

## Useful phrases

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| <b>Bored to death</b>       | Very bored  | Would you rather be super busy or <b>bored to death</b> ?                      |
| <b>Sick and Tired</b>       | Used when you no longer enjoy something because you have done it too many times.  | I'm <b>sick and tired</b> of eating the same thing for lunch everyday.         |
| <b>Call it a day</b>        | Used to express that the work day is over.  | Let's <b>call it a day</b> . I'm too tired to continue working.                |
| <b>Get on one's nerves</b>  | Used when someone or something is bothering you.  | Will you please stop doing that?<br>It's <b>getting on my nerves</b> .         |
| <b>Couch potato</b>         | Used when someone watches too much television.  | My husband is a <b>couch potato</b> . He sits in front of the TV all day long. |
| <b>Read one's mind</b>      | When someone says something that you were also thinking about.  | I was going to suggest that. You must have <b>read my mind</b> .               |
| <b>Feel blue</b>            | Feel sad  | What a gloomy day. It makes me <b>feel blue</b> .                              |
| <b>Fender bender</b>        | A small car accident  | I got into a <b>fender bender</b> in the parking lot.                          |
| <b>Get foot in the door</b> | Taking or passing the first step of a longer process; Generally used when referring to an entry level position that will eventually lead to better opportunities. | It's not a great position, but at least my <b>foot is in the door</b> .        |

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| <b>Chicken</b>                   | Being afraid or scared   | Stop being a <b>chicken</b> and just  |
| <b>Give somebody a hard time</b> | Make someone feel bad for making a mistake.  | Suzie <b>gave him a hard time</b> for not showing up to her recital.                            |
| <b>Make up one's mind</b>        | Make a decision  | We don't got all day, <b>make up your mind.</b>   |
| <b>Go Dutch</b>                  | Each person paying for themselves. For example, going Dutch on a date is indicating both guy and girl will pay for themselves instead of one buying for the other. | You don't have to pay for me. Let's <b>go dutch</b> today.                                      |
| <b>Throw in the towel</b>        | Give up; quit; surrender   | He's not a quitter, so he's not going to <b>throw in the towel.</b>                             |
| <b>Goose bumps</b>               | The literal tiny bumps you get all over your body when you are experiencing intense emotions.  | When she told me that she loved me, I got <b>goose bumps.</b>                                   |
| <b>Stay in touch</b>             | To stay connected  | Call me more often man. We got to <b>stay in touch.</b>   |
| <b>Have the guts</b>             | To be brave; have courage  | I don't <b>have the guts</b> to go bungee jumping.  |
| <b>Rain or Shine</b>             | Not allowing the weather to prevent you from doing something.  | We're going camping this weekend <b>rain or shine.</b>  |
| <b>I'm beat</b>                  | Very tired   | I had a tough day today. <b>I'm totally beat.</b>   |
| <b>Easier said than done</b>     | This is used when something is easy to say but very hard to do.  | It's a lot tougher than that. It's one of those things that are <b>easier said than done.</b>   |
| <b>Jump to conclusions</b>       | Making a conclusion without having all the details   | I incorrectly blamed Jeff for breaking my phone. I shouldn't have <b>jumped to conclusions.</b> |

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| <b>Keep an eye on</b>             | To watch after; to supervise; to take care of   | Can you <b>keep an eye on</b> my daughter while I go get the car?                                 |
| <b>Out of the blue</b>            | Out of nowhere; spontaneously   | He's pretty funny because he will crack a funny joke <b>out of the blue</b> .                     |
| <b>Know something inside out</b>  | Have knowledge of every detail of something.  | Ask Mary to help you with your homework. She <b>knows calculus inside out</b> .                   |
| <b>Give someone a hand</b>        | To help someone   | Can you <b>give me a hand</b> setting up the dining table?  |
| <b>Now and then</b>               | Once in a while   | I go on a hike every <b>now and then</b> .  |
| <b>Nuke</b>                       | To cook something in the microwave oven.  | Don't <b>nuke</b> an egg. It will explode in the microwave.                                       |
| <b>On the dot</b>                 | The exact time  | I don't want to be waiting for you, so you'd better be there at three o'clock <b>on the dot</b> . |
| <b>Keeping my fingers crossed</b> | Hoping for good luck  | I hope it works. Let's <b>cross our fingers</b> .   |
| <b>Out of this world</b>          | Amazing   | The concert was <b>out of this world</b> . It was an awesome experience.                          |
| <b>Over one's head</b>            | When something is mentally too difficult to understand.                                 | Don't bother explaining it to him. It's way <b>over his head</b> .                                |
| <b>Pain in the ass</b>            | A source of trouble or annoyance; used to indicate that something bothers you very much | I had a customer who kept asking easy questions. It was a total <b>pain in the ass</b> .          |
| <b>Piece of cake</b>              | Describes something that is easy to do.   | You won't have any problems with it. It's a <b>piece of cake</b> .                                |
| <b>Sooner or later</b>            | Eventually  | Don't keep waiting for him to confess. He'll tell you <b>sooner or later</b> .                    |

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| <b>Pull someone's leg</b>         | Making someone believe something that is not true.   | You expect me to believe that?<br>Stop <b>pulling my leg</b> .                                  |
| <b>Put oneself in one's place</b> | To think from another point of view.   | What was I supposed to do?<br>Try to <b>put yourself in my place</b> .                          |
| <b>I can eat a horse</b>          | To express the desire to eat a lot of food.  | I'm so hungry that I can <b>eat a horse</b> .   |
| <b>Read between the lines</b>     | To understand the underlying meaning of something that is not completely clear.  | If you <b>read between the lines</b> , you would have understood what he was implying.          |
| <b>Rings a bell</b>               | To remember something  | It <b>rings a bell</b> , but I'm not one hundred percent sure.                                  |
| <b>Bug</b>                        | To annoy   | I need to concentrate on this, so stop <b>bugging</b> me.                                       |
| <b>Sleep on it</b>                | To take time to think about something.   | I don't think I can decide now. Let me <b>sleep on it</b> and I'll tell you my answer tomorrow. |
| <b>Play it by ear</b>             | To decide to do something as the situation develops; choosing to deal with a situation as more events unfold.          | Should we plan something for this Saturday or should we <b>play it by ear</b> ?                 |
| <b>Speak of the devil</b>         | When someone appears just as you are talking about that person.  | Joanne did great on her presentation. <b>Speak of the devil...</b> Hi Joanne.                   |
| <b>Grab a bite</b>                | To get something to eat  | When do you want to go <b>grab a bite</b> ?   |
| <b>Take it easy</b>               | To relax; to stop working so hard; to calm down  | I don't want to take it easy so stop telling me to <b>take it easy</b> .                        |
| <b>Go with the flow</b>           | To do things as other people are doing it because it is easier to do; to not go against the common way of doing things | Why do you do everything differently? You should just <b>go with the flow</b> .                 |

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| <b>Under the weather</b> | Feeling sick; not well                      | I'm going to stay home because I'm feeling <b>under the weather today</b> .             |
| <b>Don't sweat it</b>    | To tell someone not to worry                | You can't do anything about it, so <b>don't sweat it</b> .                              |
| <b>Broke</b>             | To have no money                            | I can't afford to buy that television. I'm totally <b>broke</b> .                       |
| <b>Beats Me</b>          | To not know; to not understand              | <b>Beats me</b> why he was so mean to you.  |
| <b>I Don't Buy it</b>    | Disagree; to not be convinced               | He said he didn't do it but <b>I don't buy it</b> .                                     |
| <b>Keep Your Cool</b>    | To act normal                               | <b>Keep your cool</b> . You don't want to mess this up.                                 |
| <b>Sort Of</b>           | A little; kind of                           | I <b>sort of</b> like her.  |
| <b>Good For You</b>      | Expressing that you are happy for a person. | I heard you got married recently, <b>good for you</b> .                                 |
| <b>Shotgun</b>           | To claim the front seat in a car.           | A. "Hey James, mom said she would give us a ride home?"<br>B. "I call <b>shotgun!</b> " |