Idiom: a group of words established by usage as having a meaning not deducible from those of the individual words

Example: Throwing in the towel demonstrates giving up, not actually throwing a towel.

Clarification:

Idioms although they are often confused with similes are very different. The difference between idioms and similes is that similes are a figure of speech showing the comparison between one thing and another. Whereas an idiom shows the meaning of something that is not apparent.

Examples:

Cut corners: doing something badly in order to save money

A penny for your thoughts: asking what someone is thinking about you could instead say, “I’d like to hear your thoughts on the matter”

At the drop of a hat: doing something without any hesitation

Throw in the towel: give up

Sit on the fence: be undecided, unwilling to make a choice or decision

Heard it through the grapevine: heard it indirectly

Back to the drawing board: starting over when an original plan fails instead you could say, “time to begin again”

Best of both worlds: receiving all the advantages of multiple situations

Cats out of the bag: a secret is out, everyone knows, it is no longer a secret instead you could say, “the secret has been revealed”

Actions speak louder than words: Action is judged more than their words.

Blessing in disguise: A good thing that happen that isn't obvious at first

Cry over spilt milk: Complaining about something that previously happened. You could say, “Don’t be upset about things of the past”

Every cloud has a silver lining: every bad situation has a good point

Hot potato: a current issue often disputed

Tomato tomatoe: basically the same thing

Bad Sentences vs. Good Sentences

Bad Sentences and Replacement Sentences

Bad: He felt sick as a dog, the lunchroom cut corners buying expired ground beef.

Good: Feeling nauseous he cursed the cafeteria, wondering why they would serve rancid meat to save money.

Bad: “Don’t cry over spilled milk,” Andrew remarked, “the cats already out of the bag.”

Good: “Don't worry about the past,” Andrew remarked, “the secret is already out.”

Song:

An idiom's an expression that cannot be understood from the meaning of its separate

words but has a separate meaning of its own

Different from a metaphor or simile because foreigners can understand those if they're said to them with no background

And if you want to know about idioms then listen to this simple song I wrote to take your strife away

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If you're in desperate need

Ask for examples and you will receive

I heard it through the grapevine Every cloud has a silver lining

Add insult to injury Barking up the wrong tree

Now it's time to hit the hay Keep something at bay

It takes two to tango Hot potato

Curiosity killed the cat At the drop of a hat

Idioms can be such fun but thy don't really get it done

Just to remind you of what an idiom's made to do

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