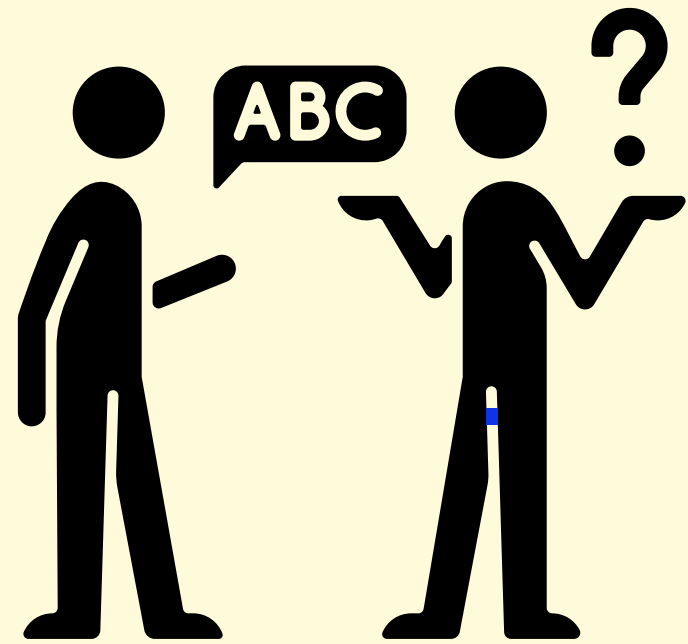




# English IDIOMS

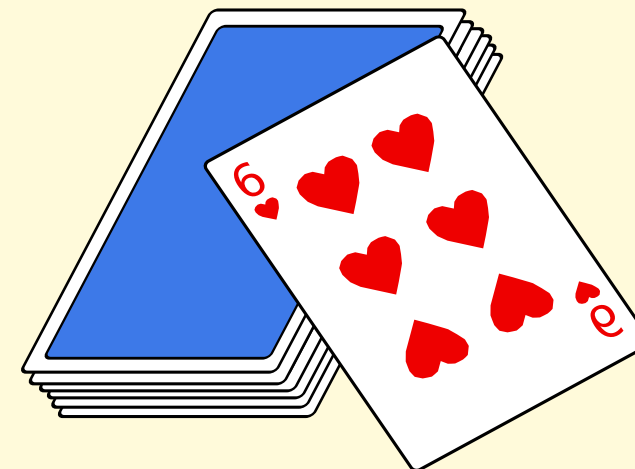


*"a group of words in a fixed order that has a particular meaning that is different from the meanings of each word on its own."*

**CAMBRIDGE DICTIONARY**

# Not playing with the full deck

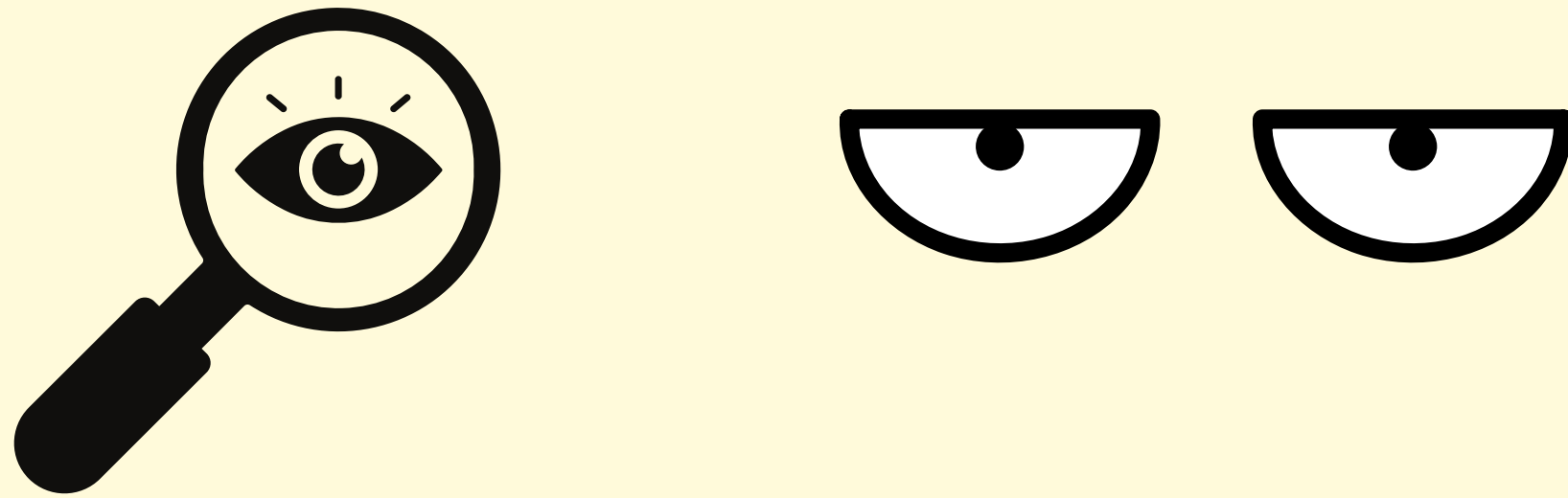
*To not be completely honest in a contest or discussion, and therefore have an unfair advantage over other people.*



"This guy is either very clever or he's **not playing with a full deck.**"

# See eye to eye

*If two people see eye to eye, they agree with each other.*



"My sisters don't **see eye to eye** with me about the arrangements. "

# Actions speak louder than words

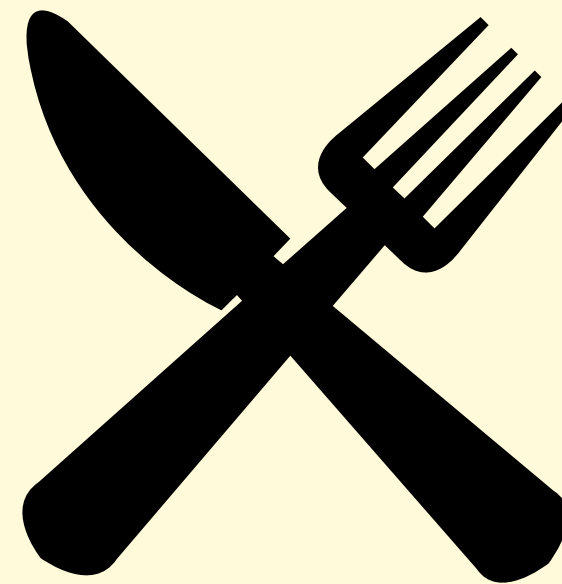
*Said to emphasize that what you do is more important and shows your intentions and feelings more clearly than what you say.*



"Team USA is not expected to win, but they believe **actions speak louder than words.**"

# Have your cake and eat it too

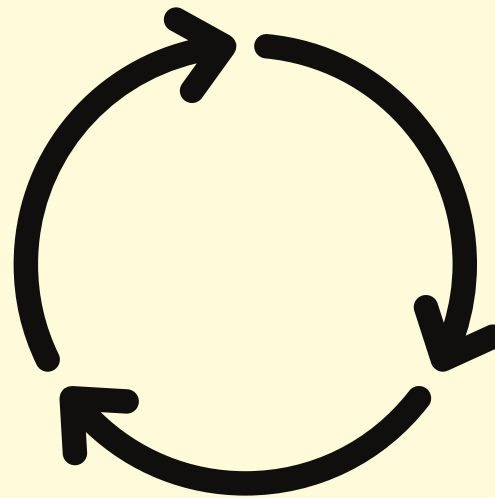
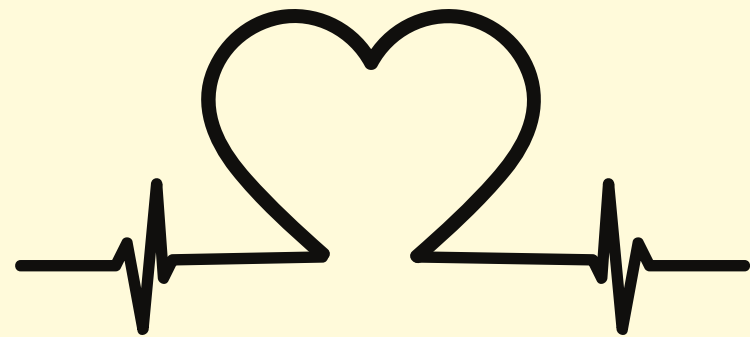
*To have or do two good things at the same time that are impossible to have or do at the same time.*



**"You can't have your cake and eat it – if you want more local services, you can't expect to pay less tax."**

# Beat around the bush

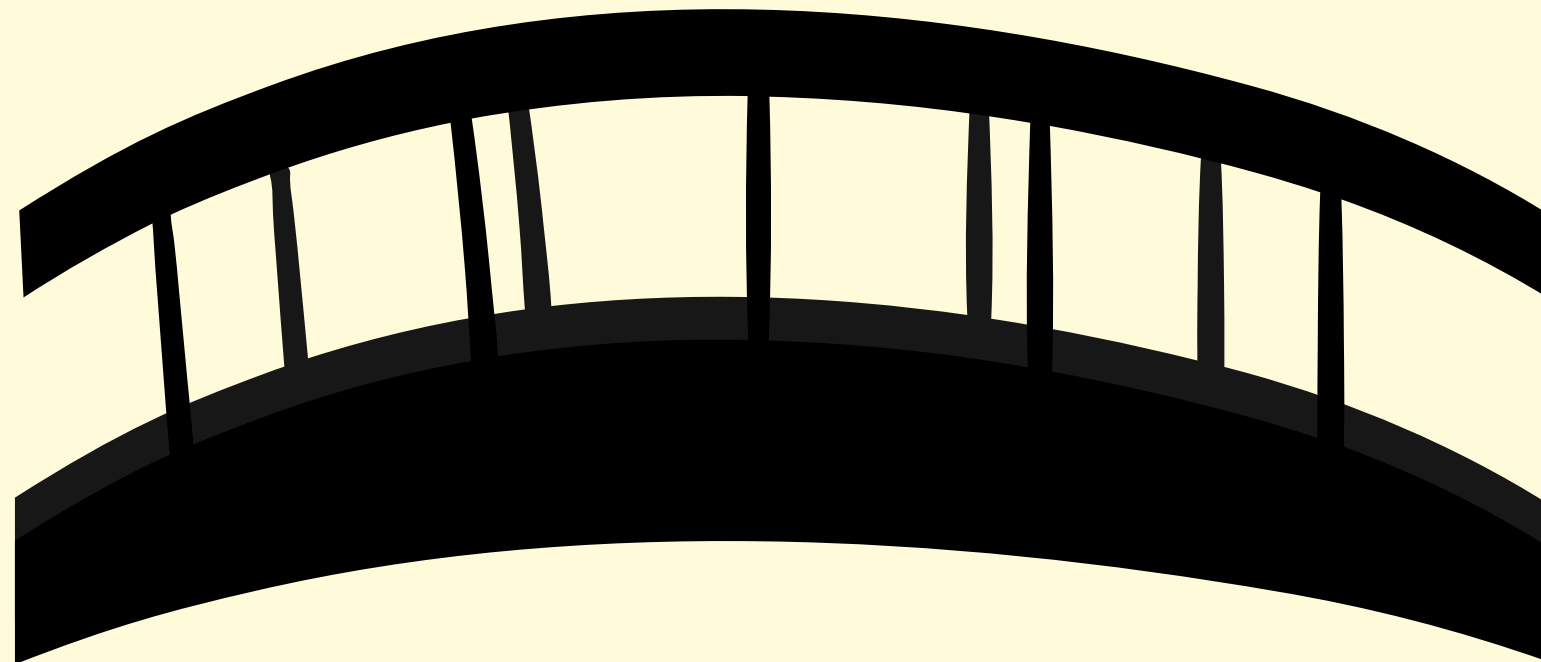
*You're purposely avoiding the topic in subject, not speaking directly about the issue.*



**"Don't beat around the bush - get to the point!"**

# We'll cross that bridge when we come to it

*An expression that means you will not worry about a possible future problem but will deal with it if it happens.*



"You can't make me talk to you." "No, but the police can." **"I'll cross that bridge when I come to it'."**

# Egg on your face

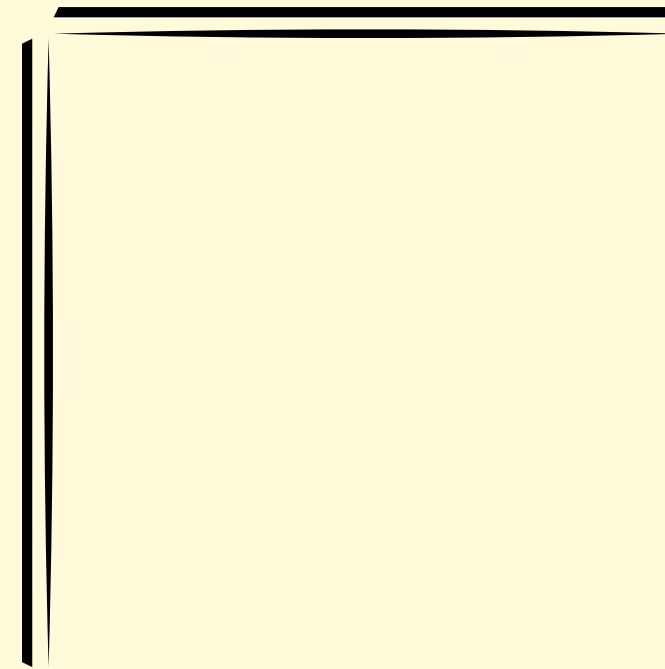
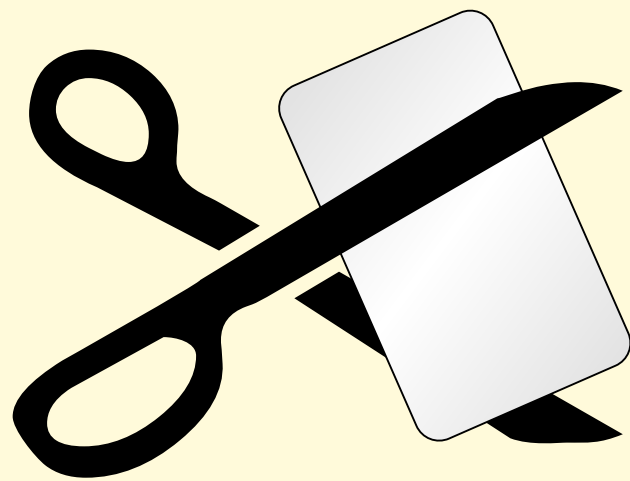
*If you have egg on your face, you look stupid because of something that you have done.*



"This latest scandal has left the government with **egg on its face.**"

# Cutting corners

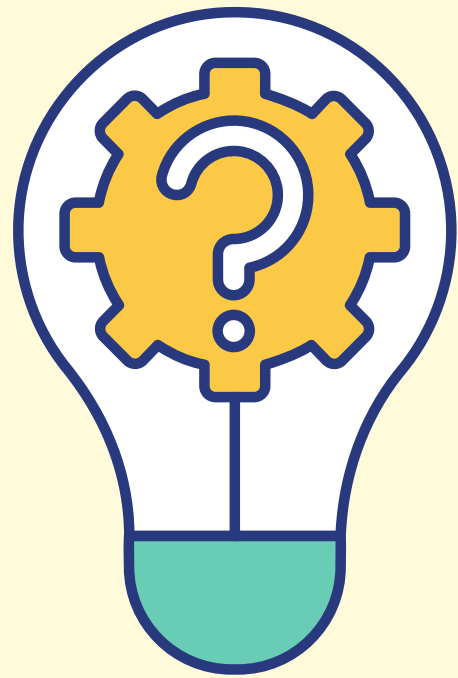
*To do something in the easiest, cheapest, or fastest way.*



"I don't like to **cut corners** when I have company for dinner."

# Your guess is as good as mine

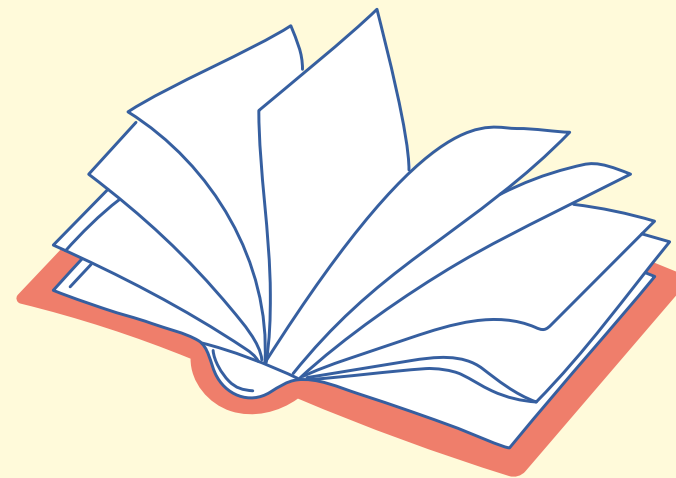
*I have no way of knowing exactly what happened or what will happen.*



"Do you think she'd go out with me if I asked her?" **"Your guess is as good as mine."**

# You can't judge a book by its cover

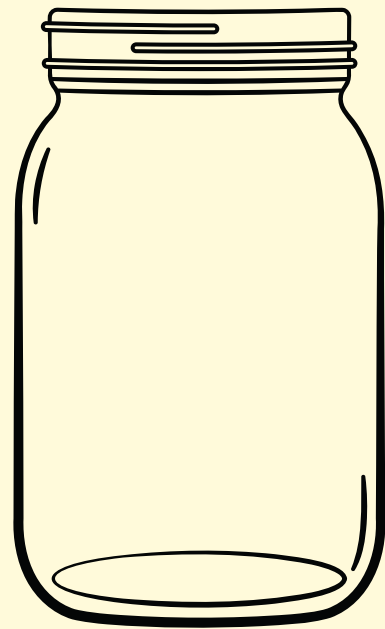
*Said to show that you cannot know what something or someone is like by looking only at that person or thing's appearance.*



**"You can't judge a book by its cover.** Just because someone looks strange doesn't mean they're not a nice person"

# The pot calling the kettle black

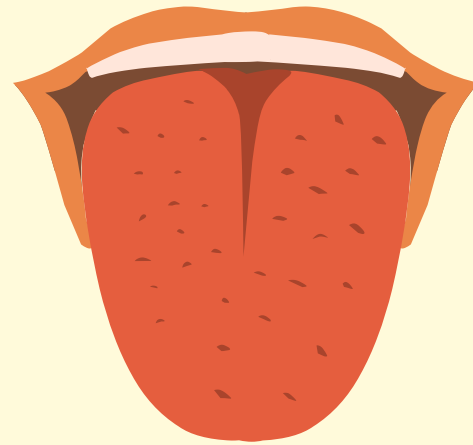
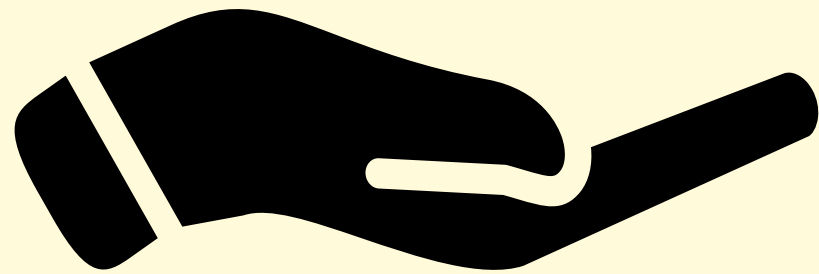
*Someone criticizing someone else he is just as bad.*



"For him to be in a job telling people how to be safe driving is pretty much **the pot calling the kettle black.**"

# Give someone a taste of their own medicine

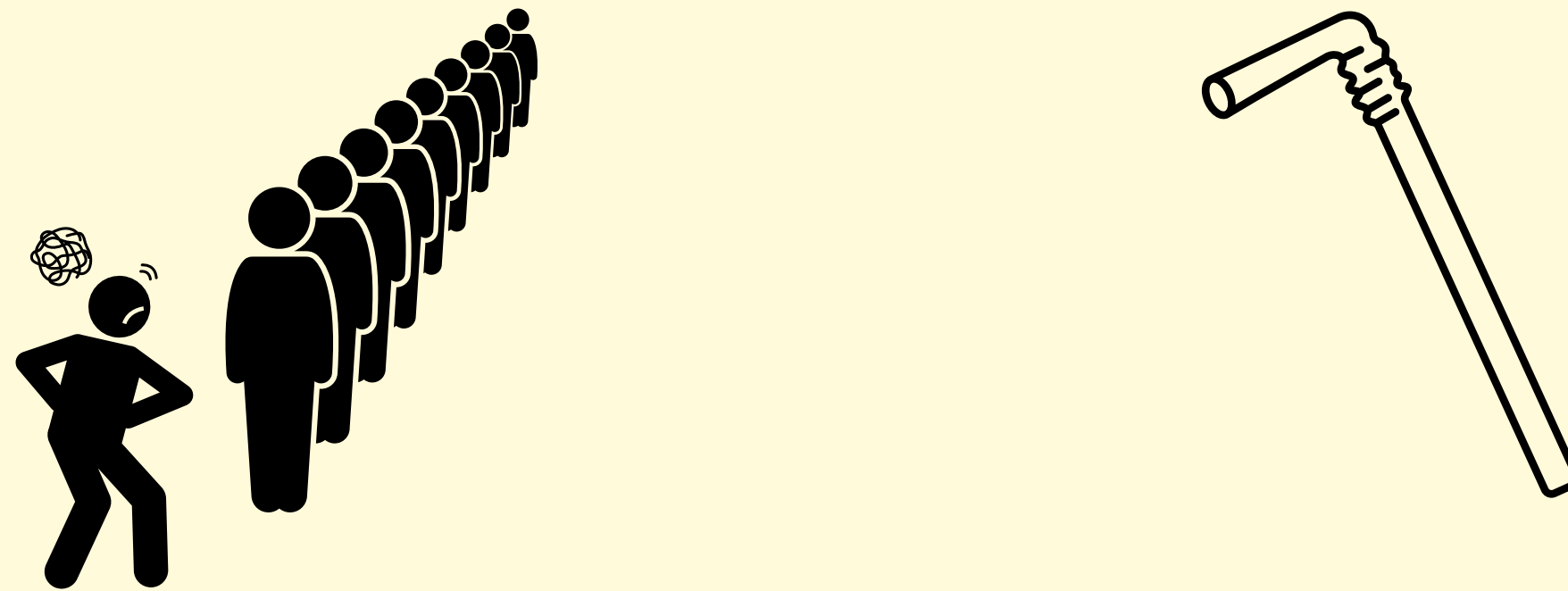
*To treat someone as badly as they have treated you.*



"I'm glad somebody decided to **give them a taste of their own medicine.**"!

# That's the last straw

*The latest problem in a series of problems, that makes a situation impossible to accept.*



**"The last straw** was when the company fired most of the managers."

# Don't give up the day job

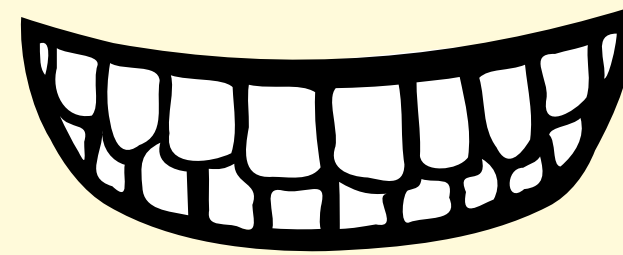
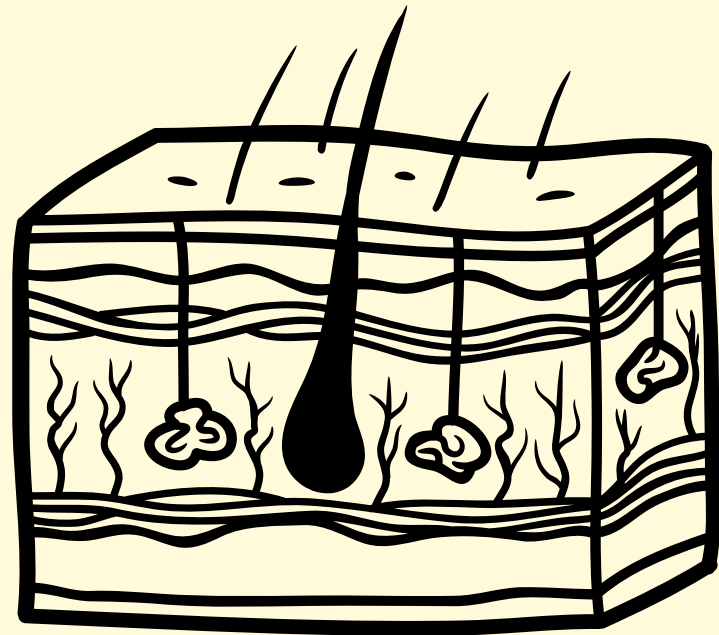
*If someone tells you not to give up the day job, they are saying that they think you should continue doing what you are good at, rather than trying something new which they think you will fail at.*



"I started my business in the middle of a recession. People thought I was mad and said: **`Don't give up the day job'.**"

# By the skin of your teeth

*If you do something by the skin of your teeth, you just manage to do it.*



"He won, but only **by the skin of his teeth.**"

# Bite off more than you can chew

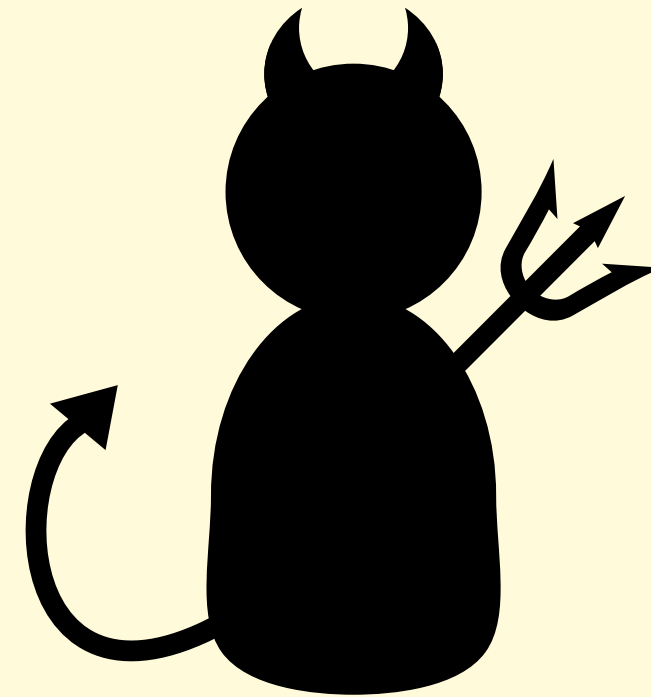
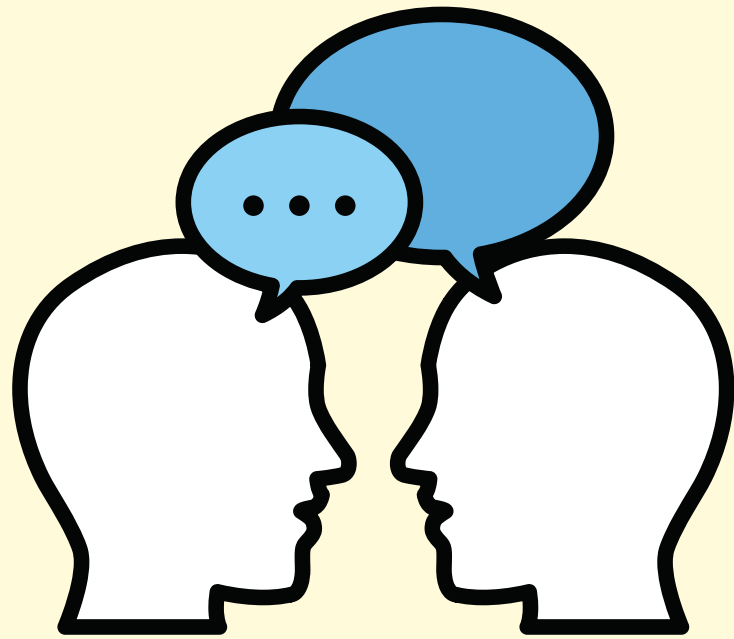
*You're trying to accomplish something that is too difficult for you.*



"I think he's **bitten off more than he can chew** taking all those classes."

# Speak of the devil

*Something you say when the person you were talking about appears unexpectedly.*



"Did you hear what happened to Anna yesterday - oh, **speak of the devil**, here she is."

# Don't cry over spilt milk

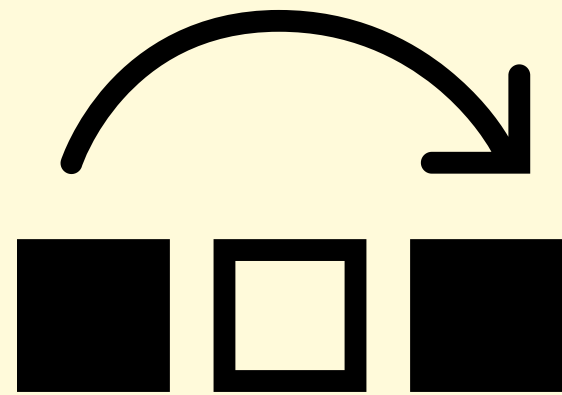
*To feel sorry or sad about something that has already happened; used to emphasize that this is not helpful.*



"It's no use **crying over spilled milk** – he's spent all the money, and there's nothing you can do about it."

# your heart skips/misses a beat

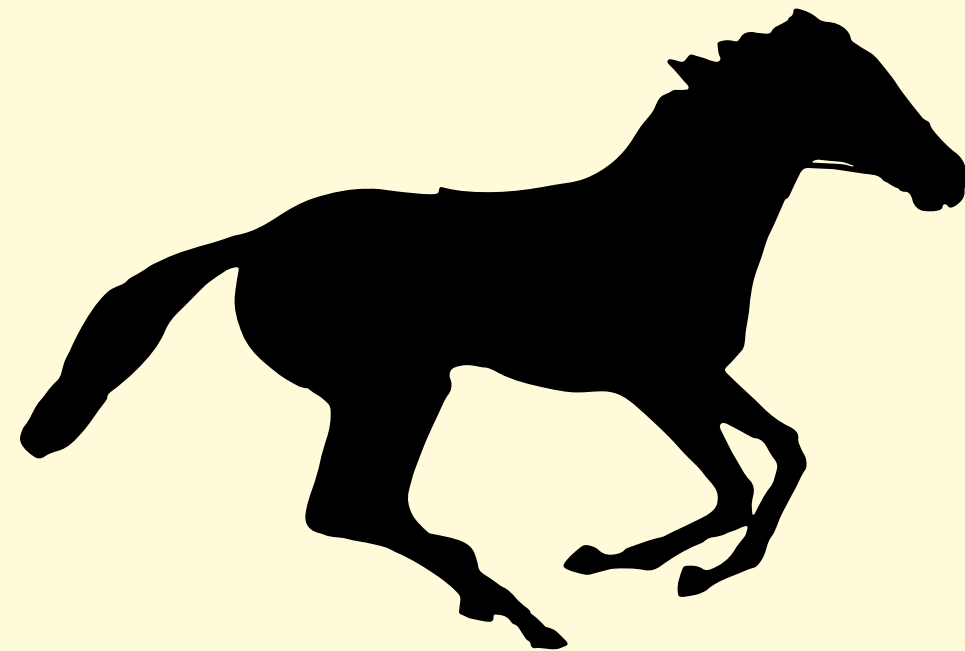
*When your heart skips/misses a beat, you feel very excited or nervous.*



"When the bear appeared in front of us, **my heart skipped a beat.** "

# Straight from the horse's mouth

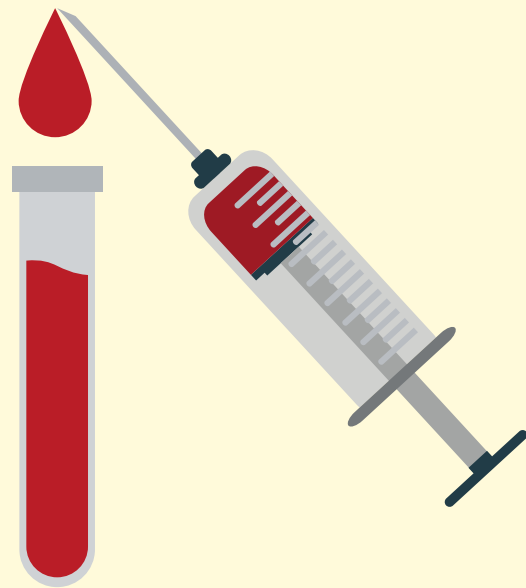
*If you hear something (straight) from the horse's mouth, you hear it from the person who has direct personal knowledge of it.*



"I know it's true, because I got it straight from **the horse's mouth** – Katie told me herself."

# Make one's blood boil

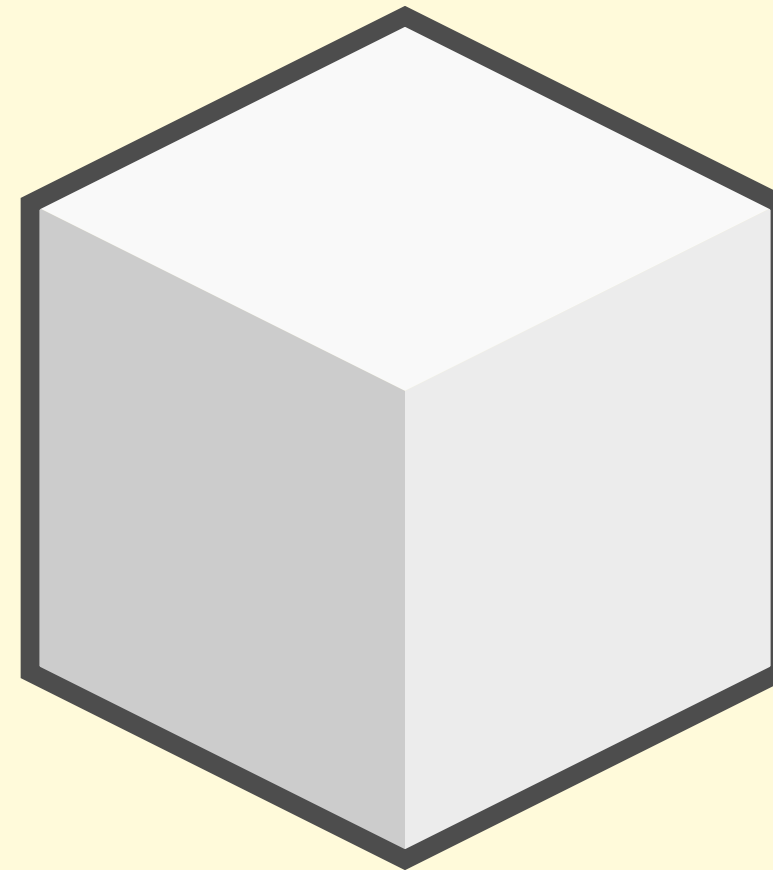
*To make someone extremely angry.*



"The way they have treated those people **makes my blood boil.**"

# A chip off the old block

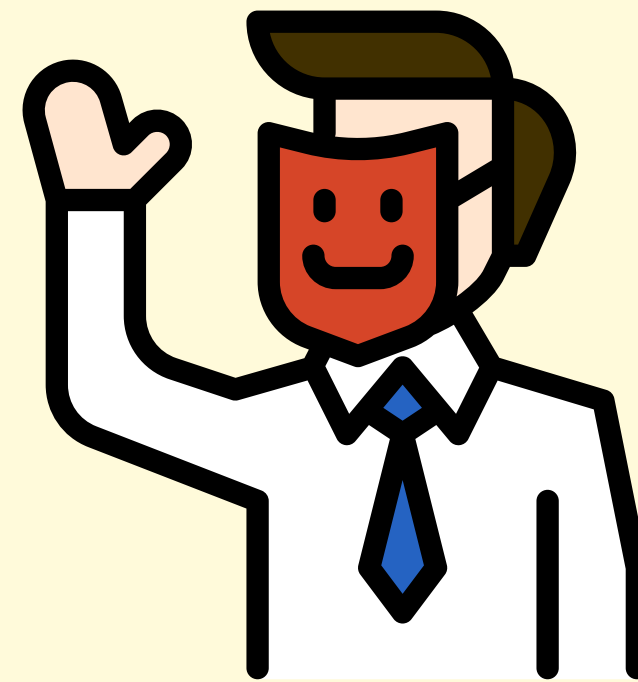
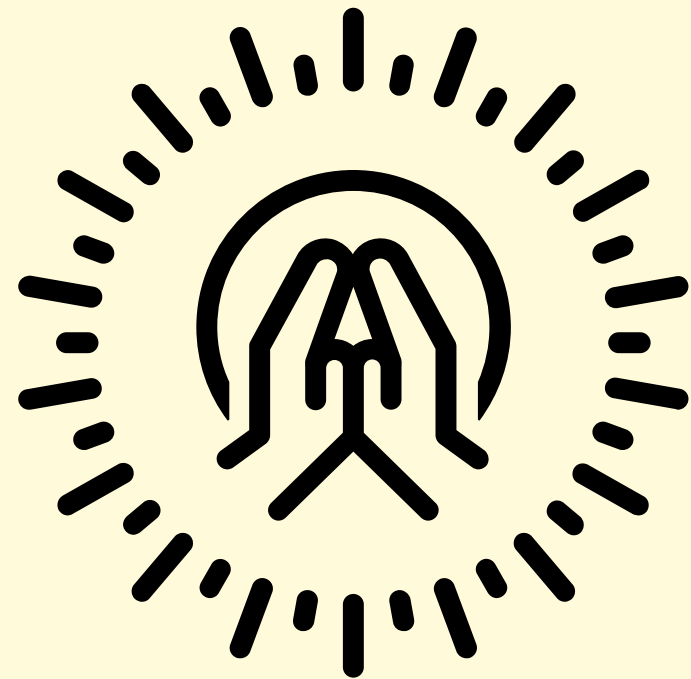
*Someone who is very similar in character to their father or mother.*



"When grandmother saw her grandson collecting coins like her son used to do, she knew he was a **chip off the old block.**"

# A blessing in disguise

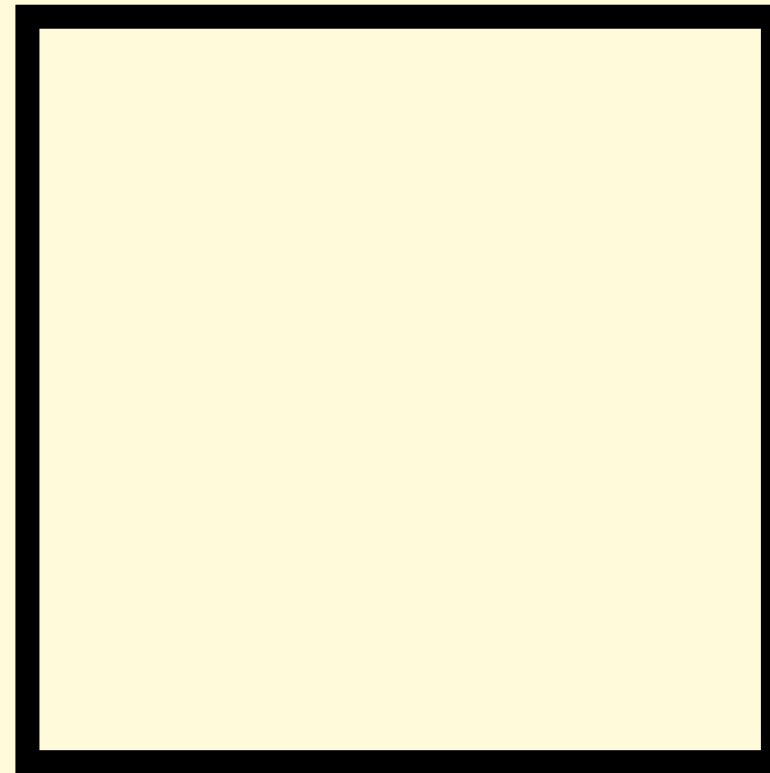
*Something that seems bad or unlucky at first, but results in something good happening later.*



"Losing that job was a **blessing in disguise** really."

# Fair and square

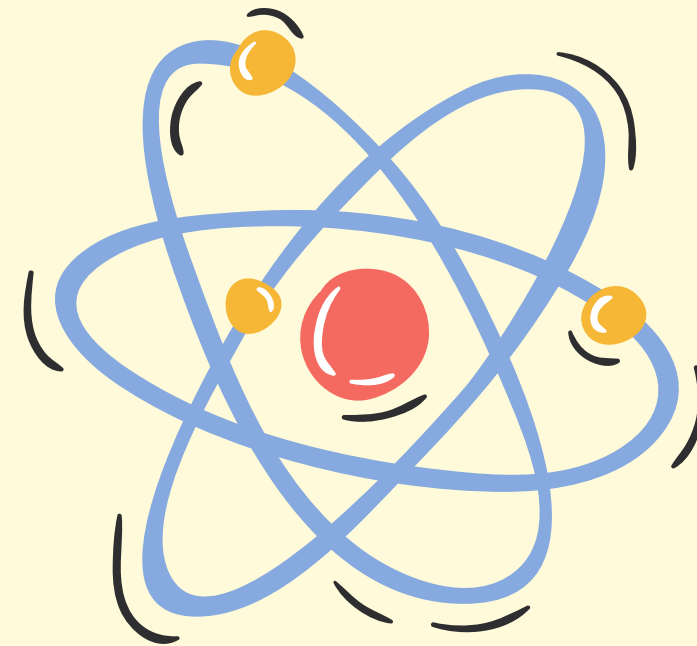
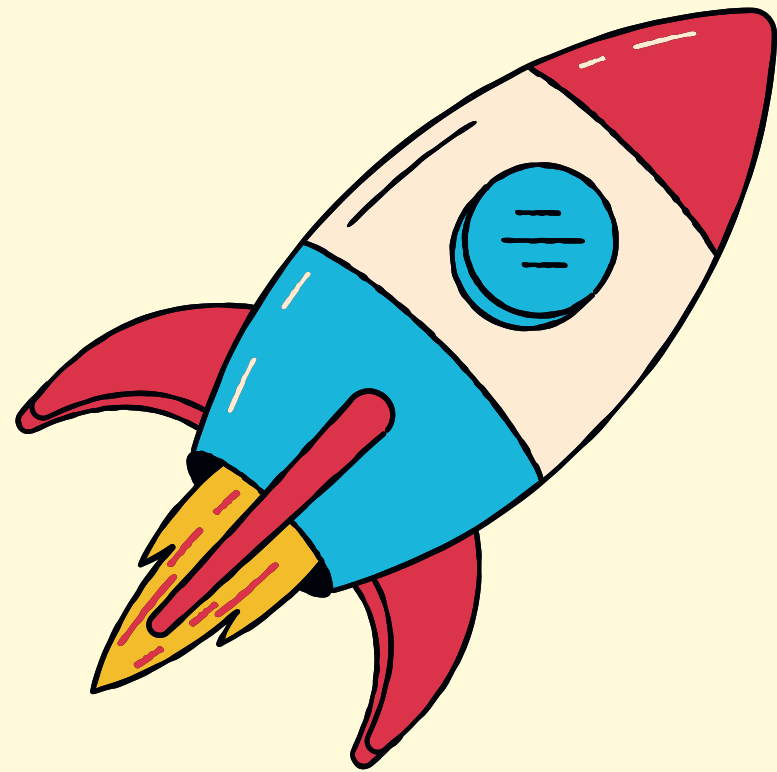
*Honestly and according to the rules.*



"She won the election **fair and square**."

# It's not rocket science

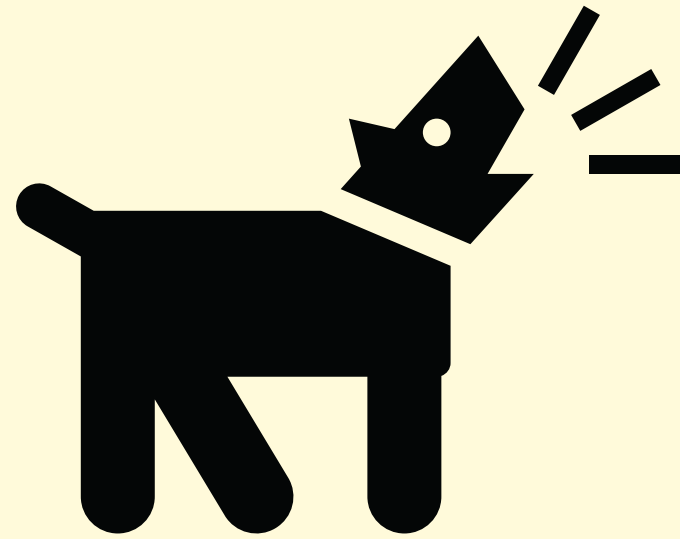
*Used to say that you do not think that something is very difficult to do or to understand.*



"My coach always said, "Basketball **is not rocket science**. It's about putting the ball in the basket."

# Barking up the wrong tree

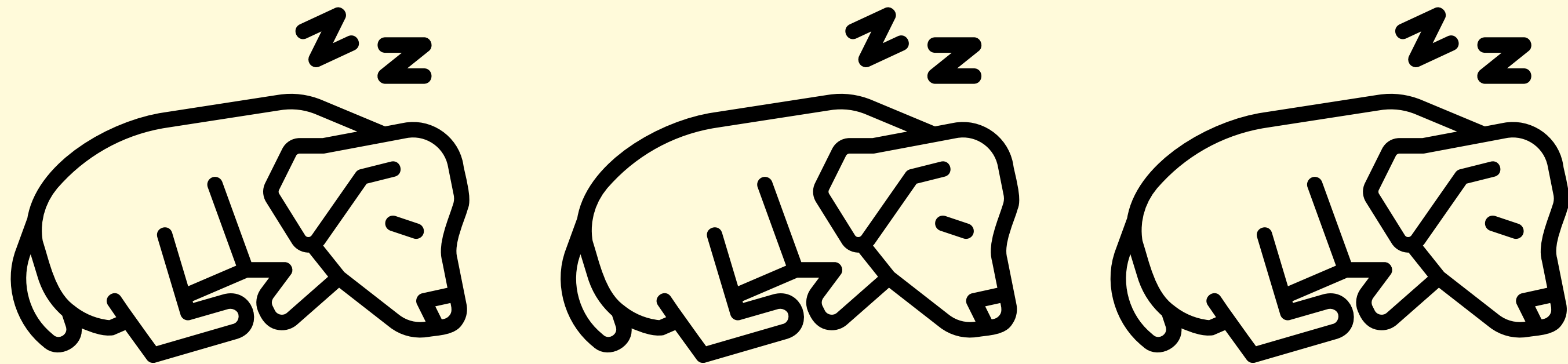
*Trying to do something in a way that will not work.*



"If you think that we do want another war, you are **barking up the wrong tree!**"!

# Let sleeping dogs lie

*Said to warn someone not to disturb or interfere with a situation, because they are likely to cause trouble and problems.*



"Why does she come over here stirring everything up? Why can't she **let sleeping dogs lie?** "

# Draw the line

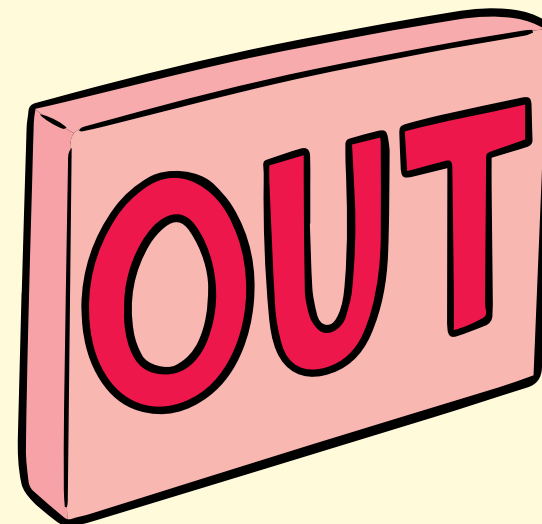
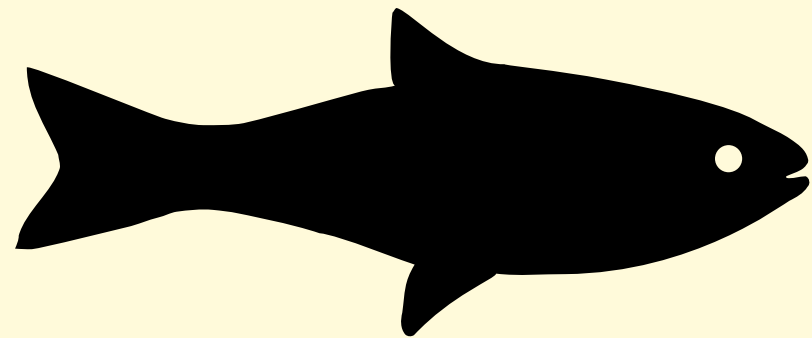
*To put a limit on what you will do or allow to happen, esp. because you feel something is wrong.*



"I'll do whatever my company asks me to, but I **draw the line** when someone asks me to lie for them."

# A fish out of water

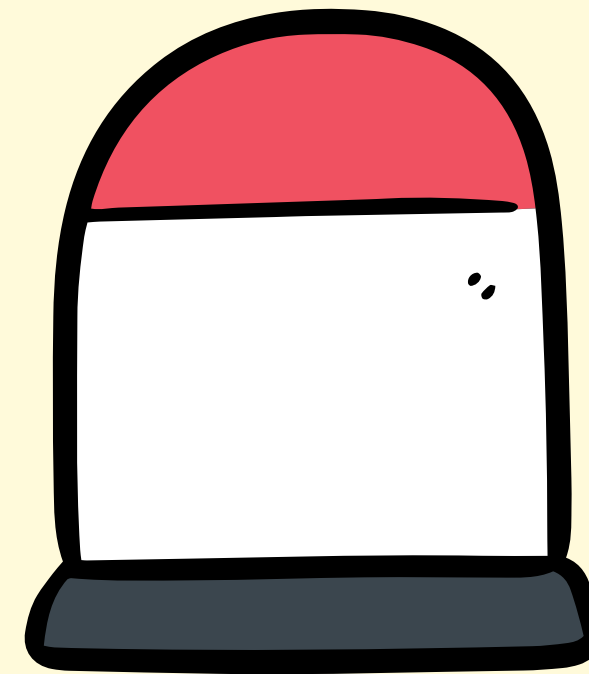
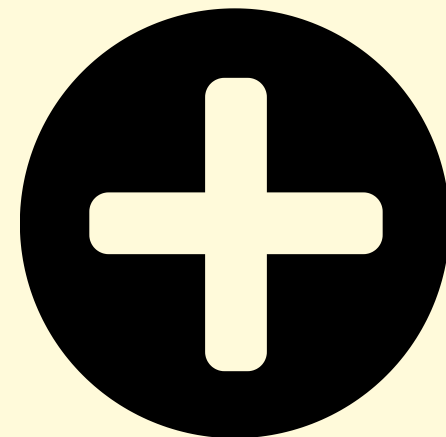
*To be out of your comfort zone.*



"I didn't have any friends that were like me. I just always felt like **a fish out of water.**"

# Go the extra mile

*To make more effort than is expected of you.*

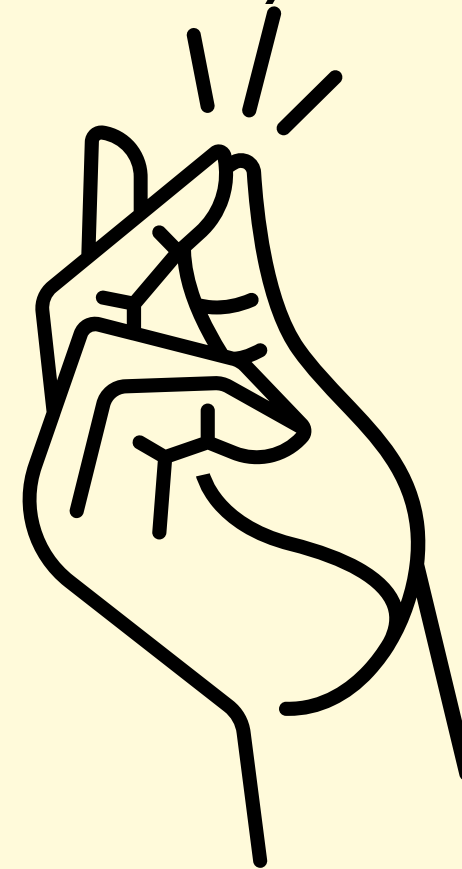


"He's a nice guy, always ready to **go the extra mile** for his friends."

# Easy does it!

*Used to tell someone to do something slowly and carefully.*

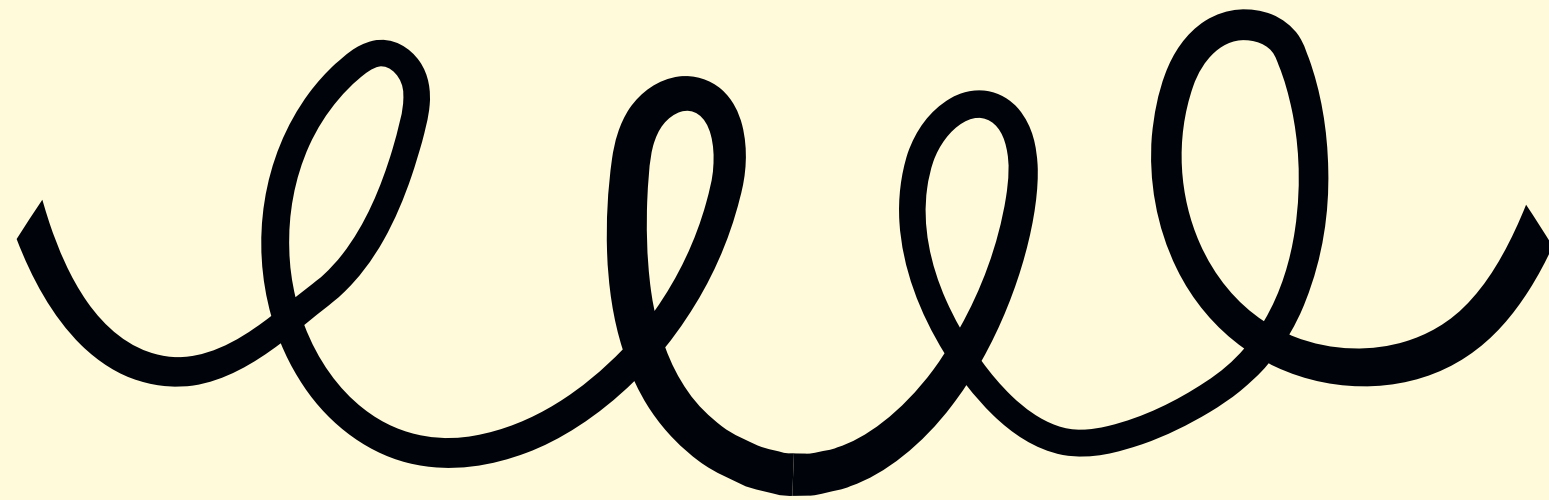
The word "EASY!" is written in a bubbly, rounded font. The letters are filled with a light pink color and have a dark blue outline. The exclamation point is also pink with a blue outline. The entire word is set against a white, cloud-like background with a soft grey drop shadow.



"Can I put it down now?" "Yes, but it's fragile so **easy does it.**"

# Twist someone's arm

*To persuade someone to do something they do not want to do.*



"I didn't want to go but Linda **twisted my arm**"

# Take a rain check (on something)

*used to tell someone that you cannot accept an invitation now, but would like to do so at a later time.*



"Mind if I **take a rain** check on that drink? I have to work late tonight."

# Ring a bell

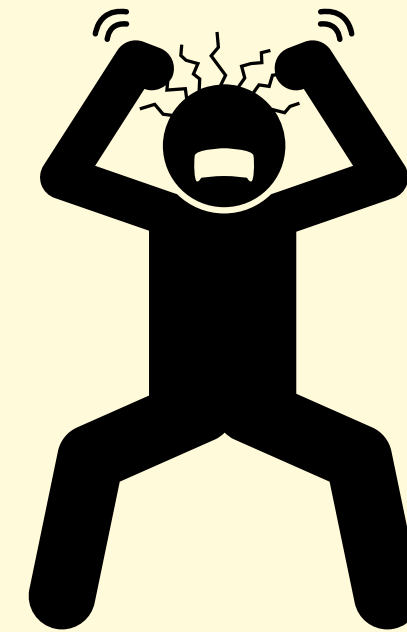
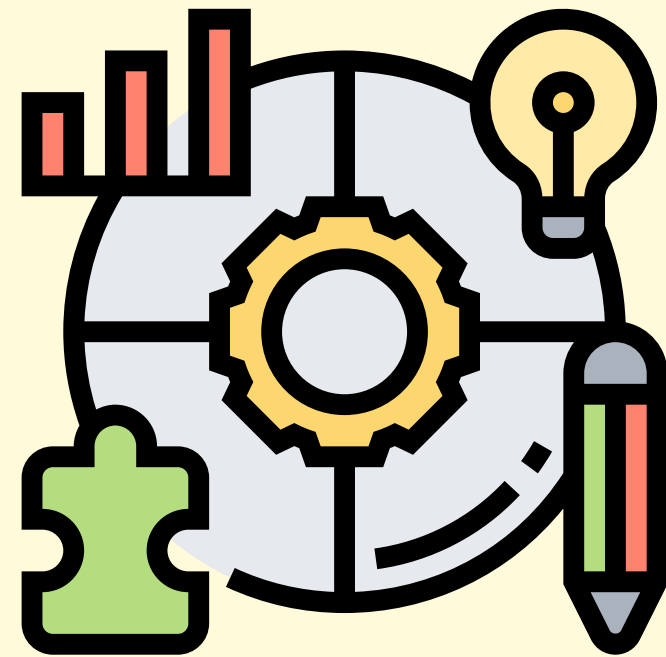
*To sound familiar.*



"The name **rang a bell** but I couldn't remember where I had heard it before.  
No, I'm sorry, that description doesn't **ring any bells** with me."

# There's method to my madness

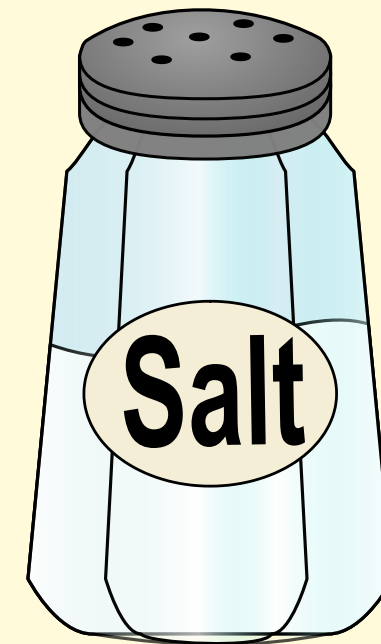
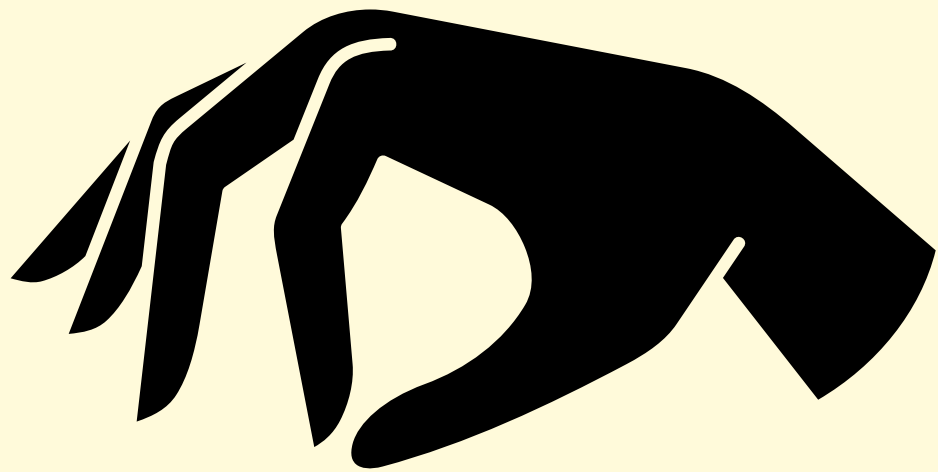
*Despite something sounding crazy/absurd there is in fact a structure or reasoning behind it.*



"Don't be fooled by his behaviour, **there's method to his madness**"

# Take it with a pinch of salt

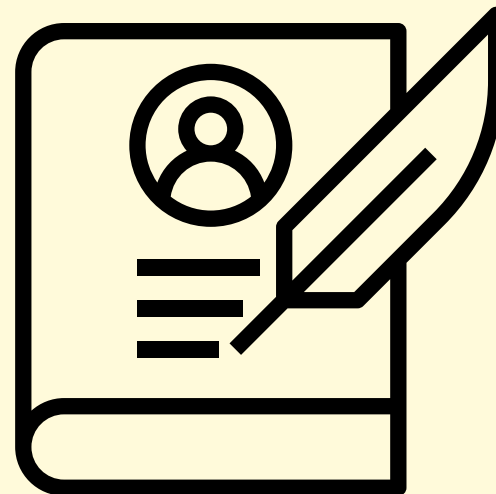
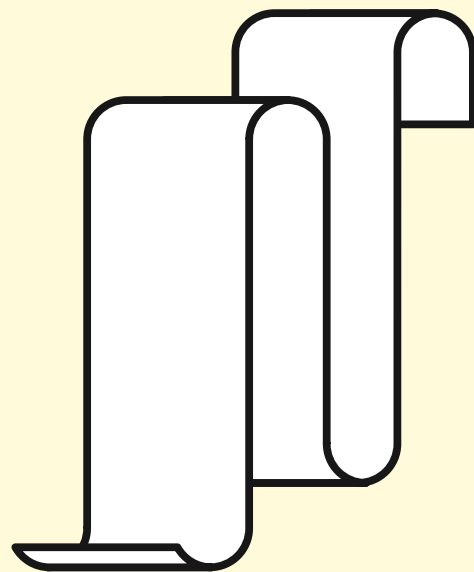
*To not completely believe something that you are told, because you think it is unlikely to be true.*



"You have to take everything she says **with a pinch of salt**, because she tends to exaggerate."

# Make a long story short

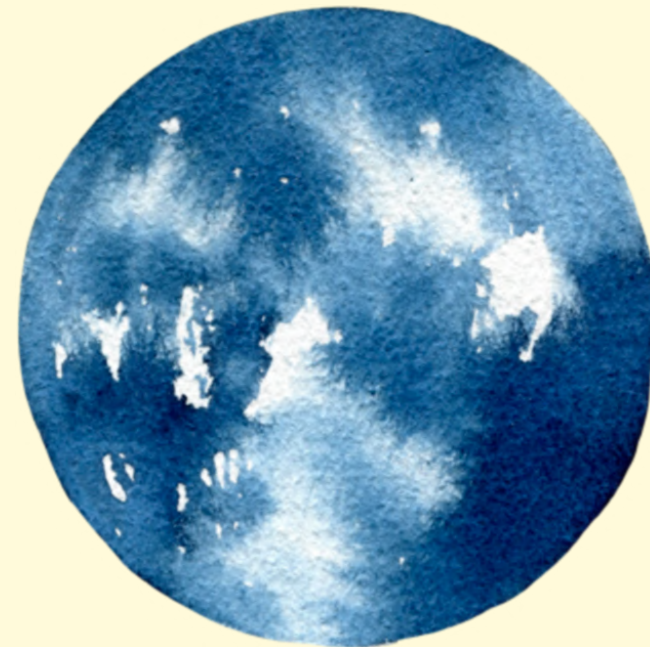
*Used when you are explaining what happened in a few words, without giving all the details.*



"We started going out and, to **make a long story short**, we ended up getting serious about one another."

# Once in a blue moon

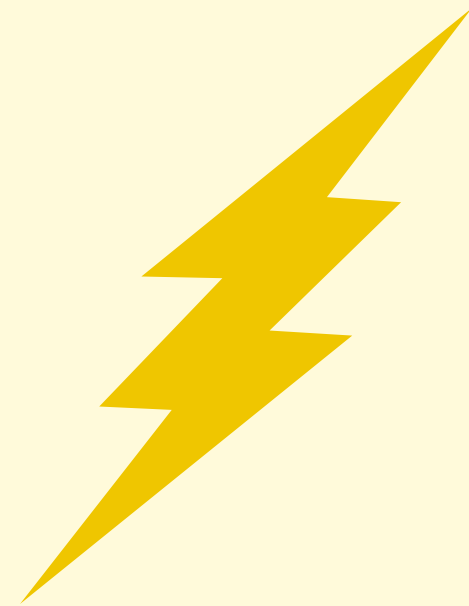
*Not very often.*



"My sister lives in Alaska, so I only see her **once in a blue moon.**"

# A bolt from / out of the blue

*Something important or unusual that happens suddenly or unexpectedly.*



"Let us hope the pandemic disappears. It came as **a bolt from the blue** in 2020. "

# Every cloud has a silver lining

*Said to emphasize that every difficult or unpleasant situation has some advantage.*



"As they say, **every cloud has a silver lining**. We have drawn lessons from the decisions taken."

# Play by ear

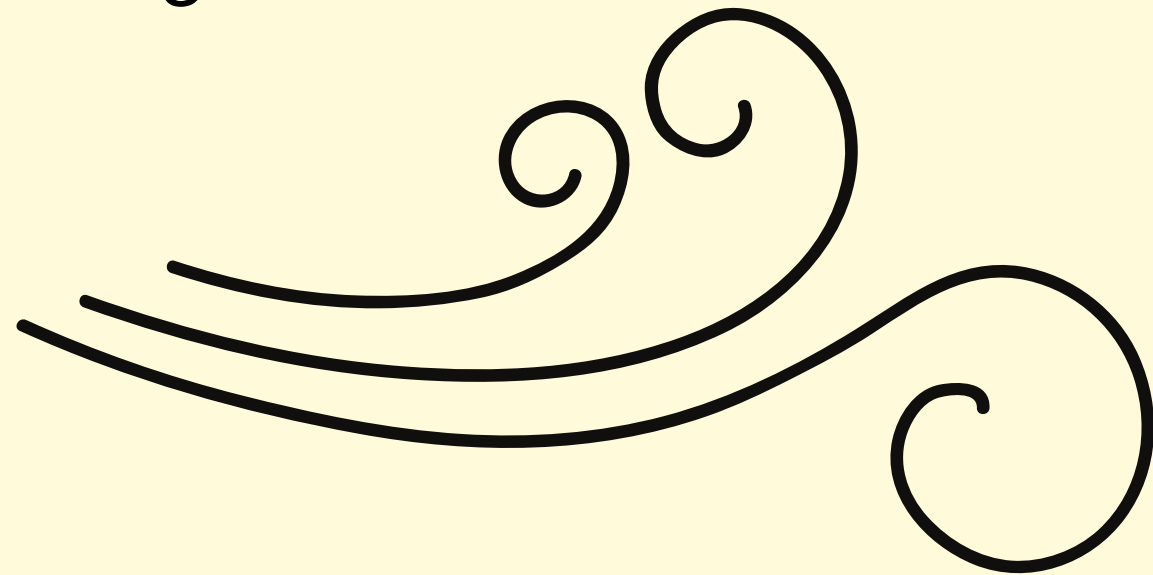
*To improvise.*



"I didn't really have a plan. I just thought I'd play it **by ear**, see how things go."

# Blow/ let off steam

*To do or say something which helps you to get rid of your strong feelings about something.*



"I was so upset that I pulled the car over to the side of the road, got out, and took a long walk. I just had to **let off steam**."

# Face the music

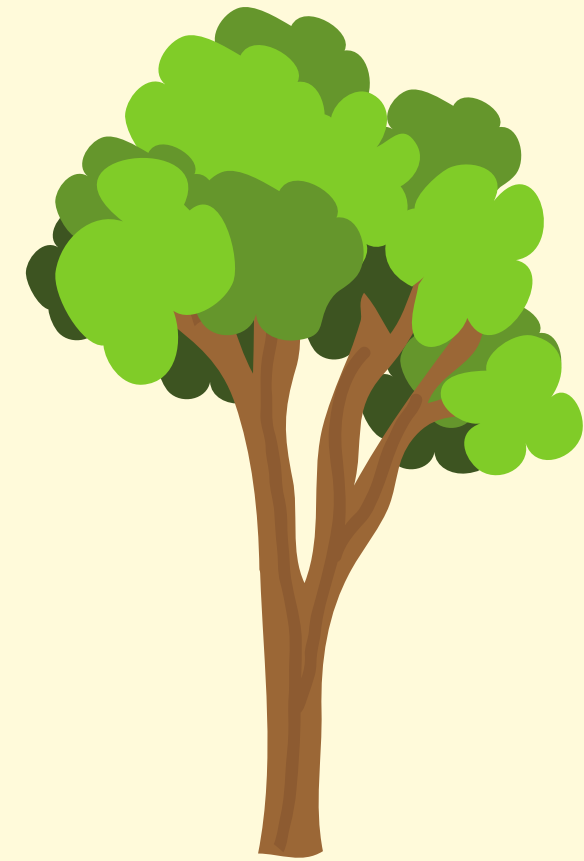
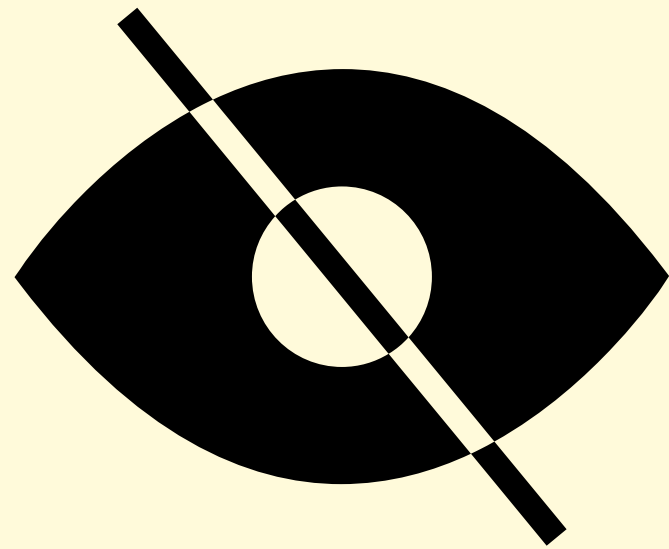
*To accept criticism or punishment for something you have done.*



"Sooner or later, I'm going to have to **face the music.**"

# Not see the wood for the trees

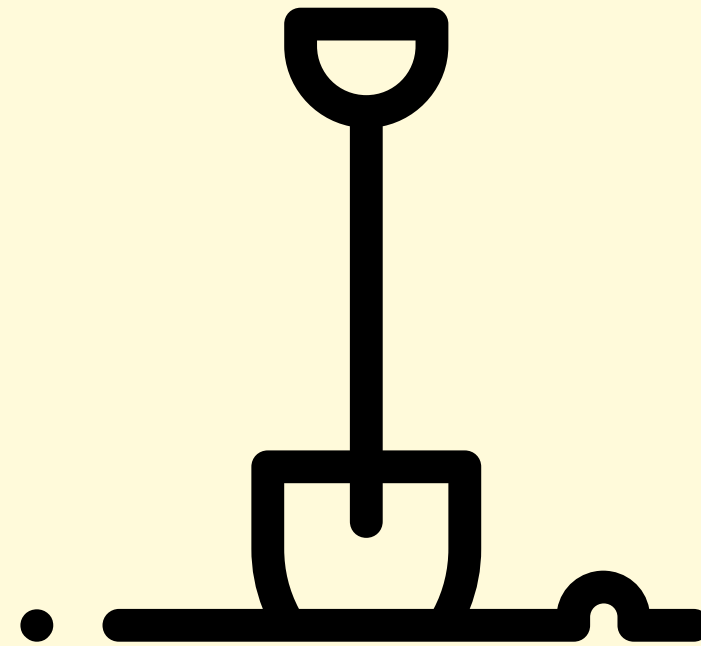
*To be unable to get a general understanding of a situation because you are too worried about the details.*



"He always argues on the silliest topics, it's like he **can't see wood for the trees.**"

# Call a spade a spade

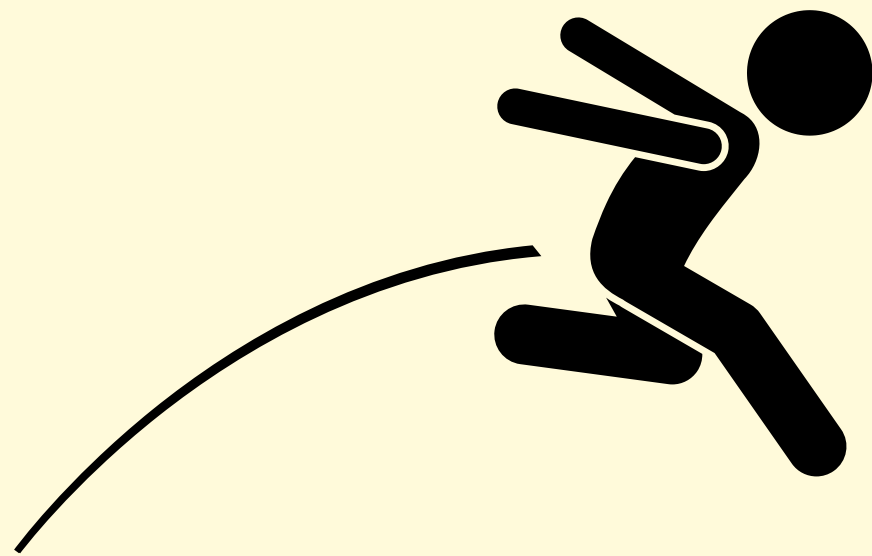
*To say the truth about something, even if it is not polite or pleasant.*



"That dress made her look fat, let's **call a spade a spade** before she goes out wearing it and embarrasses herself. ."

# Jump the gun

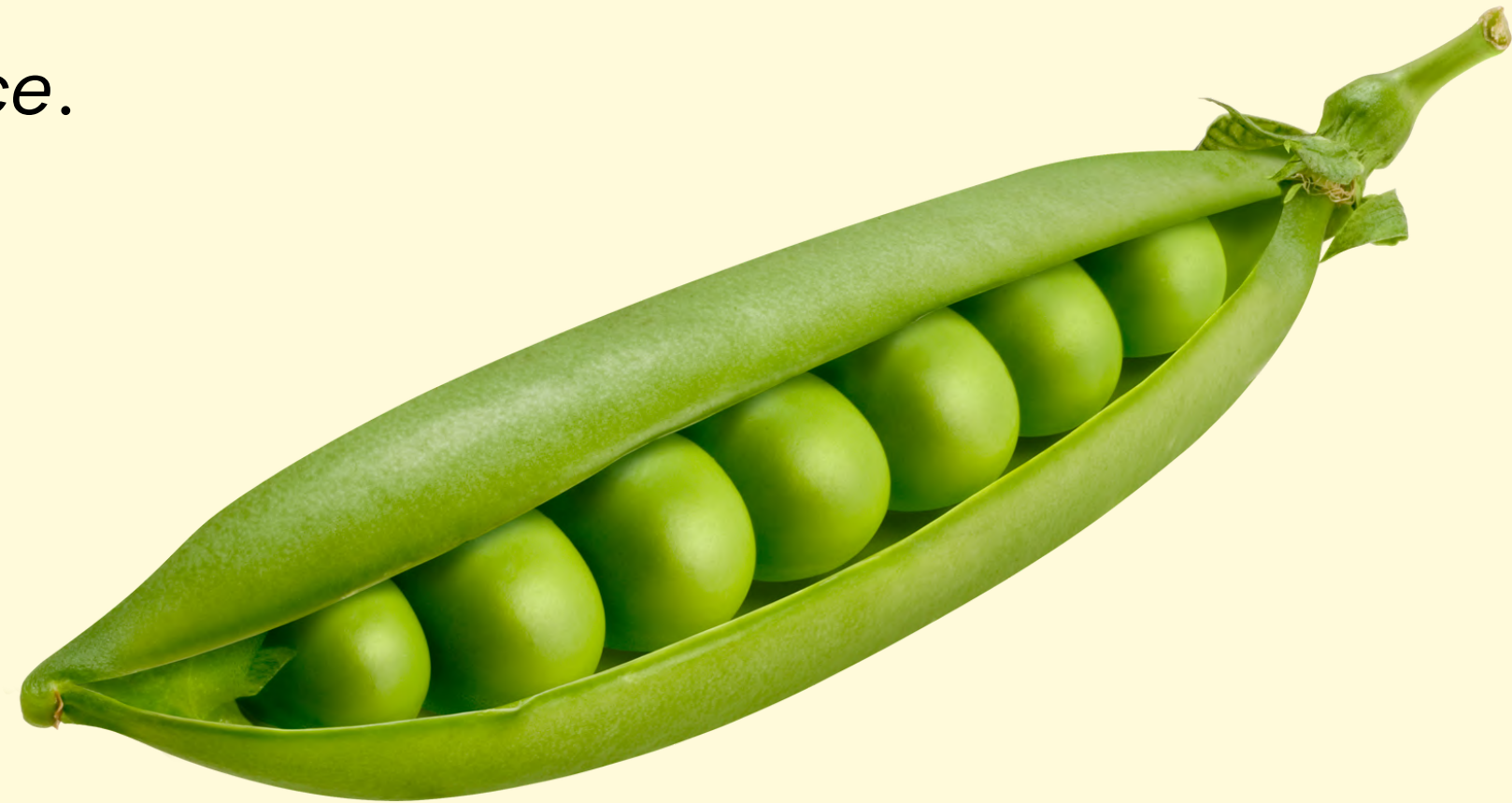
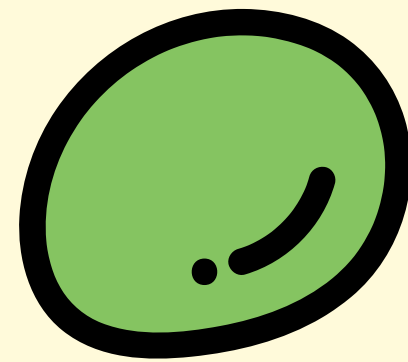
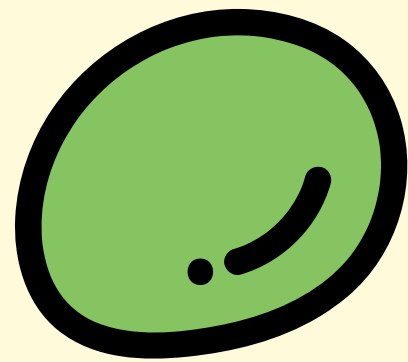
*To do something too soon, especially without thinking carefully about it.*



"They've only just met - isn't it **jumping the gun** to be talking about marriage already?"

# Like two peas in a pod

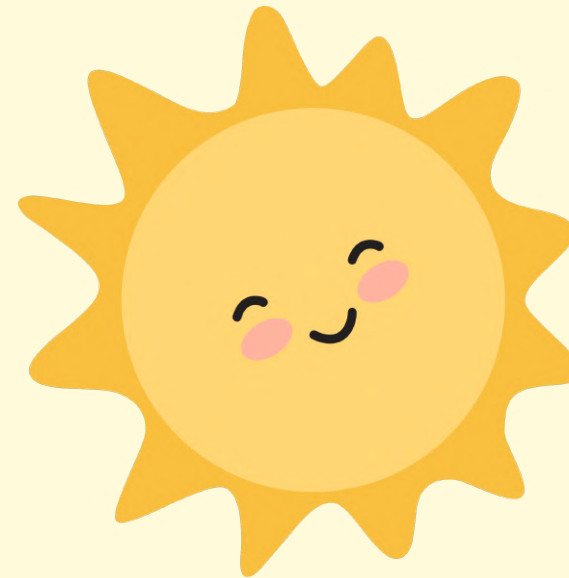
*Very similar, especially in appearance.*



"The twins are like **two peas in a pod.**"

# Make hay while the sun shines

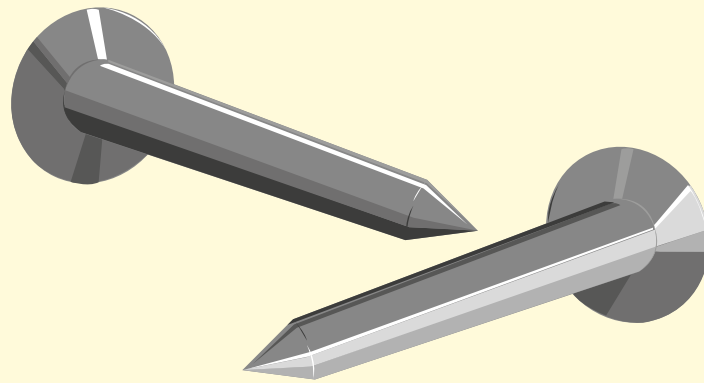
*To make good use of an opportunity while it lasts.*



"If you want to be a millionaire, you have to **make hay while the sun shines.**"

# Hit the nail on the head

*To do or say something correct or telling.*



"I think Mick **hit the nail on the head** when he said that what's lacking in this company is a feeling of confidence."

# Like a cat on hot tin roof

*Used to describe someone who is in a state of extreme nervous worry.*



"She's waiting for the doctor to call with her test results, so she's been like **a cat on a hot tin roof all day**"