

List of Idiomatic Expressions

piece of cake

Example: English is a piece of cake.

Meaning: easy.

Equivalent in Portuguese: mamão com açúcar.

put your best foot forward

Example: If you're going to start a new job, you must put your best foot forward.

Meaning: start something with a lot of effort and determination.

Equivalent in Portuguese: começar com o pé direito.

on cloud nine

Example: I'll be on cloud nine once my holidays start.

Meaning: extremely happy.

Equivalent in Portuguese: estar nas nuvens.

to draw the line

Example: You should draw a line at the beginning of a relationship, or you might have problems in the future.

Meaning: put a limit on what you will do or allow to happen.

Equivalent in Portuguese: impor limites.

your guess is as good as mine

Example: A. Do you know what Suzy is doing on Saturday?

B. Your guess is as good as mine.

Meaning: I don't know.

Equivalent in Portuguese: Eu sei tanto quanto você.

work something out

Example: This exercise is quite difficult, but I'll work it out.

Meaning: understand or find the answer to something.

*There isn't an equivalent idiom in Portuguese, but it can be translated as *resolver* or *perceber*, depending on the context.

It's not my cup of tea

Example: Playing football is not my cup of tea.

Meaning: it's not the kind of thing that you like.

Equivalent in Portuguese: Não é a minha praia.

butterflies in my stomach

Example: I have butterflies in my stomach. Tomorrow I'm doing the university entrance exams.

Meaning: feeling nervous or frightened about something.

Equivalent in Portuguese: frio na barriga.

see red

Example: Your father will notice the scratches on the car and he will see red.

Meaning: get angry.

Equivalent in Portuguese: ficar furioso

Don't judge a book by its cover

Example: A. This cake doesn't look very good. It must taste terrible.

B. Don't judge a book by its cover, this cake could be delicious.

Meaning: You cannot know what something/someone is like only by looking at its/their appearance.

Equivalent in Portuguese: não julgue um livro pela capa.

get out of your system

Example: If you're angry with Lucy, tell her. Get this out of your system.

Meaning: get rid of a wish or emotion, especially a negative one, by allowing yourself to express it.

Equivalent in Portuguese: colocar pra fora.

get over it

Example: It's been six months since Niall broke up with you. Stop crying and get over it.

Meaning: to return to your usual state of health or happiness after having a bad experience.

*There isn't an equivalent idiom in Portuguese, but it can be translated as *superar*, *aceitar* or *se recuperar*, depending on the context.