

Idioms

Break a leg!

Don't beat around the bush!

Don't pass the buck.

Eat your heart out!

Get off my back.

Has the cat got your tongue?

He didn't want to rock the boat.

He had butterflies in his stomach.

He is a real heel.

He kicked the bucket.

He was a chip off the old block.

He was out like a light.

I got cold feet.

I have a bone to pick with you.

It was raining cats and dogs.

Let yourself go.

Shake a leg!

She had the last laugh.

She hit the sack.

She was left holding the bag.

Stick your neck out.

There are oceans of decisions to make.

They got off scot-free!

They were head over heels in love.

This is the last straw.

You need that like a hole in the head.

You're treading on thin ice.

Personification

The dance hall came alive with music.

The tree danced in the wind.

The sunrise painted the sky a pretty pink.

Her eyeballs jumped out of her head!

Angry flames engulfed the room.

The puppy pleaded for a strip of bacon.

Her fingers danced over the piano keyboard.

The night was young.

The sun snuck over the horizon.

The words jumped off the page.

The computer gently lulled her to sleep.

His golf ball twisted and turned before finding a soft place to land.

The ringing phone sprung awake.

The grass wiggled and squirmed as the mower brushed over it.

The sharpener munched on a brand new pencil.

The flower arrangement lit up the room.

The washing machine ate our socks.

The rock stubbornly refused to move.

The plane screamed with excitement as it took off down the runway.

The fossil cried out in pain as it was stepped on.

Puns

The pain of losing the grizzlies was just unbearable.

I used to have straw in my shoes until my calves went down and ate it.

Wear short sleeves. Support your right to bare arms.

Energizer Bunny arrested – charged with battery.

A man's home is his castle, in a manner of speaking.

A pessimist's blood type is always b-negative.

I have a crazy family, relatively speaking of course.

My wife likes to make pottery but to me it's just kiln time.

Ketchup on hot dogs? I can hardly relish the thought.

Dijon Vu – the same mustard as before.

Eating should never make you sad, unless it is a mourning meal.

There's nothing grate about sliced cheese.

I can't seem to find the beef aisle. Can you steer me in the right direction?

I used to work at a blanket factory but it folded.

Corduroy pillows are making headlines!

The rotten banana was very unappealing.

I like to add—sum times.

Every member of last year's show is rechoired to sing again.

Who's your pick for best guitar player?

Always write your music notes in black ink—for good measure.

A gossip is someone with a great sense of rumor.

Take a Karate class—just for kicks.

Some daze I just can't seem to focus.

She criticized my apartment so I knocked her flat.

Onomatopoeia

bark	explode	sizzle
blare	fizz	slash
burr	giggle	slap
buzz	groan	slop
babble	grumble	slurp
bang	gurgle	snap
blurt	hack	sniffle
boing	hiccup	splash
bong	hiss	splat
bonk	honk	splatter
boom	hush	splish
bop	jingle	sputter
bump	march	squeak
burp	meow	squish
buzz	moan	tap
chant	moo	tear
chat	mumble	thud
chime	murmur	thump
chuckle	neigh	thunder
clack	oink	thunk
clank	ooze	tick
clap	pant	tock
clatter	phew	tingle
click	ping	tinkle
cling	plop	trickle
clink	pop	trumpet
cluck	pow	twinkle
coo	quack	utter
cough	rant	vroom
crack	rasp	wail
crash	rattle	wheeze
creak	rip	whir
crop	roll	whirl
crunch	rumble	whoop
ding	rustle	woof
dingle	scatter	wow
dong	screech	yank
dribble	scurry	zap
drip	shatter	zip
drizzle	shimmy	zoink
drone	shuffle	zoom

Similes

As bright as the sun
As busy as a bee
As certain as death
As clear as a bell
As cold as ice
As comfortable as an old shoe
As cool as a cucumber
As cuddly as a baby
As cute as a button
As dark as night
As deaf as a doorpost
As deep as the ocean
As dry as a bone
As flat as a pancake
As happy as a lark
As hard as rock
As light as a feather
As loud as thunder
As quiet as a mouse
As skinny as a rail
As slow as molasses
As sly as a fox
As smart as a whip
As soft as silk
As sweet as honey
Acts like a bull in a China shop
Chatters like a monkey
Cry like a baby
Drinks like a fish
Eats like a pig
Eats like a bird
Fits like a glove
Fought like cats and dogs
Laugh like a hyena
Moves like a snail
Runs like a deer
Sings like a bird
Stood out like a sore thumb
Works like a charm

Metaphors

The small boat was a ping pong ball bouncing around on the waves.

The rush hour traffic was an army of ants slowly working its way toward home.

The fog was a blanket covering the valley floor.

The stars were diamonds sparkling in the sky.

The air conditioning was so strong that the room became an icebox.

The toddler was a clinging vine near his mother.

The branches of the tree were fingernails scratching my bedroom window.

The class was a fountain of ideas.

His stomach was a bottomless pit.

My legs were rubber when I reached the end of the diving board.

The meal was a rock in my stomach.

Mary was a walking encyclopedia.

The World Wide Web is an information highway.

The soldiers were robots marching home.

Metaphors compare two different things without using comparisons words. They sound like factual statements.