

Summer Idioms

American Idioms Lesson from
Laurel's Learning Lab



Companion to the YouTube Video





Hello everybody. This is Laurel with Laurel's Learning Lab and we are doing our American English Q&A video series today.

We are talking about summer, and I thought I'd tell you a little bit about my trip to Gatlinburg, Tennessee and the mountains. And we will talk about some summer idioms today.

So what are some idioms that you've heard of before?

Maybe you've heard of “every cloud has a silver lining”. What does that mean? Or maybe “her head is in the clouds.”? Maybe you are going to “keep your head above water” or “throw in the towel” or “throw somebody in the deep end” or maybe somebody is “full of hot air”?

What do these all mean?

And then my favorite, which I do a lot, is “travel on a shoestring”. 😊



So let's go through a lot of these, one by one. And what I'd like to do is also show you a song that is one of my favorites by Sheryl Crow, and it's going to be in the video at the end.

You can watch this beautiful summer montage of her surfing and playing guitar on the beach, and really neat idioms too. So, let's talk about these summer idioms.



Now if you have your “head in the clouds”, that's a cloud idiom that talks about somebody that's not thinking about anything serious. His head is in the clouds, it's not on the important things or events that are happening.



Next is “fun in the sun”.
You're going to the beach, or doing something outside.
Maybe you are getting some tan lines, or you're going to go on a boat or something like that. Fun in the sun.
We like that because it rhymes.



It's like our next idiom, "a day at the beach". But, you know, not every day is a day at the beach. Every day has some work involved, and then you get the time off, right? Then, it's your time to relax and unwind.



So, what does it mean to "keep your head above water"? That means you're frustrated; you've had a lot of trouble in that day. You're trying to do all your work, and you still have a lot of work left, so you're trying to keep your head above water, so you're not drowning.

It's related to our next idiom. So, if somebody throws you "into the deep end", it is like trying to do something you're not familiar with, you have to "sink or swim".



Next is “full of hot air”.

What does it mean to be full of hot air? You can say politicians are full of hot air. You can say that about anybody that's not telling the truth. Maybe they give a lot of promises, but they're not fulfilling them.

Or maybe you don't think they are taking you seriously when you ask something, you know, like, “Oh yeah, yeah, I'll do that for you”. And then they don't really do it.

He's full of hot air.



Or we say, “She's talking out of both sides of her mouth,” because she’s not telling you the same thing she tells someone else.



What about somebody that is not listening to you? That's another idiom. “It goes into one ear and out the other.” It doesn't really stay in his brain. He doesn't remember it. So that's kind of a funny idiom too.



So last idiom. When I went to Gatlinburg last summer, we
“traveled on a shoestring”.

We didn't have a lot of money, so we put gas in the car,
made sure the car was ready and able to go on a trip
because we knew we would climb a lot of mountains
... and then we just did what we wanted to do.

We ate at a couple of good restaurants, we did a couple of
good activities, like going up the helicopter into the sky.

What an amazing view!

And that didn't cost a lot of money. We did it with other
people and we just spent time in nature, enjoying the sights.





#SherylCrow #SoakUpTheSun #Vevo

Sheryl Crow - Soak Up The Sun (Official Video)

So did you like these
Summer Idioms?

I hope this helped you
understand them better :)

Here's the Sheryl Crow video
as promised -

https://youtu.be/KIYiGA_rII
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Here's the main chorus -
I'm gonna soak up the sun
Gonna tell everyone
To lighten up
I'm gonna tell 'em that
I've got no one to blame
For every time I feel lame
I'm looking up
I'm gonna soak up the sun
While it's still free
I'm gonna soak up the sun
Before it goes out on me

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