

IDIOMS

1. **Credited with:** Carthagians are still commonly credited with having salted Roman fields during the war. Wrong: Credited as, credited for
2. **Refuse A for B:** People can refuse social security payments in favor of private sources of income. Wrong: Refuse in favor of
3. **Subjunctive:** Procedure requires that he + verb in subjunctive form.
4. **Regarded as:** Brady is regarded as one of the greatest 19th century photographers. Wrong: Regarded to be.
5. **Consider:** Destruction of rain forests is considered a major threat to environment. Wrong: Considered as, Considered to be.
If the Object complement is far away from object, **use *consider to be***
6. **Prefer A to B:** I prefer Korean food to Japanese. Wrong: Prefer A over B.
7. **Exchange A for B:** He hopes to exchange money to mind. Wrong: Exchange with.
8. **Afflicted with:** He is afflicted with common cold. Wrong: Afflicted from.
9. **Each other / One another:** When two sides are involved then use each other or other, as in “refusal of each side to acknowledge the other as legitimate party is the core of the problem”. Use one another when more than two things involved.
10. **Just as...so**
11. **Warned of:** Patients should be warned of the potential risk of medicine. Wrong: Warned about.
12. **Believe X to be Y:** After seeing the flying saucer, I believe UFOs to be a real phenomenon. Wrong: believe X as Y.
13. **Care about:** Do not care about problems.
14. **Contrast A with B:** If you contrast my proposal with your’s then you will find that there is not much similarity.
15. **Compare A to B:** For dissimilar things
16. **Compare A with B:** For similar things
17. **Decide to / Decide on:** Decide to + verb: We decided to continue.
Decide on + noun: We decided on the new format.
18. **Different from:** New paper format is different from old one. Wrong: Diff. Than.
19. **That Aim to + verb:** Rules that aim to identify causes.
Aimed at + noun: I am aiming at my target.
20. **Debate over:** A debate over adequacy of current law. Wrong: Debate About
21. **Convince X to do something and Convince X that something is true.**
Both of these are correct idioms.

Tecumseh struggled to convince his fellow Shawnees, as well as the other Indian tribes, that they should unite against the white settlers rather than continue their separate wars. Tecumseh struggled to convince his fellow Shawnees, as well as the other Indian tribes, to unite against the white settlers.

22. **aid in:** I asked for god’s aid in doing things correctly.
Aid to is correct when you talk for financial help as in Aid to a.
Wrong: aid to do things correctly.
23. **Just as...:** Just as polio vaccine is given to every person to protect the few who might actually contract polio, mass dietary change is needed to protect the

significant number who are susceptible to the life-threatening effects of press eating habits.

24. Between A and B / Between: When we're talking about a one-to-one relationship between two groups, "between" is correct. Now imagine we still have those relationships, but multiplied. For example, diplomatic relations between countries or friendships between people.

Notice how the meaning would change for these:

Friendships among people...

Sounds like it could be a three-way friendship. 😊

Friendships between people.

Relations between countries...

Relations among countries...

Three-way (or more) again. 😊

25. EVIDENCE TO/ EVIDENCE OF:

You can provide evidence to a court, even enough evidence to convict someone; but the standard expression "is evidence of" requires "of" rather than "to" in sentences like this: "Driving through the front entrance of the Burger King is evidence of Todd's in experience in driving." If you could substitute "evidences" or "evidenced" in your sentence, you need "of."

26. EXPRESSES THAT/SAYS THAT:

"In her letter Jane expresses that she is getting irritated with me for not writing" should be corrected to "In her letter Jane says that. . .". You can express an idea or a thought, but you can't ever express that. In technical terms, "express" is a transitive verb and requires an object.

27. One FOR ONE/FOR ONE THING

People often say "for one" when they mean "for one thing": "I really want to go to the movie. For one, Kevin Spacey is my favorite actor." (One what?) The only time you should use "for one" by itself to give an example of something is when you have earlier mentioned a class to which the example belongs: "There are a lot of reasons I don't want your old car. For one, there are squirrels living in the upholstery." (One reason.)

Ideally if there is ambiguity in which noun one refers to then its better to make it explicit as in.

A natural response of communities devastated by earthquake or flood is to rebuild on the same site, overlooking that the forces that cause the disaster could cause another one. (This is wrong)

(Correct one is). ...communities devastated by earthquake or flood is to rebuild on the same site, without considering that the forces that caused the disaster could also cause another such disaster.

28. HARDLY NEVER/HARDLY EVER: The expression is "hardly ever."

29. IN REGARDS TO / WITH REGARD TO:

Business English is deadly enough without scrambling it. "As regards your downsizing plan . . ." is acceptable, if stiff. "In regard to . . ." is also correct. But don't confuse the two by writing "In regards to."

30. MOST ALWAYS/ALMOST ALWAYS: "Most always" is a casual, slangy way of saying "almost always." The latter expression is better in writing.

31. NO SOONER WHEN/NO SOONER THAN: The phrase, "No sooner had Paula stopped petting the cat when it began to yowl" should be instead, "No sooner had Paula stopped petting the cat than it began to yowl."

32. ONCE AND A WHILE/ONCE IN A WHILE: The expression is "once in a while."

33. Only : Writers often inadvertently create confusion by placing "only" incorrectly in a sentence. It should go immediately before the word or phrase it modifies. "I lost my only shirt" means that I had but one to begin with. "I lost only my shirt" means I didn't lose anything else. "Only I lost my shirt" means that I was the only person in my group to lose a shirt. Strictly speaking, "I only lost my shirt" should mean I didn't destroy it or have it stolen--I just lost it; but in common speech this is usually understood as being identical with "I lost only my shirt." Scrutinize your uses of "only" to make sure you are not creating unwanted ambiguities.

34. Ignorant of : He is ignorant of the fact. Not ignorant to. Ignorant of is correct.

35. Happen by accident : Things donot happen on accident, they happen by accident.

36. REGARD/REGARDS: Business English is deadly enough without scrambling it. "As regards your downsizing plan . . ." is acceptable, if stiff. "In regard to" "and "with regard to" are also correct. But "in regards to" is nonstandard. You can also convey the same idea with "in respect to" or "with respect to."

37. THINK ON/THINK ABOUT: An archaic form that persists in some dialects is seen in statements like "I'll think on it" when most people would say "I'll think about it."

38. Less on A than on B : The selection of paintings was based less on A than on B.

39. Costed more than it originally seemed they would

Researchers are studing plastics that dissolve at different rates, and they are finding that the so-called "quick disintegration" plastics are talking more time to deteriorate than they originally seemed.

A.

B. They seemed originally

C. It seemed that they would originally

D. It originally seemed

E. It originally seemed they would

E is best.

40. "Only" + a time expression in a clause, or only if:

(f) Only when Dr. Schiller has all the facts will he present his report to the committee.

(g) Only if John Hush is sure that he can win will he run for the job of senator.

41. Acclaimed as : An artistic presence of the first order, one frequently ranked with Picasso, Stravinsky, and James Joyce, Martha Graham was **acclaimed as** a great dancer long before her innovative masterworks made her the most honored of American choreographers.

42. Barely ...when

43. Hardly ...before

44. Scarcely ...when

45. No sooner ...than (when)

46. In addition to being A, B is also C.

In addition to being one of the first restaurants to combine Mediterranean and American tastes, Chez Panisse in Berkeley is also one of the Bay Area's most established restaurants.

47. Although: A negative aspect, positive reality

Even though: extreme form of although.

48. Despite: A positive aspect, negative reality.

In spite of : similar to despite.

49. So ...as to be

Wrong: Such ... as to be

1. **Several years ago the diet industry introduced a variety of appetite suppressants, but some of these drugs caused stomach disorders severe enough to have them banned by the Food and Drug Administration.**

(A) **stomach disorders severe enough to** have them

(B) stomach disorders that were severe enough so they were

(C) stomach disorders of such severity so as to be

(D) such severe stomach disorders that they were

(E) such severe stomach disorders as to b

D is correct answer.

50. Combine A with B

51. The exhibition of art from Nubians, the site of a Black civilization that goes back to the fourth millennium B.C., makes clear the Nubians combined artistic elements from Egypt to that of sub-Saharan Africa.

(A) the Nubians combined artistic elements from Egypt to that

(B) that the Nubians combined artistic elements from Egypt to that

(C) the Nubians combined artistic elements from Egypt with that

(D) that the Nubians combined artistic elements from Egypt with those

(E) that Nubians combined artistic elements from Egypt and those D is correct ans.

2. The Forbidden City in Beijing, from which the emperors ruled by heavenly mandate, was a site which a commoner or foreigner could not enter without any permission, on

(C) which no commoner or foreigner could enter without permission,

(E) which, to enter without permission, neither commoner or foreigner could do,

C is correct ans.

52. Grounds for : American conservatives have no valid ideological grounds for sympathising with the Pretoria regime

53. Help to: Help in ing form is wrong.

54. Concur in a decision : Concur with is wrong

55. Directive and order do not take that to connect the next clause.

As in directive prohibiting is correct but directive that prohibited is wrong.

Order to do is correct but order that is wrong.

56. Situation in which is better than situation where...

57. So adjective as to Such adjective as to is wrong.

58. Responsible for : Responsible to is wrong.

Sartre believed each individual is responsible to choose one course of action over another one, that it is the choice that gives value to the act, and that nothing that is not acted upon has value.

(A) each individual is responsible to choose one course of action over another one

(B) that each individual is responsible for choosing one course of action over another

(C) that each individual is responsible, choosing one course of action over another

(D) that each individual is responsible to choose one course of action over the other

(E) each individual is responsible for choosing one course of action over other ones

59. Worried about : Worried over is wrong

Administration worried over the impact of new policy on the workforce set up a committee to look the matter in details.

60. Crucial in

The debate over bilingual education centers on the issue of whether the United States should foster the idea of single common language, an idea, some believe, that has in the past been crucial in binding diverse constituencies together.

(A) been crucial in binding diverse constituencies together

(B) been crucial as a binding together of diverse constituencies

(C) been crucial to bind together constituencies that are diverse

(D) become crucial in binding together diverse constituencies

(E) become crucial to bind together constituencies that are diverse A is correct ans.

61. Contributed to + noun:

School integration plans that involve busing between suburban and central-city areas have contributed, according to a recent study, to significant increases in housing integration, which, in turn, reduces

(E) significantly increase housing integration, which, in turn, reduce

62. Consequence of :

A common disability in test pilots is hearing impairment, a consequence of sitting too close to large jet engines for long periods of time.

(A) a consequence of sitting too close to large jet engines for long periods of time

(B) a consequence from sitting for long periods of time too near to large jet engines

- (C) a consequence which resulted from sitting too close to large jet engines for long periods of time
- (D) damaged from sitting too near to large jet engines for long periods of time
- (E) damaged because they sat too close to large jet engines for long periods of time

A is correct ans. and fine.

63. Depict something as something

64. Expected to

The Commerce Department announced that the economy grew during the second quarter at a 7.5 percent annual rate, while inflation eased when it might have been expected for it to rise

- (E) there might have been an expectation it would rise

65. Prohibiting A from doing B

Wisconsin, Illinois, Florida, and Minnesota have begun to enforce statewide bans prohibiting landfills to accept leaves, brush, and grass clippings.

- (A) prohibiting landfills to accept leaves, brush, and grass clippings
- (B) prohibiting that landfills accept leaves, brush, and grass clippings
- (C) prohibiting landfills from accepting leaves, brush, and grass clippings
- (D) that leaves, brush, and grass clippings cannot be accepted in landfills
- (E) that landfills cannot accept leaves, brush, and grass clippings

66. Sales of

Q.32: At the annual stockholders meeting, investors heard a presentation on the numerous challenges facing the company, including among them the threat from a rival's multibillion-dollar patent-infringement suit and the declining sales for the company's powerful microprocessor chip.

- A. including among them the threat from a rival's multibillion-dollar patent-infringement suit and the declining sales for
- B. which includes the threat of a rival's multibillion-dollar patent-infringement suit and declining sales of
- C. included among these the threat from a rival's multibillion-dollar patent-infringement suit as well as a decline in sales for
- 20
- D. among them the threat of a rival's multibillion-dollar patent-infringement suit and the decline in sales of
- E. among these the threat from a rival's multibillion-dollar patent-infringement suit as well as the decline in sales for

B is correct

67. Even though is better than **even if** but even if is not wrong

Distinguished architecture requires the expenditure of large sums of money, even if it is by no means certain that the expenditure of large sums of money produce distinguished architecture.

- (A) even if it is by no means certain that the expenditure of large sums of money

produce

- (B) even if it is by no means certain that the expenditure of large sums of money will produce
 - (C) even though there is no certainty that the expenditure of money in large sums produces
 - (D) even though it is by no means certain that the expenditure of large sums of money produces
 - (E) though there is no certainty as to the expenditure of money in large sums producing
- D is ans.

68. in which

Idioglossia is a phenomenon, incompletely understood at best, where two persons develop a unique and private language with highly original vocabulary and syntax.

- (A) where two persons develop a unique and private language with
- (B) when two persons develop a unique and private language having
- (C) in which two persons have unique and private language development with
- (D) having two persons who develop a unique and private language that has
- (E) in which two persons develop a unique and private language with

69. To keep it from: Mean to avoid something being done on it.

70. Nor

Neither (A or B), nor C !!! also, not (A or B), nor C is fine too.

71. Concerned for / Concerned with

Concerned for = worried or anxious.

Concerned with = related to.

so the correct one should be "*He is concerned for investor relations* "

This is concerned with investor relations is probably the right usage.

72. Crises is the plural of crisis

73. x forbids y to do z

74. Not x but rather y

75. Distinguish between X and Y for two very dissimilar items

76. Distinguish X from Y for similar items

77. Blame A on B

Analysts blamed May's sluggish retail sales on unexciting merchandise as well as the weather

78. As likely as

79. During particular time period

80. Noun + was + adjective

81. As such

82. X has half the chance that Y has

83. Afraid of is correct and afraid by is wrong.

84. Met with

85. Integrate A into B

IDIOM LIST

abide by
close by
versed in
wanting in
abound in
confide in
deficient in
interfere in
join in
lost in
pride in
identical with
interfere with
trifle with
reconciled with
overwhelmed with
part with
compete with
comply with
conversant with
bear with
abounds with
acquainted with
agree with
refrain from
relief from
part from
prohibited from
estranged from
differ from
abstain from
wedded to
testify to
stop to
submit to
subscribe to
reconciled to
partial to
limit to
jump to
keep to
indebted to
fancy to
due to
close to
commend to
acceptable to
addicted to
agree to
anxious to
sure of
remind of
repent of
run of
impatient of
inform of
inquire of
hopeful of
fond of
deaf of

despair of
dispose of
complain of
confident of
acquitted of
adapt of
hit upon
decide upon
agree upon
touch at
puzzled at
indignant at
get at
grumble at
call at
amazed at
arrive at
anxious about
zealous for
zest for
thankful for
reputation for
qualified for
partiality for
match for
long for
gift for
grateful for
fascination for
fit for
eligible for
call for
craving for
cure of for
bound for
keep up
bring up
murmur against
prejudice against
warned against
come across
run out of
get over
brood over
smile on
run on
keen on
hard on
call on
commend on
enticed into
fell under
inquire after
hanker after
look upto