IDIOMS

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

1) A hot potato: speak of an issue which many people are talking about and which is usually disputed

2) A penny for your thoughts: a way of asking what someone is thinking

   -Replacement: What are you thinking?

3) Actions speak louder than words: people’s intentions can be better judged by what they do than by what they say

    -What you do about it is better than what you say about it

4) Add insult to injury: to make a bad situation worse

   -Replacement: Make it worse than it already is

5) An arm and a leg: very expensive

   -Replacement: That costs a lot

6) At the drop of a hat: without any hesitation

7) Ball is in your court: it's up to you to make the next decision

    -Replacement: it's your turn to make this decision

8) Barking up the wrong tree: looking in the wrong place

     -Replacement: Not looking in the right place

9) Best of both worlds: all of the advantages

10) Best thing since sliced bread: a good invention or idea

       -Replacement- That's a really good idea

11) Blessing in disguise: something good that isn't recognized at first

12) Don't judge a book by it’s cover: don't judge something based only on its appearance

      -Don't judge a person based on first impressions

13) Devil’s advocate: to present a counter argument

14) Jump on the bandwagon: join a popular trend

       -Replacement: Do what everyone else is doing

15) Kill two birds with one stone: accomplish two different things at once

Sentences:

When the boy fell and embarrassed himself, his knee hurting only added insult to injury. The medical expenses cost him an arm and a leg.

Revision

When the boy fell on the basketball court and embarrassed himself, his hurt knee only made the situation worse. The medical expenses alone cost him too much money.

When she asked her mom for help with a decision, the only advice she got was “the ball is in your court”. When she asked her father, “a penny for your thoughts?” He gave her good advice.

Revision

When she asked her mom for help with a decision, the only advice she got was “it’s up to you.” When she asked her father’s opinion, he gave her sound advice.