

Fixed expressions for better communication

<p><i>on you own</i></p> <p>I don't like working with other people, I prefer working on my own.</p>	It means alone.
<p><i>to tell the truth</i></p> <p>To tell the truth, I don't enjoy cooking.</p>	It is used for saying what you really feel or think.
<p><i>up to someone</i></p> <p>It's t up to the parents to be parents.</p>	If something is up to you, you are the person who makes a decision about it.
<p><i>put in a good word for someone</i></p> <p>I really need a job and I was hoping you could put in a good word for me with your boss.</p>	To tell someone positive, good things that a particular person has.
<p><i>pleased</i></p> <p>I'm pleased to hear you are feeling better</p>	It means happy.
<p><i>(has/have/had)been around to</i></p> <p>There is nothing new about laptops. They've been around for years.</p>	To have lots of life experience especially when this means it is difficult to surprise you.

<i>sounds good/great</i>	You can use this phrase if someone's suggestion is a good idea.
You should take that job! That sounds like a wonderful opportunity.	

<i>I didn't catch</i>	I didn't understand. I didn't hear you.
I'm sorry, I didn't catch that. What did you say?	

<i>hold on</i>	Wait
Hold on, I'll go and get some help.	

<i>slow down</i>	Reduce the speed, be slower!
This cold is really slowing me down I'm less active. I've lost my energy	

<i>between you and me</i>	You can tell this to someone when you are about to tell them a secret.
Between you and me, I think he is a nice guy!	

<i>big deal</i>	It means that something is important. But this phrase is more famous for being used in a negative way by adding no or not before it.
I received a job as a soft engineer in Microsoft. It is a big deal for me and my family.	
Relax, it is not a big deal if we are 5 minutes late.	
It's no big deal if you can't pay me back right now.	

<i>check this/it out</i>	You can say this phrase if you are showing something to someone.
Have you seen the latest video about AI possibilities? Check this out, it's mind-blowing.	

<i>can't wait</i>	If you want to see something or someone very much.
I'm sick of work. Can't wait for my vacation.	

<i>could always</i>	When someone is in a difficult situation you can say this by giving them a suggestion or advice.
My job is so boring. You could always find a more interesting one.	

<i>wouldn't bet on it</i>	You can use this expression when you are not sure about something.
He said he would be here by five, but I wouldn't bet on it. He's never been in time for anything in his life.	

<i>do your bit</i>	Use this phrase in a situation when you want to help. If you want to contribute to something or you want to volunteer, you can do your bit, your small action can achieve great results.
If you do your bit and I do mine, we can make the world a better place. If someone has suffered in a car accident you can do your bit by donating blood.	

<i>done in</i>	To be too tired to do something.
I was done in after the first day at work.	

<i>make all the difference</i>	Something that makes all the difference has a good effect on a person or situation.
If an employee is satisfied with the salary it makes all the difference.	

<i>mind your own business</i>	Use this phrase to tell someone that you are not going to tell them about something because it doesn't involve them.
What were you doing last night? Mind your own business.	

<i>never mind</i>	Use this phrase to tell someone not to worry or not to be upset about something.
I'm sorry I haven't prepared supper, never mind we can always order something online.	
<i>please yourself</i>	You can say this if you don't care whether someone does a particular thing or not.
I can't finish this meal. Please yourself, but don't complain to me when you are hungry later on.	
<i>keep it to yourself</i>	You can say this if you don't want someone to tell other people about something.
What I told you is a secret so keep it to yourself.	
<i>keep it up</i>	You can use this phrase when you want someone to continue doing the same thing.
Your work has been excellent lately! Keep it up!	
<i>go easy on someone</i>	Use this expression if you don't want to criticize or punish someone too much.
Go easy on your child, when it behaves badly.	
<i>go easy on something</i>	To not use, drink, or eat too much of something.
<p>Want to be healthy, go easy on junk food. (junk food is not healthy because it contains a lot of fat, salt, and sugar.)</p> <p>We are running out of milk so be easy on it. I haven't drunk any yet.</p>	

<i>guess what</i>	
<p>Guess what?</p> <p>What?</p> <p>I'm getting married next week.</p>	<p>Use this phrase before telling someone something really exciting, surprising, or interesting.</p>

<i>unless I'm mistaken</i>	
<p>Isn't Sidney the capital of Australia?</p> <p>Unless I'm mistaken, I think it's actually Canberra.</p>	<p>Use this phrase to say that you are certain about something.</p>

<i>what's the matter</i>	
<p>Your friend is awfully quiet today. You are wondering why and ask What's the matter with you today?</p>	<p>You can say this if someone is upset or looks not well, or sick and you want to know what is wrong.</p>

<i>turn against</i>	
<p>People can turn against the government if its policy is wrong.</p> <p>Tom behaved badly at the party, and all his friends turned against him.</p>	<p>When you stop being friendly or supportive towards somebody or something and behave opposite.</p>

<i>take care</i>	
<p>Don't worry about the food for the party. I'll take care of it.</p>	<p>It's a way of telling someone to stay safe or saying goodbye. It's also a way to tell someone that you can take responsibility of something.</p>

<i>please yourself</i>	
<p>I can't finish this meal. Please yourself, but don't complain to me when you are hungry later on.</p>	<p>You can say this if you don't care whether someone does a particular thing or not.</p>

<i>the best is yet to come</i>	<p>This phrase means that the best has not come but it will. Whatever is happening right now, just don't give up and wait.</p>
<p>I'm glad you are enjoying the holidays the best is yet to come!</p>	
<i>take turns</i>	
<p>When 3 kids want to play with one toy their parents teach them how to share. Children need to take turns playing with one toy.</p> <p>We take turns washing the dishes in our house.</p>	
<i>slow day</i>	
<p>Today is Sunday we are going to stay at home and have a slow day, doing not much.</p>	