Idiom and Phrase

Objectives:

At the end of this lesson you will be able to:

- know what Idiom and Phrase mean.
- use of idioms and phrases.
- increase vocabulary.
- make new sentences.
- use of different words.

Idiom and Phrase

At sixes and sevens- phrase

Above all (more than anything else, সর্বোপরি): Sheikh Farid was above all a saint.

Above board (open, beyond reproach, সন্দেহের অতীত): His dealings are fair and above board.

After all (in spite of all that has been said or done or expected, তত্ত্বক্ত্বেও, মোটের ওপর): His father is after all an honest man.

All at once (suddenly, সহসা): All at once I saw a crowd, a host of golden daffodils.

All but (almost, nearly, প্রায়): My friend is all but ruined.

All of a sudden or, All on a sudden (unexpectedly, সম্পূর্ণ আকস্মিক ভাবে): All of a sudden he fell into a ditch and broke his leg.
**All in all** (all powerful, সুরক্ষিত) : The manager is all in all in the office.

**All the same** (the same is the result, একই বা অপরিবর্তিত) : It is all the same to me whether you go or not.

**All over with** (finished, সব শেষ) : It is all over with the patient now.

**An open question** (an undecided matter, অমীমাংসিত বিষয়) : It still remains an open question.

**Apple of discord** (subject of quarrel, কলহের হেতু) : This plot of land is the apple of discord between the two families.

**As it were** (so to say, ঠিক যেন) : The moon is, as it were the lamp of the earth.

**As usual** (as it commonly happens, যারাজীতি) : I went there as usual.

**At a loss** (confusedly in competent, কিংকর্তব্য বিমূঢ়) : I am at a loss to decide how to deal with the matter.

**At all events** (in any case, যাই ঘটুক না কেন) : At all events we shall start for Khulna tomorrow.

**At bottom** (in essential character,মূলত) : Mr. Amin is at bottom a good man.

**At daggers drawn** (at enmity, বিক্ষুদ্র অবস্থায়) : They are at daggers drawn with each other.

**At home in** (very familiar with, সুপরিচিত, দক্ষ) : He is quite at home in English.

**At last** (it refers to time, অবশেষে) : The prince came at last.

**At the latest** (not later than, কিছুতেই পরে নয়) : Be off from here on Monday at the latest.

**At least** (at the lower estimate অন্যতম) : He is not your superior, he is at least your equal.

**At large** (in general, at liberty, সাধারণত, মূল্য) : This was popular with the people at large.

**At one's finger-ends** (be thoroughly familiar with, নথিপত্রে, আয়ত্ত) : I have my lessons at my finger-ends.

**At one's disposal** (under one's control, কারোনির্দেশনা বা অধিকার) : I can give you a job for it is at my disposal.

**At a stretch** (without a break, একপ্রাঙ্গণে) : I can run five kilometers at a stretch.

**At the eleventh hour** (at the last moment শেষ মুহুর্তে) : He came to the spot at the eleventh hour.

**At all** (আসুন) : I am not happy at all.

**At length** (বিক্ষুদ্রিতভাবে) : They discussed the matter at length.

**At one's door** (বারপাটি) : There is somebody at your door.

**A good many** (সহ সংখ্যক) : I have a good many things to do.
At any rate: I have decided to go at any rate.

As long as: Don’t go out as long as the rain continues.

A variety of: We read books for a variety of reasons.

Above all: He is sincere, hardworking and above all honest.

At stake: Nowadays the animals of the world are at stake.

At large: The birds fly in the sky at large.

A man of letters: A man of letters is respected everywhere.

At random: They walked at random.

By means of: You can succeed in life only by means of hard work.

Beggar description: The miseries of our locals beggar description due to recent flood.

Bag and baggage: The man left the house bag and baggage.

Birds of the same feather: Birds of the same feather flock together.

Bring to light: The secret matter of their family has been brought to light.

Blue blood: She is proud of her blue blood.

Burning question: Population problem in our country is a burning question.

By the by: Are you satisfied with your wife?

By dint of: He succeeded in life by dint of perseverance.

Beyond dispute: He is, beyond dispute, a great person in our locality.

Black and white: You should submit your appeal in black and white.

Bolt from the blue: The death news of his father came to me as a bolt from the blue.

Bone of contention: The occurrence is a bone of contention for our family.

Bread and butter: She earns her bread and butter very hard.

By heart: It is your responsibility to learn the lesson by heart.

By turns: Weal and woe come by turns.

By hook or by crook: They will harm her by hook or by crook.
By leaps and bounds (at a rapid motion) : The price of daily commodities is increasing by leaps and bounds.

C

Call in question (to doubt, সন্দেহ করা) : His honesty cannot be called in question.

Call into play (to bring into action, ব্যাপ্তি করা) : Adversity calls into play the best qualities of a man.

Call to account (to call for an explanation, কীভাবে দাবী করা) : He was called to account by his boss.

Call to mind (to remember, মনে করা) : I cannot call to mind what you told me on the way.

Carry into effect (to execute, প্রণয়ন করা) : This plan was carried into effect.

Carry the day (to win, জয়লাভ করা) : He joined the debate and carried the day.

Carry weight (to exert influence, স্বীকৃতি হওয়া) : The advice of the president always carries weight with the Ministry.

Chicken-hearted man (a coward, মরীচী) : He is a chicken hearted man.

Close-fisted man (a miser, অর্থহীন) : Nobody likes a close-fisted man.

Cock and bull story (a foolish story, গোলায়না গল্প) : I have really no time to listen cock and bull story.

Come to light (to be known, প্রকাশ হওয়া) : The secret has come to light.

Come true (to be proved true, প্রমাণিত হওয়া) : The rumour about his death has come true.

Come to terms (to yield, আপোষ করা) : He was compelled to come to terms with the enemy.

Come to a head (to suppurate, চর্বি অবন্ধনের পৌরুষ) : The boil has come to a head.

Come to nothing (not to be put into effect, ব্যর্থ হওয়া) : The scheme for the irrigation of this area came to nothing for many reasons.

Crocodile tears (false, মিথ্যা ক্ষোভ) : He shed crocodile tears at the death of his enemy.

Crying need (urgent necessary, উদ্ভিজ্জন) : Primary education is the crying need of the country.

Come round (To be sound) : She has come round from fever.

Cats and dogs (in torrents) : It has been raining cats and dogs since morning.

Carry out (To abide by) : It is your duty to carry out every order of office.

Close to (adjacent to) Their shop is close to ours.

D
**Do away with** (লোপ করা) : We should *do away with* this bad practice.

**Do good** (করার উপকার করা) : This measure will *do us good*.

**Dead against** (ঘৃণার বিরোধী) : I am *dead against* smoking.

**Die in harness** (ক্ষড় করতে করতে মারা যাওয়া) : He *died in harness*.

**Double game** (বিচ্ছিন্ন নীতি) : I don’t like his *double game*.

**Draw up** (মুসলিম করা) : He *drew up* the agreement.

**Day after day** (দিনের পর দিন) : She waited for him *day after day*.

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**Fall flat** (no to be effective, হতভাবে বিফল হওয়া) : His lecture *falls flat* on the audience.

**Fall foul of** (to quarrel, কলহ করা) : He is in the habit of *falling foul of* every body.

**Fall in with** (to agree with, একমত হওয়া) : I cannot *fall in with* your views.

**Fair and square** (honest and just, সৎ) : He was *fair and square* in all his dealings.

**Fair weather friend** (false friend, সুসমাচারের বন্ধু) : Never trust a *fair weather friend*.

**Fall a prey to** (to fall a victim to, শিকারে পরিণত হওয়া) : The deer *fell a prey to* the lion.

**Fall short of** (be inadequate, ঘাটতি পড়া) : Your work *fall short of* our expectation.

**Far and near** or, **Far and wide** (all around, চর্বিদিকে) : The news spread *far and wide*.

**Few and far between** (at wide intervals, মাঝে মাঝে, বিরল) : In this part of the country houses are *few and far between*.

**Fight shy of** (to avoid, এড়িয়ে চলা) : Why do you try to *fight shy of* your teacher?

**Fire and fury** (violent passion, হতাহত রোগ ও উদ্ভিজ্জন) : The language of the speaker was full of *fire and fury*.

**First and foremost** (of the greatest importance, প্রথম ও সর্বাধিক গুরুত্বপূর্ণ) : The *first and foremost* duty of a student is to read.

**Find fault with** (complain about, খুঁত ধরা) : He is always in the habit of *finding fault with* everybody.

**Fish out of water** (a person in an uncomfortable position, অবস্থানপরিবর্তনের পরিস্থিতি) : He feels like a *fish out of water*.

**Flesh and blood** (human nature, কর্ম মাংসের শরীর) : These are things which *flesh and blood* cannot bear.

**For the time being** (for the present, বর্তমান সময়ের জন্য) : Please stay here *for the time being*. 
For the sake of (on account of, জন্য বা নিমিত্ত) : He suffered much for the sake of his country.

For good (for ever, চিরকালে) : He left Bangladesh for good.

Fool's paradise (happiness on vain hopes, মুখ্যতে কর্ণ) : You should not live in a fool's paradise.

From hand to mouth (very poor, দিন এনে দিন খায়) : The peasants of Bangladesh live from hand to mouth.

From head to foot (whole body, আলোকমণ্ডল) : He eyed the rogue from head to foot.

From pillar to post (hither and thither, এক আশ্রয় হতে অন্য আশ্রয়ে) : He was driven from pillar to post.

Fresh blood (new and enthusiastic person, নবায়নক তরুণ সম্প্রদায়) : We want fresh blood in the field of politics.

Free and easy (unrestrained, উদ্বৃত্তি ও সহজ) : His free and easy manner won the hearts of all.

Far and away (in every sense, সর্বনিম্নবিদ্ধ করে) : Rabindranath is far and away the greatest poet of the world.

From bad to worse (gradually going bad, তরমে তরমে খারাপের দিকে) : The patient's condition is going from bad to worse.

Go back (ফিরে যাওয়া) : He went back home.

Get in (প্রবেশ) : The train got in five hours late.

Get to (পৌঁছান) : How can I get to Sadar Ghat?

Give way to (হাত মানা) : Sometimes reason gives way to unreason.

Go across (পার হওয়া) : We went across the river by boat.

Go ahead (এগিয়ে যাওয়া) : Go ahead with your plan.

Go back to (ফিরে যাওয়া) : I went back to my work.

Go one's own way (নিজের মত চলা) : I have always preferred to go my own way.

Grow out of (ছাড়াইয়া যাওয়া) : The boy has grown out of the shirt.

Guilty conscience (অপরাধবোধ) : He suffers from a guilty conscience.

Get at (নাগাল পাওয়া) : The box could not get at the grapes.

Get on with (চলা) : How are you getting on with your studies?

Get up (শুয়া বাচন করা) : I get up at 6 O'clock in the morning.

Gift of the gab (বাশিত্তা) : He has gift of the gab.

Give in (বাধাতা ব্যাপার) : I will never give in to him.
Gain ground (অগ্রসর হওয়া) : He could not gain ground.

Get the better of (পরাজিত করা) : I got the better of him.

Get rid of (মুক্তি পাওয়া) : I must get rid of this situation.

Go in for (উপস্থিত থাকা) : I shall go in for the examination.

Go through (পড়া) : I have gone through the book.

Gala day (a day of festivity, আন্দোলনের দিন) : The 26th of March is a gala day for all Bangladeshis.

Get rid of (give up, মুক্ত হওয়া) : Get rid of this bad habit.

H

Hard times (times of difficulty, দুঃখসহ সময়) : Poet Madhusudan was then passing through very hard times.

Hang fire (to remain undecided, অমিমান্তিত থাকা) : The matter has been hanging fire for some time.

Hang in the balance (to be in suspense, সন্দেহ বা অনিশ্চিততার মধ্যে থাকা) : The fate of the prisoner is still hanging in the balance.

Hole and corner (secret, গোপন বা রহস্যপূর্ণ) : I do not like his hole and corner policy.

Haunted house (a house supposed to be haunted by a ghost, ভোগের বাড়ি) : It is not possible for us to live in a haunted house.

Hold water (to stand scrutinizing, পরীক্ষায় উত্তরায় যাওয়া) : His argument does not hold water.

Hold good (to prove valid, বলবৎ হওয়া) : This policy will hold good in the long run.

Hue and cry (up roar, শোরগোলা) : They raised a hue and cry at the sight of a thief.

Hush money (money given as bribe to husk up matter, ঘুষা) : The manager offered the police a large sum as hush money.

Hard and fast (fixed, সঠিক-এক্ষেত্র) : There is no hard and fast rule in this matter.

Hang together (to be consistent with, সততিপূর্ব হওয়া) : The two statements of the accused do not hang together.

Heart and soul (earnestly, সর্বন্যায় করণ) : Alam is trying heart and soul to win the prize.

Head and tail (not a jat of sense, মাথামুহুর্ত) : I couldn't make head and tail of what he said.

High time (far advanced time, উপস্থিত সময়) : It is the high time and you can start now.

High and low (all classes of society, ধনী ও গরীব) : All men high and low will die.
**Hard and fast** (specific, fixed, বিশেষ) : There is no hard and fast rule in this matter.

**In accordance with** (according to, অনুসারে) : My friend acted in accordance with your advice.

**In as much as** (since, যেহেতু) : In as much as you are repentant, I pardon you this time.

**In a fix** (in a difficult situation, মুখ্যকল্পে পরিস্থিতি) : I am in a fix and so I am in need of your help.

**In black and white** (in writing, লিখিতভাবে) : I must have your statement in black and white.

**In cold blood** (deliberately, চিত্ত মনস্তায়ন) : The man was murdered in cold blood.

**In case** (if, যদি) : In case you fail, what will you do?

**In defence of** (in support of, সমর্থনে) : The convict pleaded in defence of his conduct.

**In the event of** (in case, ঘটনাচক্রে) : What will you do in the event of your father's death?

**In fine** (in short, to sum up, ক্ষুদ্র সংজ্ঞায়) : In fine it was a piece of swindling.

**In the face of** (in opposition to, সাহায্য না করার প্রতিক্রিয়া) : He proceeded with this work all alone in the face of opposition from all quarters.

**In full swing** (in full force, পূর্ণমাত্রায়) : The work is going on in full swing.

**In good stead** (be of specialise, সামঞ্জস্যপূর্ণ) : My father's advice will stand you in good stead at all times.

**In keeping with** (consistent with, সামঞ্জস্যপূর্ণ) : What does he is hardly in keeping with what he says.

**In lieu of** (in stead of, প্রতিস্থাপন) : Mamun took up English in lieu of Bengali.

**In no time** (soon, তাপ্ত্যে) : Our captain will come here in no time.

**In spite of** (notwithstanding, অনুভৃতি না করে) : They went out in spite of the rain.

**In the long run** (ultimately, পরবর্তী কালে) : You will have to suffer in the long run for your conduct.

**In a dilemma** (don't know what to do, দুই পথের না করে) : He was in a dilemma because both the men were his relatives.

**In favour of** (to support someone, to work for someone, অনুগ্রহে, পক্ষে) : They canvassed in favour of my brother.

**In good faith** (with good and honest intent, সারল-বিশ্বাসে) : He told me every thing in good faith.
In order to (for the purpose of doing something, উদ্দেশ্যে) : We went there in order to meet the man.

In the guise (garb) of (in disguise of, জ্যোতিষে) : He told a great lie in the guise of an interesting story.

In the wake (train) of (just after, চিক পরে) : The police came in the wake of the accident.

Jack of all trades (someone who can do several different jobs instead of specializing in one, সবভার্তা] : The precious boy is a jack of all trades and master of none.

Keep body and soul together (to keep alive, কোনমতে বেঁচে থাকা) : This blind beggar has no means to keep body and soul together.

Look after (To take care of) : It is our responsibility to look after our parents.

Look for (To find) : What are you looking for?

Long for (To wish) : She longs for getting educated.

Maiden Speech (First lecture) : That was her maiden speech.

Make sure (To ensure) : Make sure that your daily food consists of all the important elements.

Null and void (to be cancelled) : The law has been null and void.

Odds and ends (stray things, টুকি টাকিজি) : Your brain is filled with all sorts of odds and ends.

On the brink of Or, On the verge of (very near to, অভিসর্ককাঠামো) : The gentle man is on the brink of ruin.

Oh behalf of (as representative of, পক্ষে) : Our captain will speak on behalf of our club.

On the contrary (on the other hand, rather than, পক্ষান্তরে) : I do not hate you, on the contrary I like you.

Of course (naturally, সেরা ত হই) : Kamal succeeded in life and was of course praised by all.

On the score of Or, On ground of (on account of, কারণে) : The clerk was dismissed on the score of his long absence from office.

One and all (everyone and separately, প্রত্যেকে) : The jurors, one and all declared him innocent.
Once in a while (rarely, কখনও কখনও) : My uncle comes to our house once in a while.

Once and again (frequently, একাধিকবার, প্রায়ই) : I warned him once and again not to go out.

Once for all (now and for the time, শেষবারের মতে) : He left his native land once for all.

Off and on (occasionally, মধ্যে মধ্যে) : My friend comes here off and on.

Of no avail (of no use, নিষ্কল) : My effort was of no avail.

Of late (recently, সম্প্রতি) : Of late Rahim has become very rich.

On the eve of (just before, প্রাকালে) : Mr. Dulal went to Dhaka on the eve of the puja vacation.

On pain of (subject to penalty of, শাস্তি ভর দেখাইয়া) : The man was forced to sign the document on pain of continued harassment.

On the point of (about to, অতি নিকটে) : The patient is now on the point of death.

On the look out for (looking for, সঙ্গে না) : Samal is on the look out for a job.

On the whole (generally speaking, মোটের উপর) : The boy's conduct was on the whole good.

Open secret (secret known to all, যে হউক রহস্য অনেকেই জানা) : It is an open secret that this police man takes bribes.

Out and out (fully, সম্পূর্ণরূপে) : Nazrul Islam was out and out a rebel poet.

Out of doors (in or into the open air, খোলা জায়গায়) : Boys were playing out of doors.

Out of gear (out of order, আচল) : War and famine throw human society out of gear.

Out of pocket (a loser, ঢাকা কড়িহাঁনা) : He is out of pocket by transaction.

Out of date (old fashion, সেকেলে) : The practice is now out of date.

Pull up (টেনে তোলা) : He cannot pull the stake up.

Prepared for (ঠিকিত) : I am prepared for the consequence.

Pass through (অতিক্রম করা) : He passed through Dhaka to reach Gazipur.

Pros and cons (স্বাধ্যায় ও বিপক্ষে যুক্তসমূহ) : I know the pros and cons of the plan.

Put down (লেখা) : You should put down the matter.

Put up with (সহ্য করা) : I cannot put up with this insult.
Red letter day (Memorable day) : 21st February is a red letter day in our history.

Run after (পিছনে ছুটা) : He ran after money.

Rule out (বাদ দেয়া) : The police have ruled out the suicide.

Salt of the earth (persons with very high qualities, পৃথিবীর শ্রেষ্ঠ ব্যক্তিগণ) : Men like vedyasagar and Lincoln were the salt of the earth.

Sheet anchor (the final support, শেষ অবলম্বন) : Alexander the Great’s Indian expedition is the sheet anchor of Indian chronology.

Sit on the fence (to remain neutral, নিরাপত্তা থাকা) : The man who sits on the fence is very often misunderstood.

Skin and bone (skeleton, অঙ্গ-চুম্বনা) : This disease has left my friend skin and bone.

Slow coach (a person who is slow in action, তুম্ব লোক) : You should not depend on a slow coach like him in such an urgent matter.

Snake in the grass (a secret foe, হরত শত্রু) : He suspects his friend, but is unconcerned about the snakes in the grass.

So to say or, so to speak (by the by, বলতে কি) : The head clerk is so to say all in this office.

Square meal (full meal, পৌরসভা আহার) : The poor in Bangladesh want only two square meals a day.

Stand to (to stick to, অনিচ্ছিলতা ভাবে লেগে থাকা) : My friend will ever stand to his promise.

Sum and substance (summary, সারমর্ম) : The sum and substance of his speech is this.

Storm in a tea-pot (to uproar about practically nothing, তুচ্ছ বিষয়ে গুরুত্ত বিক্রোধ) : She raised a storm in a tea pot over the loss of a handkerchief.

Safe and sound (safe and whole or healthy, without any danger, নিরাপত্তা) : The fighter plane bombed on the target and returned safe and sound.

Sum and substance (Gist) : I can’t understand the sum and substance of the poem.

Talk big (to boast, বড় বড় কথা বলা) : He talks big about himself.

Tall talk (high-sounding talk, বড় বড় কথা) : We should not rely upon a person who always indulges in tall talk.

Take heart (to be encouraged, উৎসাহিত হওয়া) : Mukul took heart at his teacher’s words.

Take to heart (to mortify, অন্তরে বাধা পাওয়া) : Mr. Khan took the insult to heart.
Take a fancy to (to like, পছন্দ হওয়া) : I took a fancy to his stick.

Take into account or consideration (to regard, বিবেচনার বিবর্ধিত করা) : While teaching the boys a teacher should take their age into account.

Tell upon (to affect, করদি করা) : His sleeplessness will tell upon his health.

The dogs of war (devastating activities, রহস্যাঘাত ও ধ্বংসাত্মক করা) : Nadir Shah let loose the dogs of war on Delhi.

Through and through (completely, সমপূর্ণভাবে) : He is wet through and through.

The three R's (elementary education, ন্যূনতম শিক্ষা) : The boy learns the three R's at home.

To a fault (excessively, মাত্রা ছাড়িয়ে) : She is generous to a fault.

To the contrary (in opposition, বিপরীতে) : He will come on Sunday unless you write him to the contrary.

To a T (nicely, সম্পূর্ণভাবে) : This new office suits me to a T.

Tooth and nail (desperately, উঠে পড়ে লাগা) : They fought tooth and nail for their right.

To the backbone (in the inmost being, হাড়ে হাড়ে) : This boy is wicked to the backbone.

To the letter (strictly, যথাযথভাবে) : Halem followed my instructions to the letter.

Turn tail (to escape, to run away, লেজ গুটান, পালিয়ে যাওয়া) : At last the pak army turned tail from Bangladesh.

Throw cold water (discourage, নিবৃত্ততার করা) : Nobody should throw cold water on the efforts of children.

Ups and downs (Rise and fall) : There are ups and downs in one's life.

W

Well off (Solvent) : The condition of their family is well off.

Weal and woe (Happiness and sorrow) : Weal and woe come by turns.

With a view to (In order to) : He went to Dhaka with a view to doing the work.

Worthy of (Qualified) : She is worthy of getting the prize.

Without fail (Surely) : He will come here without fail.