**GRADE BOOSTERS ACADEMIA- LAHORE**

**ENGLISH 1123**

**LIST OF IDIOMS:**

1. Apple of discord - cause of quarrel
2. A bad egg- a complete worthless person
3. Be born with a silver spoon in one’s mouth- to born into rich family
4. Bear fruit- desired results
5. Beat about the bush- to talk about something upsetting
6. A bed of roses- pleasant care free living
7. Behind the scene- secretly
8. Bell the cat- to endanger oneself for others
9. A bird’s eye view- a view seen from above
10. Birds of a feather- people with similar interests
11. A blessing in disguise- an unexpected surprise
12. Blow hot and cold- keep changing one’s opinion
13. A bone of contention- a cause of dispute
14. Bread and butter- source of income
15. Break the ice- remove tension
16. Build castles in the air- day dreaming
17. Burn one’s candle at both ends- to work too hard
18. To bury the hatchet- be friendly again
19. By and by- before long
20. By hook or crook- by all means
21. Call a spade a spade- too blunt
22. Capital punishment- death punishment
23. Be cast down- be very sad
24. Cast pearls before swine- offering someone who shall not appreciated
25. Catch somebody red- handed- while committing crime
26. A close fisted man a miserly person
27. A cock and bull story- silly story or excuse
28. Crocodile tears- pretending to be sad
29. Cry wolf- cry when not needed
30. Be at draggers dawn- be hostile
31. A dog’s life- disgraceful life
32. Double-faced- hypocrite
33. Eagle-eyed- able to see something difficult to notice
34. Eat humble pie- able to accept your mistake
35. At the eleventh hour- at the last moment
36. A feather in one’s cap- achievement
37. A fish out of water- being uncomfortable
38. Fly in the ointment- a problem that spoils something
39. Foul play- dishonest act
40. Freudian slip- slip of tongue

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**Similes**

Simile- A simile is a [figure of speech](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Figure_of_speech) that indirectly compares two different things by employing the words "like", "as", or "than".

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **simile** | **meaning** | **comment** |
| as alike as two peas in a pod | identical or nearly so |  |
| as bald as a coot | completely bald |  |
| as big as a bus | very big |  |
| as big as an elephant | very big |  |
| as black as a sweep | completely black | sweep = chimney sweep |
| as black as coal | completely black |  |
| as black as pitch | completely black |  |
| as blind as a bat | completely blind | may be exaggeration |
| as blind as a mole | completely blind | may be exaggeration |
| as bold as brass | very bold | usually in a negative sense |
| as brave as a lion | very brave |  |
| as bright as a button | very bright |  |
| as bright as a new pin | very bright and shiny |  |
| as busy as a beaver | very busy |  |
| as busy as a bee | very busy |  |
| as busy as a cat on a hot tin roof | very busy |  |
| as calm as a millpond | very calm and still | usually said of water |
| as clear as a bell | very clear | of a sound |
| as clean as a whistle | very clean |  |
| as clear as crystal | very clear |  |
| as clear as mud | not at all clear | irony/sarcasm |
| as cold as ice | very cold |  |
| as common as dirt | very common, rude, vulgar | usually said of a person |
| as cool as a cucumber | cool |  |
| as cunning as a fox | cunning |  |
| as dead as a doornail | dead |  |
| as dead as the dodo | dead, extinct | the dodo is an extinct bird |
| as deaf as a post | completely deaf | may be exaggeration |
| as different as chalk from cheese | very different |  |
| as drunk as a lord | completely drunk |  |
| as dry as a bone | very dry |  |
| as dry as dust | very dry |  |
| as dull as dishwater | dull, boring | usually said of a person |
| as easy as A.B.C. | very easy |  |
| as easy as apple-pie | very easy |  |
| as flat as a pancake | completely flat |  |
| as free as a bird | very free to go anywhere |  |
| as fresh as a daisy | very fresh |  |
| as gentle as a lamb | very gentle | usually said of a person |
| as good as gold | very good and obedient | usually said of a person |
| as happy as a lark | very happy | usually said of a person |
| as hard as nails | very tough in character | of a person |
| as hot as hell | very hot |  |
| as hungry as a bear | very hungry |  |
| as hungry as a wolf | very hungry |  |
| as innocent as a lamb | innocent, not worldly-wise | usually said of a person |
| as large as life | conspicuously present |  |
| as light as a feather | very light |  |
| as light as air | very light |  |
| as mad as a hatter | completely crazy |  |
| as mad as a hornet | very angry |  |
| as nutty as a fruitcake | completely crazy |  |
| as obstinate as a mule | very obstinate, stubborn |  |
| as old as the hills | very, very old |  |
| as pale as death | very pale or white in the face | of a person |
| as plain as day | very clear |  |
| as poor as a church mouse | poverty-stricken |  |
| as poor as dirt | poverty-stricken |  |
| as proud as a peacock | very proud |  |
| as pure as snow | pure and innocent |  |
| as pure as the driven snow | pure and innocent |  |
| as quick as a wink | very quick(ly) |  |
| as quick as lightning | very quick(ly) |  |
| as quick as silver | very quick |  |
| as quiet as a church mouse | very quiet |  |
| as safe as houses | very safe, secure |  |
| as scarce as hen's teeth | very, very scarce | irony (hens have no teeth) |
| as sharp as a razor | very sharp |  |
| as sick as a dog | very sick |  |
| as sick as a parrot | very sick |  |
| as silent as the dead | completely silent |  |
| as silent as the grave | completely silent |  |
| as slippery as an eel | slippery, evasive, not to be trusted | of a person |
| as slow as a snail | very slow |  |
| as slow as a tortoise | very slow |  |
| as smooth as silk | very smooth |  |
| as snug as a bug in a rug | in a very comfortable position | humorous |
| as sober as a judge | sober |  |
| as solid as a rock | solid |  |
| as solid as the ground we stand on | solid |  |
| as sound as a bell | very clear | of a sound |
| as sour as vinegar | very sour |  |
| as steady as a rock | very steady |  |
| as stiff as a board | completely stiff |  |
| as straight as an arrow | straight | an arrow flies straight |
| as strong as an ox | very strong |  |
| as stubborn as a mule | very stubborn, obstinate |  |
| as sturdy as an oak | very strong and solid |  |
| as sure as death and taxes | absolutely certain to happen |  |
| as tall as a giraffe | very tall |  |
| as thin as a rake | very thin |  |
| as timid as a rabbit | very timid |  |
| as tough as leather | very tough |  |
| as tough as nails | very tough | often said of a person |
| as tough as old boots | very tough | often said of a person |
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**Metaphor-** It is a different kind of comparison that writers use. When they use a metaphor, they don’t tell us they are making a comparison by using ‘like’ or ‘as’. Instead they simply describe something as if it were another:

You are the light in my life  
She is my East and my West, my compass.  
You had better pull your socks up  
Life is a mere dream, a fleeting shadow on a cloudy day.  
Love is a lemon - either bitter of sweet (from Scott)  
Drowning in the sea  
Jumping for joy  
Rolling in dough  
Apple of my eye  
It is raining cats and dogs  
Love is a fragile flower opening to the warmth of Spring  
Information travels faster in this modern age as our days start crawling away.  
Life has a tendency to come back and bite you in the ass.  
A riverboat shall be my horse.  
A light in a sea of darkness.  
Strength and dignity are her clothing.  
A laugh in a sea of sadness.  
The noise is music to my ears  
He swam in the sea of diamonds  
His belt was a snake curling around his waist  
Love is a camara, full of memories.  
She ran like the Wind  
Love is a growing garland.  
Your friendship is the picture to my frame  
Authority is a chair, it needs legs to stand up.  
Once your hearts been broken it grows back bigger.  
His hair is a white snowflake and his hair is a messy haystack  
You are the expression of my heart. You care for me and love me all the time.  
I'm Heartbroken  
The pigeons fountained into the air  
His hair was bone white  
He tried to help but his legs were rubber  
It's raining men  
Kicked the bucket  
The sea is a hungry dog.  
She is a dog when she eats  
He has a voice of a wolf.  
Crocodiles' teeth are white daggers.  
Apple of my heart  
A roundabout is a turtle shell.  
Fire is day, when it goes out it's night  
School is a gateway to adulthood   
He slithered into town quietly so no one would notice when he dug his fangs in and slowly poisoned their minds.   
The silence was a blood-cuddling scream of anguish, set out to break my soul

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**Descriptive Writing:**

Descriptive essays are based on the writer's own opinion. Basically, the key in writing descriptive essays perfectly is to endow your writing with enough colorful details that allows your readers to picture out of what is being written. Unlike any other types of essays, writing a descriptive essay works deeply in order to attain its reader's attention. It uses thorough observations and descriptions rather than through facts and statistics.  
  
Descriptive essay writing is such a creative exercise. For to write it down successfully, you need to have a particular reason in description writing. Because of this reason, it helps you to be more focus about the subject you are going to write and imbue your skills in English language through a particular perspective or emotion. These will make you feel great in sitting down and describe it down what you have observe.  
  
It is as if you are writing something down as you see it. Even though there are times that you need to go through a deep research and study to support your writing, these things are not essential to aid you up in writing descriptive essays.  
  
Descriptive essays typically focus on one subject, detailing various aspects that relate to it. Its goal is to enlighten the reader about a topic, all while managing to engage them throughout the course of the piece. Want to know what kinds of information you should include in your descriptive essay? Here are some tips to help you out.  
  
Basic definition. Describe the subject of the essay in brief, so that the reader won't have to dive into the rest of the piece unaware.  
  
Choosing details. List down specific instances or pieces of information about the subject that you want to bring into light. Since it will usually be impossible to fit every facet of a subject into a piece, choose a set (how many will depend on how long you want the essay to go) that when discussed together, can create a clear picture in your reader's mind.  
  
Discussing the details. The goal here is for the details to create a sufficient mental image for the reader. For each detail, try answering the following questions:  
  
What makes the detail important?  
What is your impression of it?  
What are its characteristics? Describe using all senses.  
What are fitting adjectives that can be used to describe it?  
How will it make the reader feel?  
Do you know of anything that you can compare this particular detail with?  
  
Use clear language. Follow good writing guidelines and clean it up using the best English writing software you can find. A common pitfall in descriptive essays is the excessive utilization of adjectives and adverbs - make sure you don't go overboard characterizing your subject.

Creative Writing Topic: **Write** **a description of ‘The most remarkable person I have ever met’**

**Guidance:**

* Decide whether you are going to write about a real person or make one up.
* Make a list of the most important points about your chosen person.
* You will probably write 4-5 main paragraphs (plus an introductory and conclusion paragraphs). Look at your list of points and put them into 3-5 groups, each of which contains points that have something in common. These groups of points will be the basis of your paragraphs.
* Work out the best order in which to present this information. Remember you need to tell your reader who you are describing and why.
* Now start writing.

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**As well as analyzing texts, you need to be able to write about them successfully. Think about your audience, the**[**genre**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english/writingtoanalyse/writingrev1.shtml)**of your text and the main point of your analysis. By staying focused you will write more effectively.**

**Essential tips for writing effective articles**

**Capture your reader’s eye and attention**

* Start with a catchy headline.
* Consider adding an attractive, unusual or interesting image to your coursework. For exam writing use boxes containing a written description of the image – there is no need to be an artist!
* Divide a longer article using sub-headings to guide your reader and add interest and clarity.

**Start as you mean to go on**

* Use a short or intriguing, lively and involving opening sentence.
* Directly address and involve the reader by using pronouns such as 'you', 'we' and 'our'.
* Consider the use of an initial question.

**Prioritise important information but keep it interesting**

* Work out what is important and interesting for your reader to know first and write about this in a concise, snappy way. Leave less important aspects and finer detail until later.
* Give relevant facts immediately by briefly answering questions such as what, who, where and when?
* Use a mix of shorter and longer sentences but always keep sentences clear and concise.
* Use mainly formal standard English but consider using a little well-placed conversational language to develop a friendly and inviting tone.
* Open each paragraph with a topic sentence that tells, in a nutshell, what the rest of the paragraph will explore in more depth.
* Use both direct and [*rhetorical questions*](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english/writingtoanalyse/writingrev1.shtml) to involve the reader.
* Use [*discourse markers*](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english/writingtoanalyse/writingrev1.shtml) to help create flow and fluency, for example, 'clearly', 'even so', 'therefore', 'following on from this'.

**Gain your reader’s trust - be authoritative and convincing**

* Be sincere and write in a natural, lively style. Avoid pretending you’re someone other than an interesting lively teenager.
* Remember that if your writing doesn't capture the trust of your reader, it won't be effective.
* Create a confident tone but avoid the kind of bold unsupported assertions that suggest arrogance. Words like 'could', 'might' and 'perhaps' help to keep your suggestions open.
* Consider making up an interview with an expert to add authority. (Although this is made up it needs to be believable and entirely realistic).
* Would the use of evidence from authoritative sources help the sense of trust? Your sources will also be made up but sound believable and realistic.
* Keeping the needs of your audience in mind at all times, vary your vocabulary and include appropriate technical terms. (This is a mark scheme requirement for this piece of coursework.)
* Avoid the trap of being overly personal or emotional. In the real world an article would have a wide, unknown audience so you wouldn't know your readers and they wouldn't know you. This means you must write in a way that you yourself would appreciate as a reader. Be calm, polite, mainly formal but friendly and, above all, be yourself!