

## FROM MAGOOSH GMAT BLOG: Complete Guide to GMAT Idioms

<https://magoosh.com/gmat/verbal/idioms/complete-guide-to-gmat-idioms/>

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### Top 10 GMAT Idioms List

On the GMAT, very few concepts are more daunting than idioms, even for native speakers. There are several reasons for this. First off, there are hundreds of them to memorize. Secondly, and related to the first point, many are arbitrary. The correct answer choice isn't always clear.

[] Of course you do not need to learn the history of idioms, simply which idioms are likely to show up on the GMAT, especially in [Sentence Correction](#).

Even then, not all 500 possible idioms are weighted equally. There are a few common idiomatic expressions more likely to show up than others. So without further ado, here is our list of the top 10 GMAT idiom types—take a look at the eBook for a complete list of idioms to guide your studies!

#### 1. **Require that X be Y**

Example: The new regulations require that prospective employees be subjected to rigorous screening.

#### 2. **Estimate to be**

Example: The fossils are estimated to be more than 65 million years old.

#### 3. **Prohibit X from Y**

Example: The ban will prohibit those without adequate documentation from purchasing guns.

#### 4. **Believe X to be Y**

Example: Astrophysicists believe the recent disturbances in radio transmissions to be a result of solar flares.

#### 5. **Consider X Y (no 'to be')**

Example: Most musicologists consider Joseph Haydn the father of the sonata.

#### 6. **X expected to Y**

Example: Tax rates are expected to increase next year.

#### 7. **Not only...but also...**

Example: Idioms are not only difficult to memorize but are also easy to mix up.

#### 8. **Neither...nor...**

Example: Studies show that neither studying alone nor studying in groups is optimal.

#### 9. **Just as...so too...**

*NOTE: You can also use this idiom without the "too."*

Example: Just as caffeine can boost arousal so too can vigorous walking.

#### 10. **Prefer X to Y**

Example: The blue macaw prefers lush tropical habitats to the dry climate found in the southeastern part of Brazil.