

# IELTS Speaking IDIOMS

## 20 of My Favourites Idioms

1. **To be tickled pink** = to be very happy

*I am tickled pink that I passed my exam.*



2. **It's not my cup of tea** = I don't like it

*I am not into football, it's just not my cup of tea. I prefer rugby actually.*

3. **To love someone to bits** = to love someone a lot

*I am a big fan of Tom Cruise, I love him to bits.*

4. **To be fed up to the back teeth** = To be really fed up (=bored and angry)

*I'm fed up to the back teeth of all this boring work my boss gives me.*

5. **To be down in the dumps** = To be very sad

*I'm a bit down in the dumps about Tom passing away (=dying).*

6. **To feel under the weather** = To feel a little sick / ill

*I won't go into work today, I am feeling a bit under the weather.*

7. **To sleep on it** = To think carefully before making a decision

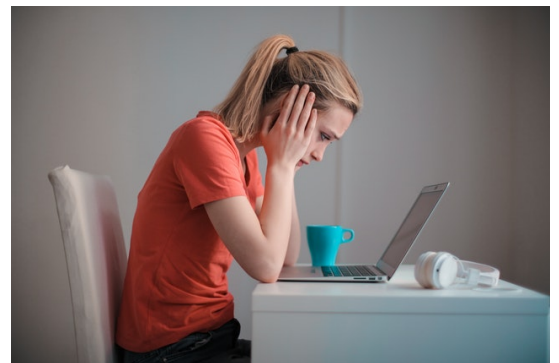
*This promotion is a great opportunity, but a lot more work. I need to sleep on it before I accept it.*

8. **I couldn't sleep a wink** = I couldn't sleep well

*There were mosquitoes in my room last night, I couldn't sleep a wink.*

9. **To be snowed under** (with work) = To be very busy with a lot of tasks to do

*I always feel snowed under on Monday mornings when I see my inbox is full.*



10. **To get on like a house on fire** = To have a very good relationship with someone

*Tom is my best friend, we get on like a house on fire.*

11. **To know something inside out** = to know it very well

*I've lived here for 20 years, I know this city inside out.*

12. **To think on your feet** = to think quickly without time to plan

*In these meetings with the CEO, there's no time to plan, so be careful if he asks you a question, you'll just have to think on your feet.*

13. **I wouldn't trust him as far as I can throw him** = I don't trust him at all

*I wouldn't buy anything from this agent, I wouldn't trust him as far as I can throw him.*

14. **I wouldn't give it much thought** = I wouldn't worry about it

*Don't worry about your boss being angry, he's always flying off the handle (=getting angry), I wouldn't give it much thought.*

15. **I wouldn't put it past him / her to do...** = I would't be surprised if he / she did...

*Sarah is always late to meetings, I wouldn't put it past her to be late for her own wedding!*



16. **I would give my right leg to...** = I really want to... (I am ready to do anything necessary to...)

*Your so lucky to be going on holiday, I would give my right leg to have a short holiday now.*

17. **It drives me round the bend** = it makes me crazy (=irritated or angry)

*We're going out in 5 minutes, and my wife has changed her clothes for the third time, it's driving me round the bend!*



18. **It blew me away** = It impressed me

*That was a fantastic book, it really blew me away.*

19. **To be in a different league** = To be much better than the others

*Ronaldo is the best player in the country, I mean, he's just in a different league*

20. **To be all the rage** = to be very popular

*I see flared jeans are all the rage again, everyone seems to be wearing them.*