

GERDI

**THE GREAT ENGLISH-ROMANIAN
DICTIONARY OF IDIOMS**

***MARELE DICȚIONAR ENGLEZ-ROMÂN
DE EXPRESII***

CORESI DICTIONARIES *DICȚIONARELE CORESI*

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Editura CORESI

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To our wives,

*Maria Pilar Sánchez-Llorente and Michiela Poenaru,
who helped us in so many ways to give birth to this book*

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Foreword

Back in March 2000, when my life-time friend Cristian Săileanu, a writer and teacher of English, invited me to his house in Salinas, California, I discovered a great number of worn-out notebooks, of all sizes and colors, sitting on a couple of shelves in his study.

“Are those your novels and poetry volumes in the making?” I asked him.

He assumed a mysterious air and answered slowly and solemnly, “That, my dear friend, is my survival kit!”

It turned out that Cris’s “survival kit” was an enormous collection of English idiomatic expressions, collocations, phrasal verbs, verbal clichés, dicta, famous quotations, proverbs, sayings, and what not. Everything he needed to know in order to integrate himself seamlessly in the American culture and be able to teach English to the native speakers of the language in their own country. Most, if not all, of them were translated into Romanian and illustrated with real-life sentences. That was the result of two decades of very hard on-going work.

I suggested he could share his treasure with all speakers of both Romanian and English and right then and there we started the process that led to the present dictionary. Little did we know at that time that we would have to put another seven years of extremely strenuous and dedicated efforts into it before it could be sent to the printing press.

Yet, it has been worth it. Now, dear reader, you have a marvelous tool in your hands. Read this book over and over again, and you will feel at home among speakers of English, if your mother tongue is Romanian. Or you will feel at home among speakers of Romanian, if your mother tongue is English.

Use the information packed in this book to understand what your foreign friend or acquaintance means, when she uses a group of words whose overall meaning is (completely) different from the sum of the meanings of each word taken separately. Use the information packed in this book to understand when she is friendly, when she is polite, or cold, or rude, or ironic. Understand when she wants you but she is no hip-shooter to say it directly. GERDI makes you feel comfortable in any conversation and be advised that the kind of insights you get from this dictionary is not to be met with even during specialized University studies.

Cuvânt înainte

În martie 2000, când prietenul meu de o viață, Cristian Săileanu – scriitor și profesor de engleză –, m-a invitat în casa sa din Salinas, California, am descoperit în camera lui de lucru, pe câteva rafturi, un mare număr de caiete tocite de îndelungă folosință, de toate mărimile și culorile.

– Astea sunt romanele și volumele de poezii la care lucrezi? I-am întrebat.

Și-a luat un aer misterios și mi-a răspuns lent și solemn:

– Astea, dragul meu prieten, sunt ghidul meu de supraviețuire!

„Ghidul de supraviețuire” al lui Cris era o imensă colecție de expresii idiomatice englezești, colocații, verbe cu particulă adverbială, clișee verbale, dictoane, citate celebre, proverbe, zicători și câte și mai câte. Tot ce i-a trebuit să știe pentru a se putea integra firesc în cultura americană și pentru a-i putea învăța limba engleză pe vorbitorii nativi ai acestei limbi, în propria lor țară. Majoritatea expresiilor, dacă nu toate, erau traduse în limba română și ilustrate prin propoziții preluate din viața reală, din limba vorbită. Acesta era rezultatul a două decenii de muncă susținută, aflată în plină desfășurare și la ora aceea.

I-am sugerat că ar putea să-și împartă comoara cu toți vorbitorii de engleză și română și chiar atunci și acolo am început împreună procesul care a dus la realizarea acestui dicționar. Habar nu am avut în momentul acela că vor fi necesari alți șapte ani de eforturi susținute și dedicate înainte de a îl putea trimite la tipar.

Dar, a meritat. Acum, dragă cititorule, ai în mână un instrument de lucru minunat. Citește această carte o dată, și încă o dată, și te vei simți acasă printre vorbitorii de limbă engleză, dacă limba ta maternă este româna. Sau te vei simți acasă printre vorbitorii de limbă română, dacă limba ta maternă este engleza.

Folosește informațiile din această carte pentru a înțelege ce spune prietena sau cunoștința ta din străinătate, atunci când folosește o îmbinare de cuvinte al cărei înțeles este (complet) diferit de suma înțelesurilor cuvintelor care o alcătuiesc. Folosește informațiile din această carte pentru a înțelege când este ea prietenoasă, când este politicoasă, sau rece, sau grosolană, sau ironică. Vei înțelege când te dorește, dar nu e suficient de îndrăzneată ca să ți-o spună de-a dreptul. GERDI te ajută să te simți confortabil în orice conversație, iar tipul de intuiții pe care le deprinzi din acest dicționar nu se întâlnește nici măcar în cadrul studiilor universitare specializate.

GERDI is special in several ways.

Firstly, it is very full of life. Everything in it is fresh from the horse's mouth, as Cristian Săileanu did his work in the field, putting down phrases used by native speakers in everyday situations, not in the library (which was my part of the bargain). Lots of last hour idioms, hundreds of them being for the first time entered into a dictionary, makes the work up-to-date, as well as very attractive and fun to read.

Secondly, GERDI is very user-friendly. You are spared grammatical explanations, abbreviations, cross-references, and so on. You are given easy-to-understand cues as to in which situation an idiom's use is appropriate. And you have examples to guide you all the way.

Thirdly, GERDI is very practical. It contains more than 18000 idioms, so it is very likely that, if you come across an idiomatic expression in real life, you will find its meaning in this dictionary. Then, once you need to look up a new English idiom, you can search it as it is or you can search it by the major word it contains. In many cases, when it seems difficult to choose one major word, two words have been selected and you have the phrase listed in two places, so that you do not miss it irrespective of which word you think is its semantic center. Also, if you want to find an idiom whose meaning is known to you in Romanian, but whose actual form has slipped your mind, you will be able to retrieve it by using the third section of the dictionary, *Index of Romanian Translations*.

Last but not least, GERDI includes taboo words and phrases. English speakers resort to them often enough for foreigners to need to learn them and know when and how they are used. As a practical piece of advice, though, avoid using them yourself.

Be aware that GERDI uses American spelling and grammar (we write *color*, not *colour* and use *gotten* alongside with *got*).

We hope you will put the dictionary to the practical use it is intended for and derive useful information as well as pleasure from it. In case you quote anything from this work in your reports or essays, please think of the great efforts the authors have put into it and acknowledge GERDI as your source.

Do send us your comments and suggestions by using one of the following e-mail addresses: csaileanu@hotmail.com, melipoe@yahoo.com, meli@edituracoresi.ro, coresi@coresi.net, coresi@edituracoresi.ro, gerdi@mailbox.ro. For updated information regarding GERDI, we invite you to check the site www.coresi.net.

Vasile Poenaru
March 8, 2007

GERDI este deosebit în mai multe feluri.

Mai întâi, este plin de viață, este foarte viu. Tot ce cuprinde este proaspăt preluat direct de la sursă. Cristian Săileanu și-a făcut munca pe teren, culegând îmbinările de cuvinte folosite de vorbitorii nativi în situații curente, și nu din bibliotecă (care a fost partea mea de muncă în acest proiect). O mulțime de expresii de ultimă oră, multe dintre acestea fiind consemnate acum pentru prima dată într-un dicționar, fac ca această lucrare să fie foarte actuală și în același timp atractivă și amuzantă la lectură.

În al doilea rând, GERDI este foarte ușor de folosit. Ești scutit de explicații gramaticale, abrevieri, trimiteri la alte pagini și altele asemenea. Ți se dau indicații ușor de înțeles privind situația în care este potrivită folosirea unei expresii. Și ai exemple care să te ghideze de fiecare dată.

În al treilea rând, GERDI este foarte practic. Conține peste 18000 de expresii idiomatice, ceea ce înseamnă că probabilitatea de a găsi aici o expresie pe care o întâlnești în viața de zi cu zi este foarte mare. Apoi, când vrei să afli înțelesul unei expresii o poți face fie căutând expresia în forma în care apare ea (dar, de regulă, punând verbul la forma de infinitiv scurt), fie căutând-o după cuvântul cel mai important din expresie. În multe cazuri, când este dificil să alegi un cuvânt important, au fost selectate două cuvinte, astfel că vei găsi expresia listată în două locuri, așa încât să ajungi la ea indiferent de cuvântul pe care l-ai ales ca fiind centrul ei semantic. De asemenea, dacă vrei să găsești o expresie al cărei înțeles îți este cunoscut în limba română, dar a cărei formă reală își scapă, poți folosi a treia secțiune, *Indexul traducerilor românești*.

În ultimul rând, dar nu în cele din urmă, GERDI include cuvinte și expresii tabu. Vorbitorii de engleză recurg la ele suficient de des pentru ca străinii să aibă nevoie să le învețe și să știe când și cum se folosesc. Ca un sfat practic, însă: evită să le folosești tu însuși.

Să ai în vedere că GERDI folosește ortografia și gramatica englezei americane (scriem *color*, nu *colour* și utilizăm *gotten* în paralel cu *got*).

Sperăm că vei folosi acest dicționar în scopurile practice pentru care el a fost creat, că vei găsi în el informații folositoare și că-ți va face plăcere să lucrezi cu el. În situația în care citezi din acest dicționar în referatele sau compunerile tale, ești rugat să te gândești la marele efort depus de autori pentru realizarea acestuia și să citezi GERDI ca sursa ta de referință.

Am fi bucuroși să primim comentariile și sugestiile tale la una dintre următoarele adrese de e-mail: csaileanu@hotmail.com, melipoe@yahoo.com, meli@edituracoresi.ro, coresi@coresi.net, coresi@edituracoresi.ro, gerdi@mailbox.ro. Pentru informații de ultimă oră legate de conținutul dicționarului GERDI, te invităm să vizitezi site-ul www.coresi.net.

Vasile Poenaru
8 martie 2007

How to Use this Dictionary

GERDI is divided into three sections:

Section 1. English Expressions in Alphabetical Order;

Section 2. Index of English Expressions;

Section 3. Index of Romanian Translations.

In the first section, the English idioms are arranged in their alphabetical order. They are given one or more Romanian translations, separated by a semicolon (;). Each idiom is used in one or more sentences, to make its meaning and usage clear.

The use of a forward slash (/) has been restricted as far as possible. The aim has been to use it when only one word can be substituted for another one when they appear on the left and right side of the slash. However, a few cases could not be avoided:

a cake walk / cakewalk: here the forward slash says that one should read either **a cake walk** or **a cakewalk**;

back to back / back-to-back: read either **back to back** or **back-to-back**;

get under way / underway: read either **get under way** or **get underway**;

ceva / pe cineva: read either **ceva** or **pe cineva**;

cuiva / a ceva: read either **cuiva** or **a ceva**;

give me / gimme a break!: read either **give me a break!** or **gimme a break!**; etc.

The metalanguage (the comments in brackets) is very easy to understand, as no abbreviations or highly specialized terms have been used. Only the use of **(+Genitiv)**, **(+Dativ)** and of the word **aproximativ**, inserted after a Romanian translation needs special treatment here.

The word **aproximativ** points to the fact that the translation does not replicate the grammatical structure of the original. For instance, it appears as one of the translations of the phrase „gravity check:” *verificarea gravitației (cădere de pe bicicletă etc); nu-i așa că ai vrut să faci un test de gravitație? (aproximativ; glumeț)*; it draws the attention to the fact that in English we have a (compound) noun, while in Romanian we need a whole sentence to render the meaning of the original. We find similar disparity in this example (replete with instances of **aproximativ**):

have had one's day	asta a fost odată (aproximativ); asta a fost pe vremuri (aproximativ); fost-ai lele cât ai fost (aproximativ); a nu mai fi la înălțimea de altădată; a nu mai avea popularitatea de altădată; și-a trăit traiul, și-a mâncat mălaiul (aproximativ)	<i>He sold a lot of books in the 1980's, but he's had his day. // "I don't care about myself," grandfather said, "I've had my day. But I am worried about my kids."</i>
---------------------------	--	---

So **aproximativ** means that you need to paraphrase when you use the translation in a context.

Cum se folosește acest dicționar

GERDI este împărțit în trei secțiuni:

Secțiunea 1. Expresiile englezești în ordine alfabetică;

Secțiunea 2. Indexul expresiilor englezești;

Secțiunea 3. Indexul traducerilor românești.

În prima secțiune expresiile idiomatice englezești sunt dispuse în ordine alfabetică. Fiecare are una sau mai multe traduceri în limba română, separate prin punct și virgulă (;). Fiecare expresie englezească este exemplificată prin cel puțin o propoziție sau frază, astfel încât înțelesul său și modul de folosire să fie cât mai clare.

S-a încercat folosirea la minimum a barei oblice (/). Intenția a fost ca aceasta să apară numai în situațiile în care cuvântul din dreapta ei poate fi înlocuit cu cel din stânga sau invers. Totuși, nu au putut fi evitate un număr de situații în care regula nu se aplică:

a cake walk / cakewalk: se citește fie **a cake walk**, fie **a cakewalk**;

back to back / back-to-back: se citește fie **back to back**, fie **back-to-back**;

get under way / underway: se citește fie **get under way**, fie **get underway**;

ceva / pe cineva: se citește fie **ceva**, fie **pe cineva**;

cuiva / a ceva: se citește fie **cuiva**, fie **a ceva**;

give me / gimme a break!: se citește fie **give me a break!**, fie **gimme a break!**

etc.

Metalimbajul (comentariile dintre paranteze) este foarte ușor de înțeles, pentru că nu s-au folosit abrevieri sau termeni de înaltă specializare. Numai folosirea cuvântului **aproximativ** după o traducere în limba română și a mărcilor (**+Genitiv**), (**+Dativ**) necesită precizări.

Cuvântul **aproximativ** arată că traducerea nu a redat structura gramaticală a expresiei originale. De exemplu, acesta apare după traducerea expresiei „gravity check“: *verificarea gravitației (cădere de pe bicicletă etc); nu-i așa că ai vrut să faci un test de gravitație? (aproximativ, glumeț)*. În acest caz, **aproximativ** atrage atenția asupra faptului că în engleză avem un substantiv (compus), în timp ce în română ne trebuie o întreagă propoziție pentru a reda sensul expresiei originale. Găsim diferențe de același tip în acest exemplu (în care **aproximativ** e folosit de multe ori):

have had one's day	asta a fost odată (aproximativ); asta a fost pe vremuri (aproximativ); fost-ai lele cât ai fost (aproximativ); a nu mai fi la înălțimea de altădată; a nu mai avea popularitatea de altădată; și-a trăit traiul, și-a mâncat mălaiul (aproximativ)	<i>He sold a lot of books in the 1980's, but he's had his day. // "I don't care about myself," grandfather said, "I've had my day. But I am worried about my kids."</i>
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Așadar, **aproximativ** îți spune că trebuie să parafrizezi atunci când folosești într-un context traducerea marcată de el.

The labels **(+Genitiv)** and **(+Dativ)** appear in Romanian translations to show that a modifier or an object in the Genitive or Dative case respectively is needed there.

Example:

as a deterrent to	ca mijloc de intimidare / descurajare (+Genitiv)	<i>The US built up their arsenal of nuclear weapons as a deterrent to a Russian attack.</i>
--------------------------	---	---

The label is not used when the preposition or prepositional phrase at the end of the phrase makes it clear what case the noun has to take:

in front of	în fața	<i>She sat in front of me in Mr Cavanagh's History class.</i>
--------------------	---------	---

In the second section, an English idiom can be found listed under one of the words that it is made up of. The word chosen as an index is the semantic center of the phrase, that is, the word that seems to give the phrase its special meaning. We call it the major word of the phrase. In those cases where it was difficult to decide upon one major word, the same phrase was listed under two (or even three) words. You find the phrase in the exact form that it has in the first section of the book, accompanied by its Romanian equivalent or equivalents.

In the third section, the Romanian translations are given under major words they contain, accompanied by the corresponding English phrases. This section can be used as a Romanian-English dictionary of idioms. However, although it proves very useful in that respect, please keep in mind that it is not a Romanian-English dictionary in its proper sense, as many Romanian translations are not idioms.

Mărcile (**+Genitiv**) și (**+Dativ**) apar în traduceri românești pentru a arăta că e nevoie în locul respectiv de un atribut sau un complement exprimat printr-un substantiv sau pronume la cazul respectiv. De exemplu:

as a deterrent to	ca mijloc de intimidare / descurajare (+Genitiv)	<i>The US built up their arsenal of nuclear weapons as a deterrent to a Russian attack.</i>
--------------------------	--	---

Nu se folosesc aceste mărci când cazul este impus fără echivoc de prepoziția sau locuțiunea prepozițională de la sfârșitul sintagmei românești:

in front of	în fața	<i>She sat in front of me in Mr Cavanagh's History class.</i>
--------------------	---------	---

În secțiunea a doua, o expresie englezească poate fi găsită listată sub unul dintre cuvintele care intră în alcătuirea ei. Cuvântul ales ca index este cel care reprezintă centrul semantic al expresiei, adică acela care dă expresiei înțelesul ei special. L-am numit cuvântul cel mai important din expresie. În cazurile în care este greu de decis care cuvânt este cel mai important, expresia apare listată sub două (sau chiar trei) cuvinte. În această secțiune găsești expresia în exact aceeași formă ca în secțiunea întâi, însoțită de traducerea ei în română.

În secțiunea a treia, traduceri în limba română ale expresiilor din secțiunea întâi apar după un cuvânt considerat ca fiind cel mai important, fiind însoțite de expresiile englezești cărora le corespund. Această secțiune poate fi folosită ca un dicționar român-englez de expresii. Trebuie însă reținut faptul că nu avem de-a face cu un dicționar român-englez de expresii în sensul propriu al cuvântului, deoarece multe dintre traduceri în română nu sunt expresii idiomatice.

Section 1
English Idioms in Alphabetical Order

Secțiunea 1
Expresiile englezești în ordine alfabetică

Section 1 English Idioms in Alphabetical Order

Secțiunea 1 Expresiile englezești în ordine alfabetică

... as can be		cât se poate de ...	<i>When my blind date showed up I was really thrilled. She was beautiful as can be!</i>
... as hell		al dracului de ... (colocvial)	<i>Learning Chinese is hard as hell.</i>
... as they come		cât se poate de ...	<i>Henry is ugly as they come, but he has charm. // Women in these parts of the world are as pretty as they come.</i>
... as you please		foarte ...; extrem de ...; cât se poate de ...; cât încap de ...; nevoie mare ...	<i>We heard rumors that the Hendersons were splitting up, but on Friday night we saw them together, hand in hand, happy as you please.</i>
... be damned!		dracul să-l ia de ... (colocvial)	<i>"Work be damned!" Joe said and slammed down his tools.</i>
... by the busload		autocare pline de ...; ... în / cu sute de autocare; ... în masă; ... cu duiumul	<i>Tourists by the busload came to see the ancient monastery.</i>
20/20 hindsight (= twenty-twenty hindsight)		previziune îndeplinită întocmai; e ușor să spui la sfârșit „Ți-am spus eu!”	<i>By "20/20 hindsight," you mean to say that it's very easy to be wise or knowledgeable about the outcome of an event once the event has taken place. The 20/20 vision acuity is a way of medically expressing perfect vision.</i>
a babe	(slang)	o gagică (colocvial); o puicuță (colocvial)	<i>I saw Hank with a gorgeous looking babe last night.</i>
a babe in the woods		un biet copilăș nevinovat; o persoană naivă	<i>If Linda, that babe in the woods, tries to go into business with the Mandel brothers, they will eat her alive.</i>
a back-breaker		o muncă pe deșelate; o muncă de ocnaș	<i>Digging trenches for pouring in the foundation of the house was a back-breaker.</i>
a bad workman (always) blames his tools	(humorous)	meșterul prost își blestemă uneltele; meseriașul prost dă vina pe uneltele sale; meșterul Fofează care lucrează: n-are din ce, n-are cu ce și nici nu prea se pricepe (glumeț)	<i>"Victor says he cannot repair the kitchen faucet, as he has the wrong tools." "That so? No wonder: a bad workman always blames his tools." // "I played badly because my shoes were killing me." "Yeah, right. A bad workman blames his tools."</i>
a bad workman (always) quarrels with his tools	(humorous)	meseriașul prost se ceartă cu uneltele sale; meșterul prost dă vina pe uneltele sale; meșterul Fofează care lucrează: n-are din ce, n-are cu ce și nici nu prea se pricepe (glumeț)	<i>"Victor says he cannot repair the kitchen faucet, as he has the wrong tools." "That so? No wonder: a bad workman always quarrels with his tools." // "I played badly because my shoes were killing me." "Yeah, right. A bad workman quarrels with his tools."</i>
a Band-Aid solution		o soluție provizorie	<i>Borrowing money to fix the state's debt was only a Band-Aid solution.</i>
a bathroom scum		un gunoi (despre o persoană); o javră (despre o persoană); o canalie	<i>That bathroom scum took our money and never brought back the car he was supposed to.</i>
a battle-ax		o bătrână certăreață; o cotoroață	<i>The old man who did our gardening was married to a regular battle-ax who took all his money and occasionally slapped him over the head, too.</i>
a belled cat catches no mice	(proverb)	pisica cu clopoței de coadă nu prinde șoareci (proverb)	<i>When the cops came with their sirens blaring the drug dealers scampered right away. A belled cat catches no mice. // Why do these silly cops turn on their sirens miles before getting to a crime scene? Don't they know that a belled cat catches no mice?</i>
a belly laugh		un râs copios	<i>Mike had a belly laugh, and he let it go without inhibition, no matter where he was.</i>
a big cheese		un șef mare; un mare grangur; un baștan	<i>He looks like a big cheese, don't tread on his toes.</i>
a big chunk of change	(euphemism, ironic, informal)	bani frumoși; bani buni; o sumă frumoșică; o găleată de bani	<i>Henry made a big chunk of change by selling posters at the street corner. // The real estate agent told us that the house was on the market for 2.8 million dollars, and Tim scratched his head and said that that was a big chunk of change.</i>
a big drink of water		o prăjină (despre o persoană)	<i>Our sides were splitting with laughter when we saw Jim, who is the shortest of us, dancing with that big drink of water, his head buried between her breasts.</i>
a big stink		un scandal de pomină; un scandal de nedescris; un scandal monstru	<i>When the customers found out that they had been served horse meat they raised a big stink.</i>
a big time		o distracție pe cinste	<i>We had a big time at the circus last night, especially with the musical clown.</i>
a binding promise		o promisiune-legământ; o promisiune care îi creează o obligație celui ce o face	<i>What do a free lunch and a wedding vow have in common? Well, in my friend Terry's opinion, they are both binding promises.</i>
a bird in a gilded cage		o pasăre într-o colivie de aur	<i>Although she was surrounded by wealth and power, princess Diana most probably felt like a bird in a gilded cage.</i>
a bird in hand is worth two in the bush	(proverb)	vrabia din mână face mai mult decât cioara de pe gard; nu da vrabia din mână pe cioara de pe gard (zicătoare)	<i>Keep your money, don't give it to the casino in the hope of becoming rich. A bird in hand is worth two in the bush. // Simon suggested I gave up my job and went into business with him, but I told him that a bird in hand was worth two in the bush. // Maybe my present job is not the best I could get, but it puts food on my table, while the job in New York is not sure. I say that a bird in hand is worth two in the bush.</i>
a bird of a different feather		altă mîncare de pește (figurat); cu totul altceva	<i>"Now, if you want to show me a German car, that's a bird of a different feather," I told the salesman. "Korean cars don't appeal to me!"</i>
a bird's eye view		o vedere generală; o vedere de sus; o vedere de ansamblu	<i>Satellites give us a bird's eye view of an area.</i>

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a bit of luck		un pic de noroc; un dram de noroc	<i>A ton of brain is not enough in life. Sometimes you need a bit of luck as well.</i>
a bit of this and a bit of that		câte ceva din toate; câte puțin din toate	<i>The play had a bit of this and a bit of that, and in the end it was nothing at all.</i>
a bitch of a(n) ...	(<i>slang, vulgar</i>)	un ... dat naibii (colocvial); o ... dată naibii (colocvial); un ... dat dracului (colocvial); o ... dată dracului (colocvial); un ... scârbos; o ... scârboasă; un ... spinos; o ... spinoasă	<i>Mrs Homes was a bitch of a Math teacher. // Finding an honest mechanic proved to be a bitch of a problem.</i>
a bitter pill to swallow		un hap greu de înghițit (figurat); ceva greu de acceptat	<i>Admitting that I was wrong in front of all my friends was a bitter pill to swallow.</i>
a blessing in disguise		tot răul spre bine; o situație sau întâmplare aparent dezavantajoasă care se dovedește avantajoasă; orice șut în fund e un pas înainte (colocvial)	<i>Losing his job as a mailman was a blessing in disguise for Mike. He returned to college, got his degree and now is a famous lawyer. // When my first wife left me, I felt devastated. Later, when I remarried, I understood my divorce had been a blessing in disguise.</i>
a blonde bombshell		o blondă trăsnet	<i>Marilyn Monroe was a blonde bombshell who conquered the hearts of most Americans.</i>
a blot on sb's escutcheon	(<i>humorous</i>)	o pată pe onoarea cuiva	<i>His inappropriate behavior during his own wedding was a blot on his escutcheon. // Ted was a man of integrity whose only blot on his escutcheon was his arrest for speeding when he was 18.</i>
a blot on the landscape		o urâțenie în peisaj	<i>The new hotel with its 25 floors and its huge parking lot is a blot on the landscape of our beautiful city.</i>
a blueprint for success / disaster / etc		o rețetă sigură pentru succes / dezastru / etc	<i>Starting a business with your brother-in-law is a blueprint for disaster.</i>
a bolt from the blue		un eveniment neașteptat, a cărui veste te lovește ca un trăsnet; o veste care te izbește în moalele capului; o lovitură picată din cer; o lovitură primită pe neașteptate; o lovitură din senin	<i>The call from the police station was a bolt from the blue. Nobody in the household had expected that. // When they told him he had won the lottery it was like a bolt from the blue for him.</i>
a bolt out of the blue		un eveniment neașteptat, a cărui veste te lovește ca un trăsnet; o veste care te izbește în moalele capului; o lovitură picată din cer; o lovitură primită pe neașteptate; o lovitură din senin	<i>The call from the police station was a bolt out of the blue. Nobody in the household had expected that. // When they told him he had won the lottery it was like a bolt out of the blue for him.</i>
a boot up the backside		un șut în fund (colocvial)	<i>After thirty years of working at the same factory all my father got was a boot up the backside when the ownership changed hands.</i>
a bottom feeder		cel mai mic în rang; inferior celorlalți	<i>I tried to forget it, but my fellow workers reminded me every day that I was a bottom feeder.</i>
a bowl of cherries		paradisul; raiul pe pământ	<i>This house here is a bowl of cherries for me.</i>
a box-office success		un succes de casă	<i>Although the movie was extremely naïve and full of clichés it soon became a box-office success.</i>
a breach of good manners		o încălcare a bunelor maniere; o lipsă de respect	<i>Laughing and singing during mass is a breach of good manners.</i>
a breakdown in communication		o lipsă de comunicare	<i>All our problems were created because of an initial breakdown in communication.</i>
a breath of fresh air 1		aer curat; o gură de aer curat	<i>A breath of fresh air came in through the open window. // So much smoke was there in the pub that I felt the need to get out for a breath of fresh air.</i>
a breath of fresh air 2		o dulceață de față; o dulceață de băiat	<i>Jim is like a breath of fresh air.</i>
a broken reed		o persoană în care nu poți avea încredere	<i>You can't trust an important task like this on Jim, who has proved before to be a broken reed.</i>
a bull bitch	(<i>slang, vulgar</i>)	o femeie foarte masculinizată	<i>Oh, man, I have no idea how I ended up with a bull bitch on my arm at last night's dance.</i>
a bull in a china shop		o persoană stângace și needucată care acționează sau vorbește într-o manieră iritantă; un om lipsit de tact	<i>The American football players who were wondering around in the museum seemed like as many bulls in a china shop: clumsy, and lost, and out of place. // Fred was again his own self, acting like a bull in a china shop, asking a poor middle-aged woman how old she was or why her husband left her.</i>
a bum steer		verzi și uscate; indicații greșite	<i>The locals enjoyed giving the visitors a bum steer because they really did not want so much tourism in their little town.</i>
a bunch of fives	(<i>slang</i>)	un pumn; o lovitură	<i>"Listen, bud! If you don't lay off my mother I'll give you a bunch of fives!"</i>
a bunch of hooley	(<i>slang</i>)	rahat cu smac (colocvial); basme de-adormit Mițura (din Argezi)	<i>I heard this story before and, believe me, it's all a bunch of hooley.</i>
a bundle of laughs		o plăcere (despre o persoană); un deliciu (despre o persoană); o încântare (despre o persoană)	<i>Is Dan coming to the party? He is a bundle of laughs, and we had a lot of fun with him last time we got together.</i>
a bundle of nerves		un pachet de nervi	<i>Don't bother Daddy right now. The IRS has sent him an audit note, and he is a bundle of nerves.</i>
a burning question		o problemă arzătoare; o întrebare arzătoare	<i>Gentlemen! Gentlemen! Please sit down. We have burning questions on today's agenda. // The burning question was not if the state was going to get its independence, but when.</i>
a burr under sb's saddle		un cui înfipt în coasta cuiva (figurat)	<i>The newspaper reporter was like a burr under the President's saddle.</i>

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a cake walk / cakewalk		floare la ureche; o nimica toată; simplu ca bună ziua	<i>If you thought that building a house was a cake walk, well, think again! // Dancing is a cakewalk.</i>
a case of mistaken identity		un caz de confundare a identității cuiva; un exemplu de confundare a identității cuiva; o problemă de confundare a identității cuiva	<i>The police let him go, and admitted his had been a case of mistaken identity.</i>
a cat has nine lives		o pisică are șapte vieți	<i>I knew that Sam would come back from Vietnam in one piece. A cat has nine lives!</i>
a cat in hell's chance		șansa mortului; nici cea mai mică șansă	<i>Henry doesn't have a cat in hell's chance of being elected mayor.</i>
a cat in mittens catches no mice	(proverb)	pisica cu clopoței de coadă nu prinde șoareci (proverb)	<i>Why do these silly cops behave so politely with the criminals? Don't they know that a cat in mittens catches no mice?</i>
a certain party		persoană importantă, nu îi spun pe nume	<i>And what did the certain party have to say about that?</i>
a chain is as strong as its weakest link		elementul cel mai slab al unei structuri este elementul determinant; rezistența unui lanț se măsoară în cea mai slabă za a sa	<i>The researchers are trying to determine the behavior of the AIDS virus and then attack its weakest link. A chain is as strong as its weakest link. // Attack the weakest defender and you will score, as a chain is as strong as its weakest link.</i>
a chance encounter		o întâlnire întâmplătoare	<i>Their marriage began by a chance encounter in the market place.</i>
a chance of a lifetime		o șansă cu care te întâlnești doar o dată în viață; o șansă / ocazie unică; o oportunitate	<i>Marrying Mary, who is both beautiful and wealthy, is a chance of a lifetime for you, my friend. // I immediately saw that this job was a chance of a lifetime.</i>
a change for the better		o schimbare în bine	<i>His move to Italy proved out to be a change for the better.</i>
a change for the worse		o schimbare în rău	<i>His divorce was a change for the worse.</i>
a change of air		o schimbare de aer / atmosferă / peisaj; o gură de aer curat	<i>He had put in seventy-hour weeks at work, and felt he needed a change of air. // After so many months of hard work, I told Jim he needed a change of air. // Moving to Italy was a necessary change of air for that artist.</i>
a change of life		menopauză	<i>Now with the change of life that was occurring to her, Linda had to give up the idea of having children, and focus on other things.</i>
a change of scene		o schimbare de peisaj	<i>I am so tired of seeing and hearing my family fight all day long I've decided I need a change of scene.</i>
a chapter of accidents		un șir / lanț de accidente	<i>After a chapter of accidents due to his drinking problem, Mike ended up losing his driver's license.</i>
a Chinaman's chance	(slang)	șansa mortului; absolut nicio șansă	<i>We all knew that without a proper education and good clothes Greg had a Chinaman's chance to get the job. // Linda going to the winter ball with you? A Chinaman's chance!</i>
a chink in sb's armor		călcâiul lui Ahile; punctul slab al cuiva; punctul vulnerabil al cuiva; o fisură în armura cuiva; o fisură în apărarea cuiva; vulnerabilitate	<i>I love her so much that I allow her to hurt me; my love for her is a chink in my armor. // The opposing party thought they had found a chink in the candidate's armor: his youthful indiscretions.</i>
a chinless wonder		un aristocrat lipsit de vlagă; un aristocrat ineficient; un aristocrat papă-lapte; un mormoloc; un mototol	<i>How could our chinless wonder compete with the real wrestlers that the other schools had? // Paul is a chinless wonder, he cannot do anything his family does not agree to.</i>
a chorus of protests		un cor de proteste	<i>The mayor's decision to fine the dog's owners for their pets' litter drew a chorus of protests.</i>
a citizen of the world		un cosmopolit; un om umblat	<i>It was clear from the moment he walked into the room that he, as a citizen of the world, was going to shine among the rest of the men of that city.</i>
a clap of thunder		un tunet	<i>That clap of thunder sounded so near I thought it hit our house.</i>
a class act	(slang)	un domn; o doamnă; o fată fină; un băiat fin	<i>As usual Larry was a class act. He gave us a ride to school and bought us lunch, too.</i>
a clean bill of health		certificat de sănătate; raport privind deplina siguranță în folosirea unui utilaj sau a unei clădiri	<i>The doctors examined the President and gave him a clean bill of health. // They inspected the building and gave it a clean bill of health.</i>
a clean break		o ruptură completă / definitivă	<i>When Della and I decided to go each our own way she wanted to see me from time to time, but I believed that a clean break was the way to go.</i>
a cloak of respectability		aparență / aură de respect	<i>Only during the 18th century did the profession of a merchant get a cloak of respectability.</i>
a close second		al doilea, la o diferență foarte mică; imediat după câștigător	<i>Tim did not win the race, but he came in a close second.</i>
a closed book to sb		o problemă sau o materie de neînțeles pentru cineva; un mister pentru cineva	<i>Physics is a closed book to my sister.</i>
a coat of paint		un strat de vopsea; o pensulă (figurat)	<i>All this house needs is a coat of paint and it will look new.</i>
a cog in the machine		o mică roțiță într-un angrenaj uriaș	<i>My role in the organization? Very minor: I am just a cog in the machine.</i>
a cold snap		un val de frig	<i>In April Madrid was hit with a cold snap that surprised everybody.</i>
a common man		un om obișnuit / oarecare	<i>I'm just a common man, I drive a common van, my dog ain't got a pedigree.</i>
a complete rip-off		hoție curată; înșelăciune legată de preț	<i>\$30,000 dollars for that ring? That's a complete rip-off.</i>
a confirmed bachelor		un burlac înrăit / autentic / convins; un celibatar înrăit	<i>In ancient Sparta unmarried women were allowed to berate and even beat up on confirmed bachelors. // Jim's aunts brought many girls into his house hoping to see him get married, but Jim was a confirmed bachelor.</i>
a cool cat	(slang)	un gagi care n-are treabă (colocvial); un tip marfă (colocvial); un tip de gașcă (colocvial)	<i>All of us liked Jeremy because we thought him to be a cool cat.</i>

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a cool customer	<i>(informal)</i>	o persoană care nu își iese niciodată din fire; un tip stăpânit / calm	<i>You cannot make Ted angry no matter how hard you try. He is a cool customer indeed.</i>
a cool dude	<i>(slang)</i>	un gagi care n-are treabă (colocvial); un tip marfă (colocvial); un tip de gașcă (colocvial)	<i>Kelsey thinks that Billy Bob, who is the captain of the basketball team and who has a convertible Corvette, is a cool dude.</i>
a couch potato		o legumă (figurat); un puturos	<i>He is a real couch potato! He spends hours and hours surfing the TV channels.</i>
a couple of		vreo două	<i>I've read a couple of books on the Prohibition.</i>
a creature of habit		o persoană care face lucrurile mereu în același fel și la aceleași ore; un tipicar	<i>It's boring to be married to a creature of habit.</i>
a creature of one's times		o persoană în pas cu epoca sa; un produs al epocii sale	<i>Many people who turn their nose up at the way medieval kings treated their captives do not understand that they were creatures of their times.</i>
a crutch for sb		un sprijin pentru cineva	<i>Governor Ventura told a huge audience that religion is a crutch for the weak.</i>
a dab of		o picătură de; un vârf de cuțit de; un strop de	<i>If you want this dish to come out right you must add a dab of pepper.</i>
a dark page in sb's life		un moment greu al vieții cuiva; o pagină neagră / întunecată în viața cuiva	<i>We all have a dark page in our lives.</i>
a day late and a dollar short		prea târziu și prea puțin; care lasă de dorit; insuficient	<i>Marla tried to make up for the mistakes she made with Jim, but it was a day late and a dollar short, so they split up. // I'm sorry to say but your proposal of settling our differences in the negotiation is a day late and a dollar short.</i>
a dead cinch	<i>(slang)</i>	o chestiune absolut sigură; o chestiune dată ca și sigură; o certitudine; un lucru sigur	<i>Her being the new head of the department was a dead cinch.</i>
a dead giveaway		ceva care te dă de gol	<i>He said that he hadn't eaten the marmalade, but the streak of red marmalade around his mouth was a dead giveaway.</i>
a dead-end job		o slujbă de mizerie și fără perspective; un serviciu de rahat (colocvial)	<i>A dead-end job is a job with a low salary and no chance of promotion.</i>
a debt of honor		o datorie de onoare (făcută la jocurile de noroc)	<i>He sold all his furniture in order to pay his debts of honor.</i>
a decent night's sleep		o noapte de somn odihnitor	<i>I decided to put off the decision until I've had a decent night's sleep.</i>
a den of iniquity	<i>(often humorous)</i>	un loc de pierzanie	<i>The Old Testament prophets considered Sodoma a den of iniquity. // Her mother told her that New York was a den of iniquity.</i>
a den of thieves		un cuib de hoți	<i>I will never set foot in this store. It is nothing but a den of thieves.</i>
a den of vice		un loc de pierzanie; un cuib de stricăciune; un loc sau o activitate care favorizează imoralitatea sau viciul	<i>That so-called club is a den of vice.</i>
a dialogue of the deaf		dialogul surzilor; discuție în zadar	<i>The discussions between the two countries was a perfect dialogue of the deaf; neither country was paying attention to the requests of the other.</i>
a different ball of wax		altă mâncare de pește (figurat)	<i>I've been to quite a few romantic places, but Venice is a different ball of wax.</i>
a different kettle of fish		altă mâncare de pește (figurat)	<i>I wasn't too crazy about going to the movies, but playing cards is a different kettle of fish. // I thought you wanted to go to a bar, but going to the opera is a different kettle of fish. // If you had wanted to take a trip into the Himalayan mountains I wouldn't have allowed you. However, a vacation in Italy is a different kettle of fish.</i>
a different proposition altogether		altă mâncare de pește (figurat)	<i>Did you say going to Greece for a vacation? I thought you wanted to go to France. Well, Greece is a different proposition altogether!</i>
a diplomatic presence		o prezență / reprezentanță diplomatică	<i>The USA hasn't had a diplomatic presence in Teheran ever since the hostage crisis.</i>
a dirty old man		un bătrân libidinos	<i>Can you believe it? That dirty old man invited me to his house!</i>
a dog in the manger		câinele grădinarului (nici mere nu mănâncă, nici pe alții nu îi lasă)	<i>We asked our neighbor for the bricks she had left over, but, like a dog in the manger, she threw them away and would not let us have them.</i>
a double whammy	<i>(informal)</i>	o situație în care două lucruri neplăcute au loc în același timp; o nenorocire nu vine niciodată singură (zicătoare; aproximativ)	<i>The economy had been hit by a double whammy; high inflation and lack of jobs.</i>
a dream come true		un vis împlinit	<i>Living in Rome was a dream come true for Chris.</i>
a dream job		o slujbă de vis	<i>Ted had now found a dream job. All he had to do was go to the best restaurants in the city all expenses paid and then write a review about the food and the service.</i>
a drinking bout		o scurtă perioadă de timp petrecută tot într-o beție	<i>The prime minister used to have a drinking bout now and then.</i>
a drop in the bucket		o picătură într-un pahar; o picătură într-un ocean; o cantitate infimă; ceva ce nu ajunge nici la o măsea (figurat)	<i>The ten dollars that Jim gave me was just a drop in the bucket compared to what I had lost. // A few food companies donated some cans of food for the poor, but there were so many hungry people that their donations were just a drop in the bucket.</i>
a drop in the ocean		o picătură într-un pahar; o picătură într-un ocean; o cantitate infimă; ceva ce nu ajunge nici la o măsea (figurat)	<i>The ten dollars that Jim gave me was just a drop in the ocean compared to what I had lost. // A few food companies donated some cans of food for the poor, but there were so many hungry people that their donations were just a drop in the ocean.</i>
a drowning man clutches at a straw		se agață ca înecatul de pai; se agață ca înecatul de scândură	<i>Although she had confirmation of her son's death in the war, Mrs Popper was like a drowning man clutching at any straw.</i>

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a face like a wet weekend	o față tristă; o față mohorâtă	<i>I knew right away we were in trouble when I saw Jim come out of the principal's office with a face like a wet weekend.</i>
a fair crack of the whip	șanse egale cu ceilalți; tratament egal cu al celorlalți	<i>The competition was tight, yet the opposite team won and Jimmy, naturally enough, started to complain about not being given a fair crack of the whip. // All we wanted was a fair crack of the whip, nothing more. If we can't do the job we can always be fired.</i>
a fair deal	o afacere cinstită; un tratament drept / onorabil	<i>I did not trust them to give me a fair deal, so I did not buy their house.</i>
a far cry from	departe de (figurat); cu mult diferit de	<i>Life in Budapest was a far cry from life in Prague.</i>
a fate worse than death	mai bine mort; o soartă mai cumplită ca moartea	<i>Being thrown to jail for life was a fate worse than death.</i>
a feather in one's cap	un motiv de a se împăuna; un alt trofeu la colecția sa	<i>Sorry, Jim, I won't go to bed with you. I don't want to be a feather in your cap.</i>
a festive air	un aer de sărbătoare	<i>On the 4th of July the whole city has a festive air.</i>
a few bricks shy of a load	cu mintea în colțuri; prost de dă în gropi	<i>I swear that each time I try to talk to Mike I get the feeling that he is a few bricks shy of a load.</i>
a few loose ends to be tied up	câteva mici detalii de pus la punct; chițibușuri rămase nerezolvate care trebuie finalizate	<i>They have almost finished the project, but there are still a few loose ends to be tied up.</i>
a few too many	mai mult decât trebuia	<i>When we realized that Larry had had a few too many, we stood up and left.</i>
a fight to the death	o luptă pe viață și pe moarte	<i>The Shepherds and the Grangerfords were engaged in a fight to the death. // They all knew that they would soon be in a fight to the death.</i>
a fighting chance	o șansă mică, dar reală dacă se depune efort; o șansă cât de mică	<i>All we wanted when we came to this country was a fighting chance, a chance to prove ourselves. // He was given a fighting chance to win the championship.</i>
a figment of sb's imagination	un produs al imaginației cuiva	<i>His invitation to dinner at Buckingham Palace was, of course, a figment of his imagination.</i>
a figure of speech	o figură de stil; un fel de a spune	<i>When I said that Paul and I are brothers it was only a figure of speech.</i>
a fine kettle of fish	mare încurcătură	<i>"A fine kettle of fish you've gotten us into," Laurel told Harvey.</i>
a firm hand	o mână fermă (figurat); persoană care controlează riguros / exigent	<i>Dad was a firm hand in the house; everything was working smoothly, each thing is in its place.</i>
a flash in the pan	un succes trecător; o stea căzătoare (figurat); o tânără speranță într-un domeniu, care dezamăgește prin evoluția ulterioară; o activitate care oferă mari speranțe de reușită la început, dar eșuează ulterior	<i>We were hoping he'd be the next great champion, but he was just a flash in the pan. After winning two tournaments he disappeared from the game completely. // Mary's first book of poems was a flash in the pan. All critics thought she would become a really accomplished poet, but she never again put pen to paper to write poetry.</i>
a flash of genius	o scânteie genială	<i>Most inventors have a flash of genius that makes them rich and famous.</i>
a flash of inspiration	un moment de inspirație	<i>He wrote the whole symphony in a flash of inspiration in only three days.</i>
a flash of lightning	un fulger	<i>Whenever there was a flash of lightning Isabella put her head under the pillow and covered her ears with her little hands.</i>
a flight of capital	fuga / exodul capitalului	<i>A tremendous flight of capital occurred when the government confiscated all banks in the country.</i>
a flurry of activity	o perioadă relativ scurtă de activitate intensă	<i>From noon to two o'clock the restaurant had a flurry of activity, after which things calmed down a little.</i>
a flying ace	un as al pilotajului; neîntrecut în pilotarea avionului	<i>As a flying ace, Captain Green was handsomely paid by the American Airlines.</i>
a foot in the door	primul pas; ocazia de a începe ceva (o carieră, un contract)	<i>When I was hired as a bellboy I knew I had gotten a foot in the door for my career in tourism.</i>
a frame of reference	un punct de referință	<i>A good teacher gives his students a frame of reference before going into a story.</i>
a freak of nature	o ciudățenie a naturii	<i>Shaquille O'Neill is not a basketball player. He is a freak of nature. His shoe size is 18!</i>
a free hand	mână liberă	<i>He has a free hand to buy and sell whatever he wants.</i>
a friend in need is a friend indeed	(<i>proverb</i>) prietenul la nevoie se cunoaște (<i>proverb</i>)	<i>When I was in trouble he came running to help. A friend in need is a friend indeed.</i>
a game (that) two can play	nici eu nu mă las mai prejos; ce, crezi că eu nu pot să fac la fel!	<i>If he is likes playing games with me, hiding my lunch box, that's all right with me! That's a game two can play!</i>
a gift from the gods	o plească; mană cerească; un dar de la Dumnezeu; o binecuvântare divină	<i>The money Aunt Tricia sent us was a gift from the Gods.</i>
a gleam in sb's eye	o licărire (de speranță) în ochii cuiva	<i>In the 60's landing on the Moon was still only a gleam in President Kennedy's eye.</i>
a glimmer of hope	o licărire / brumă de speranță	<i>As long as there is a glimmer of hope a patient will try to survive.</i>
a going concern	o neliniște / problemă permanentă; o neliniște / problemă stringentă	<i>A going concern in our community is the raise in the number of burglaries.</i>
a goner	terminat (despre o persoană)	<i>If Bubba finds out that you've eaten his sandwich you're a goner.</i>
a good buy	o achiziție / cumpărătură bună	<i>This little Japanese car was a very good buy.</i>
a good deal of	o mulțime de	<i>I've seen a good deal of cities, but none of them is like Rome.</i>

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a good fuck	(vulgar)	o persoană bună la pat; o persoană care se fute bine (vulgar)	<i>Everybody says that Jenny is a good fuck.</i>
a good many		foarte mulți / multe	<i>A good many people believe that there is nothing wrong with bringing religion into the schools again.</i>
a good match		o căsătorie reușită (unde soții se potrivesc unul cu altul); o pereche potrivită	<i>Both Karen and Joe are intelligent, artistic and kind. They are a good match.</i>
a good pop upside the head		o scatoalcă zdravă; o chelfăneală bună	<i>What this kid needs is not counseling, but a good pop upside the head.</i>
a good sailor		o persoană care are stomac bun; o persoană care nu are rău de mare	<i>Tim proved to be a good sailor, and felt no nausea during the whole cruise.</i>
a good Samaritan		un bun samaritan	<i>When our car broke down in the middle of the Arizona desert a good Samaritan stopped over and gave us a ride to the next city.</i>
a good scout		de-al nostru; băiat bun; fată bună; băiat de comitet; fată de comitet	<i>Let's invite Nick, too. He is not too bright, but he is a good scout.</i>
a good sort		băiat bun; fată bună; băiat de comitet; fată de comitet; soi bun; de soi bun	<i>I've always thought Fred to be a good sort.</i>
a goose egg		un zero; o nulitate	<i>You know what Edwin's score was in Economics? A goose egg!</i>
a great deal of		mult; o mare mulțime de	<i>I accomplished a great deal of things last year, but that did not make me any wealthier. // I have seen a great deal of churches while I was traveling in Italy.</i>
a great leap forward		un mare salt înainte	<i>The discovery of electricity proved to be a great leap forward for the economies of the whole world.</i>
a great many		foarte mulți / multe; o mulțime de	<i>A great many people believe that there is nothing wrong with bringing religion into the schools again. // It's hard to believe it, but a great many people still believe in ghosts.</i>
a growing concern		o îngrijorare ce se face tot mai simțită sau ce cuprinde tot mai multă lume	<i>There is a growing concern that a man like him won't be able to run the company.</i>
a habitual ...		un ... inveterat / înrăit	<i>You can't trust a story coming from a habitual liar like Pamela.</i>
a hail-Mary pass		o pasă riscantă dată în ultimele secunde ale unui meci prin care se poate câștiga sau pierde meciul (în special la fotbalul american)	<i>The San Francisco Forty-Niners won the game through a hail-Mary pass in the last three seconds of the game.</i>
a hair of the dog that bit him		cui pe cui se scoate (zicătoare)	<i>Tim walked into the bar and asked for a double bourbon as a hair of the dog that bit him!</i>
a hand up		o mână de ajutor	<i>He is moving into a new house and is asking us to give him a hand up.</i>
a handful		o persoană dificilă	<i>The panel didn't want to hire Pamela because they realized she had the potential of becoming a handful in the future.</i>
a happy camper	(ironic, slang)	o persoană fericită / voioasă	<i>After the loss the coach of the opposite team did not sound like a happy camper.</i>
a happy event		nașterea unui copil; o întâmplare fericită	<i>The whole family rushed to the hospital to be present at the happy event, and were curious to find out whether it was a boy or a girl.</i>
a happy medium		o cale de mijloc; echilibru în ceea ce faci / gândești; nici prea-prea, nici foarte-foarte	<i>He thought that drinking a lot or not drinking at all were extremes that he could not understand. Instead he said he had found a happy medium: a glass of red wine with his dinner.</i>
a hard case		o persoană care creează multe probleme; o pacoste (figurat)	<i>When he reached about fifteen Sam turned into a hard case who was in police custody every week.</i>
a has-been		un fost	<i>After the communist take over a lot of has-beens were sent to jail and their property was confiscated for no reason at all.</i>
a hatchet job		un atac malițios scris sau oral împotriva unei persoane	<i>The article in the newspaper was nothing but a hatchet job against an honest man.</i>
a head-on collision (between ... and ...)		o ciocnire / coliziune frontală (între ... și ...); lovire bot în bot (între ... și ...)	<i>Many people were hospitalized after a head-on collision between a bus and a tram. // They survived the head-on collision only because they were wearing their seat-belts.</i>
a healthy mind in a healthy body		minte sănătoasă în corp sănătos; mens sana in corpore sano	<i>My father insisted we all should do sports, because we needed a healthy mind in a healthy body.</i>
a heaped spoonful of sth		o lingură cu vârf de ceva	<i>Next time add a heaped spoonful of sugar into your spaghetti.</i>
a heart of flint		o inimă de piatră	<i>That banker has a heart of flint.</i>
a heart of gold		o inimă de aur	<i>Father Marin was a small man with a balding head, but he had a heart of gold, and nobody ever left his door without something to eat, or a few dollars.</i>
a heart of stone		o inimă de piatră	<i>That banker has a heart of stone.</i>
a hearty welcome		un călduros bun venit	<i>Our principal wished the visiting professor a hearty welcome.</i>
a heavy hand		o mână de fier; o persoană autoritară	<i>What our team needed was a coach with a heavy hand.</i>
a hefty dose of		o doză serioasă de	<i>Mr and Mrs Brown realized that what their daughter needed more than anything was a hefty dose of common sense. She wanted to be a ballet dancer although she was short and plumb.</i>
a hell of a		foarte; extrem de; al dracului de (colocvial); al naibii de (colocvial); dat dracului (colocvial)	<i>Michael Jordan is a hell of a good player. // I had a hell of a day today. // The first Ali-Frazier match was a hell of a fight.</i>
a helluva a	(colloquial)	foarte; extrem de; al dracului de (colocvial); al naibii de (colocvial); dat dracului (colocvial)	<i>Michael Jordan is a helluva a good player. // I had a helluva a day today.</i>
a helping hand		o mână de ajutor	<i>He is moving into a new house and is asking us to give him a helping hand.</i>

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a hero's welcome		o primire / intrare triumfală	<i>The general received a hero's welcome after winning the war.</i>
a hill of beans	(slang)	nici doi bani; nici două parale; nici cât o ceapă degerată	<i>In its present condition this house isn't worth a hill of beans. // In Casablanca, Humphrey Bogart says to Ingrid Bergman, "Ilsa, I'm no good at being noble, but it doesn't take much to see that the problems of three little people don't amount to a hill of beans in this crazy world."</i>
a hit song		un șlagăr	<i>His hit song "Love me as I love you" brought him millions of dollars.</i>
a hive of activity		o activitate intensă	<i>His house was a hive of activity.</i>
a hole in the wall		o bombă (figurat); o dugheană / bodegă	<i>His restaurant was a small hole in the wall, but it had a lot of repeat customers and did some brisk business.</i>
a home away from home		o a doua casă	<i>Henry found a home away from home amongst the Marines.</i>
a home truth		un adevăr dureros	<i>He got on my nerves, so I told him a few home truths he will remember for a while.</i>
a honey of a		o dulceață de; o frumusețe de	<i>They gave him a honey of a deal.</i>
a hop, skip, and a jump		la doi pași; la o aruncătură de băț	<i>From Bucharest to Sofia is just a hop, skip and a jump.</i>
a hornet's nest		un cuib de viespi / vipere (și figurat)	<i>That office was a hornet's nest, and nobody's life was sacred to the tongues of the women working there.</i>
a horse of a different color		o cu totul altă poveste; altă mâncare de pește (figurat)	<i>I didn't like going to Paris. Now, going to Rome is a horse of a different color.</i>
a hotshot		unul care-i dat dracului (colocvial); un șmecher	<i>This guy thinks he is a hotshot, but he ain't nothing if you ask me.</i>
a house of ill repute		bordel	<i>Franz was rumored to frequent a certain house of ill repute.</i>
a household name / word		marcă renumită; nume recunoscut	<i>Coca-Cola is now a household name in the whole world.</i>
a huge success		un succes epatant	<i>The Greek diva Maria Callas had a huge success throughout Europe.</i>
a hush fell over the crowd		peste adunare s-a lăsat tăcerea	<i>The great warrior began to tell his story, and a hush fell over the crowd.</i>
a hush-hush matter		un secret	<i>Does Elliot know how to keep quiet about a hush-hush matter?</i>
a keg party		o petrecere unde se servesc băuturi alcoolice	<i>When Mike's parents' were away we organized a keg party in his house.</i>
a kernel of truth		un sâmbure de adevăr	<i>The story did indeed have a kernel of truth.</i>
a kick in the ass of the pants / butt / rear	(slang, vulgar)	un mesaj (de încurajare sau avertizare) foarte energic; un șut în fund drept încurajare	<i>All this boy needs is a kick in the ass of the pants and he's going to do a lot better.</i>
a kick in the guts	(slang)	o lovitură dură / demoralizatoare (figurat)	<i>His uncle's death was a kick in the guts that left him depressed and nostalgic for months and months.</i>
a kick in the pants		un șut în fund (colocvial)	<i>What he really deserves for his stupidity is a kick in the pants.</i>
a kick in the seat of the pants / butt / rear	(slang, vulgar)	un mesaj (de încurajare sau avertizare) foarte energic; un șut în fund drept încurajare	<i>All this boy needs is a kick in the seat of the pants and he's going to do a lot better.</i>
a kick in the teeth		o palmă (figurat); o lovitură dură; un pumn în gură	<i>The teacher worked hard to improve the students' knowledge of spelling and reading, but when the parent teacher conference came all he got was a kick in the teeth from a few parents who were unhappy with the amount of homework their children had to do.</i>
a kick in the wrist	(slang)	una mică (despre băătură); o dușcă	<i>Shawn and Lenny met at the local bar last Friday for a quick kick in the wrist before going home.</i>
a king's ransom		o găleată de bani; o avere	<i>Leila spends a king's ransom on cosmetics. // Careful! That Stradivarius violin costs a king's ransom. // A German car costs a king's ransom. // Careful with that vase! It's cost me a king's ransom.</i>
a knight in shining armor		Făt-Frumos din poveste; un prinț pe cal alb; un bărbat curajos care salvează o femeie dintr-o situație periculoasă; un cavaler; un salvator	<i>Today's women cannot afford to wait for a knight in shining armor to save them from all their troubles. // John behaved like a knight in shining armor last night. He fought against four men to save a young woman from being raped. // Oh, Joe, you have been my knight in shining armor! You saved my life!</i>
a knotty problem		o problemă complicată	<i>Educating migrant children has always been a knotty problem.</i>
a knuckle sandwich		un pumn în gură	<i>The only thing that scumbag is going to get from me is a knuckle sandwich.</i>
a labor of Hercules		un efort gigantic	<i>Building the Golden Gate Bridge was a labor of Hercules.</i>
a lapse of memory		un lapsus; o pană de memorie	<i>Mr Jenkins decided to see a doctor as soon as he realized that he had repeated lapses of memory.</i>
a lay-away plan		plan de cumpărare prin care plătești o arvună și ți se păstrează obiectul până când ai toți banii ca să îl cumperi	<i>I put the ear-rings on a lay-away plan.</i>
a leap in the dark		un salt în necunoscut	<i>Moving over to a new job was a leap in the dark for Mario.</i>
a leap of imagination		un efort de imaginație	<i>It takes a leap of imagination to see my little son in a military uniform.</i>
a level spoonful		o linguriță rasă	<i>After beating the eggs, add two level spoonfuls of sugar.</i>
a license to print money	(humorous)	o afacere foarte bănoasă; o mină de aur (figurat)	<i>His night bar was a license to print money.</i>
a lick and a promise		o treabă de mântuială	<i>I'm not going to pay for a lick and a promise.</i>
a lick of paint		un strat de vopsea	<i>All this house needs is a lick of paint.</i>

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a little bird (has) told me	am eu sursele mele; mi-a șoptit / spus mie o păsărică (glumet)	"How do you know that I went to a movie last night?" "A little bird told me." // "How do you know I'm getting married?" "A little bird told me!"
a little cog in the machine	o mică rotiță într-un angrenaj uriaș	My role in the organization? Very minor: I am just a little cog in the machine.
a little tin god	o persoană idolatrizată fără niciun motiv; idol de tinichea	I grew up to understand that in reality the little tin gods of my childhood were people I had very little reason to admire.
a little visitor	(slang, vulgar) menstruație	When she has a little visitor, she flies off the handle easily.
a living hell	iadul pe pământ; un calvar	The new boss has made our life a living hell.
a load of rubbish	o grămadă de prostii	Have you ever heard such a load of rubbish?
a loaded question	o întrebare capcană (formulată de așa natură încât să prindă pe cineva în cursă)	What do you think about the present immigration policy?" one of the newspaper reporters asked, but the candidate immediately recognized that as a loaded question.
a local yokel	un localnic (peiorativ)	I tried to have an intelligent conversation with a few men in the bar, but they were all local yokels and didn't know their ear from a hole in the ground.
a long chance	puțin probabil; o șansă la un milion	This year we have only a long chance to win the championship.
a long drink of water	un lungan; o prăjină (figurat)	I got angry when I saw my sister dancing cheek to cheek with a long drink of water.
a long knife	(slang) asasin; cuțitar	Lenny Andersen has been on the run from the long knives of the underworld for over a year now.
a long memory	care nu uită ușor (în special o insultă)	You'd better be careful. Pamela has a long memory.
a long shot	șanse reduse / mici	I thought that finding his name in the register of voters was a long shot, but I had to try it anyway.
a long time ago	cu mult timp în urmă	Oh, that story happened a long time ago.
a long time in coming	așteptat de multă vreme	The changes in the manner of paying the employees were a long time in coming, but they were very welcome once they were instituted.
a long way from	foarte departe de	You are a long way from speaking like a native.
a long way off	foarte departe	The day when I retire is a long way off.
a look that would boil cheese	o privire care îți îngheață sângele în vine	Whenever I acted up when we had guests in the house mom would give me a look that would boil cheese.
a lost cause	o luptă inutilă; o cauză pierdută	Huckleberry Finn seemed to be a lost cause. All the efforts that the widow spent on him went in vain. // Thinking about Robert after the horrible break-up is a lost cause, don't you think so, Mary?
a lot is riding on	multe depind de	A lot is riding on this meeting with the heads of the company next week.
a lot of	o mulțime de	She's seen a lot of students come and go.
a lot of water has flowed under the bridge	multă vreme a trecut; de atunci s-au petrecut multe lucruri; multe s-au întâmplat (de atunci)	How can I know what my first wife is doing now? A lot of water has flowed under the bridge. // A lot of water has flowed under the bridge since we last said good-bye.
a love-hate relationship	o relație de ură și dragoste amestecate	Kevin and his mother had had a long love-hate relationship.
a made man	un om realizat	After winning the lottery he is a made man.
a man about town	un om umblat	If you want to see the best museums in Madrid, ask Enrique. He is a man about town, and will send you to the right places.
a man and a half	un om și jumătate; un om integru	My father was a man and a half.
a man of God	un preot	The occupying army did not suspect a man of God of carrying weapons to the partisans.
a man of his word	un om de cuvânt	If James promised he'd help you, he will. James is a man of his word.
a man of many parts	un bărbat cu multe talente	Michelangelo was in fact a man of many parts; he was not only a sculptor, but also an architect, a poet, and a heck of a painter.
a man of means	un om înstărit; un om cu bani	Mr Vargas has always dreamed that his daughter would marry a man of means, not one of the punks that had no money to his name. // When he was forty and a millionaire, Mr Jamison spoke and walked like a man of means.
a man of straw	un om de paie	Mr Tortellini was not the real owner of the bar. He was just a man of straw who did the organized crime bidding.
a man of substance	un om cu cheag / bani	Mr Jenkins didn't care what his future son-in-law would look like. He just wanted him to be a man of substance.
a man of the cloth	un om al bisericii	Everybody had to use decent language in the presence of a man of the cloth.
a man of the world	un om umblat prin lume; un tip experimentat	Mr Peoples was a man of the world and wasn't easily shocked by what he saw.
a marked man	un om luat în vizor	The terrorist knew that he was a marked man and tried to leave the country on the sly.
a market for	o (cerere de) piață pentru	I can still remember the days when there used to be a huge market for programmers in the Silicon Valley.
a master in one's own house	stăpân în propria-i casă	Ken said that he was willing to allow his in-laws to live with them as long as they accepted that he was a master in his own house. // The inhabitants of Transylvania told the Austro-Hungarian authorities that they wanted to be masters in their own house.

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a master of disguise	un artist în ale deghizării	<i>The spy was a master of disguise, and could just as easily make himself look like an old lady or a Turkish wrestler.</i>
a matter of course	o chestiune de la sine înțeleasă; un lucru de la sine înțeles; mersul firesc al lucrurilor; un lucru stabilit	<i>Going to college is a matter of course for all the children in Dr. Fink's family. // That you get your pay check every other Friday is a matter of course, I suppose; no need to mention it again.</i>
a matter of great concern	o problemă stringentă	<i>The increase in violence is a matter of great concern to us.</i>
a matter of hours / minutes / days / etc	o chestiune de ore / minute / zile / etc	<i>It is only a matter of days before the season will change and it will start to rain.</i>
a matter of life and death	o chestiune de viață și de moarte; o problemă esențială	<i>Getting the medicine to the patient on the boat in the middle of the ocean became a matter of life and death. // You must go to the police and report the murder; it is a matter of life and death.</i>
a matter of record	un fapt stabilit	<i>Fidel Castro's reign of terror is not a rumor, but a matter of record.</i>
a matter of taste	o chestie de gust	<i>What people wear is a matter of taste.</i>
a means to an end	scopul scuză mijloacele	<i>For Geoff, the job was simply a means to an end.</i>
a middle course	o cale de mijloc; o modalitate de a împăca două situații; un mijloc de a împăca doi oameni aflați în conflict; o cale de a împăca două părți aflate în conflict	<i>As hard as I tried, I simply couldn't find a middle course to the situation and things were going from bad to worse.</i>
a mine of information on / about sth	o adevărată mină de informații despre ceva; o sursă bogată de informații	<i>The Internet is a mine of information about a lot of subjects.</i>
a miser's hoard	comoara unui avar	<i>John was obsessed with saving as much money as possible so his five nieces expected to find a miser's hoard after his death.</i>
a mixed blessing	atât cu părți bune, cât și cu părți rele; cu avantaje și dezavantaje	<i>Winning the lottery was a mixed blessing. Yes, they had a lot more money now, but the kids began to act up, and even refused to go to school any more.</i>
a mutual admiration society	două sau mai multe persoane care se admiră / laudă una pe cealaltă	<i>The two young men were a mutual admiration society, boasting of each other's achievements.</i>
a name to conjure with	un nume care impune respect	<i>Julius Caesar is a name to conjure with, I tell you that.</i>
a new broom sweeps clean, but an old broom knows the corners	tinerii vin cu idei inovatoare, dar bătrânii contribuie cu experiența lor	<i>Your team should include both young and old, as a new broom sweeps clean, but an old broom knows the corners.</i>
a new broom sweeps well	un om nou aduce un suflu nou	<i>Let's put a young man in charge for as you know a new broom sweeps well.</i>
a new brush sweeps clean, but an old brush knows the corners	tinerii vin cu idei inovatoare, dar bătrânii contribuie cu experiența lor	<i>Your team should include both young and old, as a new brush sweeps clean, but an old brush knows the corners.</i>
a new chapter	o fază nouă; un capitol nou	<i>Ronald promised that now that he was a married man he would start a new chapter of his life.</i>
a new departure	o noua fază; un nou punct de pornire; un nou început	<i>The discovery of the A-bomb meant a new departure in the methods of war.</i>
a nine days' wonder	un succes efemer; un exemplu al faptului că orice minune ține trei zile	<i>The new basketball player was a nine days' wonder. After the first two great games he ended up on the bench for the rest of the season.</i>
a pack of riffraff	o bandă de vagabonzi / boschetari; un grup de oameni ai străzii	<i>A pack of riffraff surrounded me last night and forced me to give them all the cash I had in my pocket.</i>
a package 1	o găleată de bani	<i>I paid a package for that Harley-Davidson, but that bike is worth every penny I spent.</i>
a package 2	o bucățică bună (colocvial); o gagică mișto (colocvial); o tipă trăsnet (colocvial)	<i>Check out the package Jim has come with. She stops the traffic, man!</i>
a pale reflection of one's former self	numai o umbră a ceea ce a fost odată	<i>Nick has lost a lot of weight and looks haggard, a pale reflection of his former self.</i>
a paragon of ...	un model de ...	<i>Mr Parkinson was a paragon of virtue.</i>
a party of 3 / 4 / 5 / etc	un grup de 3 / 4 / 5 / etc persoane (folosit în turism, la restaurant etc)	<i>Table number 18 has been reserved by a party of 5.</i>
a passing fancy	(informal) un capriciu / moft	<i>His parents thought that his infatuation with the theater was just a passing fancy, but he proved them wrong when he enrolled to study dramatic art at the local university.</i>
a pat on the back	un „bravo ție!"; felicitări; o strângere de mână; o felicitare	<i>Tim, you have worked so hard all these days, you deserve a pat on the back. // And what did I get for all my efforts? Nothing. Not even a pat on the back.</i>
a pauper's grave	groapă comună	<i>He spent all his money on easy women and ended up in a pauper's grave.</i>
a peg to hang sth on	un pretext pentru a face, a discuta sau a crede ceva; un motiv pentru ceva; o scuză pentru ceva	<i>Mahatma Gandhi instructed his followers to demonstrate peacefully because he did not want to give the British authorities a peg to hang their violence on. // When his wife came late one evening, Sam thought he had found a peg to hang his divorce plans on.</i>
a period of grace	o perioadă de grație	<i>Mr Holcomb generally gives us a period of grace to turn in assignments.</i>
a petticoat government	o căsnicie în care cântă găina în casă; o căsnicie în care nevasta ia deciziile	<i>I will never accept to live under a petticoat government.</i>
a piece of advice	un sfat	<i>Let me give you a piece of advice. // I have only one piece of advice. Don't ever tell your secrets to Pamela!</i>

Section 1 English Idioms in Alphabetical Order

Secțiunea 1 Expresiile englezești în ordine alfabetică

a piece of ass	<i>(vulgar, rude)</i>	o gagică (colocvial); un cur de femeie (vulgar)	<i>Shoot, Joe, it was Saturday night, man, and all I wanted was to get myself a piece of ass, that's all. // He came to the party with a nice piece of ass.</i>
a piece of cake		o joacă de copil (figurat); floare la ureche; ușor ca bună ziua; simplu ca bună ziua; nimic mai simplu	<i>Learning to drive is a piece of cake. // Driving an automatic car is a piece of cake. // After all the training we did, running the mile was a piece of cake. // Dancing is a piece of cake.</i>
a piece of furniture		o piesă de mobilier	<i>I wanted to buy a piece of furniture for that corner there, but on second thought I decided to keep it that way. I like space, you know!</i>
a piece of information		o informație	<i>Let me give you a piece of information; the thief already left the country.</i>
a piece of luggage		un bagaj	<i>I had only a piece of luggage when I moved out from my parents' flat.</i>
a piece of news		o știre	<i>Let me give you a piece of news; the thief already left the country.</i>
a piece of snatch	<i>(slang, vulgar)</i>	o gagică (colocvial); o bucățică bună (colocvial)	<i>Shoot, Joe, it was Saturday night, man, and all I wanted was to get myself a piece of snatch, that's all.</i>
a piece of tail	<i>(slang, vulgar)</i>	o gagică (colocvial); o bucățică bună (colocvial)	<i>Shoot, Joe, it was Saturday night, man, and all I wanted was to get myself a piece of tail, that's all.</i>
a piece of the action		o parte din banii aduși de o afacere; o parte din profit	<i>I started this business on my own, but when the money began coming in all the members of my family wanted a piece of the action.</i>
a pipe dream		un vis nerealizabil / intangibil	<i>The old fighter was thinking of going into the ring again and challenging the champion, but everybody knew it was only a pipe dream.</i>
a place in the sun		un loc sub soare	<i>After many years of suffering the refugees finally found a place in the sun for themselves.</i>
a place to hang one's hat		un loc unde să se poată simți ca acasă; un loc unde să se poată simți în largul său; un loc unde să se poată simți liniștit / confortabil	<i>Ever since I came to the city I have been trying to find a place to hang my hat.</i>
a plague on both their houses!	<i>(W. Shakespeare)</i>	să îi dracul pe amândoi! (colocvial); din partea mea, pot să se ducă dracului ambele tabere / familii! (colocvial); dracul să-i ia și pe unii și pe alții! (colocvial)	<i>When Jim and Frank came to me to be a judge to their ongoing dispute I thought, a plague on both your houses! // I've been living in this city for five years and I've seen the norteno and the sureno gangs fighting every day. As far as I am concerned, a plague on both their houses.</i>
a plain Jane	<i>(informal)</i>	o femeie nu prea atractivă; o fată / femeie urâtică	<i>Sheila was a plain Jane who found refuge in her work. // She was just a plain Jane who was too nervous to even come out on the beach in her bikini. // It was strange to see a handsome man like John dancing cheek-to-cheek with a plain Jane like his girlfriend.</i>
a play upon / on words		un joc de cuvinte	<i>He made a play upon words. He meant a light housekeeper, not a lighthouse keeper.</i>
a plum job		o slujbă de vis	<i>Ted had now found a plum job. All he had to do was go to the best restaurants in the city all expenses paid and then write a review about the food and the service.</i>
a point of honor		o chestiune de onoare / principiu	<i>Defending one's family is a point of honor for any man.</i>
a pond scum	<i>(slang)</i>	o javră (figurat); un gunoi (figurat); un om de nimic	<i>Terry? I wouldn't give him the time of day. He is pond scum.</i>
a poor man's thing		lucrul săracului	<i>A bicycle is a poor man's car.</i>
a pop upside the head		o scatoalcă; o chelfăneală	<i>What this kid needs is not counseling, but a pop upside the head.</i>
a portent of doom		o piază rea; un semn rău	<i>A large crow passed over their heads and they all considered it a portent of doom.</i>
a power of money		o găleată de bani	<i>The lawyer made a power of money by defending drug dealers.</i>
a price on sb's head		un preț pe capul cuiva	<i>After the second bank robbery, the police put a huge price on the thief's head.</i>
a prophet is no honor in his own country	<i>(from the Bible)</i>	nimeni nu e profet în satul lui (din Biblie)	<i>Jesus warns us that a prophet is no honor in his own country.</i>
a punk kid	<i>(slang)</i>	un fraier; un puști cu caș la gură; o pușlama	<i>Mrs Jenkins was 90 years old but she was not scared of any punk kid hanging around in her neighborhood.</i>
a pure fabrication		o minciună sfruntată	<i>Jack assured Maria that the story about his going out with Linda was a pure fabrication.</i>
a queer card	<i>(slang)</i>	un tip ciudat; o tipă ciudată	<i>Now, Paula, that's a queer card for you!</i>
a quick fix		o treabă de mântuială; o treabă superficială	<i>Instead of doing solid repairs, the builder did a quick fix.</i>
a quick temper		care se înfurie ușor; iute la mânie	<i>He has a quick temper, but he is not a bad man.</i>
a quickie		un act sexual foarte rapid	<i>Selma was tired of quickies with ugly men who picked her up from the street.</i>
a quitter		care nu își ține promisiunea; care te lasă cu fundul în baltă (zicătoare); care nu duce la bun sfârșit ceea ce a început	<i>Jack Andersen is a quitter. He'll never end what he starts.</i>
a race against the clock		o cursă contra cronometru	<i>Ever since we received the deadline for finishing the project we have been in a race against the clock.</i>
a race against time		o cursă contra cronometru	<i>Ever since we received the deadline for finishing the project we have been in a race against time.</i>
a race to the bottom		o cursă pe o pantă periculoasă (figurat); o involuție	<i>The present actions of this administration constitute nothing but a race to the bottom.</i>

Section 1 English Idioms in Alphabetical Order

Secțiunea 1 Expresiile englezești în ordine alfabetică

a raw deal		un tratament prost	<i>The new teachers complained that they got a raw deal. They had to teach the worst students, and the longest hours.</i>
a ray of hope		o licărire de speranță; o rază de speranță	<i>The exam was a disaster but there was still a ray of hope in her eyes full of tears.</i>
a ray of sunshine	<i>(often ironic)</i>	o rază de soare (figurat); o dulceață (figurat)	<i>And here's Henry. Ain't he a real ray of sunshine?</i>
a ready supply of money		o sumă de bani disponibilă	<i>I don't know what profession he has, but he seems to have a ready supply of money at all times.</i>
a ready wit		o minte ageră / sprintenă	<i>It was a pleasure to have a conversation with a young man who had such a ready wit.</i>
a real bitch	<i>(slang)</i>	o chestie / persoană dificilă; o pacoste	<i>This math exam was a real bitch.</i>
a real character		un tip original; un tip pe cinste; un tip de n-ai treabă cu el (colocvial)	<i>Now, Joe, he is a real character.</i>
a real deadbeat		un derbedeu sadea / adevărat	<i>He's a real deadbeat who's never had job for more than three days in succession..</i>
a red cent		o para chioară	<i>Mr Rockefeller told his daughter that if she married Freddy he would not leave her a red cent.</i>
a red-hot mama		o gagică de milioane (colocvial)	<i>I saw Bob last night arm in arm with a red-hot mama.</i>
a repeat customer		un client de-al casei	<i>Unlike the food business, in the carpet business there are very few repeat customers.</i>
a rib-tickler	<i>(slang)</i>	un banc; o glumă	<i>Gene was very good at telling a rib-tickler now and then.</i>
a riot		un tip haios / distractiv	<i>George was a riot last night. He made us laugh until our stomachs hurt.</i>
a rip-off artist		un escroc; un șarlatan	<i>Don't buy anything from that rip-off artist. // A rip-off artist is a person or a company that steals from you or deceives you.</i>
a roaring success		un succes epatant	<i>In the role of Nora, Miss Yates had a roaring success that catapulted her to Hollywood. // The Greek diva Maria Callas had a roaring success throughout Europe.</i>
a roast		o petrecere unde un sărbătorit este luat peste picior într-un mod amical	<i>Ronald Reagan's roast was so funny they made a video tape of it.</i>
a rollaway bed		un pat pliant	<i>He kept a rollaway bed in his closet for occasional visitors.</i>
a rolling stone gathers no moss		piatra care se rostogolește nu prinde mușchi	<i>How could he have anything when he has moved from city to city, from country to country all his life? A rolling stone gathers no moss.</i>
a rough deal		un tratament nedrept sau neplăcut	<i>She has had a rough deal with her daughter leaving her like that.</i>
a rough estimate		un preț / calcul aproximativ	<i>The sum they quoted us for remodeling the kitchen is only a rough estimate.</i>
a rough guess		un calcul aproximativ	<i>I asked the mechanic to give me a rough guess about the cost of the repairs for my old car.</i>
a rough idea		o idee în mare	<i>Give me a rough idea of what I need to do in this job.</i>
a round of applause		o rundă de aplauze	<i>After a perfect landing, the passengers gave the pilot a round of applause. // Every time the speaker mentioned higher salaries he got a round of applause.</i>
a roundhouse punch		o lovitură laterală către capul adversarului	<i>The tired boxer was now only trying to knock his opponent down with a lucky roundhouse punch.</i>
a round-table discussion		o masă rotundă (figurat)	<i>The television host organized a round-table discussion on the topic of immigration.</i>
a royal pain in the ass	<i>(slang, vulgar)</i>	o persoană enervantă; un pisălog; o persoană care te calcă pe nervi	<i>With his nosey questions and his inquisitive ways my neighbor can be a royal pain in the ass sometimes.</i>
a royal pain in the neck	<i>(informal)</i>	o persoană enervantă; un pisălog; o persoană care te calcă pe nervi	<i>With his nosey questions and his inquisitive ways my neighbor can be a royal pain in the neck sometimes.</i>
a rubber sock	<i>(slang)</i>	o persoană timidă	<i>You can't go to war having a rubber sock like David as partner.</i>
a rug rat		prichindel; copil	<i>Randy made it clear to his wife before they got married that he did not want any rug rats for the first five years of their marriage.</i>
a rum-dum	<i>(slang)</i>	un bețiv	<i>What's that rum-dum doing at this meeting?</i>
a run of bad luck		o pasă proastă	<i>I had a run of bad luck at the roulette and I lost all my money.</i>
a run of bad mishaps		o serie de accidente nefericite	<i>The airline industry has been suffering from a run of bad mishaps.</i>
a run of good luck		o perioadă norocoasă; o pasă bună	<i>We've had a run of good luck lately, but the next game will be much more difficult.</i>
a run on		o mare cerere de	<i>Afraid that they will be left without money, the customers initiated a run on the local banks.</i>
a run-of-the-mill		nimic special de capul lui; un oarecare	<i>Everybody thought that George W. Bush was a run-of-the-mill President.</i>
a sad lack of manners		o lipsă de educație lamentabilă	<i>Today's youth generally display a sad lack of manners.</i>
a sad state of affairs		deplorabil; o situație tristă	<i>It's a sad state of affairs when a hard-working man doesn't make enough to even pay his rent. // There aren't enough funds, which is a sad state of affairs.</i>
a safe bet		o chestiune destul de sigură	<i>It is a safe bet that she will be late; she always is.</i>
a sanguinary tyrant		un tiran sângeros	<i>Stalin was a sanguinary tyrant who tortured his countrymen for a long time.</i>
a scandal sheet		un ziar de scandal; o fițuică de scandal	<i>All the scandal sheets in England were carrying the latest scandal in the royal family.</i>