

PHRASES OF THE WEEK – (25 April 2016 to 30 April 2016)

1. In the red (idiom)

Meaning: experiencing the situation of spending more money than you earned; in debt; having net losses.

Origin: From the practise of using red ink to denote debt or losses on financial balance sheet. Idiom originated in early 1900s.

Synonyms: at a loss, in the hole, insolvent, in arrears

Antonyms: in the black (for those who are financially solvent)

Sentences:

1. The figures are going to be in the red this year.
2. Tourism is down and many hotels are operating in the red.
3. The phone company found itself about 5 million in the red.
4. His business is in the red.
5. I am in the red.
6. There was a gloomy mood in the upper halls of management when the news came that after all our efforts we are still in the red.

2. In the driver's seat- (idiom)

Meaning: in control of a situation, in charge of things

Synonyms: command, control, head, saddle, reins, helm, seat of authority, throne, wheel etc.

Antonyms: obey, follow, deny, forgo, frustrate, mismanage, refuse, neglect, leave etc.

Sentences:

1. Huge demand has put the company in the driver's seat.
2. Sitting in the driver's seat, he proved his worth.
3. After his father's death, he should be in the driver's seat of the family.
4. In a few days after joining the company as an officer, she was in the driver's seat.

3. Ahead of the curve

Meaning: Having done more than necessary

Synonyms: Innovator, pioneer, scout

Sentences:

1. I have reached ahead of the curve, playing with my team.
2. We are continuously looking for ways to stay ahead of the curve and provide added value to our customers.
3. Raj makes it his business to be ahead of the curve in academics.

4. Go the extra mile

Meaning: make a special effort to achieve something

Synonyms: devote, dedicate, persevere, sweat, commit

Antonyms: idleness, neglect, passivity, inactivity, abstention

Sentences:

- It is high time to go the extra mile in your academics.
- President Reagan pledged at a news conference today to go the extra mile to compromise with Democrats.
- He is always willing to go the extra mile to do things right.
- They always go the extra mile to make sure their customers are satisfied.
- She is such a dynamic teacher as she goes the extra mile to make her students understand.

5. Hit The Nail On The Head

Meaning : to describe exactly what is causing a situation or problem

Origin : First recorded in 1529, although no one is certain when it was first used.

Synonyms : clean-out, distinct, exact, on target, precise, bull's eye, unique, characteristic

Antonyms : general, indefinite, vague, uncertain

Sentences :

1. You have spotted the flaw, Shally you hit the nail on the head.
2. Your boss likes you because you have a way of always hitting nail on the head.
3. Wow, you hit the nail on the head. How did you know that?
4. I think Mohan hit the nail on the head when he said that what's lacking in this company is a feeling of confidence.
5. Leaders have the quality of hitting the nail on the head.

6. No Strings Attached

Meaning: without limit, no special demand or limit that you have to accept

Origin: This idiom is directly tied to 18th century fabric merchant

Synonyms: complete, free, full, no catch, no fine, unconditional, unlimited, pure, sheer

Antonyms: accountable, circumscribed, limited, restricted, tractable

Sentences :

1. The donation has no strings attached, so the charity can use the money for whatever purpose it chooses.
2. Many special offers come with strings attached, so be aware of this before you buy.
3. Danny said he'd do your chores today, no strings attached.
4. Contact us and ask for a budget without obligation we will give it to you with no strings attached.
5. Since then Beijing has often offered its support to Islamabad in the way of economic assistance, but also with no strings attached military aid.

7. Put the cart before the horse

Meaning:

1. To have things in the wrong order; to have things confused and mixed up.
2. To put things in the wrong order or with the wrong priorities; to put something inconsequential as more important than something more essential.

Sentences:

1. "No one wants to put the cart before the horse and focus on the Olympics when nationals are coming up," Coughlin said.
2. AAP has no answer to this putting the cart before the horse initiative.
3. You have put the cart before the horse by eating your dessert first.
4. Deciding what to wear before you've even been invited to the party is rather putting the cart before the horse, isn't it?
5. John puts the cart before the horse in most of his projects.

8. GO THROUGH THE ROOF

Meaning:

1. (of prices or figures) reach extreme or unexpected heights.
2. suddenly become very angry.

Synonyms:

Increase, go up, go mad

Sentences:

1. When I was expelled from school, my parents went through the roof.
2. Share prices have gone through the roof in the last six months.
3. My father went through the roof when he saw what I did to the car.
4. Police says the crime rate in our area has gone through the roof.
5. Marge went through the roof when she heard she'd been fired.
6. After the war, food prices went through the roof.