

Answers to Idioms Quiz

Chinwag, 3 September 2024

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush

This idiom means it is better to have something in hand and certain, rather than the possibility of something greater that may never materialize. (Be content with what you have than to risk losing everything by seeking to get more.)

A drop of a hat

To do something at the drop of a hat means to do something without delay.

Back to the drawing board

Returning (back) to the drawing board is another way of saying it is necessary to restart a process from the beginning.

Cut corners

To cut corners means to achieve something hastily or inexpensively by leaving out some necessary steps.

Head in the clouds

People with their heads in the clouds are aloof (detached or remote) to their surroundings or present situation.

You can't judge a book by its cover

This idiom means you should not assume you know about something or someone based solely on outward appearance.

Make a long story short

To tell something briefly.

Barking up the wrong tree

To bark up the wrong tree means a person is following the wrong course of action. (The phrase comes from a dog barking up a tree looking for a cat when a cat is not there.)

Break the ice

Make people feel more comfortable. ('Let's have a party game to break the ice.')

He's a chip off the old block

The son is like the father.