



Important Idioms & Phrases

1. Decked up

Meaning: put on special clothes to appear particularly appealing and attractive

Example: When the consultation began in the evening, the mausoleum of former Chief Minister Jayalalithaa on the Marina was decked up with flowers

2. Doing the rounds

Meaning: to be passed from one person to another

Example: Since morning, the talk doing the rounds was that Mr. Panneerselvam would come out with a statement on the merger after Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami on Thursday announced the government's move to constitute a commission of inquiry, one of the two demands that the AIADMK (PTA) had been raising.

3. Put off

Meaning: an evasive reply, to delay doing something, especially because you do not want to do it

Example: The “strong stand” taken by leaders, including former Minister K.P. Munusamy, was said to have prompted Mr. Panneerselvam to put off a decision on the merger. Mr. Munusamy was not available for comment

4. Takes a beating

Meaning: to be damaged because of performing badly or being criticized

Example: Vishal Sikka quits as Infosys CEO, shares take a beating

5. Turn up/on the heat

Meaning: to use force to persuade someone to do something; to increase the pressure on someone to do something

Example: Management is turning the heat up to increase production. The teacher really turned up the heat on the students by saying that everyone would be punished if the real culprit was not found.

6. Rip apart

Meaning: to destroy something completely

Example: The nine judge bench of the supreme court on Thursday ripped apart its own Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams

judgment of 2014 upholding section 377 of the Indian penal code, which criminalizes consensual sexual acts of adults in private

7. Step down



Meaning: withdraw or resign from an important position or office

Example: R. Seshasayee, chairman of the board decided to step down from the board, Infosys said in a release.

8. Strikes a blow

Meaning: to do something to help or to support an idea, movement, or group, to do something to harm or oppose an idea, movement, or group

Example: The supreme court judgment strikes a blow on the unbridled encroachment and surveillance by the state and its agencies in the life of the common man

9. Hold on

Meaning: wait; stop, endure in difficult circumstances.

Example: The result helped UP hold on to the top spot in Zone B but, in a group where the difference between the top and bottom-placed sides is just 16 points, it would be a fragile lead

10. Pull through

Meaning: get through an illness or other dangerous or difficult situation

Example: Second seed Harinder Pal was in a lot of trouble after a sluggish start against Aditya Jagtap, but regained the surety of his touch to pull through in four games.

11. Pumped up

Meaning: to fill with enthusiasm or excitement, to fill with or as if with air

Example: "I like the fast court. I am pretty happy and pumped up to play the semifinal," said Kush.

Meaning: to do everything possible in order to achieve or find something

Example: Ahead of its return to the IPL in 2018, Chennai Super Kings is leaving no stone unturned to get its campaign back on the track. One of the key reasons for its success in the first eight years was that the team managed to retain a core group of players and the support staff.

13. Rope in

Meaning: you mean that someone persuaded you to help them do that task

Example: For 2018, the intentions remains the same with the team intending to rope in former coach Stephen Fleming

14. to win laurels

Meaning: To win honour

Example: The two, who have won many laurels for the country by winning medals in the Commonwealth, Asian and World championships, exhorted the students to focus on physical fitness.



15. snuffed out

Meaning: to make something end quickly, especially by using force

Example: It was the government's most brutal attempt to snuff out the rebellion.

16. knock out

Meaning: to make someone leave a competition by defeating them

Example: Denis Shapovalov makes his glee known after knocking out top seed Rafael Nadal.

17. crash out

Meaning: to be badly defeated so that you have to leave a competition

Example: Davinder Singh became the first Indian to qualify for the javelin final even as his more fancied compatriot Neeraj Chopra crashed out in the qualification round. Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 4*

18. lay in tatters

Meaning: damaged beyond repair

Example: Wayde van Niekerk's dreams of emulating legend Michael Johnson's 200-400m world double lay in tatters on Thursday as Turkey's 9/1 outsider Ramil Guliyev edged the 200m final

19. Turn in

Meaning: Hand in, submit

Example: Ramil Guliyev turned it on when it mattered most to turn pre-race favorite Wayde Van Niekerk In the 200 m

20. sweat something out

Meaning: to anxiously wait for something, to get rid of something in one's body by sweating.

Example: With team selection imminent, Dhoni and Suresh Raina, who last played an ODI for India in October 2015, sweated it out on Friday. sent in my application and now I have to sweat out the two months until I get an answer.

21. keep at bay

Meaning: to prevent someone from moving closer **Example:** Refreshed with a day's rest thanks to the inclement weather, Virat Kohli reiterated that his men will keep complacency at bay while playing the third and final Test against Sri Lanka here from Saturday

22. tone down

Meaning: altered so as to be less extreme or intense.



Example: The ground is surrounded by cloud-enveloped mountains and acres of verdant green. The last-named shade was however toned down on the pitch with the ground-staff scrubbing away the grass.

23. scrub away

Meaning: to clean something away by rubbing. **Example:** The ground is surrounded by cloud-enveloped mountains and acres of verdant green. The last-named shade was however toned down on the pitch with the ground-staff scrubbing away the grass.

24. wear and tear

Meaning: damage from work or use

Example: The visitor's dominance has been overwhelming against a host that is still searching for the right combination and ideal performance while also resembling the walking-wounded, losing players to freak incidents on the ground or to regular wear-and-tear that affects athletes.

25. tick all the boxes :

Meaning: To satisfy or fulfil everything that is necessary or desired.

Example: Virat Kohli's men have ticked most of the boxes, be it runs or wickets, with the lone worry being a few butter-fingers in the close-in cordon.

26. butter-fingers

Meaning: Someone who is clumsy and often drops things or else fails to catch something

Example: Virat Kohli's men have ticked most of the boxes, be it runs or wickets, with the lone worry being a few butter-fingers in the close-in cordon.

27. lose ground

Meaning: to fall behind someone or something, become less successful

Example: Equity benchmark indices lost ground for the fifth consecutive day on Friday as weak domestic corporate numbers along with global negativity on account of geopolitical tensions dampened investor sentiment

28. stem the tide

Meaning: to stop something from increasing

Example: This law may stem the tide of pollution of our beautiful river from the factories built along its banks. Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com*
Page 6

29. Hinge on

Meaning: to be determined or decided by (something): to depend on (something)

Example: Roelant Oltmans' continuation as the hockey head coach hinges on the clarity and quality of his plans for India's hectic season ahead



30. Make or break

Meaning: Cause either total success or total ruin,

Example: The recent Europe tour was expected to be the make-or-break outing for the Dutchman and a final decision will be taken when the Hockey India panel, formed to evaluate the team's performance, meets in New Delhi from August 31 to September 3.

31. Step up

Meaning: to make something go or run faster, increase,

Example: What he has done so far is appreciated but there is now need to step up to another level, compete and win against the top-four.

32. Turn down

Meaning: a rejection or refusal.

Example: How could you turn down such a fantastic job?

33. In the scheme of things

Meaning: the way things are organized or happen in a particular situation, or the way someone wants them to be organized.

Example: He insisted that R. Ashwin, despite playing only 15 ODI matches since the 2015 World Cup, is very much in the scheme of things

34. Back up

Meaning: one that serves as a substitute or support

Example: Looking ahead to the 2019 World Cup, we will need to have back up options for every bowler that we have."

35. Bestowed on

Meaning: to give something to someone; to present something to someone

Example: Knighthoods had been bestowed on West Indian cricketers like 'confetti'

36. Cross the line

Meaning: to change from being acceptable to being unacceptable, to do something wrong

Example: Chasing a target of 224, India-A took 62.3 overs to cross the line as Karun got rid of his wretched form, hitting 13 boundaries in 144 balls.

37. Pulled off

Meaning: to succeed in doing something that is difficult **Example:** In the biggest upset in the section, France's Brice Leverdez pulled off the first shock by defeating second seed Lee Chong Wei 21-19, 22-24, 21-17 in 75 minutes and perhaps end Lee's elusive search for the world title which has seen him take three silver medals just as he has done in the Olympics.



38. Bow out

Meaning: withdraw or retire from an activity or role.

Example: India top mixed doubles pair of Pranaav Jerry Chopra and N. Sikki Reddy, also seeded 15th, defeated Indo-Malaysian combo of Prajakta Sawant and Yogendran Khrishnan 21-12, 21-19. However, in the other mixed doubles matches, B. Sumeeth Reddy and Ashwini Ponnappa, and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and K. Maneesha suffered contrasting losses to bow out.

39. Cast out

Meaning: to force someone or something to leave a place

Example: The minority verdict said social evils such as sati, infanticide, and devadasi system were cast out by way of legislation and not by judicial orders.

40. Every cloud has a silver lining

Meaning: Good things come after bad things

Example: 'It seems that if you're big, rich and powerful enough, every cloud has a silver lining.'

41. Take a stand

Meaning: Adopt a firm position about an issue

Example: To smoothen the process of merger of the two AIADMK factions, the camp led by chief minister Edapadi k. Palaniswami is expected to take a stand against AIADMK (AMMA) interim general secretary V.K.Sasikala at a meeting at the party headquarters on Monday

42. Blew the lid off

Meaning: to make public something that was previously not known or was hidden

Example: Former DIG of Prisons D. Roopa, who blew the lid off the special treatment meted out to prisoners, including Sasikala submitted the footage taken from the CCTV recording of the central prison complex, as part of her statement to the ACB.

43. Run over

Meaning: to hit someone or something with a vehicle and drive over them, to practise what you are going to say in a speech, performance etc

Example: Senior Railway Ministry officials told that welding work was underway near the Khatauli railway station in Uttar Pradesh, leaving a portion of the track without rails when the Utkal Express ran over it and derailed, as per the prima facie investigation.



44. Gearing up

Meaning: to prepare yourself, or to prepare something for an activity or event.

Example: With the home-stretch in sight, the leading contenders headed by Swapnil Dhopade are gearing up for a powerful finish in the National Challengers chess championship here.

45. Pinned back

Meaning: to hold something back by pinning

Example: The 26-year-old Spaniard struck the winner with less than three minutes remaining in an impressive show of character by Chelsea after it had been pinned back when substitute Michy Batshuayi headed into his own net eight minutes from time

46. Part ways

Meaning: to leave each other, to depart from someone

Example: After failing to defend their Los Cabos title last month. Purav Raja and Divji Sharan fell 15 places each in the ATP rankings and the pair decided to part ways heading to the US OPEN.

47. Hogging the limelight

Meaning: making oneself the center of attention to the exclusion of others

Example: Over the past few years, the Indian presence in the men's singles has been growing steadily. Initially, women players hogged the limelight due to Saina Nehwal and P.V. Sindhu winning titles. Now Srikanth, Prannoy, Sai Praneeth and I are doing pretty well on the world stage.

48. Drowning out

Meaning: to make it impossible to hear something

Example: The hyper-charged crowds were only too happy to comply and shouted back, "Bharat Mata ki Jai", drowning out the Pakistani "attack

49. Wind down

Meaning: gradually lose power

Example: Seventy years after 1947, it's time to wind down the choreographed hostility at the India-Pakistan border

50. Bury the hatchet

Meaning: end a quarrel or conflict and become friendly

Example: AIADMK factions bury the hatchet



51. Put off

Meaning: delay doing something

Example: Amit Shah's 3 day trip to TN that was to begin on Tuesday was cancelled on Monday, the second time in less than four months that the BJP president has put off his visit to the state

52. To feel under the weather

Meaning: to not feel well

Example: I'm really feeling under the weather today; I have a terrible cold and fever

53. Eked out

Meaning: to make (a supply) last, to add to (something insufficient), Esp with effort

Example: GM Harika eked out a draw against GM Stupak Kirill from Belarus Many workers can only eke out their redundancy money for about 10 weeks.

54. Signed off

Meaning: To announce the end of a communication; conclude.

Example: Vishwanathan Anand signed off with a loss, that resulted in Sergey Karjakin's lone victory, and finished tied eighth with Garry Kasparov

55. Bring up the rear

Meaning: to move along behind everyone else; to be at the end of the line.

Example: Having brought up the rear in the 10 player event, Anand and Kasparov will be keen to gain ground when the action shifts to 18 round blitz.

56. Gain ground

Meaning: to become more successful, popular, or accepted

Example: Having brought up the rear in the 10 player event, Anand and kasporav will be keen to gain ground when the action shifts to 18 round blitz.

57. Put up a brave front

Meaning: to act confidently in a difficult situation

Example: When the National Anthem played, Rashmi Rathore put up a brave front. she'd just received the mixed doubles skeet gold medal with Mairaj Ahmed Khan in the Asian shotgun shooting championship at Astana, Kazakhstan.



58. Pent-up

Meaning: unable to be expressed or released, closely confined or held back. **Example:** Ceremony over, she deserted the podium, heading for the closest corner. Pent-up grief gave way to a torrent of tears.

59. Tie up (the) loose ends

Meaning: to deal with the last few things that have to be done before you can finish something **Example:** We've just got a few loose ends to tie up and then the report will be ready.

60. Shore up

Meaning: to support or help **Example:** NPA resolution would necessitate a higher recapitalization of these banks “ MR.PATEL said “the government and the RBI are in dialogue to prepare a set of measures to enable state-run banks to shore up the requisite capital in a time-bound

61. Run out

Meaning: be used up.

Example: Just a year after Rio hosted the Olympics, its crime rate has spiralled out of control, and its top politicians have landed in jail cells for corruption

62. Spilled over

Meaning: reach a point at which it can no longer be controlled or contained, to spread to other areas

Example: Rio's poor have been bearing the brunt of gang wars for decades. But in the year since the 2016 Games, robberies, murders, kidnappings and gun battles have spilled over onto the streets.

63. Cut down

Meaning: reduce, do less of something bad **Example:** The troops may stay over till 2018 if their guns fail to cut down the surging violence

64. Playing out

Meaning: happen, take place, develop in a particular way

Example: As the world is hooked on the Game of Thrones season seven, Pakistan continues to experience its own power games, which have been playing out, in one way or the other, since the early 1950s.

65. To take off

Meaning: To embark on rapid activity, development, or growth, to begin

Example: the Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) is set to take off soon, with the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) asking Centrally funded higher education institutions to send their project proposals to be financed by the agency



66. Close on the heels

Meaning: happening soon after another event, following close behind someone or something

Example: Her remarks came hard on the heels of a statement by the President.

67. Chalk out

Meaning: to explain something carefully to someone, as if one were talking about a chalk drawing. **Example:** Directing status quo in the matter till August 22, which is also the next date of hearing, the apex court ordered the Medical Council of India (MCI) and the State government to chalk out a balancing plan, one by which both students who have got through NEET and rural students ill-equipped for NEET can be “adjusted” in the medical admission list.

68. Mow someone or something down

Meaning: to violently cause someone or something to fall.

Example: The car skidded along the side of the road and mowed down several mailboxes before coming to a stop

69. Plough into someone/something

Meaning: to crash into someone or something with force, especially because you are moving or driving too quickly or in a careless or uncontrolled way

Example: On Thursday afternoon, Oukabir and his associates drove a van along Barcelona's crowded Las Ramblas thoroughfare, ploughing into tourists leaving 13 dead and more than 100 injured.

70. Wearing off

Meaning: lose effectiveness or intensity.

Example: With the impact of the slowdown on the city's residential market wearing off, inventory levels are now gradually decreasing

71. Have/take a crack at something

Meaning: to try something

Example: He didn't win the tennis championships, but he plans to have another crack at it next year. I would love to have another crack at the pro game, says Staffordshire's, Sam Kelsall

72. Brushed aside

Meaning: to refuse to accept that something is important or true

Example: PCB has announced that it would serve Umar Akmal with a show cause notice even as head coach Mickey Arthur brushed aside the allegations levelled against him by the middle order batsman.



73. Knockout

Meaning: defeat **Example:** Conor Mc Gregor believes he will knock out Floyd Mayweather inside two rounds but is ready for all scenarios when the two fighters clash in their eagerly anticipated super fight next week.

74. Picked up

Meaning: become better; improve, to come down with

Example: Tests carried out on Thursday morning confirm that the Uruguayan has a distension in the posterior articular capsule in his right knee picked up in the second half of the Clasico in the Santiago Bernabeu

75. Ruled out

Meaning: to prevent, disqualify, overrule, or cancel someone or something

Example: Juventus on Thursday ruled key defender Giorgio Chiellini out of the Champions League final against Barcelona after he suffered a muscle tear in training

76. Hit the right note

Meaning: if something you say or do hits the right note, it is suitable and has a good effect

Example: It was an optional session where Dhoni, Kedar Jadhav, Manish Pandey, Shardul Thakur, Yuzvendra Chahal and Jasprit Bumrah looked like hitting the right notes ahead of what will be the start of a long limited-over engagement for the Men in Blue.

77. Fend off

Meaning: prevent the occurrence of; prevent from happening;

Example: The spotlight, though, was on the 36-year-old Dhoni, who now has to fend off questions about his future with alarming regularity.

78. Pale shadow

Meaning: Less impressive or not as good as before or when compared with someone or something similar

Example: Yet, there is no denying that the former skipper has looked a pale shadow of his past glorious self on many occasions, the last of which was in the West Indies recently, when he scored a painful 54 off 114 in the fourth ODI at Antigua, again as India lost the game by 11 runs.

79. Dig in

Meaning: to prepare yourself for a difficult situation

Example: Both sides are digging in for a long and bitter dispute.



80. To burst the bubble

Meaning: to disabuse someone of a false notion or rationalization that has grown comfortable

Example: Daniel Craig's comments came just hours after he told a radio station; I'd hate to burst the bubble, but no decision has been made at the moment

81. On the run

Meaning: trying to avoid being captured

Example: A third woman came forward on Tuesday to accuse Roman Polanski of sexual assault when she was a minor, four decades after he went on the run for raping another girl

82. Put on airs

Meaning: Pretend to be better than one is

Example: He didn't have to put on airs. He was the nicest guy.

83. A bolt out of the blue.

Meaning: a sudden unexpected event

Example: Bill's dropping his life insurance was a bolt from the blue for his wife

84. Don't look a gift horse in the mouth

Meaning: don't be ungrateful when you receive a gift

Example: I know the car is not in great condition, but you shouldn't look a gift horse in the mouth.

85. Shoots up

Meaning: to increase very quickly in size or amount

Example: Some athletes are suspected of shooting up steroids to improve their strength.

86. Wrapped up

Meaning: involved with someone or something

Example: She is all wrapped up with her husband and his problems

87. Keep's his nerves/ holds his nerves

Meaning: you remain calm and determined in a difficult situation

Example: Justin Thomas keeps his nerve, wins PGA championship

88. Has an edge

Meaning: to have an advantage, enjoy a superior or winning position

Example: The new Renault has the edge on other similar models - it's larger and cheaper.



89. Set down

Meaning: to consider something in a particular way, or write something on a piece of paper so that it will not be forgotten and can be looked at later

Example: It's often a lot of work to set your thoughts down on paper.

90. In the pink

Meaning: very healthy

Example: He recovered completely from his surgery and has been in the pink ever since

91. Pulled up

Meaning: come to a halt. increase the altitude

Example: A van pulled up outside the cottage with six men inside

92. To be on cloud nine

Meaning: To be extremely happy

Example: Was Helen pleased about getting that job?" "Pleased? She was on cloud nine!

93. To run hot

Meaning: be ahead of one's schedule

Example: Sundar is running hot in his cricket career

94. Roar to life

Meaning: to begin working

Example: He puts his foot on the accelerator and the innings roars to life

95. Sketched out

Meaning: to give a short description of something, containing few details

Example: In his shortest Independence Day address yet, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday sketched out the broad contours of his idea of a "New India" as one that was free of communalism, casteism, terrorism, corruption, and nepotism, and also one that would require citizens to do their bit to create it.

96. Blacked out

Meaning: to suppress by censorship

Example: The CPI(M) said on Tuesday that Tripura Chief Minister Manik Sarkar's Independence Day speech was blacked out by Doordarshan and All India Radio

97. Trampling on

Meaning: to crush someone or something underfoot, To tread heavily or destructively on something



Example: The children trampled on the flowers

98. Give up

Meaning: to stop doing something that you do regularly

Example: The Union home ministry is set to give up its power to impose the 'disturbed areas' tag on Assam and Manipur, both ruled by BJP

99. Trickle in

Meaning: to come into something or a place, a few at a time

Example: More people trickled in, almost all of them in their sixties and seventies. Bulbul Sen, a retired school teacher and joint secretary of the Samity, said without the government's support, the house languished in obscurity.

100. Ring in

Meaning: (ring in something), to ring bells to celebrate something, especially the new year

Example: Janmashtami was rung in with religious fervour in Maharashtra on Tuesday.

101. To fan the flames

Meaning: make something more intense; to make a situation worse

Example: The riot fanned the flames of racial hatred even more.

102. Cruise around in something

Meaning: to drive or ride around in something

Example: Would you like to cruise around in a car like that?

103. Chips in

Meaning: to add something to someone else's conversation, To contribute to something being undertaken by a group, such as a task or collection

Example: Athiayaraj chips in with a four wicket haul as the side eases past super gillies

104. Tighten the screws

Meaning: exert strong pressure on someone. **Example:** Washington contained and struck to tighten the screws on the Super Gillies' batting and then waded into the attack for the quickest half century in TNPL

105. Set the tone

Meaning: to establish a particular mood or character for something **Example:** The lanky Wahington's Blitzkrieg shut out the opposition. To the super gillie's attack, he must have seemed a force of nature. Washington blasted paceman for three successive sixes in the opening over to set the tone – an imperious hit over the off side field the best among them



106. Shut out

Meaning: to not allow someone to enter a particular place, if you shut something out, you stop yourself from seeing it, hearing it, or thinking about it **Example:** The lanky Wahington's Blitzkrieg shut out the opposition. To the super gillie's attack, he must have seemed a force of nature. Washington blasted paceman for three successive sixes in the opening over to set the tone – an imperious hit over the off side field the best among them

107. Racked up

Meaning: to get a large number or amount of something **Example:** Mr. Trump deleted his retweet on Tuesday after about five minutes, but not before the message sent to his 35 million followers racked up a big response.

108. A penny for your thoughts

Meaning: A way of asking what someone is thinking **Example:** For several minutes they sat silently, then finally she looked at him and said, "A penny for your thoughts, Walter"

109. To keep one's head above water

Meaning: avoid succumbing to difficulties, typically debt. **Example:** The business is in trouble, but we are just about keeping our heads above water.

110. To cut the crackle

Meaning: to stop talking and start **Example:** The politicians in India needs to cut the crackle for the benefit of the masses.

111. A clarion call Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com* Page 20

Meaning: a strong and clear request for people to do something **Example:** In 1942, the clarion call was 'Kareng ya mareng' (Do or Die) — today it is 'Kareng aur kar ke rahenge' (We will do and accomplish). These five years are about Sankalp se siddhi (commitment to fulfilment),"Modi said

112. Against the odds

Meaning: despite many difficulties **Example:** Congress president Sonia Gandhi's political secretary Ahmed Patel may have won a high-stakes Rajya Sabha battle against great odds, but the mystery about the one extra vote that proved decisive for him still remains amid claims and counterclaims and speculation.

113. Pitched against someone

Meaning: to make someone fight or compete against someone else **Example:** Mr. Patel received a total of 44 votes to win the prestigious fight that saw him pitched against BJP's Amit Shah, known for his election and political strategies.

114. Teeming down

Meaning: to rain very heavily **Example:** It's been teeming down all day.



115. Send someone to glory

Meaning: to kill someone, to officiate at the burial services for someone Example: The preacher sent him to glory amidst the sobs of six or seven former fans.

116. Run into

Meaning: collide with, reach a level Example: Fourth seed Sindhu could face Hong Kong's Ngan Yi Cheung, seeded 13, for a place in the quarterfinals where she could run into fifth seed Sun Yu.

117. Tees off Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 21*

Meaning: to start the first hole in a game of golf, to begin [doing anything]; to be the first one to start something, (to tee someone off) Example: Jordan Spieth and Rory McIlroy make their bids for golfing history when the 99th PGA Championship tees off Thursday at Quail Hollow with heavy rain and storms forecast.

118. Bow out

Meaning: to leave a job or stop doing an activity, usually after a long time: Example: With this win, super Gilies qualified for the knock outs, while tricky warriors bowed out of tournament

119. Claw back

Meaning: to get something again that you had lost such as power, especially gradually and with difficulty Example: Schwartzman claws back from the brink

120. Tune up

Meaning: to prepare for something Example: Croatia's Vekic powered to a 6-3, 6-4 victory, to the disappointment of a partisan crowd whose support couldn't lift Bouchard. She was broken six times by Vekic, 21, who is in the main draw of this US Open tune-up for the first time.

121. Shoot off

Meaning: to write and send a message quickly Example: My daughter will shoot off an e-mail before she'll sit down and write a letter.

122. At the eleventh hour

Meaning: At the last possible moment or opportunity. Example: Millions of companies in India are still not ready to file their first returns under the new Goods and Services Tax (GST) ahead of an Aug. 20 deadline, a top official told Reuters, urging them not to leave things to the eleventh hour

123. Crunch up Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 22*

Meaning: to break someone or something up into piece Example: Yet he gave an assurance that the huge IT back end that is designed to crunch up to 3 billion invoices a month and calculate companies' taxes would be stable, even if there is a last-minute rush to file.

124. A chip off the old block



Meaning: someone who resembles their parent in character or appearance **Example:** Meher has a very little patience-a chip off the old block.

125. To throw up the sponge/throw in the towel

Meaning: to stop trying to do something because you know that you cannot succeed

Example: Three of the original five candidates have now thrown in the towel.

126. Cry down

Meaning: to belittle; disparage, to silence by making a greater noise **Example:** Men of dissolute lives cry down religion because they would not be under the restraints

127. Take on

Meaning: become very upset, fight against someone **Example:** After a delay in counting, the Election commission announced the names of the winners, while the fourth candidate Balwantsinh Rajput of the BJP, who resigned as Congress leader to take on Mr.patel lost the contest that became a tightrope walk for Congress president Sonia Gandhi

128. Tightrope walk

Meaning: to be in a situation where one must be very cautious. **Example:** After a delay in counting, the Election commission announced the names of the winners, while the fourth candidate Balwantsinh Rajput of the BJP, who resigned as Congress leader to take on Mr.patel lost the contest that became a tightrope walk for Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 23*

Congress president Sonia Gandhi

129. Passed himself off

Meaning: pretend to be **Example:** He passed himself off as a great and rich man

130. Spick and span

Meaning: neat, clean, and well looked after. **Example:** She keeps her house spick and span

To take the call on

Meaning: make a decision or a judgment **Example:** The supreme court Bench denied any relief to petitioner and advocate, saying that it was for the government to take the call on such issues.

131. Ramp up

Meaning: to increase the amount or size of something **Example:** The maker of iconic products like the iPhone and the Mac is looking at a multi pronged strategy to ramp up its presence in one of the fastest growing markets in the world.

132. Scaling up

Meaning: to make something larger in size, amount etc than it used to be **Example:** This includes scaling up its manufacturing, developing localized features on its OS, setting up self-



owned retail outlets and creating an ecosystem for developers to shift from android to the ios platform

133. Narrowing down

Meaning: to reduce the number of possibilities or choices **Example:** In this case, for the first time, we were able to identify some key papers and documents. we also spoke to the banks, gathered CCTV footage and collected bank Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams
BankExamsToday.com Page 24

officials statements before narrowing down on the person

134. Roped in

Meaning: to persuade to take part in some activity or to trick or entice into some activity
Example: Despite the smashing success of the show elsewhere, and actor Kamal Haasan being roped in, there were doubts over whether a show that depends on surveillance and an intrusion on privacy would work in Tamil.

135. Notched up

Meaning: to win something, or to achieve something **Example:** Jones, who notched up 3631 runs in 52 Tests at 46.55, said “A couple of law firms approached me later for suing Cricket Australia for ‘dismissal from service.

136. Held off

Meaning: to stop an opponent from starting to win or lead **Example:** In a fantastic race that erupted on the final lap, Kipyegon held off all-comers, including double-hunting Semenya, down the home straight to clock 4min 02.59sec.

137. Bear the brunt of

Meaning: to receive the worst part of something unpleasant or harmful, such as an attack
Example: Young people are bearing the brunt of unemployment

138. Hush up

Meaning: to keep something a secret; to try to stop a rumour from spreading. **Example:** Centre attempting to hush up incident , alleges Congress There was some financial scandal involving one of the ministers but it was all hushed up.

139. To keep its flock together

Meaning: to gather together in great numbers. **Example:** Gujarat MLAs , who were flown to Bengaluru 10 days ago s part of the party’s desperate move to keep its flock together amid several defections .returned to Gujarat Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams
BankExamsToday.com Page 25

only to be taken to another resort in Anand, 70 km from Ahmedabad

140. In the dock

Meaning: On trial or under intense scrutiny. **Example :** Under attack fro diluting the case of alleged stalking and attempted kidnap of a young woman on Friday night by Vikas Barala ,



son of the Haryana state BJP president Subahsh barala and his Ashish , the Chandigarh police on Monday found it again in the dock after it was reported that CCTV footage from at least five locations was missing as the cameras were non-functional.

141. Hover over

Meaning: to stay close to someone or something, waiting, ready to advise or interfere.

Example :Please don't hover over me, watching what I am doing. I have to hover over this project or someone will mess it up.

142. Brought up

Meaning: to start discussing a subject Example: Mr. Sonowal brought up the idea when he called on the president on Saturday.

143. Call on someone

Meaning: to visit someone, usually for a short time , Example: Mr. Sonowal brought up the idea when he called on the president on Saturday

144. Beat someone down

Meaning: to defeat or demoralize someone. Example :Samir Singh got to within 36 km of his goal of running 10000km in 100 days when pain and exhaustion beat him down

145. Keep/ have your tail up Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams

BankExamsToday.com Page 26

Meaning: If someone has their tail up, they are optimistic and expect to be successful.

Example: The Indian team keeps their tail up for the upcoming match

146. Boxed into a corner

Meaning: To create a predicament or unpleasant situation for oneself whereby there are no or very few favourable solutions or outcomes Example : This is not the first time that Jadeja has found himself boxed into a corner.

147. Map out

Meaning:: to decide in detail how something will be done Example: He was plagued by Gastro-intestinal infections and contracted viral fever but has run 9964.19 kms in 100 days , said Vikram Bhatti , who handled Mr.Singhs' campaign, Mr.singh wants to rest and map out a new challenge this time over 40000kms

148. Closing ranks

Meaning : to join with someone in a cause, or agreement. Example: Jordan's king Abdullah visited the west bank on Monday – a signal to Israel that he is closing ranks with the Palestinians on key issues .

149. whisked away

Meaning: To escort, conduct, or carry someone or something swiftly and quietly away

Example: The bodyguards whisked away the politician after the speech.



150. spot on

Meaning: Exactly right; perfectly accurate **Example:** Drag flick specialist Diwakar Ram, who had put up a sterling show throughout the tournament was spot on in the final too

151. play / cry / sing hearts out Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams
BankExamsToday.com Page 27

Meaning: to do something with vigour or intensity. **Example:** both teams played their hearts out in an entertaining contest

152. 4: with tail between legs

Meaning: Appearing frightened or cowardly **Example:** The frightened dog ran away with its tail between its legs when the bigger dog growled.

153. in the thick of things

Meaning: to be very involved at the busiest or most active stage of a situation or activity
Example: A fierce debate ensued and he found himself in the thick of it.

154. Taste of your own medicine

Meaning: you do something bad to someone that they have done to you to teach them a lesson. **Example:** John, who is often rude and abrupt with people, was devastated when the teacher treated him rudely. He doesn't like having a dose of his own medicine.

155. A fair crack of the whip

Meaning: an equal chance to do something **Example:** In India all the students should be given a fair crack of the whip.

156. To pay off old scores

Meaning: have his revenge **Example:** from his attitude it is clear that he wants to pay off old scores

157. cutting loose

Meaning: to behave in an uncontrolled, wild way **Example:** Don't be too hard on them - they're just kids and they need to cut loose sometimes. Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 28*

158. Wiped out

Meaning: to kill someone, a decisive defeat, to clean completely by wiping: **Example:** Malawi on Thursday celebrated successful conclusion of a two year project moving 520 sedated elephants by truck to a reserve where the animals had been nearly wiped out They wiped him out to keep him from testifying.

159. Calls off

Meaning: to decide that something will not happen, cancel **Example:** Example : Following appeals by film-makers and producers, the Film Employees Federation of South India (FEFSI) on Thursday called off its strike



160. boss someone around

Meaning: To tell one what to do **Example:** Stop bossing me around. I'm not your employee.
Captain Smith bosses around the whole crew. That's his job

161. Run up

Meaning: to raise or hoist something, such as a flag , to cause something to go higher, such as the price of stocks or commodities **Example:** Example : In the Run up to the implementation of GST , we did expect many challenges including an impact on trade pipeline inventory

162. To live in clover

Meaning: Meaning : having good fortune; in a very good situation, especially financially
Example: If I get this contract, I'll be in clover for the rest of my life.

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Meaning: Meaning : to be unable to decide about something: **Example:** I'm in two minds about accepting the job
Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com*
Page 29

164. to talk shop

Meaning: to talk about work when not working **Example:** Two New York Yankee pitchers will be there to sign autographs and talk shop with fans.

165. to make the grade

Meaning: to be satisfactory; to be what is expected. **Example:** He wanted to get into medical school but he failed to make the grade.

166. picking holes

Meaning: to find mistakes in something someone has done or said, to show that it is not good or not correct **Example:** He is always picking holes in every project

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Meaning: to find mistakes in something someone has done or said, to show that it is not good or not correct **Example:** He is always picking holes in every project
Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 34*

196. Buck the odds

Meaning: To buck the odds means to go against the odds. Despite the odds not being in your favour, you still won. **Example:** Given the manner she has been bucking the odds, nothing seems impossible for the brave Jyotika far far away from the glitz-laden metros.

197. Break through

Meaning: If you break through, you achieve success even though there are difficulties and obstacles. **Example:** Indeed , the shy Jyothika has a heart larger than her small frame. Given her background and modest means, she has been breaking through barriers.



198. Zero in on

Meaning: to direct all your attention to one thing , If you zero in a weapon, you aim it directly at something you want to hit: **Example:** 'This was not the first time . he had come to meet his wife on two occasions earlier, and he followed the same pattern and time .It was easy for the police to zero in on him.' Said the official.

199. Holed up

Meaning: to take shelter somewhere , to hide somewhere. **Example:** Soldiers seen at the house at Hakripora in Pluwara district ,where the militants were holed up, on Tuesday. The robbers were holed up in a deserted warehouse.

200. Live something down

Meaning: to make people forget that you made a big mistake or did something very embarrassing in the past: **Example:** Having mishandled NEET is one failure that the Tamilnadu government will struggle to live down

201. Music to the ears Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com* Page 35

Meaning: a welcome sound to someone; news that someone is pleased to hear **Example:** The winter session of 2016 hit a low point of 16%.It is shameful.Taxation bills, as significant as Aadhaar , were passed within two weeks without being referred to a committee' he said. The reference to the 'hurried' passage of Aadhaar, however ,may not be music to the government's ears.

202. Lavish something on someone

Meaning: to give someone a lot, or too much, of something such as money, presents, or attention: **Example:** MR.Trump lavished praise on Gen.Kelly after he was sworn in , but that may not necessarily guarantee anything in the long term.

203. Wound up

Meaning: brought to a state of great tension **Example:** A former India captain ,who served the squad as its team director just a year back , Shastri steps into the shoes of Anil kumble , whose manner of exit showed the BCCI and Skipper Virat Kohli in poor light .Shastri spoke to the media at the Sinhalese sports club on Tuesday and just as he wound up, it was time for him to bond with Sri lankan's eternal fan.

204. Step into someone's shoes

Meaning: to take on a particular role or task that someone else has been doing **Example:** A former India captain ,who served the squad as its team director just a year back , Shastri steps into the shoes of Anil kumble , whose manner of exit showed the BCCI and Skipper Virat Kohli in poor light .Shastri spoke to the media at the Sinhalese sports club on Tuesday and just as he wound up, it was time for him to bond with Sri lankan's eternal fan.

205. Served up



Meaning: to offer something **Example:** Serena Williams served up a rallying cry for equal pay for black women, decrying that they would have to work on average eight months longer to earn the same Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com* Page 36

as male counterparts in one year

206. Chip on one's shoulder

Meaning: an angry attitude from someone who feels unfairly treated: **Example:** She's not going to make any friends if she walks around with a chip on her shoulder like that.

207. Call The Shots (Or Tune)

Meaning to be in command; to have the authority to make decisions

Example: The boss is the boss and he calls the shots.

Petroleum will call the shots again.

208. Steal The Show

Meaning: attracts the most attention and praise.

Example: Falcons TTC'S Wu Yang, who stole the show on the final night of the inaugural Ultimate Table tennis league on Sunday, walked away with the biggest individual purse of Rs.1.5 lakh after being named the 'Ultimate One' besides winning Rs.1lakh for being the most valuable player among women.

209. Walked Away (With Something)

Meaning to win a prize or competition very easily

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210. Walk All Over Someone

Meaning: to treat someone badly by always making them do what you want them to do

Example: If you don't want to work at the weekend, say so - don't let the boss walk all over you.

211. Make The Cut Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com* Page 37

Meaning: To survive an elimination when a team or group is being chosen

Example: By his own admission, Jeev Mikha Singh has not had a great 2017, h e has made the cut only four times from 13 appearances on the Asian and European Tours, his best finish a tied 22nd at the jointly-sanctioned ISPS Handa World Super 6 in Perth in February.

212. Bring / Ring The Curtain Down



Meaning: to bring something to an end; to declare something to be at an end

Example: Caeleb Dressel brought the curtain down on the World championships with a historic seventh medal here on Sunday, equaling the record of swim legend Michael Phelps.

213. Make A Splash

Meaning: to get a lot of public attention

Example: Now she's made a splash in the American television show 'Civil Wars'.

214. Spruced Up

Meaning: to improve the appearance of someone or something, Make neat and trim,

Example: The Karnataka Golf Association has undergone much work to be ready for this week's TAKE SOLUTIONS MASTERS, the first Asian Tour event at the venue since the Indian open in 2012. 'KGA has always been good, but for this event, we've really spruced it up ' He said.

215. Shunted Out

Meaning: to move (someone or something) to a different and usually less important or noticeable place or position.

Example: Daniel Ricciardo blasted Red Bull teammate Max Verstappen for 'amateur' diving on Sunday after the Dutch teenager shunted him out of the Hungarian GP on the opening lap.

216. Taking Its Toll

Meaning: to cause harm or suffering Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams
BankExamsToday.com Page 38

Example: A little more than a year after the alleged Russian effort to interfere in the US. Presidential election came to light, the diplomatic fallout –an unravelling of the relationship between the Moscow and Wahington o na scale not seen in decades – is taking its toll

217. Mended His Ways

Meaning: to improve your behaviour after you have been behaving badly for a long time

Example:: Appearing before a Bench led by Justice Dipak Mishra, Attorney General K.K.Venugopal highlighted that Mr.khan had not mended his ways even after rendering an apology to the supreme court and was recently booked for sedition for allegedly making statements against the army.

218. Back to drawing board

Meaning: Revising something (such as a plan) from the beginning, typically after it has failed **Example:** Having triggered an avalanche of litigation across the country, the prevention of Cruelty to animal (regulation of livestock market) rules of 2017, which ban the sale of cattle in livestock markets for the purpose of slaughter or animal sacrifice, is now back to the drawing board.

219. Lash out



Meaning: to suddenly attack someone or something physically or criticize him, her, or it in an angry way **Example:** After the incident, Mr. Gandhi lashed out on twitter at the BJP govt. in the state and at the centre, saying he would not be deterred by stones or black flags.

220. Ratcheting up

Meaning: To cause something to increase in increments **Example:** Ratcheting up the political temperature, TTV Dhinakaran, deputy general secretary of the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (amman), announced his plan to tour the state and appointed 64 persons to various positions in the party. Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 39*

221. Hunt down

Meaning: to try to find a particular thing or person **Example:** The summer postcard campaign by the European policy agency, Europol, was unveiled on Friday on its EU most wanted website as part of its ongoing initiative to hunt down Europe's most wanted criminals.

222. On the run

Meaning: If someone is on the run, they are trying to escape or hide from someone such as the police or an enemy **Example:** Online initiative by Europol helps people check profile of 21 criminals on the run

223. Hang up

Meaning: To disconnect a phone call, or give up on someone or something; to quit dealing with someone or something. **Example:** Usain Bolt insists he will hang up his running spike after the world championships in London.

224. stack up (against something)

Meaning: to compare with something else, To make sense; add up **Example:** We wondered how London restaurants stacked up against Atlanta's. The story he gave the police was full of contradictions—it just didn't stack up.

225. Raise the bar

Meaning: to make a task a little more difficult, To raise the standards of quality that are expected of or required for something **Example:** Now free and confident Anna after winning maiden Asian 400 m gold at Bhubaneswar, Anna could raise the bar in London

226. Playing second fiddle to someone

Meaning: To play a supporting or minor role in relation to someone else **Example:** He also denied that he had tired out of playing second fiddle to Lionel Messi at Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 40*

Barcelona.

227. Miss the cut

Meaning: (golf) to achieve a greater score after the first two rounds of a strokeplay tournament than that required to play in the remaining two rounds **Example:** He arrives here



after having missed the cut at the Irish and scottish opens , but then he was in similarly wretched form before the secured the Indian open in March

228. Rule out

Meaning: to stop considering something as a possibility **Example:** Mr.Tillerson did not rule out a military strike against North Korea in remarks that were overall not strident at the state department

229. Cut to the size

Meaning: to make someone or something less important or detailed **Example:** Has Digvijaya Singh been cut to size?

230. Scrape through

Meaning: to move through something, scraping or rubbing the sides, to get by something just barely; to pass a test just barely. **Example:** The car, going at a very high speed, scraped through the tunnel. It just managed to scrape through Alice passed the test, but she just scraped through it. I just scraped through my calculus test.

231. knock on the door of

Meaning: to be very close to achieving **Example:** The Income – tax raids on the premises of Energy Minister D.K.Shivakumar and his close aides have sent shock waves among leaders of the ruling congress in Karnataka, with apprehensions of taxmen soon knocking on their doors.

232. Pulled out Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 41*

Meaning: withdraw from an undertaking. **Example::** While the Jaiprakash Associates led consortium, including IBM and Israel's tower semiconductor, had pulled out in March last year, things were not moving ahead for the consortium led by HSMC Technologies, according to the sources

233. On a knife's edge

Meaning: if a person or organization is on a knife-edge, they are in a difficult situation and are worried about what will happen in the future **Example:** She's been living on a knife-edge since her ex-husband was released from prison last month. The theatre is on a financial knife-edge and must sell 75% of its seats every night to survive.

234. Hinged on

Meaning: to depend on someone or something; to depend on what someone or something does **Example:** The Monetary Policy Committee's majority decision hinged on the observation that some "upside risks to inflation have either reduced or not materialized "

235. Roll out

Meaning: to offer a new product or service to the public **Example:** Driving down India's national highways could be a much safer experience by the end of this year, with the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) set to roll out an 'incident management system'.



236. Shot back

Meaning: Return quickly **Example:** The Congress shot back with Mr. Gandhi suggesting that the Chief Minister should resign for the controversial deaths of the children in the hospital.

237. Slipped back

Meaning: to move quietly and cautiously back to someone or something **Example:** Lieutenant Governor (L-G) Kiran Bedi on Friday slipped back into her erstwhile role of a cop by riding pillion with her staff on a midnight motorbike inspection of the Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 42*

streets of Puducherry.

238. Under fire

Meaning: being criticized **Example:** Under fire for the deaths of more than 100 children in the BRD Medical College hospital, Mr. Adityanath launched a week-long cleanliness drive in UP — Swachh Uttar Pradesh, Swaasth Uttar Pradesh

239. Fired up

Meaning: to motivate someone; to make someone enthusiastic **Example:** I was so fired up with a nationalistic fervour that I whipped out my smartphone and took a video of myself taking the 'Sankalp se Siddhi' (achievement through resolve) pledge.

240. Whipped out

Meaning: To make or produce something quickly

Example: I was so fired up with a nationalistic fervour that I whipped out my smartphone and took a video of myself taking the 'Sankalp se Siddhi' (achievement through resolve) pledge.

241. Showed up

Meaning: To cause or allow to be seen; display **Example:** The inexperience of two young Gujarat players Udit Kamdar and Fenil Shah showed up at inopportune times and allowed the Grandmaster duo of Swapnil Dhopade and Himanshu Sharma escape to hard-earned victories in the ninth round of the National Challengers chess championship here on Saturday.

242. Lays down

Meaning: to state officially what someone must do or how they must do it, to give up, establish **Example:** The EU has laid down tough standards for water quality Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 43*

243. Tumbled out

Meaning: to fall, topple, or drop out of something, arise **Example:** Akash Saharan tumbled out first in the trap final in the Junior shotgun World Cup here on Friday. He qualified for the final with the score of 114

244. Wriggle out



Meaning: to free oneself from something by turning or twisting the body with sinuous writhing motions **Example:** With 13 points, Chaudhari was the best raider in action and his ability to wriggle out of tough situations played a big role in his team's victory

245. Squares off

Meaning: to get ready for an argument or a fight **Example:** The Tests clinched without much of a strain, India will begin the journey to identify the core of its 2019 World Cup squad when it squares off against a low-on-confidence Sri Lanka in a five-match ODI series, starting here on Sunday

246. Peg back

Meaning: to prevent an opponent from winning in a game or competition **Example:** The underdogs were pegged back by United after that had taken a shock lead.

247. Blessing in disguise

Meaning: an apparent misfortune that eventually has good results. **Example:** Losing that job was a blessing in disguise really.

248. Draw level

Meaning: to move into a position where you are equal to someone else in a race, game, or competition **Example:** Bronze in the 400m proved to be a bittersweet consolation for US track legend Allyson Felix as she drew level with Jamaicans Merlene Ottey and Usain Bolt on having won 14 World Championships medals.

249. Stroll through Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com* Page 44

Meaning: to walk casually through something or some place **Example:** Federer, Nadal stroll through Let's stroll through a few shops and see what the prices are like here.

250. Crashed through

Meaning: to break through something forcefully. **Example:** Felix crashed through into bronze in Wednesday's 400m after Bahamas rival and race leader Shaunae Miller-Uibo faltered 20 metres from the finish line.

251. Edge out

Meaning: to beat someone in something such as a competition or election by a small amount **Example:** Earlier, Jaipur Pink Panthers edged out Puneri Paltan (Pune)

252. Drew first blood

Meaning: the initial advantage gained by one side in any game, contest or competition. **Example:** Tamil Thalaivas drew first blood in the first minute as Prapanjan scored with a raid point

253. Wash out

Meaning: to fail and be removed from something such as school, to rain on or flood an event so that it must be cancelled **Example:** I studied all I could, but I still washed out.



254. Rip up

Meaning: to tear something into small pieces, or decide that something such as a plan or an agreement is useless and stop using it Example: Felix's unheralded team-mate Phyllis Francis ripped up the form book to claim a shock gold, with Bahrain's Salwa Eid Naser taking silver

255. Fit (or fill) the bill Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com* Page 45

Meaning: be suitable for a particular purpose. Example: It is never easy to step into the shoes of a genuine all-rounder like Kapil or exude the multi-faceted dimensions that were intrinsic to Dhoni but Kohli & Co. are hoping that Pandya will somehow fit the bill.

256. Hold off

Meaning: to not do something immediately Example: The 21-year-old former multi-eventer demonstrated all the strength he has acquired from competing as an all-rounder as he led from the first hurdle and was powerful enough to hold off his pursuers on the home straight to win in 48.35 seconds.

257. Step into someone's shoes

Meaning: Take someone's place Example: It is never easy to step into the shoes of a genuine all-rounder like Kapil or exude the multi-faceted dimensions that were intrinsic to Dhoni but Kohli & Co. are hoping that Pandya will somehow fit the bill.

258. To pigeon hole

Meaning: to decide that someone or something belongs to a particular type or group, especially without knowing much about them Example: Pandya is in an unenviable position, his role is one into which previous managements tried to pigeon-hole Ajit Agarkar, Irfan Pathan and more recently Stuart Binny

259. Dished out

Meaning: to give something too freely and in large amounts, to give out trouble, scoldings, criticism Example: The 23-year old from Gujarat, a certainty in India's limited-over squads, secured a berth in Tests during the current tour of Sri Lanka. At Galle and in Colombo, Pandya dished out quickfire knocks (50 and 20) and had bowling figures of 1/13, 0/21 and 2/31.

260. Bits and pieces Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com* Page 46

Meaning: small things of different types Example: These are early days still but the numbers hint that Pandya could be more than a bits-and-pieces player, a species prevalent among Kapil's men who won the 1983 World Cup. To top it, Pandya is excellent in the outfield.

261. Saw off

Meaning: deadlock or stalemate, a compromise Example: Anand accepted the offer, saw off the offensive and then pushed a queenside pawn to the seventh rank.

262. On the hunt



Meaning: searching Example: The police are still on the hunt for the escaped convicts

263. On the hunt

Meaning: searching

Example: The police are still on the hunt for the escaped convicts

264. Turn the clock back

If you try to turn the clock back, you want things to be the way they were in the past.

Example: DMK working president M.K.Stalin warned on Sunday that his party would not hesitate to put an end to the AIADMK government, which, according to him, had turned the clock back years and destroyed administration and governance in TN.

265. Turns up the heat

To put pressure on someone or something; apply additional pressure to someone or something.

Example: Regulator turns up heat on erring Chartered accountants

266. Buried the hatchet

End a quarrel or conflict and become friendly. Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams
BankExamsToday.com Page 47

Example: AIADMK deputy general secretary T.T.v Dhinakaran , who recently buried the hatchet with his aunt and jailed party leader V.K. Sasikala's brother Divakaran, on Sunday announced that he would get back to active party work on August .

267. Draw flak

Is to draw criticism

Example: A.P.J.M.Sheik Saleem , the grand nephew of Kalam , placed a copy of the Koran and the bible at the statue podium near the Bhagavad Gita on Sunday, only to draw flak from the HMK

268. Took on

To begin to perform or deal with

Example: Union Finance minister Arun Jaitley took on detractors of the GST on Sunday , saying the regime was an integral part of the government's efforts to mobilizemore fundss for the armed forces.

269. Flagged off

To inaugurate, to induct

Example: Earlier this month , the ministry of Housing flagged off a new index – the NHB Residex – designed to track housing price trends I n cities across India.

270. Shoot one's wad or bolt



Do all within one's power; exhaust one's resources or capabilities.

Example: They were asking for more ideas but Bob had shot his bolt and couldn't come up with any

271. Hive off

To set something apart from a group Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams
BankExamsToday.com Page 48

Example: An expression of interest from India's oldest private sector MRO service provider Air works, has come as a shot in the arm for the centre that is considering an option to split Air India's different businesses and hive them off separately.

272. Shot in the arm

Something that quickly makes a bad situation much better , a new activity

Example: An expression of interest from India's oldest private sector MRO service provider , Air works , has come as a shot in the arm for the centre that is considering an option to split Air India's different businesses and hive them off separately

273. To take a call on

Informal, not very common, way to say 'make a decision or a judgment

Example: Vivek Gour , MD and CEO , Air works, said ' I am watching the situation very carefully but it is too early to say anything because the government has to take a call on whether they will sell Air India asa whole or break up its subsidiaries and sell.'

274. To win laurels

Meaning: To win honour

Example: The two, who have won many laurels for the country by winning medals in the Commonwealth, Asian and World championships, exhorted the students to focus on physical fitness.

275. Snuffed out

Meaning: to make something end quickly, especially by using force

Example: It was the government's most brutal attempt to snuff out the rebellion.

276. Knock out

Meaning: to make someone leave a competition by defeating them Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 49*

Example: Denis Shapovalov makes his glee known after knocking out top seed Rafael Nadal.

277. Crash out

Meaning: to be badly defeated so that you have to leave a competition

Example: Davinder Singh became the first Indian to qualify for the javelin final even as his more fancied compatriot Neeraj Chopra crashed out in the qualification round.



278. Lay in tatters

Meaning: damaged beyond repair

Example: Wayne van Niekerk's dreams of emulating legend Michael Johnson's -m world double lay in tatters on Thursday as Turkey's / outsider Ramil Guliyev edged the m final

279. Turn in

Meaning: Hand in, submit

Example: Ramil Guliyev turned the file in.

280. Sweat something out

Meaning: to anxiously wait for something, to get rid of something in one's body by sweating.

Example: With team selection imminent, Dhoni and Suresh Raina, who last played an ODI for India in October, sweated it out on Friday.

Sent in my application and now I have to sweat out the two months until I get an answer.

281. Keep at bay

Meaning: to prevent someone from moving closer

Example: Refreshed with a day's rest thanks to the inclement weather, Virat Kohli reiterated that his men will keep complacency at bay while playing the third and final Test against Sri Lanka here from Saturday Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams
BankExamsToday.com Page 50

282. Tone down

Meaning: altered so as to be less extreme or intense.

Example: The ground is surrounded by cloud-enveloped mountains and acres of verdant green. The last-named shade was however toned down on the pitch with the ground-staff scrubbing away the grass.

283. Scrub away

Meaning: to clean something away by rubbing.

Example: The ground is surrounded by cloud-enveloped mountains and acres of verdant green. The last-named shade was however toned down on the pitch with the ground-staff scrubbing away the grass.

284. Wear and tear

Meaning: damage from work or use

Example: The visitor's dominance has been overwhelming against a host that is still searching for the right combination and ideal performance while also resembling the walking-wounded, losing players to freak incidents on the ground or to regular wear-and-tear that affects athletes.

285. Tick all the boxes



Meaning: To satisfy or fulfill everything that is necessary or desired.

Example: Virat Kohli's men have ticked most of the boxes, be it runs or wickets, with the lone worry being a few butter-fingers in the close-in cordon.

286. Butter-fingers

Meaning: Someone who is clumsy and often drops things or else fails to catch something
Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 51*

Example: Virat Kohli's men have ticked most of the boxes, be it runs or wickets, with the lone worry being a few butter-fingers in the close-in cordon.

287. Lose ground

Meaning: to fall behind someone or something , become less successful

Example: Equity benchmark indices lost ground for the fifth consecutive day on friday as weak domestic corporate numbers along with global negativity on account of geopolitical tensions dampened investor sentiment

288. Stem the tide

Meaning: to stop something from increasing

Example: This law may stem the tide of pollution of our beautiful river from the factories built along its banks.

289. Burn your fingers

Meaning: to have a bad experience when something such as a relationship or a business deal goes wrong

Example: Many investors burned their fingers on those stocks.

290. Jump the gun

Meaning: act before the proper or appropriate time.

Example: We all had to start the race again because Jane jumped the gun

291. Shot in the arm

Meaning: a boost or act of encouragement.

Example: Fresh investment would provide the shot in the arm that this industry so badly needs

292. Cast away

Meaning: wrecked

Example: The boat was cast away by the storm

293. Worked up

Meaning: excited Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 52*



Example: He got worked up just by the mention of her name

294. To go at each other hammer and tongs

Meaning: To do something or perform some task with tremendous fervor, determination, energy, or forcefulness. , to do something, especially to argue, with a lot of energy or violence

Example: What started as a minor disagreement has escalated into a heated argument, and the two have been going at it hammer and tongs ever since

295. To hold a brief for

Meaning: be retained as counsel for , to argue for

Example: Often counsel holding a brief for another does not read it in the confident expectation that the case would be postponed

296. A mare's nest

Meaning: a complex or confused situation; a muddle , an illusory discovery.

Example: The involvement of teachers in the scheme of education proves to be a mare's nest

297. Lay by

Meaning: save for future needs

Meaning: We should lay by our natural resources.

Example: We should be wise and lay by a considerable amount

298. Make out

Meaning: prove , discover , decipher

Example: I cannot make out the Meaning: of this word

I cannot make out the inscription on this wall

299. Off the hook

Meaning: no longer in difficulty or trouble Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams
BankExamsToday.com Page 53

Example: Pinarayi vijaiyan off the hook in SNC- lavalin case(a Canadian company)

300. Come down hard on

Meaning: To criticize or punish severely

Example: They're coming down heavily on people for not paying their licence fees.

Joe's parents came down hard on him when they learned he had been suspended from school

301. Jump the gun

Meaning: act before the proper or appropriate time.

Example: We all had to start the race again because Jane jumped the gun



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Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 54*

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Meaning: save for future needs

Example: We should be wise and lay by a considerable amount

309. Doing the rounds

Meaning: to be passed from one person to another

Example: Since morning, the talk doing the rounds was that Mr. Panneerselvam would come out with a statement on the merger after Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami on Thursday announced the government's move to constitute a commission of inquiry, one of the two demands that the AIADMK (PTA) had been raising.

310. Put off



Meaning: an evasive reply, to delay doing something, especially because you do not want to do it

Example: The “strong stand” taken by leaders, including former Minister K.P. Munusamy, was said to have prompted Mr. Panneerselvam to put off a decision on the merger. Mr. Munusamy was not available for comment

311. Takes a beating

Meaning: to be damaged because of performing badly or being criticized

Example: Vishal sikka quits as Infosys CEO, shares take a beating

312. Turn up/on the heat Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 55*

Meaning: to use force to persuade someone to do something; to increase the pressure on someone to do something

Example: Management is turning the heat up to increase production. The teacher really turned up the heat on the students by saying that everyone would be punished if the real culprit was not found.

313. Rip apart

Meaning: to destroy something completely

Example: The nine judge bench of the supreme court on Thursday ripped apart its own judgment of upholding section of the Indian penal code, which criminalises consensual sexual acts of adults in private

314. Step down

Meaning: withdraw or resign from an important position or office

Example: R. Seshasayee, chairman of the board, along with former CEO and managing director Vishal Sikka, Jeffrey Lehman and John Etchemendy, decided to step down from the board, Infosys said in a release.

315. Strikes a blow

Meaning: to do something to help or to support an idea, movement, or group, to do something to harm or oppose an idea, movement, or group

Example: The supreme court judgment strikes a blow on the unbridled encroachment and surveillance by the state and its agencies in the life of the common man

316. Hold on

Meaning: wait; stop, endure in difficult circumstances.

Example: The result helped UP hold on to the top spot in Zone B but, in a group where the difference between the top and bottom-placed sides is just points, it would be a fragile lead

317. Pull through



Meaning: get through an illness or other dangerous or difficult situation Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 56*

Example: Second seed Harinder Pal was in a lot of trouble after a sluggish start against Aditya Jagtap, but regained the surety of his touch to pull through in four games.

318. Pumped up

Meaning: to fill with enthusiasm or excitement , to fill with or as if with air

Example: "I like the fast court. I am pretty happy and pumped up to play the semifinal," said Kush.

319. Leave no stone unturned

Meaning: to do everything possible in order to achieve or find something

Example: Ahead of its return to the IPL in , Chennai Super Kings is leaving no stone unturned to get its campaign back on the track. One of the key reasons for its success in the first eight years was that the team managed to retain a core group of players and the support staff.

320. Rope in

Meaning: you mean that someone persuaded you to help them do that task

Example: For , the intentions remains the same with the team intending to rope in former coach Stephen Fleming

List of Important Idioms

- 1) A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush- Having something that is certain is much better than taking a risk for more, because chances are you might losing everything.
- 2) A blessing in disguise- Something good that isn't recognized by first
- 3) Bull in china shop- One who causes damage
- 4) A chip on your shoulder- Being upset for something that happened in the past
- 5) A damp squib- Complete failure
- 6) A dime A dozen- Anything that is common and easy to get Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 57*
- 7) A doubting Thomas- A skeptic who needs physical or personal evidence in order to believe something
- 8) A drop in the bucket- A very small part of something big or whole
- 9) A fool and his money are easily parted- It's easy for a foolish person to lose his/ her money
- 10) A gentleman at large- An unreliable person
- 11) A green horn- Inexperienced



- 12) A house divided against itself cannot stand- Everyone involved must unify and function together or it will not work out.
- 13) A leopard can't change his spots- You cannot change who you are
- 14) A lost cause- A hopeless case, a person or situation having no hope of positive change.
- 15) A man of straw- A weak person
- 16) A mare's nest- A false invention
- 17) A penny saved is a penny earned- By not spending money, you are saving money (little by little)
- 18) A picture paints a thousand words- A visual presentation is far more descriptive than words
- 19) A piece of cake- A task that can be accomplished very easily
- 20) A slap on the wrist- A very mild punishment
- 21) A stalking horse- Pretence
- 22) A steal- Very inexpensive, a bargain
- 23) A taste of your own medicine- When you are mistreated the same way you mistreat others
- 24) A toss-up- A result that is still unclear and can go either way
- 25) A wolf in sheep's clothing- A dangerous person pretending harmless
- 26) ABC: Very common knowledge about to- Ready to, just going to
- 27) Above all- Mainly, especially
- 28) Above board- Fair and honest
- 29) According to- In the order of; on the authority of Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 58*
- 30) Actions speak louder than words- It's better to actually do something than just talk about it
- 31) Add fuel to the fire- Whenever something is done to make a bad situation even worse than it is
- 32) Against the clock- Rushed and short on time
- 33) All (day, week, month, year) long- The entire day, week, month, year
- 34) All along- All the time, from the beginning (without change)
- 35) All and Sundry- Without making any distinction
- 36) All bark and no bite- When someone is threatening and/ or aggressive but not willing to engage in a fight



- 37) All greek to me- Meaningless and incomprehensible like someone who cannot read, speak, or
 - 38) All in all- Considering everything
 - 39) All in the same boat- When everyone is facing the same challenges
 - 40) All of a sudden- Suddenly, without warning (All at once)
 - 41) All right- Acceptable, fine; yes, okay
 - 42) Alpha and omega- First and last letter of Greek alphabet, means beginning and end
 - 43) An arm and a leg- Very expensive, A large amount of money
 - 44) An axe to grind- To have a dispute with someone
 - 45) An eye wash- A pretence
 - 46) An iron hand- By force
 - 47) Apple to my eye- Someone who is cherished above all others
 - 48) As a matter of fact- Really, actually (also: as to)
 - 49) As for- Regarding, concerning (also: as to)
 - 50) As high as a kite- Anything that is high up in the sky
 - 51) As soon as- Just after, when
 - 52) As usual- as is the general case, as is typical
 - 53) At all- To any degree (also: in the least)
 - 54) At heart- Basically, fundamentally
 - 55) At last- Finally, after a long time
- Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams
BankExamsToday.com Page 59
- 56) At least- A minimum of, no fewer (or less) than
 - 57) At odds- In dispute
 - 58) At sixes and seven- Persons who are having different opinions
 - 59) At the drop of a hat- Willing to do something immediately
 - 60) Back and call- At the service
 - 61) Back and forth- In a backward and forward motion
 - 62) Back seat driver- People who criticize from the sidelines, much like someone giving unwanted advice
 - 63) Back to square one- Having to start all over again
 - 64) Back to the drawing board- When an attempt fails and it's time to start all over



- 65) Bag and baggage- with all goods
- 66) Baker's dozen- Thirteen
- 67) Bank on- Depend on, count on
- 68) Barking up the wrong tree- A mistake made in something you are trying to achieve
- 69) Bated breath- In anxiety, expectancy
- 70) Beat a dead horse- To force an issue that has already ended
- 71) Beating around the bush- Avoiding the main topic, not speaking directly about the issue
- 72) Bend over backwards- Do whatever it takes to help. Willing to do anything
- 73) Between a Rock and a Hard place- Stuck between two very bad options
- 74) Between Scylla and Charybdis- Choice between two unpleasant alternatives
- 75) Between the cup and the lips- On the point of achievement
- 76) Bite off more than you can chew- To take on a task that is a way to big
- 77) Bite your tongue- To avoid talking
- 78) Black and white- In writing
- 79) Blood is thicker than water- The family bond is closer than anything else
- 80) Blow hot and cold- Having no stand, shows favour at one time and unfavour at another
- 81) Blue moon- A rare event or occurrence
- 82) Body and soul- Entirely Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams
BankExamsToday.com Page 60
- 83) Break a leg- A superstitious way to say 'Good Luck' without saying 'Good Luck',
- 84) Buy a lemon- To purchase a vehicle that constantly gives problems or stops running after you drive it
- 85) By & by- Gradually
- 86) By all means- Certainly, definitely, naturally (also: of course); using any possible way or method
- 87) By far- By a great margin, clearly
- 88) By fits and starts- Irregularly
- 89) By heart- By memorizing
- 90) By hook or by crook- By any means
- 91) By leaps and bound- speedily
- 92) By oneself- Alone, without assistance



- 93) By the way- Incidentally
- 94) Call a spade a spade- Straight talks
- 95) Can't cut the mustard- Someone who isn't adequate enough to compete or participate
- 96) Cast iron stomach- Someone who has no problems, complications or ill effects with eating anything
- 97) Cats and bull story- Untrue story
- 98) Cats and dogs- Heavy rain
- 99) Charley horse- stiffness in the leg/ A leg cramp
- 100) Chew someone out- Verbally scold someone
- 101) Chip on his shoulder- Angry today about something that occurred in the past
- 102) Chow down- To eat
- 103) Clear- cut- Clearly stated, definite, apparent
- 104) Close but no cigar- To be near and almost accomplish a goal, but fall short
- 105) Close call- A situation involving a narrow escape from danger
- 106) Cock and bull story- An unbelievable tale, untrue story
- 107) Come hell or high water- Any difficult situation or obstacle
- 108) Crack someone up- To make someone laugh
- 109) Cross your fingers- To hope that something happens the way you want it to Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 61*
- 110) Cry wolf- Intentionally raise a false alarm
- 111) Cup of joe- A cup of coffee
- 112) Curtain lecture- A reproof by wife to her husband
- 113) Cut and dried- Ready made form
- 114) Cut to the chase- Leave out all the unnecessary details and just get to the point
- 115) Dark horse- One who was previously unknown and is now prominent
- 116) Day in and day out- Continuously, constantly
- 117) Dead Ringer- 100 % identical, a duplicate
- 118) Devil's advocate- Someone who takes a position for the sake of argument without believing in that
- 119) Dog days of summer- The hottest day of the summer season
- 120) Don't count your chickens before they hatch- Don't rely on it until you sure of it



- 121) Don't look a gift horse in the month- When someone gives you a gift, don't be ungrateful
- 122) Don't pull all your eggs in one basket- Do not pull all your resources in one possibility
- 123) Doozy- Something outstanding
- 124) Down to the wire- Something that ends at the last minute or last few seconds
- 125) Drastic times call for drastic measures- When you are extremely desperate you need to take extremely desperate actions
- 126) Drink like a fish- To drink very heavily, drinking anything
- 127) Dry run- Rehearsal
- 128) Egg on- To urge somebody
- 129) Eighty six- A certain item is no longer available. Or this idiom can also mean, to throw away
- 130) Elvis has left the building- The show has come to an end. It's all over
- 131) Ethnic cleansing- Killing of a certain ethnic or religious group on a massive scale
- 132) Ever and anon- Now and then
- 133) Every cloud has a silver lining- Be optimistic, even difficult times will lead to better days
- 134) Every other (one)- Every second (one), alternate (ones) Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com* Page 62
- 135) Everything but the kitchen sink- Almost everything and anything has been included
- 136) Excuse my French- Please forgive me for cussing
- 137) Fabian policy- Policy of delaying decisions
- 138) Face-to-face- Direct, personal; directly, personally (written without hyphens)
- 139) Fair and wide- Equal opportunity to all
- 140) Far and wide- Every where
- 141) Few and far between- Not frequent, unusual, rare
- 142) Field day- An enjoyable day or circumstance
- 143) Fifty- fifty- Divided into two equal parts
- 144) Finding your feet- To become more comfortable in whatever you are doing
- 145) Finger licking good- To become more comfortable in whatever you are doing
- 146) Fire and brimstone- A very tasty food or meal
- 147) Fire and fury- Fearful penalties



- 148) First and foremost- Extreme enthusiasm
- 149) Fishy: doubtful- Highest priority
- 150) Fixed in your ways- Not willing or wanting to change from your normal way of doing something
- 151) Flash in the pan- Something that shows potential or looks promising in the beginning but fails to deliver
- 152) Flea market- A swap meet. A place where people gather to buy and sell inexpensive goods
- 153) Flesh and blood- This idiom can mean living material of which people are made of, or it can refer to human nature
- 154) Flip the bird- To raise your middle finger at someone
- 155) Foam at the mouth- To be enraged and show it
- 156) Fools' Gold- Iron pyrites, a worthless rock that resembles real gold
- 157) Foot the bill- Bear expenses
- 158) For good- Permanently, forever
- 159) For once- This one time, for only one time
- 160) For sure- Without doubt (also: for certain) Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams
BankExamsToday.com Page 63
- 161) For the time being- Temporarily (also: for now)
- 162) Free and easy- Natural and simple
- 163) French kiss- An open mouth kiss where tongues touch
- 164) From now on- From this time into the future
- 165) From rags to riches- To go from very poor to being very wealthy
- 166) Fuddy- duddy- An old-fashioned and foolish type of person
- 167) Full monty- This idiom can mean either, "The whole thing" or "Completely nude"
- 168) Funny farm- A mental institutional facility
- 169) Gall and wormwood- Source of irritation
- 170) Get down to brass tacks- To become serious about something
- 171) Get over it- To move beyond something that is bothering you
- 172) Get up on the wrong side of the bed- Someone who is having a horrible day
- 173) Get your walking papers- Get fired from the job
- 174) Gird up the loin- To be ready



- 175) Give and take- Compromise, cooperation between people
- 176) Give him the slip- To get away from, to escape
- 177) Give in- Surrender
- 178) Go down like a lead balloon- To be received badly by an audience
- 179) Go for broke- To gamble everything you have
- 180) Go out on a limb- Put yourself in a tough position in order to support someone/ something
- 181) Go the extra mile- Going above and beyond whatever is required for the task at hand
- 182) Good Samaritan- Someone who helps others when they are in need, with no discussion for
- 183) Graveyard shift- Working hours from about 12:00 am to 8.00
- 184) Great minds think alike- Intelligent people think like each other
- 185) Green room- The waiting room, especially for those who are about to go on a TV or radio show
- 186) Gut feeling- A personal intuition you get, especially when feel something may not be right
- Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com* Page 64
- 187) Had better- Should, ought to, be advisable to
- 188) Hand a gloves- Very intimate friends
- 189) Hard and fast- Certain
- 190) Hard of hearing- Partially deaf, not able to hear well
- 191) Haste makes waste- Quickly doing things results in a poor ending
- 192) Hat Trick- When one player scores three goals in the same hockey game.
- 193) Haughty and naughty- Arrogant and naughty
- 194) Have an axe to grind- To have a dispute with someone
- 195) Have got- To have, to possess
- 196) Have got to- Must (also: have to)
- 197) He lost his head- Angry and overcome by emotions
- 198) Head and shoulder- Superior
- 199) Head over heels- Very excited and/ or joyful, especially when in love
- 200) Heart and soul- With full devotion
- 201) Hell in a hand basket- Deteriorating and headed for complete disaster
- 202) Helter Shelter-Here and there



- 203) Herculean task- A tedious job
- 204) High five- Slapping palms above each others heads as celebration gesture
- 205) High on the Hog- Living in luxury
- 206) Hit below the belt- Contrary the principles of fairness
- 207) Hit the books- To study, especially for a test or exam
- 208) Hit the hay- Go to bed or go to sleep
- 209) Hit the nail on the head- Do something exactly right or say something exactly right
- 210) Hit the sack- Go to bed or go to sleep
- 211) Hither and thither- Here and there
- 212) Hocus Pocus- In general, a term used in magic or trickery
- 213) Hold your horses- Be patient
- 214) Hole and corner policy- A secret policy for an evil purpose
- 215) Hornet's nest- Raise controversy
- 216) Hue and cry- Great noise Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams
BankExamsToday.com Page 65
- 217) Hush money- A bribe
- 218) Icing on the cake- When you already have it good and get something on top of what you already have
- 219) Idle hands are the devil's tools- You are more likely to get in trouble if you have nothing to do
- 220) If it's not one thing, it's another- When one thing goes wrong, then another, and another...
- 221) Ill at ease- Uncomfortable or worried in a situation
- 222) In a hurry- Hurried, rushed (also: in a rush)
- 223) In case- In order to be prepared if the meaning is in order to be prepared if something happens
- 224) In hand- Under firm control, well managed
- 225) In like Flynn- To be easily successful, especially when sexual or romantic
- 226) In no time- Very quickly, rapidly
- 227) In the bag- To have something secured
- 228) In the buff- Nude
- 229) In the heat of the moment- Overwhelmed by what is happening in the moment



- 230) In the long run- Eventually, after a long period of time
- 231) In the worst way- Very much, greatly
- 232) In time to- Before the time necessary to do something
- 233) In touch- Having contact
- 234) In vain- Useless, without the desired result
- 235) In your face- An aggressive and bold confrontation
- 236) Ins and outs- Full detail
- 237) Inside out- With the inside facing the outside
- 238) Intents and purposes- Practically
- 239) It figures- It seems likely, reasonable, or typical
- 240) It takes two to tango- A two person conflict where both people are at fault
- 241) It's a small world- You frequently see the same people in different places
- 242) It anyone's call- A competition where the outcome is difficult to judge or predict
- Important Idioms & Phrases For Bank Exams *BankExamsToday.com Page 66*
- 243) Ivory tower- Imaginary world
- 244) Ivy league- Since 1954 the Ivy league has been the following universities: Columbia, Brown, Cornell
- 245) Jaywalk- Crossing the street (from the middle) without using the crosswalk
- 246) Joshing me- Tricking me
- 247) Keep an eye on him- You should carefully watch him. Keep an eye on
- 248) Keep body and soul together- To earn a sufficient amount of money in order to keep yourself alive
- 249) Keep your chin up- To remain joyful in a tough situation
- 250) Kick the bucket- Die
- 251) Kith and kin- Blood relatives
- 252) Kitty-corner- Diagonally across. Sometimes called Catty- Corner as well
- 253) Knock on Wood- Knuckle tapping on wood in order to avoid some bad luck
- 254) Know the ropes- To understand the details
- 255) Last but not least- An introduction phrase to let the audience know that the last person mentioned is also very important
- 256) Last straw- The final event in a series of unacceptable actions
- 257) Latin and Greek- Unable to understand



- 258) Leave no stone unturned- Make all possible efforts
- 259) Lend me your ear- To politely ask for someone's full attention
- 260) Length and breadth- All over
- 261) Let along- and certainly not (also: not to mention, to say nothing of)
- 262) Let the cat out of the bag- To share a secret that wasn't suppose to be shared
- 263) Level playing field- A fair competition where no side has an advantage
- 264) Life and soul- Main support
- 265) Like a chicken and its head cut off- To act in a frenzied manner
- 266) Liquor someone up- To get someone drunk
- 267) Little by little- Gradually, slowly (also: step by step)
- 268) Live-wire- Energetic
- 269) Loaves and fish- Material interests Important
- 270) Lock and key- In safe place
- 271) Long in the tooth- Old people (or horses)
- 272) Loose cannon- Someone who is unpredictable and can cause damage if not kept in check
- 273) Make no bones about- To state a fact so there are no doubts or objections
- 274) Method to my madness- Strange or crazy actions that appear meaningless but in the end are done for a good reason
- 275) Might and main- With all enthusiasm
- 276) Milk and water- Weak
- 277) More or less- Approximately, almost, somewhat, to a certain degree
- 278) Mumbo Jumbo- Nonsense or meaningless speech
- 280) Mum's the word- To keep quiet, To say nothing
- 280) Narrow-minded- Not willing to accept the ideas of others