

“Death, in itself, is nothing, but we fear

To be we know not what,

We know not where.”

John Dryden



Idioms

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(A)

1. A bad egg (worthless fellow) Amjid is my bad egg.
2. A beast of burden (an animal carrying load) Donkey is a beast of burden.
3. A bed of roses (comfortable) My life is not a bed of roses.
4. A bed of thrones (full of difficulties and troubles) Coleridge's life was a bed of thrones.
5. A bird of prey (a bird that kills and eats other creatures) Eagle is a bird of prey.
6. A bird's eye view (a general account) Asad has a bird's eye view of his town.
7. A black sheep (a member of society who is not respected) My friend is a black sheep among his family members.
8. A blank cheque (permission to do what one feels necessary with freedom) I was given a blank cheque by my boss to carry out my plan.
9. A blue stocking (a woman who prides herself on her learning) Shameela is a beautiful girl and is known as a blue stocking by her friends.
10. A bond vivant (fond of good living) Everyone is a bond vivant.
11. At a stone throw (quite near) My college is at a stone throw from my home.
12. At a stretch (continuously) We cannot work the whole day at a stretch.
13. At bay (on the defensive) My brother kept the thieves at bay till we reached home.
14. At crack of dawn (very early in the morning) My brother wakes up at crack of dawn.
15. At dagger's drawn (at enmity) PTI and PML-(N) are at dagger's drawn with each other.

16. At hand (close, nearby) While reading, you keep your pens and pages at hand.
17. At large (free) In our country, the killers are at large.
18. At sea (at loss) His business is at sea nowadays.
19. At sixes and sevens (in disorder) Law is at sixes and sevens in Pakistan.
20. At the eleven hour (just in time) I reached the program at the eleven hour.

(B)

1. Bad blood (enmity) Misconception causes much bad blood between two friends.
2. Bad shot (wrong guess) We thought Ali would top the css, but it was a bad shot.
3. Balance of mind (sanity) He wrote his paper wrong in exam, because his balance of mind was disturbed.
4. Be at the bottom of (to be cause of something bad) I am at the bottom of my friend's accident on bike.
5. Be given carte balance (to be allowed complete freedom to act as one thinks best) I was given carte balance to select candidates for writing competition.
6. Be in doldrums (be in low spirit) If you will be in doldrums, you will not pass your competition.
7. Be staring someone in the face (easy for someone to see) I could not find my pen that I wanted, although it was staring me in the face.
8. Bear fruit (produce favorable result) I will work hard as my attempt will bear fruit.
9. Bear the brunt (bear the main stress or burden of a task) Government will have to bear the brunt of public demand after the election.

10. Beat about the bush (talk around the point, instead of coming to the point) We could understand you better if you talked exactly, instead of beating about the bush.

11. By dint of (as result of) By dint of my hardworking, I got the position in my career.

12. By fair means or foul (by any means) I have decided to pass my test by fair means or foul.

13. By fits and starts (irregularly) If you study by fits and starts, you will not pass the examination.

14. By the order of the day (something which happens frequently) He rides bike carelessly, there is the order of the day.

15. By the skin of one's teeth (scarcely avoiding the failure) I just caught the bus by the skin of my teeth.

16. By word of mouth (orally) He told his story to us by word of mouth, there was not any written statement.

17. Burn the candle at both sides (work the whole day and night) To make family life better, I have to burn the candle at both sides.

18. Bring home (make one realize) His hardworking brought home to me what the success really means.

19. Break the ice (put people at ease with each other) There was complete silence in the room of my friend's home, I broke the ice by offering cigarettes to my friends.

20. Blind date (an arranged meeting between two persons who never met before) It was a blind date between she and I.

(c)

1. Call a spade a spade (speaks plainly) My friend always calls a spade a spade to me.

2. Call attention to (draw attention to) News of my friend's accident called my attention to sorrow.

3. Call to amount (demand explanation) Vice Chancellor was called to amount for the increase of admission fees.
4. Carry away (overcome by emotion) Public prejudice always carries away me.
5. Carry weight (have influence with) I carry weight with honest businessmen.
6. Catch someone in the act (to discover someone doing something wrong) Killer was caught in the act of killing someone in the street.
7. Chain smoker (a person who continuously smokes cigarettes) Asad is a chain smoker.
8. Change one's tunes (adopt a different attitude) He often tells lies. When I catch him telling lies, he changes his tunes.
9. Child's play (something very easy) Passing C.S.S. Exam is not child's play.
10. Chips of the old block (of like nature) Akram is a soft boy, and his brother is chips of the old block.
11. Close shave (narrow escape from danger) I took a close shave from hitting a truck on high way.
12. Cold reception (lacking in warmth) Indian team was given cold reception in England for the tournament of World Cup.
13. Come into line (agree) He does not come into line with me in this issue.
14. Come on the scene (to appear) Rasheed came on the scene in tea party suddenly.
15. Come thick and fast (to come rapidly and in large number) The stones on nation of Looth (AS) came thick and fast from the sky.
16. Come to light (be discovered) Many facts regarding universe is coming to light.

17. Cross a bridge when one comes to it (not to bother about a problem) Do not weary about the test, first you cross the bridge when you come to it.

18. Cupboard love (affection springing from an interested motive) I have cupboard love for you, but you do not believe in me.

19. Cut one's own throat (act so as to ruin oneself) Due to my father, I am cutting my own throat.

20. Cut the Gordian knot (solve a difficult problem) I want to cut the Gordian knot from my father.

(D)

1. Damocles' sword (ready to kill the person) Foreign debt is Damocles' sword on Pakistan's economy.

2. Dance attendance on (attend on a person constantly, with the intention of comply all his wishes) Naseem is a rich person, and his friends dance attendance on him.

3. Day in, day out (to happen every day without any change) She goes to market day in, day out.

4. Destined to (to do something that is pro-planned) I am destined to create a new theory for short story writing.

5. Dirt cheap (at an excessively low price) Per day 500 is a dirt cheap for me income.

6. Discretion is the better part of valor (it is wise not to take unnecessary tasks) There was a fight on the road, first I wanted to participate, later, I decided discretion was the better part of valor, and I left the place.

7. Dispose of (to get rid of) I am ready to dispose of sun glasses.

8. Do someone's heart good (to give someone a feeling of pleasure) It does your heart good if you see motivational lectures.

9. Do yeoman service (to help in time of dire need) My friend always does yeoman service of me.
10. Dog cheap (very cheap) You got a laptop dog cheap at 30 thousands rupees.
11. Dog one's steps (constantly follow one) All Muslims must dog Prophet Mohammad's (PBUH) steps in this life.
12. Dot and carry one (irregularly) You are studying dot and carry one, it causes your hardworking.
13. Dot one's i's and cross one's t's (to take great care over detail) I dot my i's and cross my t's of my education.
14. Double dealing (trickery) You are a double dealing friend of mine.
15. Draw the line at (refuse to do or permit) I do not like your behavior, so I draw the line somewhere.
16. Drop a line (send a brief letter) She dropped a line to me as a love letter.
17. Dutch courage (courage that results from indulgence in strong drink) You have just Dutch courage, you cannot do anything.
18. Dispose of (to get rid of)
I want to dispose of father completely.
19. De facto (real) It cannot be believed that PTI government is de facto.

(E)

1. Eat one's heart out (to make oneself ill by being unhappy) Ali eats his heart out because parents are marrying him.
2. Every dog has his day (the period of enjoyment) I will be happy because every dog has his day.
3. Every now and then (frequently) The monsoon rain rains every now and then in Quetta.
4. Eye wash (trickery) His friendship is eye wash for me.

5. Eye opener (circumstances bring amusement) Shabeer topped css, it was eye opener to his friends.

(F)

1. Fish in troubled waters (interfere in a quarrel) American Govt. always fishes in troubled waters if a country has an issue.

2. Flash in the pan (a success that lasts a short time) My success is in flash in the pan after winning election.

3. Flesh and blood (human nature) Monkey is flesh and blood.

4. Flog a dead horse (waste one's effort on something that is decided already) People are persuading me to give an attempt of C.S.S. Exam, actually they are flogging a dead horse.

5. Face it out (to face the hostility courageously) I am ready to face it out.

6. Face the music (face the trouble) I am ready to face the music at any cost for my dreams.

7. Fair and Square (honest) Akram is fair and square to all.

8. Fall back upon (to depend on with confidence) I fall back upon to pass BPSC.

9. Fall into a decline (to lose vigor) She fell into a decline after seeing the death well.

10. False pretenses (intention to deceive people) Javed got sympathy by false pretenses.

11. From the bottom of heart (sincerely) I wish your success in the commission from the bottom of heart.

12. For the sake of (for someone) Every mother sacrifices for the sake of her children's happiness.

13. For good (forever) I am leaving Turbat for good.

14. Food for thought (activate mind) The failure in the commission gave me food for thought.

15. Fly off at a tangent (suddenly introduce a new topic into the discussion) We were solving the tussle between our friends, he flew off at a tangent, and put salt on the wound.

16. Fly in ointment (a minor incident that interferes with one's enjoyment) Broken of my handset is a fly in ointment in my life.

17. Follow in someone's footsteps (do as someone else did) I want to follow in Obama's footsteps to become a leader.

18. Few and far between (to be very uncommon) Modern fashion of boys is few and far between unless I adopt it.

19. Feel the pulse (to recognize the hidden emotions) I feel the pulse of you dear.

20. Feel run down (feel depressed or exhausted) Due to not getting married, I am feeling run down.

(G)

1. Gain ground (accomplish a victory) I will do my best to gain ground in the lectureship.

2. Generation gap (difference between attitude of young and old people) There is generation gap in the modern time.

3. Get cold feet (to be defeated on the hands of cowardice) I do not want to get cold in the lectureship test.

4. Get down to one's work (to gravely stabilize it) I have to get down my preparation for my post.

5. Get something across (to make something understand) I always get it across to my friends when the examination is near.

6. Get hold of the wrong end of the stick (misunderstand) She often gets hold of the wrong end of the stick when I show affection to her.

7. Get into hot water (to be in a degrade at the hands of stupidity) If you try to prompt him to do something wrong, you will get into hot water.

8. Get off the track (to be diverted from the main subject of discussion) You always get off the track, when we talk about current issues of Pakistan.

9. Get on one's nerves (to irritate someone) It gets on my nerves when dogs bark at night.

10. Get one's goat (to make someone angry) Amjid gets me goat when I come back home.

11. Grid up one's lions (to be prepared for deed) You broke the glass of his window, now you have to grid up your lions.

12. Good wine needs no bush (a good thing requires no advertisement) My cosmetics are good wine needs no bush.

13. Grasp the nettle (to settle a complexity with haste and steadiness) I have potential to grasp the nettle in any circumstances.

14. Go to pieces (to be very upset or nervous) I easily go to pieces in even normal condition.

15. Go of the deep end (lose one's temper) He often goes of the deep end when sees a fighting.

16. Go by the book (follow rules) Every citizen should go by the book in a country.

17. Give the game away (reveal someone's plans) We were arranging a surprise party, but Asad gave the game away.

18. Give rise to (cause to happen) British barbarism gave rise to Muslims' revolt which resulted War of Independence in 1857.

19. Give up the ghost (to die) He gave up the ghost last night.

20. Go all lengths (use every effort) I am ready to go all lengths in passing the job test.

(H)

1. Hand and glove (to be associated closely) Whatever people say, we are hand and glove together.

2. Hang by thread (to be in dangerous state) Car accident made his life hang by thread.
3. Happy medium (a satisfactory compromise between extremes) It is an happy medium for us after we settled our dispute.
4. Hard and fast (strict) There are hard and fast challenges in my life.
5. Harp on the same string (to discuss a particular topic continuously) Employees often harp on the same string when something special will happen in their office.
6. Haul down one's flag (to surrender) Pakistan Govt. is trying Talibans to haul down their flag.
7. Have a bone to pick (have a cause of complaint) I have a bone to pick with you about you opinions.
8. Have a face like a fiddle (look unhappy) Ali Sher always has a face like a fiddle after his engagement.
9. Have a knack for (special ability) I have a knack for writing English well.
10. Have a skeleton in the closet (have a bad secret) Naveed and Zubair have a skeleton in the closet, as they are involved in a murder case.
11. Hush money (black money) Smugglers give hush money to the government for their black business.
12. His days are numbered (short time to live) Akram's days are numbered.
13. Hit the mark (to achieve unsuccessful) As a student, he hit the mark in the job test.
14. Hold aloof (avoid getting associated with others) He is a person who wants to live by holding aloof.
15. Hold out a carrot (to encourage someone by promising a reward) I always hold out a carrot of chocolate to make my son study harder.

16. Hold no reason for (have no reason to support) I hold no reason in your this case.

17. Heave in sight (to appear) After a long search, the commission office heaved in sight.

18. Hear or tail (any sense) It is shame to you that you made no heard or tail of my accident.

19. Hedge one's bets (to do something in order to protect someone from a loss or criticism) I hedged his bets in his business.

20. Hold the stage (to get interest of the spectator) Shakespeare play Romeo and Juliet was as much interested as I held the stage for three hours.

(I)

1. In a body (all together) The students marched in a body to the office of headmaster.

2. In a jiffy (very soon) I will meet him in a jiffy.

3. In a nutshell (in brief) You describe your ideas in a nutshell.

4. In a state of nature (naked) Every child comes into life in a state of nature.

5. In cold blood (without passion) He expressed his love to Sammi in cold blood.

6. In consequence of (as a result of) You failed in exam in consequence of your negligence.

7. In deep water (in difficulty) My life is going in deep water.

8. In full swing (busy) In modern era, every man is in full swing.

9. In good faith (trusting) I lend you money in good faith, if you do not return to me, I will claim against you.

10. In no time (very quickly) He went in no time.

11. In one's favor (for one's benefit) He is doing this job in my favor.

12. In one's teens (between 13 and 19 years of age) Sameer is in his teens.

13. In quest of (in search of) Many scientists are in quest of God.

14. In season and out of season (at all time) He is joking in season and out of season.

15. In the air (being talked about) The amendment for disable persons is in the air.

16. In the long run (in the end) I will tell you the truth in the long run of story.

17. In the neck of time (just in time) He reached the seminar in the neck of time.

18. In the seventh heaven (extremely happy) You are lucky person that you are in the seventh heaven.

19. In the wake of (following close upon) The storm was happened in the wake of excessive rain.

20. Iron curtain (an ideological barrier between capitalist and socialist countries) There is going on iron curtain between America and Russia.

(J)

1. Join forces (to make a bond so as to use joint force) Government should join forces, and remedy out the terrorism.

2. Join issue with (to dispute with) You always join issue with me on miner issue.

3. Jump the gun (to do something before the right time) I begin to jump the gun, and start discussing the upcoming political matters.

14. Jump the queue (to push oneself in) There was a large line standing for the food, and he jumped the queue to get the food early.

(K)

1. keep a stiff upper lip (to preserve your valor) Every girl keeps a stiff upper lip in the modern society.

2. keep abreast of (to know all of the most facts about a subject) I am well abreast of Balochi Language.
3. keep a firm hand on (to check) My teacher always kept a firm hand on us.
4. keep a secret (not to tell anyone) You have to keep it secret for the sake of our love.
5. keep an eye on (to watch over) Please keep an eye on my new cell phone kept in the room.
6. keep an open mind (to make no judgment regarding a particular subject of debate) I kept an open mind on your issue.
7. keep hold of (not let to go) We always keep hold of our children's hands.
8. keep in with a person (to establish a good association with a person) I keep in with my friends well.
9. keep one's hand in (to be prepared) I keep my hand in for the test.
10. keep one's ear to the ground (to pay attention) If you keep your ear to the ground, you will understand the matter very soon.
11. Keep one's nose to the grindstone (to work hard persistently) I am keeping my nose to the grindstone for the commission.
12. Keep one's temper (not get angry) It does not keep his tempter whether you ridicule him.
13. Keep pace with (walk abreast) It is not possible to keep pace with all changes created in the company.
14. Keep the pot boiling (to earn your keep) It is difficult for you to keep the pot boiling nowadays.
15. Keep to one's own line (to take action) I am confident person; I always keep to my line.
16. Keep your powder dry (to be prepared for an urgent situation) Government must keep its powder dry to face the terrorism.

17. Kiss the dust (to experience disgrace) I kissed the dust in the jail.
18. Kith and kin (friends and relations) I will invite all my kith and kin to my marriage.
19. Know a hawk from a handsaw (to be able to judge between things fairly) Ali and Akbar were tussling on a miner issue, I knew a hawk from a handsaw, and I settled their tussle.
20. Know all answers (able to deal with all developments) I can lead the organization because I know all answers.

(L)

1. Lame excuse (unsatisfactory reason given to defend the conduct) I asked Asad why he did not accomplish my task, he gave lame excuse to me that he was busy in the studies.
2. Laugh up one's sleeves (to smile at back) It is not good to laugh up other sleeves while listening to them.
3. Lay bare (to display) I laid bare my feelings to her that I love her.
4. Lay one's cards on the table (to reveal one's true intentions) Ameer laid his friend's cards on the table, so the misunderstanding was solved.
5. Lay the corner stone (to make regular beginning) I will lay the corner stone after getting a post.
6. Lead by the nose (control a person) I always lead Ali by the nose not to make a mistake in his career.
7. Learn one's lesson (to reform after experiencing the result of mistakes) I learn my lesson after the boss notices my negligence in the office.
8. Leave high and dry (left in a difficult situation) You left me high and dry instead of being good friend.
9. Lend a hand (help) Today it is impossible to lend a hand to someone poor.

10. Lend one's name to (allow it to be quote) Toyota Company lent its name to the car being manufactured by it.
11. Lick one's wounds (feel very sore after a sever defeat) I am still licking my wounds as my team defeated in Apsar Premier League.
12. Lick someone's boots (to flatter someone) It is common nowadays that people lick rich people's boots for gaining the profits.
13. Like a ton of bricks (immediately and heavily) My friend met me on the road like a ton of bricks as I told him to meet me.
14. Like clockwork (very smoothly) Everything is going like clockwork.
15. Like getting blood out of a stone (very difficult) To make him understand is like getting blood out of a stone.
16. Like one's bread buttered on both sides (to live in comfortable life) Everyone wants to like his/her bread buttered on both sides.
17. Loaves and fishes (material gains) People fight for loaves and fishes to each others.
18. Look as if butter would not melt in one's mouth (to appear honest and innocent) Amjid sat with me looking as if butter would not melt in his mouth; although he caused each and every thing bad among the friends.
19. Look blue (very sad and depressed) He is looking blue after failing in the exam.
20. Lose heart (to become discouraged) He is now lose heart after not getting his goal.

(M)

1. Maiden's speech (one's first speech) I delivered a speech on the economic crisis of Pakistan in the international economic, it was my maiden's speech.
2. Make a blue print of (to make a plan) He is making a blue print of new society.

3. Make a bolt for it (run away suddenly) I made a bolt for it when saw Amjid's dog that is very dangerous.
4. Make a clean breast of (to make full confession) If you want to release from the problem, you have to make a clean breast of your case.
5. Make a clean sweep (to get rid of everything unwanted) I made a clean sweep of rubbish persons in the party.
6. Make a fool of (to trick) You made a fool of me giving old notes as new.
7. Make a hit (make a success) I want to make a hit in the lectureship.
8. Make a mountain out of mole-hill
9. Make a mouth (at) (make a wry face as in contempt)
10. Make a noise about (talk in order to get attention) I will make a noise of blood cancer as a serious issue in our society.
11. Make an exhibition of oneself (to show yourself as stupid by your behavior) He always makes an exhibition of himself by abusing the passers-by in the street.
12. Make away with oneself (to commit suicide) I am trying to make away with myself due to negligence of parents.
13. Make havoc of (to ruin) The social media is making havoc with the morals of the young people.
14. Make eyes at (look loving at) I often see you make eyes at Shamsal.
15. Make neither head nor tail of something (fail to grasp the meaning) I make neither head nor tail of your statement written to Prime Minister.
16. Make no bones about (do not hesitate) You make no bones about delivering your speech on the stage.
17. Make someone's blood boil (to make someone very angry) Your attitude makes my blood boil.

18. Make someone's blood run cold (to frighten someone very much)
The shadow at night made my blood run cold.

19. Mare's nest (a false alarm) The government announced to provide the laptops to all freely, but it was just a mare's nest.

20. Meet halfway (compromise) The government meets halfway with our demands otherwise we go for the hunger strike.

(N)

1. Nail one's colors to the mast (to firmly declare one's principles as permanent) I nail my colors to the mast that I compromise with no one in the education.

2. Neat as a pin (very neat and tidy) His speech was neat as a pin delivered on the stage.

3. Neck and neck (close together in a contest) Ali and I are neck and neck in the tournament.

4. Never say die (don't despair) Man never says die from the blessings of Allah.

5. Nook and corner (everywhere) Syed Zahoor Shah Hashmi went in nook and corner for Balochi Language.

6. Not fit to hold a candle to (not good enough to be compared with) My boss is not fit to hold a candle to me in the office.

7. Now and then (occasionally) It rains now and then in Islamabad.

8. Null and void (ineffective) Imran Khan's role is null and void in the government.

(O)

1. Odds and ends. (miscellaneous items) Our room is full of odds and ends.

2. Of late. (Recently) I have arrived home of late.

3. Of no avail. (of no use) My car is of no avail.

4. Of one's own accord. (of one's own free will) He resigned his job of his own accord.
5. Of the first water. (of the highest quality) I have a watch of the first water.
6. Off and on. (irregularly) Do not read off and on if you want to pass commission.
7. Off hand. (in a careless) I cannot write even a single line off hand.
8. Once and for all. (completely, and finally) You have to pass the commission once and for all.
9. On one's bended knees. (in a humble manner) I will forgive you if you say sorry to me on your bended knees.
10. On the contrary. (on the other hand) On the contrary, the government is facing public threat.
11. Out and out (completely) He proved a bad person out and out.
12. Out of bounds (outside the permitted area) The theatre for drama shows is out of bounds for the audience.
13. Out of harm's way (in a safe place) I keep my jewelries in a shelf that is out of harm's way.
14. Out of sorts (unusual) Asad is an out of sorts boy.
15. Out of the question (impossible, not to be discussed at all) The question paper is out of the question to understand.
16. Out of the wood (out of difficulties) My life is not out of wood.
17. Over and above (besides) Over and above his shops, he also has factories.
18. Over and over again (repeatedly) You are asking me the same question over and over again.
19. Over-head and ears (completely) I am suffering in pain over-head and ears.
20. Out of one's mind (mad) Ali is out of his mind.

(P)

1. Piddle one's own canoe (to rely on oneself alone) He believes in piddle his own canoe that he can pass the competition.
2. Paint in glowing color (to express eagerly) He had a good news for his success and painted in glowing color to friends.
3. Pass away (die) My grandfather passed away last year.
4. Pass the buck (transform responsibility to someone else) The head master passed the buck to a teacher in his absence for few days.
5. Pave the way (make the condition easy) I paved the way for my preparation of commission.
6. Pay through the nose (pay very dearly) I am paying through the nose for my sin of leaving the post.
7. Pick someone's brain (to ask someone) I picked Ali's brain that could he solve the matter?
8. Pin one's faith to (to completely depend on) I was wrong to pin my faith to her.
9. Plain sailing (a trouble free course of action) I solved my all problems, it is now plain sailing for me.
10. Play ducks and drakes with one's money (to lavishly spend money) People of Gawader played ducks and drakes with their money after selling their lands.
11. Pluck up courage (become brave) If you want to change your life, you have to pluck up courage.
13. Pocket an insult (to tolerate) If somebody abuses you, you have to pocket an insult.
13. Poke one's nose into (to meddle in others' affairs) You are not good that you poke your nose in the problems of others.

14. Pour oil on troubled waters (to end a dispute by your action or words) There was a long quarrel between us, my friend poured oil on troubled waters.

15. Presence of mind (ability to think calmly in a crisis) The presence of mind is required in the interview of commission.

16. Pros and cons (minute discussion) After the pros and cons, it was finalized he ought to marry Jameela.

17. Pull a long face (to look very somber) He pulled a long face on not understanding the question paper in the commission.

18. Pull one's legs (try for a joke) I will be hurt if you pull my legs.

19. Pull the strings (do something from behind) Amjid is a person who pulls the strings.

20. Put one across on someone (to deceive) Shakir put one across on me, but I will revenge him.

(Q)

1. Quarrel with one's own tools (to find fault with the work) He was foolish to quarrel with his own work.

(R)

1. Rack one's brain (make mental effort to find an answer) If you get a problem, you will rack your brain for the solution.

2. Rank and file (the important and humble people) Whenever a problem occurs in the society, you have to discuss with the rank and file to find the solution.

3. Rat race (competitive struggle in the work) In modern era, there is rat race for the fame.

4. Red tape (official formality and delay) It is red tape the examination is not being conducted soon.

5. Refuse to soil one's hands (to turn down an idea of committing a bad deed) He refused to soil his hands by supporting them in the murder.

6. Render an account for (to give detail for) Everyone has to render an account of his work in the annual report.
7. Rest on one's oar (to stop working for a time, and have a rest) I am resting on my oar after working hard in office whole the day.
8. Ring the bell (remind something) Prof. Arshad rings the bell. He was a man who gave a speech on morality last night.
9. Rise to the occasion (to show that one is able) Akbar rises to the occasion in guiding the students in the preparation of commission.
10. Rock the boat (to disturb a good arrangement) You have not to rock the boat by changing your plan in your decision.
11. Round the clock (the whole day and whole night) If you want to pass in the commission, you have to work round the clock.
12. Rub shoulders (with) (be associated with) I am rubbed shoulders with Famous Publication.
13. Rule something out (to eliminate) I rule all friends out who are disturbing me.
14. Run amuck (full of brutal rage) My dog ran amuck when I teased.
15. Run an errand (do work for) I often run an errand for my friends.
16. Run short (to have inadequate amount) I am running short of money nowadays.
17. Run riot (act without restraint) Imagination is only source that runs riot.
18. Rush to a conclusion (to make an inference quickly) You have to explain your essay clearly, before rushing to a conclusion.
19. Root and branch (to remove or destroy completely) Government destroyed the town root and branch.
20. Road test (read worthiness of a vehicle) Before buying a car, you have to notice its road test.

(S)

1. Save one's face (to avoid embarrassment) Girls often save their faces after failure in the exam.
2. Save one's skin (to sidestep due to risk) Everyone saves his skin from the terrorism.
3. Scrape a living (to earn that would enable you to live on) Today it is difficult to scrape a living due to inflation.
4. Screw up one's courage (to endeavor) You have to screw up your courage before confronting to a lion.
5. See with half an eye (to see without difficulty) I have seen with half an eye that Anees was upset.
6. Sell something for a song (for a very little amount) He has sold his car for a song.
7. Serve one's needs (meet one's requirements) Education serves my needs.
8. Serve one's time (to work as an apprentice for an agreed number of years) He serves his time for my project.
9. Set an example (to establish as a model) Parents must set an example for the children.
10. Set measure to (to limit) You have to set measure to your ambition.
11. Sick at heart (very sorrowful) I am very sick at heart nowadays.
12. Sit on the fence (remain uncommitted) If you want to get success, you have not to sit on fence.
13. Sleeping partner (one who provides a share of capital of a business) I want to be sleeping partner in my life.
14. Slip one's mind (forget) You told me to bring something from market, but it slipped my mind.
15. Smell a rat (suspect something is fishy) I smell a rat in your story that is not true.
16. Snake in a grass (a treacherous person) Ali is a snake in a grass.

17. Snap one's finger at (to show disrespect for) It was not good you snapped your finger at me in public.
18. Sour grapes (disappointment) Life becomes dull if there is sour grapes.
19. Speak one's mind (reveals one's views frankly) You should speak your mind to me.
20. Spin a yarn (to narrate a story) I like to spin a yarn.

(T)

1. Take aback (to astonish) He took back me by saying that there was special for me.
2. To give up (to leave) After his failure, he gave up the commission.
3. Take one's cue from somebody (follow someone's examples) We have to take our cue from humble persons.
4. Take someone's mind off something (help someone to stop thinking about something) I took Akram to a zoo to take his mind off his failure in commission.
5. Take a leaf out of someone's book (follow someone's example) I took a leaf of my brother's book to help needy persons.
6. Take measures (to work in accordance with the scheme) The government must take measures for the rights of disable persons.
7. Take one's time (act leisurely) I take my time to find a solution for our rights.
8. Talk the hind leg off a donkey (to talk a great deal and for a long time) I like this little girl, but she would talk the hind leg off a donkey.
9. Tell apart (to recognize the difference between) I cannot tell them apart.
10. Tell its own tale (to make it easy to see what has happened) Your weariness tells its own tale.
11. To and fro (in opposite direction) He is standing to and fro.

12. To be born with a silver spoon in one's mouth (to be born of a rich family) Arshed was born with a silver spoon in his mouth.
13. To be in the cloud (to build castles in the air) He has been in the cloud since passed the written test of css.
14. To be on the wane (declining) Mr. Amjid's reputation is on the wane.
15. To be one's on last legs (about to fall) It is clear to everyone Imran Khan's government is on its last legs.
16. To turn over a new leaf (to change for the better) Life will turn over a new leaf after the marriage.
17. To weather the storm (to face a difficulty successfully) I have weathered a storm in life.
18. Turn tail (run away in a cowardly way) Akram turned tail after seeing the hardships in the journey.
19. To try one's luck (to see if he would get success) My friends are trying my luck.
20. To throw mud at (to abuse) We should not throw mud at others, rather we should care the respect to each other.

(U)

1. Under a bushel (secretly) You did a picnic under a bushel.
2. Under a cloud (to disgrace) Ali's name was mentioned under a cloud in public protest as he ate the rights of disable persons.
3. Under aegis of someone (with the moral support of someone) If we work under aegis of intellectual people, we will meet our needs.
4. Under consideration (being taken into account) My application to commission is still under consideration.
5. Under fire (to do something dangerous) I know it is under fire for me to challenge the government.

6. Under lock and key (safely locked away) All doors are under lock and key.

7. Under one's breath (in a whisper) He said something to me under his breath.

8. Up to one's eyes in something (deeply involved in something) I am up to my eyes in your decision for protesting against injustice.

9. Up to the chin (very busy with) I am up to the chin in checking the papers.

10. Ups and down (changes in fortunes) There comes ups and down in the life.

11. Under one's thumb (under one's complete control) The English Department is under my thumb.

12. Upset the applecart (to spoil the plans or programs) We were planning for the picnic to Bolan but Ali upset the applecart by bringing his little brother.

13. Upside with a (person) (on an equal footing with)

(V)

1. Vicious circle. The vicious circle of corruption is demolishing the economy.

(W)

1. Wash dirty linen in public (discuss personal matter of unpleasant nature before stranger) I understood Zahib, but he washed dirty linen of his brother in public.

2. Wave the bloody shirt.

3. What the doctor ordered (the very thing that is needed) In the rain, the coffee is what the doctor ordered.

4. When all is said and done (considering all the facts) I passed my written test, I was selected after when all is said and done.

5. When the balloon goes up (when the trouble starts) You were absent when the balloon went up.
6. White elephant (expensive possession financially burden to maintain)
7. Win one's laurels (win honor) I have won my laurels in the society.
8. Wishful thinking (unrealistic thinking based on hopes rather than facts) I would marry G, but it was wishful thinking.
9. With a view to (in order to) I wrote this letter with a view to raise voice for disabled persons.
10. With an eye to main chance (thinking of one's own chance of getting profit) He became the millionaire by taking every decision with an eye to the main chance.
11. With flying colors (honorably) I was welcomed on the stage with flying colors.
12. With high hand (imperiously) I prepare for the commission with high hand that I will get the first position.
13. With one foot in the grave (having very short time to live) John Keats wrote many poems if he did not have one foot in the grave.
14. With one's eyes open (with full awareness of what one is doing) I am with my eyes open of this matter which you are doing.
15. With open arms (warmly) She hugged me with open arms.
16. Within an ace of (very near to) You are within an ace of success.
17. Work like a Trojan (to exert yourself vigorously) For success, everyone works like a Trojan.

(Y)

1. You can't both have your cake and eat

(Z)

1. Zero hour (the time at which something is planned to begin) The army is waiting for zero hour to attack the enemy.

Past Paper Idioms

1. The ins and outs.

2. Lunch Law.

3. No love lost between them.

4. Make hair stand on end.

5. To back out (fail to keep a promise) Politicians often back out after winning the election.

6. To take to one's heel.

7. To bury the hatchet (to cease fighting) India has to bury the hatchet, and lives in peace in Asian Regions.

8. Below the belt (not following the accepted rules, unfair, cruel) Nonsense people often talk vulgarly to others that is below the belt.

9. Once in a blue room (hardly ever) It rains once in a blue room in Mekran Zone.

10. To bell the cat (to do something risky) Everyone should bell the cat for glorious future.

11. Good for nothing.

12. To die in harness (to expire while still at work) My friend died in harness in his office.

13. Hair stood on ends.

14. To fair and squire. I perform my duty in fair and squire after getting my job.

15. To be in a fix.

16. To blow one's own trumpet (to praise oneself highly in public)
Politicians often blow one's own trumpet during election.

17. Through thick and thin.

18. To end in smoke (to end without being fulfilled) My all hopes ended in smoke after eye weakness.

19. To leave no stone unturned (do everything possible) I will leave no stone unturned to get my job.

20. To be at dagger drawn (having argument with angry with each other) I am always at dagger drawn with my uncle.

21. A storm in a tea cup (getting excited about something not important) It is a storm in a tea cup when people argue for going market.

22. A chilles' heel.**24. To pay the debt of nature.****25. Tied to one's apron string.**

26. Within an ace of (very near to) He was within an ace of death after mouth cancer.

27. To full a long face.

28. Blink the fact (ignore the fact) It is true you have committed the blunder, do not blink the fact.

29. Cut a sorry figure (make an impression that causes oneself to be regarded unfavorably by others) I cut a sorry figure to my friends when I stood before them without shoes.

30. Eye wash (nonsense or foolishness) Your speech was totally eye wash.

31. Smell a rat (suspect someone or something wrong) I smelled a rat
Amjid was a thief in our colony.

32. Birds of feather (similar in many ways) Ali and Waseem are birds of feather.

33. French leave (leaving an official or social event without noticing the person who invited you) My friend took a French leave in our boss tea party.

34. Cock and bull story (false story) Politicians often tell cock and bull story to public to gain their sympathy.

35. Gift of the gab (speak confidently and easily) Ehsan has gift of the gab that he can deliver his speech before audience.

36. To say ditto to.

37. Head in clouds (pay no attention to other) Jamal is a romantic boy. He always gets his head in clouds in the class.

38. When pig flies. You will go to America when a pig flies.

39. Break a leg (to wish someone good luck) Break a leg to you. You became a C.S.S. Exam.

40. Hue and cry (noise) Government woke up after the public rose a great hue and cry.

41. Let the grass grow under one's feet (to wait before doing something. Used in negative statement) He never lets the grass grow under his feet whenever he is with me.

42. Make one's hair stand on end (to horrify someone) Last night the voice of wind made my hair stand on end.

43. Find one's feet (learning what to do and gaining self-confidence) Every trainee finds one's feet after appointment.

44. A silver lining (something positive after negative) I have my silver lining to get a good job instead of suffering eye weakness.