

Contents

Acknowledgements	3
Using this book	4

Learning about idioms

In this section the units deal with key aspects of what idioms are and how you can use them.

- 1 What are idioms?
- 2 When and how are idioms used?
- 3 Using reference resources
- 4 Common metaphors in idioms
- 5 Using idioms accurately
- 6 Playing with idioms
- 7 Idioms from other varieties of English
- 8 New idioms

Types of idiom

In this section the units deal with specific individual types of idiom.

- 9 Similes
- 10 Binomials
- 11 Proverbs
- 12 Euphemisms
- 13 Clichés and fixed statements
- 14 Other languages

Idioms from the topic area of ...

In this section the units are organised around the aspect of life from which the idioms have originated.

- 15 Sailing
- 16 War and conflict
- 17 Transport
- 18 Animals
- 19 Parts of the body
- 20 Games and sport
- 21 Ancient myths and history
- 22 Shakespeare
- 23 Literature
- 24 Science and technology

Idioms to talk about ...

In this section the units are organised around the topic or functional area where they are most likely to be used.

- 25 Films, plays and books
- 26 Relationships – friends and family
- 27 People – character and behaviour
- 28 People – appearance
- 29 Crime and punishment
- 30 Work

- 31 Business news
- 32 Business meetings
- 33 Money
- 34 Society
- 35 Daily life
- 36 Positive feelings
- 37 Negative feelings
- 38 Problems

Idioms used in ...

This section focuses on some of the written contexts where idioms are frequently found.

- 39 Journalism
- 40 Advertising
- 41 Formal writing

Idioms used in conversation

This section focuses on ways in which idioms are typically used in spoken language.

- 42 Advising and warning
- 43 Telling stories
- 44 Responding to what people say
- 45 Agreeing and disagreeing
- 46 Expressing success and failure
- 47 Emphasising

Idioms using these keywords:

In this section each unit focuses on one keyword which has given rise to a particularly large number of English idioms.

- 48 Play and game
- 49 Half
- 50 Two
- 51 All
- 52 No
- 53 Hand
- 54 Heart
- 55 Life and live
- 56 Dead and death
- 57 Mind
- 58 Hard
- 59 Fall
- 60 Own

Key	126
List of phonemic symbols	161
Index	162