# American Idiom Project



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## What is an idiom?

An idiom is a group of words in a language that has a special meaning that is very different from the usual meanings of the individual words.

### For example:

**A:** What are your plans for the summer?

**B:** Oh, I don’t know. I might get a job at the beach or else I’ll take a computer class. I’m really not sure yet. Right now, it’s ***up in the air*.**

### Your job:

1. For this project you may work individually or with one or two classmates. First, choose an idiom by browsing the websites listed. Write the idiom and its definition here:

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**Websites:**

[**http://a4esl.org/q/h/idioms.html**](http://a4esl.org/q/h/idioms.html)

[**http://www.1-language.com/eslidioms/index.htm**](http://www.1-language.com/eslidioms/index.htm)

[**http://www.eslmania.com/students/idioms/Business\_idioms.htm**](http://www.eslmania.com/students/idioms/Business_idioms.htm)

[**http://www.goenglish.com/Idioms.asp**](http://www.goenglish.com/Idioms.asp)

[**http://www.idiomconnection.com/**](http://www.idiomconnection.com/)

[**http://www.idiomsite.com/**](http://www.idiomsite.com/)

[**http://www.learn4good.com/languages/evrd\_idioms/id-b.htm**](http://www.learn4good.com/languages/evrd_idioms/id-b.htm)

[**http://www.speak-read-write.com/idiom.html**](http://www.speak-read-write.com/idiom.html)

[**http://www.teacherjoe.us/Idioms01.html**](http://www.teacherjoe.us/Idioms01.html)

[**http://www.usingenglish.com/reference/idioms/**](http://www.usingenglish.com/reference/idioms/)

1. Now, write a dialog of two or more people that uses the idiom. Either the idiom or the dialog must be related to one of the following topics: work, business, careers, college, studying, English, travel, tourism, vacations. The content needs to be appropriate for the class.

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1. Now create a ***digital drama*** for the dialog. You can use drawings, photos, video, etc. You can use any of the following sources (or other that you know of – just tell the instructor):

* PowerPoint
* Movie Maker
* [Photobucket](http://photobucket.com)
* Make an online animated digital film at [Dvolver moviemaker](http://dfilm.com/moviemaker/index.html) (create online animated digital film)
* [Digital Films](http://www.digitalfilms.com/) (online animated digital film)
* Make a comic strip at[Make Belief Comix](http://www.makebeliefscomix.com/) or [Pimpampum - Bubblr](http://www.pimpampum.net/bubblr/index.php)

In the drama, depending on the technical tool you use, you can either record your voices saying the lines of the dialog or you can use speech bubbles or captions. You may use music and sound effects, as appropriate, and as the technical tool you choose allows. At the end of the drama, you need to also include the definition of the idiom. ***The instructor will show you samples.***

1. You (and your teammates) will present your idiom drama to the class. In class, we will vote for the following categories:

* **Best Technical Project**



* **Best Original Project**
* **Best Comedic Project**
* **Best Dramatic Project**

Winners will be presented awards!