

GMAT Idiom List

a debate over	fascinated by
a lot	forbid X to do Y
a responsibility to	identical with
a result of	in contrast to
a sequence of	independent from
agree with	indifferent towards
as an instance of	modeled after
as good as/or better than	(no) more...than/(no) less...than
as great as	more than ever
as good as...or better than	neither...nor
as much as	not only...but also
attend to (someone)	not so much...as
attribute X to Y/X is attributed	prohibits X from doing Y
to Y	potential to
based on	range from X to Y
believe X to be Y	regard as
both X and Y	regardless
centers on	responsible for
concerned with	resulting in
conform to	retroactive to
created with	so X as to be Y
defined as	so (adjective) that
depends on whether	subscribe to
depicted as	such...as
different from/differ from	the same to X as to Y
distinguishes between X and Y	to contrast X with Y
distinguish from	to mistake X for Y
doubt that	to result in
either...or	to sacrifice X for Y
enable to	

A	
able + infinitive	Tom is able to play the guitar with his toes.

access to	Steve never has access to his dad's bank account.
as	Tom acts as a scout for GQ here in South America.
agree on + noun	We agreed on the plan.
agree on + gerund	We agreed on going to town.
agree to	We agreed to go away.
aid + person/thing	The magnifying glass aided his search.
allows for	Your schedule does not allow for much time.
appeal to	He wants to appeal to my good sense.
*as....as	She is as tired as I am.
ask + infinitive	He asked to go home.
ask + person + infinitive	He asked me to go home.
*associate with	We never associate with Steve – he is far too tacky!
*attribute to	His tackiness can be attributed to too many comic books as a child.
B	
*base on	I think that the movie Star Wars is based on a true story.
begin + infinitive	It soon began to rain.
boom in	There was a boom in the sale of yellow polka-dot bikinis as soon as Natalia Paris tried one on.
built by	The Avro Arrow was built by proud Canadians.
C	
care about	Who cares about that?
care for	I don't care for your tone.
centers on + person/thing	The story centers on the struggle for meaning in a chaotic universe.
choose + infinitive	I do it because I choose to do it.
to be + composed of + thing	The atom is composed of various parts.
consistent with	Your story is not consistent with Joel's story.
contend that	Joel contends that you are lying.
*consider + person/thing	I consider you a friend.
continue + infinitive	If you continue to do that we will not be friends.
contrast A with B	If you contrast Bill with you Bob, you find....
convert to	
*compare A to B	

*compare A with B *count on + person/thing to credit with give credit for D are in danger of + gerund decide + infinitive decide on + thing/person delighted by depend on *different from difficult + infinitive disclose to + person/organization *distinguish between X and Y *distinguish X from Y draw on (take out) draw + thing to be drawn to + thing/person *dream of/about dwindle from E easy to elect to elect + person emerges from *enable + person + infinitive *encourage + person + infinitive	The new device will convert matter to energy. Caliban is compared to a beast in Shakespeare's The Tempest. (compare to stresses similarities). Compared with you, I cannot sing well at all. (compare with stresses differences). I count on you for the correct answers. Columbus is credited with discovering the Americas. I have to give you credit for working so hard. The robber was in danger of being captured. We decided to leave the party early. We decided on the all-meat pizza. Steve was delighted by the new findings. Steve depends on Joel for financial support. Canadians are very different from Americans. Steve finds it difficult to dance to Latin music. Joel decided to disclose to the world the truth about Steve's crazy ideas. I want to distinguish between London and Paris. If you distinguish London from Paris.... Unlike Felix, Steve can draw on funds from Joel's bank account. The tattoo artist drew a lovely flower on Joel's left bicep. Women are drawn to Steve's bulging muscles. Natalia Paris often dreams about Steve. Mr. Bolton's bank account dwindled from one thousand dollars to less than half that in less than a week. It's easy to see why Mark is so popular. Mark will be elected to the Congress in 2016.
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escape from	We elected Steve as our office "gopher".
to be + essential to + person/thing	The snail emerges from its shell.
except for + person/thing	My job enables me to travel.
except for + gerund	We encouraged him to paint.
explain to	Steve wishes to escape from grinding poverty.
expose to	Coffee is essential to me, especially in the morning.
F	Everyone is here except for the teacher.
fail to	Except for being handsome, he wasn't very special.
flee from	Juan explained to Steve the difference between salsa and merengue.
*forbid to	Steve is exposed to intense ridicule every day of his life.
force + thing/person + infinitive	
focus on + thing/person	
G	We fail to see the humor in these sentences.
get credit for/give credit for	Steve fled from their sharp criticisms.
grow from	We forbid you to go.
	This mishap forces me to plan ahead.
grow out of	I want to focus on our mutual problem.
H	
help + thing/person + infinitive	I have to give you credit for your good work.
I	Joel predicts that Test Tutor will grow from a small company to a major multinational within five years.
indicate that	Steve grew out of his overalls just last year.
indicate to + person	
inherit from	Music helps me to think.
invest in	
L	Studies indicate that people with gray hair are smarter than the majority.
leads to	Steve's constant worrying over his gray hair indicates to me a serious self-esteem problem.
localized in	Steve inherits his gray hair from his mother's family.
M	

Manage to	Steve should invest in hair dye.
*make + thing/person + verb (simple form)	Lack of exercise leads to obesity.
*mistake + thing/person + for	The pain is localized in my left foot.
N	You've managed to screw this up again, Steve.
*native to	Chocolate makes me think of Switzerland.
*a native of	I'm sorry. I mistook you for someone else.
need to	
to be + necessary + infinitive	Penguins are native to the Antarctic.
O	Steve is a native of Canada.
Originate in	Steve needs to think of some better sentences.
P	It is necessary to be creative.
*permit + thing/person + infinitive	Liberalism, as we know it, originated in 17th century England.
prized as	
prized for	Money permits us to live a comfortable life.
*prohibit from + gerund	Stephen is prized as a teacher in Bogota.
promise of + thing	Stephen is prized for his ability to dance the salsa.
promise to	In school, we were prohibited from fighting.
published by	The promise of success drove us to the mountain's peak.
published in	
R	I promise to tell the truth more often – I swear.
*range from X to Y	Joel's first novel Love and the GMAT is published by ETS.
refer to	Steve's first novel will be published in March.
*regard as	
require + thing/person + infinitive	His clients range from multinationals to the smallest businesses.
resemble + thing/person	I wish to refer to the latest work by Foucault....
results in	She is regarded as an expert.
results from	My work requires me to travel.
rivalry between X and Y	
*the rivals X and Y	Steve resembles a young Charles Atlas.

S Save for save from seek + infinitive seek + thing/person seem + infinitive sleep with speak to + person speak with + person T Take advantage of teach + person + infinitive teach + person + thing tell + person tie to transmit to U Use + person/thing + infinitive used + infinitive to be + used to + gerund <u>W</u> to be + willing + infinitive	Rough play often results in injuries. Injuries often result from rough play. The rivalry between Joel and Enrique Iglesias is legendary. The rivals Enrique and Joel quarreled often. Save for that inconvenience, the trip was a success. They saved me from another boring party. He seeks to save your soul. I seek the truth. You seem to be sleepy today. I can sleep with whoever I want! I spoke to my secretary about the report I wanted. I spoke with my colleague about the upcoming report. Steve loves to take advantage of those around him. She taught Jim to dance. She taught Jim the lambada. She told him that he was a terrible dancer. The rope is tied to the chair. We transmitted the e-mail to him. I use a light to read. Years ago, he used to walk every day to work. He is used to walking to work. Fortunately, he was willing to help us.
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The bare minimum that you should do is make sure that you are familiar with all those marked with *. This page would certainly be worth printing out to have to hand when you are practising GMAT questions. Remember to add any other idiomatic expressions.

IIa GMAT idioms

Differ from Regard as(to be regarded as) "Consider" never takes "to be" on the GMAT? dispute whether(not"if") They do not know X or Y(not "nor") Do something at the urging of somebody To be under pressure to Just as,,,,,so Forbid to : prohibit from So,,,,,as to -so large as to equal To have potential to So as not to be hindered by Insist that Capable of	X is related to Y(not X is in realtion to Y) Discourage from Like to be at? Respond to Be encouraged by Require that something be (not "are/is") Request that The body did as he was told(not"like") As far/long as For millenium(not "during" millenium) As much with X as with Y Enough that Need for Which compiled with standards
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PR Idioms

Not so much ,, as	A debate over	As good as, or better than
Defined as	A responsibility to	Attribute to
Regard as	Responsible for	Credited with
Modeled after	A consequence of	Different from
Based on	So ,,,, as to be	Depicted as
A result of	So (adjective)that	To result in

able to, ability to, accede to, according to, account for, accuse of , acquaint with, agree with, allow for, amount to, appear to, apply to, argue over, as ___ as, associate with, assure that, at a disadvantage, attempt to, attend to, attention to, attest to, attribute to, available to, afflicted with, argue with, averse to, ask of, agree to, angry at

based on, because of, believe to be, between [a] and [b], call for, craving for, choice of, choose from, choose to, claim to, collaborate with, conclude that, consequence of, consider, consistent with, continue to, contrast with, contribute to, convert to, cost to/of, credit with, comply with, conform to, consider to be, composed of, compare with/to, consist in, consist with, consist of, correspond to, correspond with

date from, deal with, debate over, decide to, defend against, define as, delighted by, demonstrate that, depend on, depict as, descend from, different from, difficult to, distinguish [a] from [b], draw on, due to, desirous of, divergent from, decide on, [in an] effort to, eitherâ€|or, enamored with, encourage to, estimate to be, expose to, extend to, extent of, equal, equal to, fear that, fluctuations in, forbid to, force to, frequency of, from [a] to [b], fail in

hypothesize that, in contrast to, in danger of, in order to, in violation of, inclined to, infected with, instead of, introduce to, isolate from, intent to, in search of, inside, just asâ€|so too, less than, likely to, liken to

mistake for, model after, more than, move away from, meet with, meet, [a] native of, native to, neitherâ€|nor, not [a] but [b], not onlyâ€|but also, not so muchâ€|as, necessity of, necessity for, name, on account of, opportunity for, opportunity to, opposed to, opposite of, ought to, off

prejudiced against, permit to, persuade to, predisposed to, pressure to, prevent from, prized by, prohibit from, protect against, provide with, preferable to, prior to, partake of, practice for, practice to, practice of, question whether, range from [a] to [b], rather than, regard as, replace with, require to, required of, [the] responsibility to, responsible for, result from, result in, rule that, result of

[the] same as, see as, send to, sense of soâ€|that, spend on, subject to, substitute [a] for [b], suffer from, superior to, supplant by, suspicious of, sympathy for, sympathize with, separate from, target at, think ofâ€|as, threaten to, train to, transit to, try to, type

of, tamper with, tie to, try to, tend, tend to, use as, [the] use of, view as, vote for, visit,
willing to, worry about