

The Learning Centre

Speaking Skills

Idioms

An **idiom** is a phrase that means something other than its literal meaning. Idioms are frequently used in spoken English language, although it is informal to use idioms in academic writing. Nonetheless, you may want to understand what certain idioms mean when they are used in spoken language. In order to understand

literal

meaning and its *intended meaning*.

Here is an example:

piece of cake

piece of cake. However, this is not what John truly means. Instead, the intended test was easy.

Try this!

Write a paragraph using 5-8 of the following idioms:

white on rice

a dime a doze(~~on~~ ice