Idiom Poems

Vocabulary

Verse: A verse is a grouping of words that are in poetic or lyrical form (not prose).

Stanza: In poetry, stanzas are grouped sets of lines, that are set apart from other stanzas. Since we just studied analogies, this might help you understand: paragraphs are to prose as stanzas are to poetry.

Quatrain: Quatrains are stanzas (or sometimes complete poems) with four lines.

Idioms: Idioms are word combinations that have a different meaning than the literal meanings of each word. They're usually familiar to native speakers and really strange to everyone else!

Your task is to compose as many quatrains as possible, with the following rhyme scheme: AABB. Each quatrain should include at least two idioms. Here’s an example:

Mr. Tubach has a lovely daughter (A)
But one day she was in hot water (A)
She gave someone the cold shoulder (B)
So Mr. Tubach had to scold her (B)

Twenty-one days with only water and bread (C)
That will shrink her growing big head! (C)
Time to dismount from her high horse (D)
And be an angel, which is par for the course (D)
Idioms:

- Give it a shot - Try
- Speak your mind - Say what you really feel
- A piece of cake - Very easy
- Slipped my mind - I forgot
- Cross your fingers - For good luck
- Be in hot water - Be in trouble
- It cost an arm and a leg - It was expensive
- It’s in the bag - It’s a certainty
- Get cold feet - Be nervous
- A rip off - Too expensive
- Get a kick out of - Enjoy
- Read between the lines - Find the hidden meaning
- Have mixed feelings - Unsure how you feel
- Draw a blank - Can’t remember
- Have a change of heart - Changed your mind
- Be second to none - Be the best
- Get your act together - Behave properly
- Play it by ear - Improvise
- Have second thoughts - Have doubts
- A basket case - A crazy person
- Have a shot at - Have a chance
- Be in the same boat - Be in the same situation
- Out of the blue - With no warning
- A grey area - Something unclear
- Give someone the cold shoulder - Ignore someone
- I’m all ears - You have my undivided attention
● See eye to eye - Agree
● Call it a day - Time to quit
● The icing on the cake - Something additional that turns good into great

Animal Idioms:

● Fish out of water - Being somewhere you don’t belong
● Get off your high horse - Quit thinking you are better than others
● Hold your horses - Wait a minute
● Horse of a different color - Something that is different
● Let the cat out of the bag - Tell a secret
● Curiosity killed the cat - Asking may get you in trouble
● Cat got your tongue? - Why aren’t you talking?
● Raining cats and dogs - It is raining very hard
● You can’t teach an old dog new tricks - It’s harder for older people to learn new things
● Hot dog - A person doing athletic stunts that are dangerous
● Doggy bag - A bag to take home leftovers from a restaurant
● A little birdie told me - Someone told me a secret
● Bee in her bonnet - She is upset
● Goose is cooked - Now you’re in trouble
● For the birds - Something that is not worth anything
● A bull in a china shop - someone who is very clumsy
● Pig out - To eat a lot
● Wolf in sheep’s clothing - A person who pretends to be nice but is not
● Cry crocodile tears - To pretend to be upset
● Make a mountain out of a molehill - Make something that is not important into a big deal