



# IDIOM TRANSLATOR

DECODING  
★ ★ ★  
FUNNY PHRASES  
SINCE ALWAYS!

A PASSPORT TO UNDERSTANDING  
FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

EXPLORE  
LEARN  
TRANSLATE  
★ PLAY! ★

## WELCOME, TRAVELER!



Dress Up  
Your Writing

Have you ever heard someone say:



"BREAK  
A LEG!"



"HOLD YOUR  
HORSES!"



"PIECE OF  
CAKE!"

At first, these expressions can sound very confusing. Don't worry! You're about to become an **Idiom Translator**. Your mission is to travel through the world of figurative language and decode the real meanings behind some of the funniest phrases in English.

PACK YOUR PASSPORT AND LET'S BEGIN!



TRAVELER'S NAME: .....

DESTINATION: ..... FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

DATE OF DEPARTURE: .....



★ COLLECT IDIOMS FROM BOOKS, MOVIES, SHOWS, AND CONVERSATIONS AS YOU TRAVEL! ★

**MISSION 1**



# TRANSLATION BUREAU TRAINING



*Welcome, Idiom Translator!*

Congratulations! You have been accepted into the Figurative Language Translation Bureau. Before you begin your travels, you must complete your first training mission.



Your task is to translate each idiom into plain English. Draw a line to match each idiom to its correct meaning.

## INCOMING PHRASES

- 1 Break a leg 
- 2 Hold your horses 
- 3 Piece of cake 
- 4 Hit the books 
- 5 Under the weather 
- 6 Spill the beans 
- 7 In hot water 
- 8 Keep an eye on it 

## TRANSLATION OPTIONS

- A Be patient
- B Study
- C Easy
- D Watch carefully
- E Good luck
- F Tell a secret
- G In trouble
- H Not feeling well



## BONUS CHALLENGE

### CREATE YOUR OWN IDIOM!

Invent an idiom using a fun or silly image. Then, explain what it actually means.

1 Write your idiom here.

2 Draw what it sounds like if taken literally.

3 Write what it actually means.



**GREAT JOB!**

Training Complete = Ready for Your Next Mission!



IDIOMS  
CAN BE  
CONFUSING  
WHEN TAKEN  
LITERALLY!

# LOST IN TRANSLATION



WHEN IDIOMS ARE TAKEN LITERALLY...

Idioms can sound very strange if you imagine them happening exactly as the words describe!

Your mission: Help the Translation Bureau understand the difference between the literal meaning and the actual meaning of each phrase.

Draw a picture in the middle box and write the correct translation in the last box.



IDIOM

DRAW THE LITERAL MEANING

WHAT DOES IT  
ACTUALLY MEAN?

1 HOLD  
YOUR  
HORSES



2 UNDER  
THE  
WEATHER



3 KEEP AN  
EYE ON IT

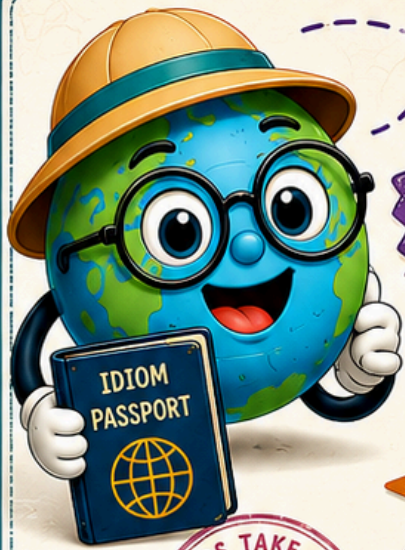


TRANSLATOR'S  
REFLECTION

Which idiom do you think sounds the funniest when taken literally? Why?

GREAT  
WORK!





# MY IDIOM TRAVEL LOG



Collect idioms from books, movies, shows, and conversations as you travel through the world of language!



## WHERE DID YOU FIND THIS IDIOM?



Book



Movie



TV Show



Conversation



Other \_\_\_\_\_

<b>IDIOM</b> What is the expression?	<b>WHERE DID YOU FIND IT?</b> (Book, Movie, Show, etc.)	<b>WHAT DID IT SOUND LIKE?</b> Write the phrase here.	<b>WHAT DOES IT ACTUALLY MEAN?</b> Your translation!

The more idioms you collect, the more fluent you become!

## ★ FREQUENT FLYER CHALLENGE ★

Keep collecting idioms and earn your badges!











YOU'RE A SUPER IDIOM EXPLORER!



Dress Up  
Your Writing

Thank you for downloading this resource!  
I hope it makes writing feel like play for your students. ❤️



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### ✉️ Contact

Questions or feedback? I'd love to hear from you!

✉️ [hello@dressupyourwriting.com](mailto:hello@dressupyourwriting.com)

🌐 Visit: [DressUpYourWriting.com](http://DressUpYourWriting.com)

### ☀️ A Note About Cursive

You may notice the use of cursive script in the headers of some printables. This was intentional! While all main instructions and activity text are printed for accessibility, we believe it's valuable for students to be regularly exposed to cursive. It builds visual familiarity and supports reading development – even if they're not writing in cursive yet!