

Word of the week
(23rd April 2018 to 29th April 2018)

Std : V

To Cut Corners (Verb)

Meaning: do something the cheapest or easiest way.

Origin: Mid 19th Century.

Synonyms: be prudent, manage, and cut down.

Antonyms: spend, squander, and throw away.

Sentences:

1. There is always a temptation to cut corners when time is short.
2. Don't try to cut corners when you're decorating.
3. Operators who to cut corners will get a licence for only 12 years.
4. Mr Cocks always to cut corners in the arrangement that he made.

Std VI

Foaming at the Mouth (Verb)

Meaning: Be uncontrollably angry, display furious rage.

Origin: This phrase likely originates from viruses, such as rabies, that can cause literal foaming at the Mouth. This idiom is at least 400 years old.

First used: In 1601, William Shakespeare used this common expression in the play "Julius Caesar".

Synonyms: go berserk, run mad

Sentences

1. That boy is so angry, just look at him, he's foaming at the mouth and throwing things around.
2. She is foaming at the mouth when she heard of her child's misdeeds.
3. The boss was foaming at the mouth when the team could not deliver the work on time.
4. She was foaming at the mouth when she heard that the decision had gone against her.

Std VII

All greek to me (Idiom)

Meanings: Something that you do not understand.

Origin : The earliest reference to this phrase is from Medieval Latin.

First use : This phrase was first used by monk scribes in the middle ages.

Synonyms: Complex, vague, complicated.

Antonyms: Clear, easy, obvious.

Sentences

1. He explained me about the evolution of earth but it was all Greek to me.
2. My friend tried explaining how to fix a problem on my computer, but it was all Greek to me

Std VIII

A chip on your shoulder (Phrase)

Meaning: (informal) an ingrained feeling of resentment deriving from a sense of inferiority and sometimes marked by aggressive behavior.

Origin: 'a chip on one's shoulder' is reported as originating in the 19th century; it refers to the US practice of spoiling for a fight by carrying a chip of wood on one's shoulder, challenging others to knock it off.

Synonyms: aggressive, antagonistic, argumentative, bellicose, combative, defiant, petulant etc.

Antonyms: nice, easy going, laid-back, kind etc.

Sentences:

1. Having a chip on his shoulder, he picks up fights with his class mates.
2. Don't feel to have a chip on your shoulder for someone criticizing you.
3. She has a chip on her shoulder for not being invited in the function.
4. The girl has a chip on her shoulder for her poor upbringing.

Std IX

Sitting Duck (Noun)

Meaning: A person or a thing with no protection against an attack or other source of danger.

Origin : First half of 1900s.

First use : Phrase has come from 'hunting'.

Synonyms: helpless, powerless, indefensible, unprotected, vulnerable, victim, target.

Antonyms: Strong, able, protected, guarded, and powerful.

Sentences:

1. The reason he is a sitting duck is that the insurance that he carries is compulsory.
2. The helicopter is a sitting duck unless we already have air superiority.
3. I don't intend to remain here like a sitting duck while he comes and clobbers us.

Std X

Jumping the gun (Verb)

Meaning: Start something too soon or early, especially without thinking do something before it should be done act before the proper time begin something before preparations are complete

Main Entry: jumped the gun.

Origin: This phrase originated from track and field races and was known since the early 1900s. It refers to athletes starting the race before the gun was fired (which was used to signal to start of the race). This phrase was preceded in America by "beat the gun".

Synonyms: Beat someone to the punch, beat the gun.

Sentences:-

1. The media jumped the gun and gave out their verdict of the scandal even before the investigation was complete.
2. I don't want to jump the gun and give out my conclusions until I have all the information required.
3. He jumped the gun and booked a seat for me even before I had confirmed that I was coming.
4. I think he jumped the gun when he made that investment without doing proper research first.
5. The new executive jumped the gun by sending out the appointment letter too soon.

Std XI

In the red (Phrase)

Meaning: Losing money or being in debt.

Origin: This phrase originates from the practice of using red ink to signify a financial loss. Thus, a business that is "in the red," is a company that is losing money. It is used during the early 1900s.

Synonyms: In debt, bankrupt, insolvent.

Antonyms: in the black

Sentences:

1. State government has been operating *in the red* for five straight years.
2. What with all those car repairs, we're going to be *in the red* this month .

Std XII

Kangaroo Court (Noun)

Meaning: A military court that ignores recognized standards of law or justice, and often carries little or no official standing in the territory within which it resides.

Origin : A kangaroo court has never been court by or for kangaroo. Not much is known about its origin. Perhaps they got their name because they were initially marked by rapid and unpredictable movement from one place to another.

Synonyms: Impromptu court, mock court, tribunal, judicature.

Antonyms: Refrain.

Sentences-

1. Time will pass and those who organized this *kangaroo court* will find themselves in the dock.
2. They have since had to appear before *a kangaroo court* and have been fined \$40.