

TYPES AND IMPORTANCE OF IDIOMS IN ENGLISH THAT EXPRESS THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A PERSON

Yuldasheva E'tibor Kasimbayevna

Student of Toshkent Humanitarian Subjects University

Abstract:

Many expressions in English are idiomatic. For instance we have "implied subjects" as in "Get your book," or "Be on time." It's just how a language develops. Because the idioms and expressions you quote, and many others, do not REQUIRE an article - they are both complete and fully understandable without any article! In this article gives more than 30 idioms and examples of idioms that express human character that are often used in English.

Key words: Idioms, characteristics of a person, language, personality, linguistics, expressions, semantic meaning, phrase, grammar rules.

Nowadays, great attention is given to learning a foreign language by majority of people. Especially English language is being learned as a second language by the people of most countries. However, learning language is not just learning the words in target language but also being familiar with phrases, idioms, proverbs and phraseological units of it.

According to Irujo [1986:326] "idioms do not say what they mean" because

they are not literal". It is not only the meaning of idioms that Second

language L2 learners struggle with, but also the proper usage of idioms. Irujo stated that using idioms correctly is a very difficult task for English learners even if they know the intended meanings. Therefore, mastering idioms becomes a hard goal for L2 learners since the meaning of the text cannot be determined through individual analysis of each word [Chuang, 2013:92].. As every nation has its own history, customs and traditions, the common history of

humanity connects common things and phenomena such as: nature, war, animals, food, plants etc.

Proverbs have mostly been formulated and coined on the basis of these topics.

Idiomatical units are considerable parts of any language. Therefore they are studied by plenty of scholars. For example, Russian scholars V. V. Vinogradov, A. I. Smidnitoski, H. N. Asomova and Uzbek scholars Sh. Rahmatullayev, A. E. Mamatov, B. Yo'ldoshev conducted a research on this sphere of linguistics. Their works and researches play significant role in the development of phraseology. Even nowadays, this field of linguistics attracts great many of scholars' attention. One of English linguists A. B. Pittman gives such definition to the idiomatical units in one of his works: «A group of words in a fixed order that is different from the meaning of each word understood on its own». In fact, idioms can never be translated into another language word for word. Otherwise, they lose their semantic meaning. In this article we are going to discuss some English Idioms describing character and personality.

Idioms are particularly useful because they give you a new, creative way to express yourself. Rather than saying 'You're correct', you could say 'You hit the nail on the head', which is a more complex and interesting expression.

When we think about the things that make a language unique, it's usually the words, sounds, and grammar rules that come to mind first. But turns of phrase are just as notable, and it could be argued that you don't really know a language until you can understand and appreciate its idioms.

An idiom is a common expression with a meaning that is obvious to native speakers but not to everyone else. In writing, idioms are used as a literary device to give context to characters, speech, and setting, and they can also help add some humor to a piece. But in order to be effective, you have to know how to use idioms correctly—and that requires a bit of background insight.

There are so many idioms describes character and personality of human English dictionary such as «Longman», «Macmillan» and «Oxford».

In this article gives more than 30 idioms and examples of idioms that express human character that are often used in English.

1. Pain in the neck – an irritating, annoying person

Oh, he's such a pain in the neck! Always just when I'm going home, he gives me some extra work to do.

2. A people person – an outgoing person who gets along with people really well and is a good listener

Jimmy is enthusiastic and positive and he is a people person.

3. A party animal – someone who likes to attend parties often

Are you going out again tonight? You are such a party animal. Jack is out every Friday, and Saturday. If there was a party on, he'd be out on a Sunday as well. He is such a party animal!

4. Cheapskate – a mean person who doesn't like spending money

He was always a cheapskate even though he was earning \$300,000 a year.

He is a cheapskate when it comes to his clothes. He's never bought a new shirt or a new pair of trousers in all the years that I've known him.

5. Happy camper – a person who is always happy and satisfied. We often use 'happy camper' in the negative.

The apartment was much smaller than I expected, and I was not a happy camper.

He's finally got that promotion. He is a real happy camper.

6. Nerd – someone who is very interested in science or technology, particularly in computers

He spends all weekends at his laptop, he is such a nerd.

Life and soul of the party – someone who is energetic, and good fun during social occasions.

It was a great night, Jim was life and soul of the party.

7. Dipstick – a person who seems to be stupid (very informal)

I don't know whether to laugh or be angry at his behaviour.
What a complete dipstick!

Down-to-earth – someone who is practical and close to reality,
who accepts other people as equals

Despite his wealth, he was a down-to-earth man. He was very
generous and had a kind heart.

8. Early bird – a person who wakes up, arrives to work, etc.
before the usual time

This expression comes from the English proverb “The early bird
catches the worm”.

My grandmother is the early bird in our family, she gets up at 5
o'clock in the morning.

9. Larger than life – someone who is more exciting or interesting
than other people.

All who knew him would agree that his personality was larger
than life, he was a joy to be around.

English Idioms Describing Character and Personality

10. Wimp – a weak person, someone who lacks confidence.

I always avoid confrontations, I am such a wimp.

11. Golden boy – a winning person that everyone is fond of.

Ray Wilkins was a golden boy of English football.

12. Eager beaver – someone who's always willing to do
something.

When he was at school, he used to run home, get his homework
done, get his football kit, get out and train. A real eager beaver.

13. Slave driver – someone who makes other people work really
hard

My boss is such a slave driver, I had to work two weekends in a
row.

14. Big mouth – someone who is not able to keep a secret

Sally will tell everybody, she's such a big mouth. Nothing I tell
her is going to be a secret.

15. Cool as a cucumber – someone who doesn't get upset,
excited or anxious very easily.

WORLDWIDE CROSS-DISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

Don't worry, Sam's there. He's as cool as a cucumber. He'll handle this problem, no problem at all. Just tell him what you want. He'll get it sorted.

16. Busybody – a person who expresses great interest in other people's private lives.

My next-door neighbour is a real busybody.

17. Scrooge – a miserable person who hates spending money.

This expression comes from a character in "A Christmas Carol" novel by Charles Dickens.

My last boss was a real Scrooge, for years we never received a Christmas bonus.

18. Daydreamer – someone who is having dreamlike thoughts when they should be focusing on the present

I've always been a bit of a daydreamer in school.

19. Skiver – someone who is absent from school or work without a good reason

We can also say 'someone who is pulling a sickie'.

He didn't bother to turn up for work on Monday, he is a skiver.

20. Clock-watcher – someone who has no interest in the current activity, and keeps watching the time

I hate to be a clock-watcher, but I can't wait to get out of here.

21. Creep – a nasty person, someone who is trying to impress higher authority.

What a creep this guy is.

22. Laid-back – a relaxed person who doesn't get stressed or upset easily

Our managing editor was a laid-back person but he's recently begun snapping at the employees.

23. Have a screw loose – someone who is slightly mad or eccentric

Jane's aunt obviously had a screw loose, just by the way she spoke.

24. Full of yourself – someone who is too pleased with themselves
Sam was always full of himself and liked to pick on his friends.

WORLDWIDE CROSS-DISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

25. Bossyboots – someone who likes to dominate other people and often tells them what to do.

She is a bit of a bossyboots and always wants to get things perfect.

My daughter was a real bossyboots when she was young. She used to give my two sons a terrible time.

26. Lamebrain – a foolish person, a slow thinker (very informal)
The lamebrains in the marketing department continually make mistakes.

27. Moaning Minnie – a person who complains a lot about insignificant things.

Oh, stop being a Moaning Minnie! Just concentrate on your homework.

28. Smart cookie – somebody who has got a strong personality or who is quite smart.

Katie is such a smart cookie, she can make any project a success.

Just give him any particular problem, he'll get it sorted out in no time at all. He's a real smart cookie.

29. Wet blanket – a person who ruins other people's fun by staying pessimistic and complaining all the time.

Katie is so negative about everything, she is such a wet blanket.

30. Chatterbox – a person who talks a lot

My son always gets detentions in school for talking in class, he is such a chatterbox.

31. Crank – a person whose behaviour or way of life is regarded as strange. We can also say an oddball/fish/bird or a weirdo (very informal).

Peter never eats green vegetables, he thinks they make him sleepy. He is such a crank!

32. Rolling stone – a person who moves from place to place, job to job, without staying anywhere long

My brother was a rolling stone until he met his wife.

33. Rough diamond – someone who seems impolite or is not well-educated, but who has a kind heart and good character.

Mike may be a rough diamond, but he is kind and always willing to help.

34. Cold fish – someone who has very little emotions, who is regarded as hard-hearted and unfeeling

Jamshid said nothing at all when I told him about my problems. He is a cold fish.

35. Dark horse – someone who has greater abilities than he shows or than other people are aware of.

I didn't know Nodir could play the guitar so well. He is a real dark horse!

36. Lone wolf – someone who prefers his own company and does not like socialising. We can also say a lone bird.

Jasur became a real lone wolf since his wife passed away last year. He never goes .

In conclusion, we can say that phraseological units are extremely important parts of linguistics in any language. Additionally, the usage of idioms is so common in the field of translations since it has more benefits for translators and interpreters. But, while translating them from one language into another they should be careful about their meaning and pay attention to find the most suitable equivalent of these idioms instead of translating the word for word.

REFERENCES:

1. Richard A. «Spears American Idioms Dictionary».
2. Sh. Rahmatullayev. «O'zbek tilining izohli frazeologik lug'ati».
3. Kunin A. B. «English-Russian Phraseological Dictionary».
4. Урантаева, Н. Б. The comparative analysis of English-Uzbek idioms with the component of «ear» / Н. Б. Урантаева, М. Р. Нурматова, Н. М. Полванова.
5. Dialnet.

