

Ocean Idioms





have a whale of a time

This fun idiom means to have a great time! If you enjoyed yourself a lot, and had a lot of fun, you can say that you had 'a whale of a time'!

"I'm so excited about my camping trip next weekend. All of my friends are coming and I'm sure we're going to have a whale of a time."



plenty more fish in the sea

This phrase is used to console somebody who has just broken up with their romantic partner. It means there are lots more potential partners out there.

"My Tinder date never texted me back. Oh well, I suppose there are plenty more fish in the sea."



the coast is clear

'We use this idiom to describe when it is safe to proceed, there is no one watching, or no danger on the horizon. This idiom originated from a military term, meaning that there were no enemy ships in sight on the shoreline.

"I wanted to eat the last slice of cake as a late night snack but I had to wait until the coast was clear and everyone had gone to bed so they wouldn't ask me to share."



like a fish out of water

Being like a fish out of water means being completely out of your comfort zone. This is the opposite of another popular idiom - **to take to something like a duck to water**, which means that you learn to do something quickly and easily. It comes naturally to you.

"When I first arrived in Rome it was a complete culture shock! I didn't speak a word of Italian and I felt like a fish out of water."



the world is your oyster

This idioms means that the world is yours! You are in a great position to go out and do whatever you want to do, and your future looks bright and promising. This idiom actually originated in Shakespearean times. It refers to the pearls which are found inside oysters, suggesting you can find something valuable and beautiful from life.

"Congratulations on your scholarship. The world is your oyster now!"

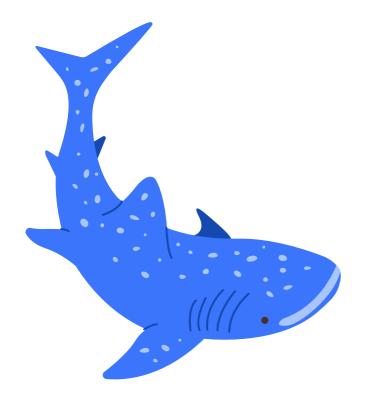


Practice activity



Take a look at the sentences below and try to fill the gaps with appropriate words or phrases.

- 1. The concert was so much fun, and afterwards we went to an afterparty and danced until the sun came up. We _____.
- 2. I felt severely underqualified compared to everyone else on the course. I was _____.
- 3. Milo's boyfriend broke up with him last weekend so he's feeling pretty down at the moment. I told him that _____. We should go out this weekend to take his mind off of it.
- 4. Wow! Congratulations on graduating with first class honours, what a wonderful achievement. _____.
- 5. You will have to wait for the security guard to be distracted before you can sneak in. I'll let you know when _____.



Study more idioms with our

Essential English Idioms

course in the

Intrepid English Academy!



