk-garuk kepala, silahkan baca konten ini sampai habis!

Konten ini akan menjelaskan;

- A. Apa itu idiom dan,
- B. Idiom apa saja yang sering muncul dalam tes TOEFL.

### A. Apa Itu Idiom?

Idiom adalah kata atau frasa yang memiliki arti yang berbeda dari definisi literalnya. Jika seseorang menggunakan frasa *crying wolf*, kamu mungkin tahu *crying* itu "menangis" dan *wolf* "serigala", tetapi jika digunakan bersama, frasa ini memiliki arti yang sangat berbeda. *Crying wolf* adalah idiom yang berarti “meminta bantuan ketika kamu tidak benar-benar membutuhkannya.”

Idiom bisa membingungkan, bahkan untuk native English sendiri, sehingga seringkali sangat sulit bagi kita yang bukan native English ini dalam menggunakannya. Mengetahui idiom yang umum digunakan dapat membantu kamu memahami bahasa Inggris dengan lebih baik dan membuat kamu terdengar lebih seperti native English saat menggunakannya.

Perlu diketahui bahwa idiom bukan hanya dibutuhkan dalam tes TOEFL aja, tapi juga ini akan cukup berpengaruh terhadap skor ketika mengikuti tes IELTS. *By the way*, Homie English telah menyediakan kursus TOEFL dan IELTS Preparation yang berlokasi di Pekanbaru. Jika kamu merasa kesulitan dalam mempelajari TOEFL atau IELTS bisa menghubungi kami.

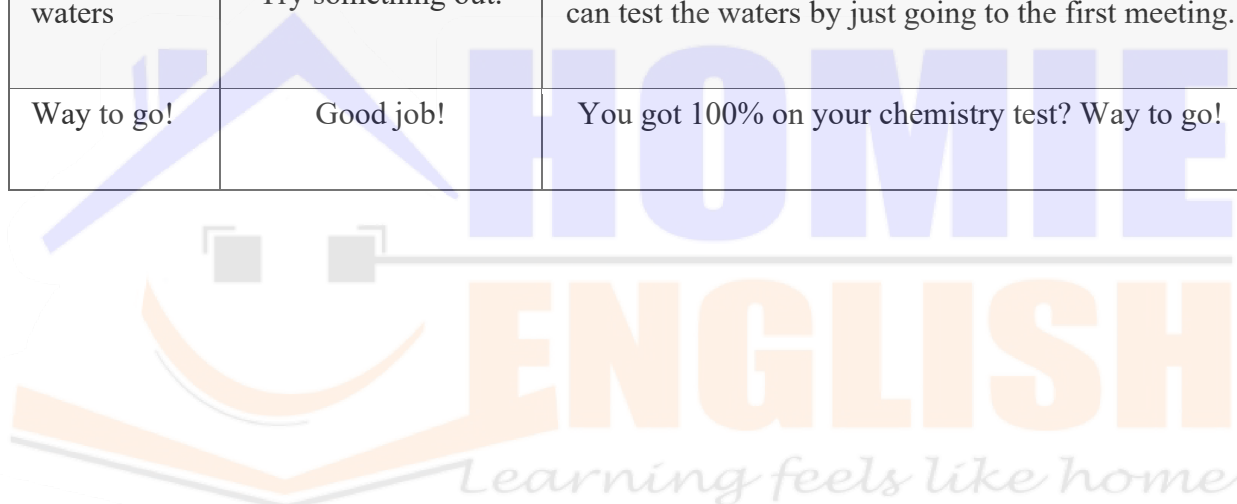
## B. Idiom Yang Sering Muncul dalam Tes TOEFL

Idiom	Definition	Sample Sentence
A blessing in disguise	A good thing that seemed bad first.	Being laid off was a blessing in disguise – within a month I got a much better job.
A dime a dozen	Something common.	Those antique dishes are pretty, but they're a dime a dozen.
A short fuse	A quick temper.	Don't get the coach mad; he has a very short fuse.
Beat around the bush	To avoid the main topic/not speak directly.	Stop beating around the bush and tell me why you're here.
Be on your toes	Be ready/prepared.	A fire can happen at any moment, so firemen always need to be on their toes.
Breeze through something	To do something quickly and easily.	Don't worry about the math homework; I'm sure you'll breeze through it.
Butterflies in your stomach	To feel nervous.	Tom always got butterflies in his stomach before giving a speech.
Costs an arm and a leg	Is very expensive.	That new purse of hers costs an arm and a leg.
Couch potato	Someone who is lazy.	You need to stop being such a couch potato and start joining me at the gym.
Cut corners	To do something badly to save time or money.	The architect cut corners on the bridge's construction, which is why it eventually collapsed.

Cut someone some slack	To go easy on someone.	I heard Rachel's dad is sick, so we should cut her some slack on this group project.
Feeling blue	Feeling sad or depressed.	Erika's been feeling blue every since her boyfriend broke up with her.
Finding a needle in a haystack	Virtually impossible to find.	These days, finding a job that doesn't require experience is like trying to find a needle in a haystack.
Get some shut eye	Sleep.	I have a big exam tomorrow, so I need to get some shut eye.
Go the extra mile	Put in extra effort.	Kelsey has the highest grades in our class since she always goes the extra mile with homework assignments.
Hang in there	Be patient.	I know it's hard waiting for the exam results, but you just need to hang in there.
Hard up	Lack money.	Ellie knew I was hard up, so she paid for my coffee.
Have a bone to pick	Have something to argue about.	I have a bone to pick with the girl who stole my boyfriend from me.
Jump on the bandwagon	To join something that's popular.	I've decided to jump on the bandwagon and listen to that new band everyone is talking about.
Let's get this show on the road!	Let's get started!	We have everything packed for the road trip, so let's get this show on the road!
Let the cat out of the bag	To tell a secret.	The surprise party was ruined when my little brother let the cat out of the bag and told our mom about it.
Lose your marbles	To be crazy. (Often said as a joke.)	Mrs. Thompson wants all this homework finished tomorrow? She must have lost her marbles!

Make a long story short	To quickly get to the point.	To make a long story short, my neighbor found my lost dog near the park.
Make your blood run cold	Frighten.	That new horror movie made my blood run cold.
Once in a blue moon	Something that happens very rarely.	Only once in a blue moon will Mr. Smith let us get out of class early.
On the fence	To not have made a decision or formed an opinion yet.	I'm on the fence as to whether this new law is a good idea.
Piece of cake	Something easy to do.	The math homework has only three questions, so finishing it will be a piece of cake.
Pulling one's leg	To joke with someone.	You didn't really believe that, did you? I was just pulling your leg.
Put your foot in your mouth	Say something you shouldn't have.	The husband put his foot in his mouth when he told his wife her dress was ugly.
Raining cats and dogs	Raining very hard.	You absolutely need an umbrella; it's raining cats and dogs out there!
Read between the lines	To detect a meaning that's implied but not stated outright.	Reading between the lines of this poem you wrote her, it seems as though you like Elizabeth.
Run into someone	Meet someone unexpectedly.	I ran into my old kindergarten teacher at the grocery store today.
Sweating bullets	To be very nervous.	Alan was sweating bullets when he asked the girl he liked to the dance.
Tag along	Accompany.	I told my little sister she could tag along when we go to the beach.

Take a rain check	Postpone a plan.	I have the flu, so I'll need to take a rain check on going to the club.
Take it easy	Relax.	This summer, all I'm going to do is take it easy.
Take with a grain of salt	Don't take too seriously.	My father doesn't know anything about cars, so take any advice he gives you about fixing your engine with a grain of salt.
The apple doesn't fall far from the tree	Kids are like their parents(usually used negatively).	You're stubborn, just like your mother! I suppose the apple doesn't fall far from the tree.
Test the waters	Try something out.	If you're not sure if you want to join the club, you can test the waters by just going to the first meeting.
Way to go!	Good job!	You got 100% on your chemistry test? Way to go!



*Instruction:* Silahkan dicocokkan arti kalimat di bawah ini dengan idiom nya.

1. Lack money  
Hard up  
Hang in there  
Have a bone to pick
2. Sleep  
Go the extra mile  
Get some shut eye  
Have a bone to pick
3. Be patient  
Hang in there  
Go the extra mile  
Finding a needle in a haystack
4. To tell a secret  
Let the cat out of the bag  
Lose your marbles  
Let's get this show on the road!
5. Put in extra effort  
Hang in there  
Let's get this show on the road!  
Go the extra mile
6. Something easy to do  
Pulling one's leg  
Piece of cake  
On the fence
7. Relax  
Way to go!  
Test the waters  
Take it easy
8. Postpone a plan  
Raining cats and dogs  
Read between the lines  
Take a rain check
9. Feeling sad or depressed  
Feeling blue  
Beat around the bush  
Be on your toes

**HOMIE**  
**ENGLISH**  
*Learning feels like home*

10. Something common  
A blessing in disguise  
A dime a dozen  
A short fuse

**Kunci Jawaban:**

1. A  
2. B  
3. A  
4. A  
5. C  
6. B  
7. C  
8. C  
9. A  
10. B

**References:**

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