## Idiom and Phrase

## Objectives :



At the end of this lesson you will be able to :
(9) know what Idiom and Phrase mean.
(3) use of idioms and phrases.
(8) increase vocabulary.
(3) make new sentences.
(®) use of different words.
Idiom and Phrase বা ‘বাগধারা’ হল একটি নির্দিষ্ট ভাব প্রকাশক ‘শব্দ সমষ্টি' যার প্রতিটি পৃথক পৃথক শব্দ থেকে মাঝে মাঝে অর্থ বের করা প্রায় অসম্ভব। উদাহরণণ্সর্মপ ঃ At sixes and sevens- phrase টি আক্ষরিক ভাবে আলাদা আলাদা অর্থ প্রকাশ না করে একটি বাগবৈশিষ্টগত অর্থ প্রকাশ করে। যার অর্থ ‘বিশৃब্মখলভাবে'।

নিळে কিছু Idioms and Phrases-এর তালিকা শিক্ষার্থীদের সুবিধার জন্য দেয়া হল ঃ

## $\underline{\underline{A}}$

A B C (primary knowledge, the rudiments, প্রাথমিক জ্ঞান ) : He does not know even the $A B C$ of commerce.

Above all (more than anything else, সর্ব্বোপরি ) : Sheikh Farid was above all a saint.

Above board (open, beyond reproach, সन্দেহের অতীত) : His dealings are fair and above board.
After all (in spite of all that has been said or done or expected, তৎসন্ক্বে, মোটের ওপর) : His father is after all an honest man.

All at once (suddenly, সহসা) : All at once I saw a crowd, a host of golden daffodils.

All but (almost, nearly, প্রায়): My friend is all but ruined.
All of a sudden or, All on a sudden (unexpectedly, সম্পূর্ণ আকস্মিক ভাবে) : All of a sudden he fell into a ditch and broke his leg.

All in all (all powerful. সর্বেসর্বা) : The manager is all in all in the office.
All the same (the same is the result, একই বা অপরিবর্তিত) : It is all the same to me whether you go or not.
All over with (finished, সব শেষ) : It is all over with the patient now.
An open question (an undecided matter, অমীমাংসিত বিষয়) : It still remains an open question.

Apple of discord (subject of quarrel, কলহের হেতু) : This plot of land is the apple of discord between the two families.
As it were (so to say, ঠिক যেন) : The moon is, as it were the lamp of the earth.
As usual (as it commonly happens, যথারীতি) : I went there as usual.
At a loss (confusedly in competent, কিংকর্তব্য বিমূঢ়) : I am at a loss to decide how to deal with the matter.
At all events (in any case, যাই ঘটুক না কেন) : At all events we shall start for Khulna tomorrow.

At bottom (in essential character, মূলত) : Mr. Amin is at bottom a good man.
At daggers drawn (at enmity, বিবদমান অবস্থায়) : They are at daggers drawn with each other.

At home in (very familiar with, সুপরিচিত, দক্ষ) : He is quite at home in English.
At last (it refers to time, অবশেষে) : The prince came at last.
At the latest (not later than, কিছুতেই পরে নয়) : Be off from here on Monday at the latest.

At least (at the lower estimate অন্ড়তঃ) : He is not your superior, he is at least your equal.

At large (in general, at liberty, সাধারণত, মুক্ত) : This was popular with the people at large.
At one's finger-ends (be thoroughly familiar with, নখদর্পণে, আয়ত্ত্বে) : I have my lessons at my finger-ends.

At one's disposal (under one's control, কারো নিয়ন্ত্রণে বা অধিকারে) : I can give you a job for it is at my disposal.
At a stretch (without a break, একনাগাড়ে) : I can run five kilometers at a stretch.
At the eleventh hour (at the last moment শেষ মুহুর্তে) : He came to the spot at the eleventh hour.

At all (আদৌ) : I am not happy at all.
At length (বিস্তারিতভাবে) : They discussed the matter at length.
At one's door (দ্বারপ্রান্তে) : There is somebody at your door.
A good many (বহু সংখ্যক) : I have a good many things to do.

At any rate (যাই হোক) : I have decided to go at any rate.
As long as (যতক্ষণ পর্যন্ত) : Don't go out as long as the rain continues.
A variety of (বিভিন্ন ধরনের) : We read books for a variety of reasons.
Above all (সর্বোপরি) : He is sincere, hardworking and above all honest.
At stake (At endangered position) : Nowadays the animals of the world are at stake.

At large (Freely) : The birds fly in the sky at large.
A man of letters (A learned person) : A man of letters is respected everywhere.
At random (aimlessly) : They walked at random.
B
By means of (by dint of, উপায়ে) : You can succeed in life only by means of hard work.

Beggar description (to be indescribable) : The miseries of our locals beggar description due to recent flood.
Bag and baggage (All belongings) : The man left the house bag and baggage.
Birds of the same feather (Persons of the same group) : Birds of the same feather flock together.

Bring to light (to be known) : The secret matter of their family has been brought to light.

Blue blood (Aristocracy) : She is proud of her blue blood.
Burning question (important issue) : Population problem in our country is a burning question.

By the by (In reference to conversation): By the by, are you satisfied with your wife?

By dint of (By means of) : He succeeded in life by dint of perseverance.
Beyond dispute (undoubtedly) : He is, beyond dispute, a great person in our locality.
Black and white (In a written form) : You should submit your appeal in black and white.

Bolt from the blue (lightning without cloud) : The death news of his father came to me as a bolt from the blue.
Bone of contention (A matter of dispute) : The occurrence is a bone of contention for our family.

Bread and butter (livelihood) : She earns her bread and butter very hard.
By heart (To memorise) : It is your responsibility to learn the lesson by heart.
By turns (Serially) : Weal and woe come by turns.
By hook or by crook (at any cost) : They will harm her by hook or by crook.

By leaps and bounds (at a rapid motion) : The price of daily commodities is increasing by leaps and bounds.

## C

Call in question (to doubt, সন্দেহ করা) : His honesty cannot be called in question.
Call into play (to bring into action, ব্যক্ত করা) : Adversity calls into play the best qualities of a man.
Call to account (to call for an explanation, কৈফিয়ত দাবী করা) : He was called to account by his boss.

Call to mind (to remember, স্মরণ করা) : I cannot call to mind what you told me on the way.
Carry into effect (to execute, সম্পাদন করা) : This plan was carried into effect.
Carry the day (to win, জয়লাভ করা) : He joined the debate and carried the day.
Carry weight (to exert influence, গুবুত্বপূণ্ণ হওয়া) : The advice of the president always carries weight with the Ministry.
Chicken-hearted man (a coward, ভীবু) : He is a chicken hearted man.
Close-fisted man (a miser, কঞ্জুস): Nobody likes a close-fisted man.
Cock and bull story (a foolish story, গাজাখোরী গল্প) : I have really no time to listen cock and bull story.
Come to light (to be known, জানাজানি হওয়া) : The secret has come to light.
Come true (to be proved true, সত্য বলে প্রমাণিত হওয়া) : The rumour about his death has come true.

Come to terms (to yield, আপোষ করা) : He was compelled to come to terms with the enemy.
Come to a head (to supperate, চরম অবস্থায় পৌঁছান): The boil has come to a head.
Come to nothing (not to be put into effect, ব্যर्थ হওয়া) : The scheme for the irrigation of this area came to nothing for many reasons.

Crocodile tears (false, Or, pretended grief, মায়াকান্না) : He shed crocodile tears at the death of his enemy.

Crying need (urgent necessary, গুরুতর প্রয়োজন) : Primary education is the crying need of the country.

Come round (To be sound) : She has come round from fever.
Cats and dogs (in torrents) : It has been raining cats and dogs since morning.
Carry out (To abide by): It is your duty to carry out every order of office.
Close to (adjacent to) Their shop is close to ours.

## D

Do away with (লোপ করা) : We should do away with this bad practice.
Do good (কারও উপকার করা) : This measure will do us good.
Dead against (ঘোর বিরোধী) : I am dead against smoking.
Die in harness (কাজ করতে করতে মারা যাওয়া) : He died in harness.
Double game (দ্বিমুখী নীতি) : I don't like his double game.
Draw up (মুসাবিদা করা) : He drew up the agreement.
Day after day (দিনের পর দিন) : She waited for him day after day.

## F

Fall flat (no to be effective, প্রভাব বিস্তারে ব্যর্থ হওয়া) : His lecture falls flat on the audience.

Fall foul of (to quarrel, কলহ করা) : He is in the habit of falling foul of every body.
Fall in with (to agree with, একমত হওয়া) : I cannot fall in with your views.
Fair and square (honest and just, সৎ) : He was fair and square in all his dealings.

Fair weather friend (false friend, সুসময়ের বন্ধু) : Never trust a fair weather friend.
Fall a prey to (to fall a victim to, শিকারে পরিণত হওয়া) : The deer fell a prey to the lion.

Fall short of (be inadequate, ঘাটতি পড়া) : Your work fall short of our expectation.
Far and near or, Far and wide (all around, চতুর্দিকে) : The news spread far and wide.

Few and far between (at wide intervals, মাঝে মধ্যে, বিরল) : In this part of the country houses are few and far between.

Fight shy of (to avoid, এড়িয়ে চলা) : Why do you try to fight shy of your teacher?
Fire and fury (violent passion, প্রচন্ড রোষ ও উত্তেজনা) : The language of the speaker was full of fire and fury.
First and foremost (of the greatest importance, প্রথম ও সর্বাধিক গুরুত্বপূর্ণ) : The first and foremost duty of a student is to read.
Find fault with (complain about, খুঁত ধরা) : He is always in the habit of finding fault with everybody.

Fish out of water (a person in an uncomfortable position, অস্বস্ড়িকর অবস্থায় পতিত ব্যক্তি) : He feels like a fish out of water.

Flesh and blood (human nature, রক্ত মাংসের শরীর) : These are things which flesh and blood cannot bear.

For the time being (for the present, বর্তমান সময়ের জন্য) : Please stay here for the time being.

For the sake of (on account of, জন্য বা নিমিত্ত) : He suffered much for the sake of his country.
For good (for ever, চিরতরে) : He left Bangladesh for good.
Fool's paradise (happiness on vain hopes, মূর্থের স্বর্গ) : You should not live in a fool's paradise.
From hand to mouth (very poor, দিন এনে দিন খায়) : The peasants of Bangladesh live from hand to mouth.

From head to foot (whole body, আপদমস্তক) : He eyed the rogue from head to foot.
From pillar to post (hither and thither, এক আশ্রয় হতে অন্য আশ্রয়ে) : He was driven from pillar to post.

Fresh blood (new and enthusiastic person, উদ্যমী তরুণ সম্প্রদায়) : We want fresh blood in the field of politics.
Free and easy (unrestrained, উদার ও সহজ) : His free and easy manner won the hearts of all.

Far and away (in every sense, সবদিক বিবেচনা করে) : Rabindranath is far and away the greatest poet of the world.
From bad to worse (gradually going bad, ক্রমে ক্রমে খারাপের দিকে) : The patient's condition is going from bad to worse.

## $\underline{\underline{\mathbf{G}}}$

Go back (ফিরে যাওয়া) : He went back home.
Get in (পৌঁছা) : The train got in five hours late.
Get to (পৌঁছা) : How can I get to Sadar Ghat?
Give way to (হার মানা) : Sometimes reason gives way to unreason.
Go across (পার হওয়া) : We went across the river by boat.
Go ahead (এগিয়ে যাওয়া) : Go ahead with your plan.
Go back to (ফিরে যাওয়া) : I went back to my work.
Go one's own way (নিজের মত চলা) : I have always preferred to go my own way.
Grow out of (ছাড়াইয়া যাওয়া) : The boy has grown out of the shirt.
Guilty conscience (অপরাধবোধ) : He suffers from a guilty conscience.
Get at (নাগাল পাওয়া) : The box could not get at the grapes.
Get on with (চলা) : How are you getting on with your studies?
Get up (শয্যা ত্যাগ করা) : I get up at 6 O'clock in the morning.
Gift of the gab (বাগ্মিতা) : He has gift of the gab.
Give in (বশ্যতা স্বীকার করা) : I will never give in to him.

Gain ground (অগ্রসর হওয়া) : He could not gain ground.
Get the better of (পরাজিত করা) : I got the better of him.
Get rid of (মুক্তি পাওয়া) : I must get rid of this situation.
Go in for (উপস্থিত থাকা) : I shall go in for the examination.
Go through (পড়া) : I have gone through the book.
Gala day (a day of festivity, আনন্দোৎসবের দিন) : The 26th of march is a gala day for all Bangladeshis.

Get rid of (give up, মুক্ত হওয়া) : Get rid of this bad habit.

## H

Hard times (times of difficulty, দুঃসহ সময়) : Poet Madhusudan was then passing through very hard times.
Hang fire (to remain undecided, অমীমাংসিত থাকা) : The matter has been hanging fire for some time.
Hang in the balance (to be in suspense, সন্দেহ বা অনিশ্চয়তার মধ্যে থাকা) : The fate of the prisoner is still hanging in the balance.

Hole and corner (secret, গোপন বা রহস্যপূর্ণ) : I do not like his hole and corner policy.
Haunted house (a house supposed to be haunted by a ghost, ভুতুরে বাড়ি) : It is not possible for us to live in a haunted house.

Hold water (to stand scruiting, পরীক্ষায় উৎরায়ে যাওয়া) : His argument does not hold water.

Hold good (to prove valid, বলবৎ হওয়া) : This policy will hold good in the long run.
Hue and cry (up roar, শোরগোল) : They raised a hue and cry at the sight of a thief.
Hush money (money given as bribe to husk up matter, ঘুষ) : The manager offered the police a large sum as hush money.

Hard and fast (fixed, বাঁধা-ধরা) : There is no hard and fast rule in this matter.
Hang together (to be consistent with, সঈতিপূর্ণ হওয়া) : The two statements of the accused do not hang together.
Heart and soul (earnestly, সর্বান্তঃকরণে) : Alam is trying heart and soul to win the prize.

Head and tail (not a jat of sense, মাথামুন্ডু) : I couldn't make head and tail of what he said.

High time (far advanced time, উপযুক্ত সময়) : It is the high time and you can start now.

High and low (all classes of society, ধনী ও গরীব) : All men high and low will die.

Hard and fast (specific, fixed, ধরা বাঁধা) : There is no hard and fast rule in this matter.

## I

In accordance with (according to, অনুসারে) : My friend acted in accordance with your advice.

In as much as (since, যেহেতু) : In as much as you are repentant, I pardon you this time.

In a fix (in a difficult situation, মুশকিলে পতিত) : I am in a fix and so I am in need of your help.

In black and white (in writing, লিখিতভাবে) : I must have your statement in black and white.

In cold blood (deliberately, স্থির মস্তিষকে) : The man was murdered in cold blood.
In case (if, যদি) : In case you fail, what will you do?
In defence of (in support of, সমর্থনে) : The convict pleaded in defence of his conduct.

In the event of (in case, ঘটনাচত্রে) : What will you do in the event of your father's death?

In fine (in short, to sum up, উপসংহারে) : In fine it was a piece of swindling.
In the face of (in opposition to, সরাসরি বিরোধিতা করা) : He proceeded with this work all alone in the face of opposition from all quarters.
In full swing (in full force, পুরোদমে) : The work is going on in full swing.
In good stead (be of specialise, কারো কাজে আসা) : My father's advice will stand you in good stead at all times.

In keeping with (consistent with, সামঞ্জস্যপূর্ণ) : What does he is hardly in keeping with what he says.

In lieu of (in stead of, পরিবর্তে) : Mamun took up English in lieu of Bengali.
In no time (soon, শীঘ্রই) : Our captain will come here in no time.
In spite of (notwithstanding, সত্ত্বেও) : They went out in spite of the rain.
In the long run (ultimately, সর্বশেষে, পরিণামে) : You will have to suffer in the long run for your conduct.

In a dilemma (don't know what to do, danger in both side, উভয় সংকটে) : He was in a dilemma because both the men were his relatives.

In favour of (to support someone, to work for someone, অনুকূলে, পক্ষে) : They canvassed in favour of my brother.
In good faith (with good and honest intent, সরল-বিশ্বাসে) : He told me every thing in good faith.

In order to (for the purpose of doing something, উদ্দেশ্যে) : We went there in order to met the man.

In the guise (garb) of (in disguise of, ছদ্মবেশে) : He told a great lie in the guise of an interesting story.
In the wake (train) of (just after, ঠিক পরে) : The police came in the wake of the accident.

## J

Jack of all trades (someone who can do several different jobs instead of specializing in one, সবজান্তা) : The precious boy is a jack of all trades and master of none.

## K

Keep body and soul together (to keep alive, কোনমতে বেঁচে থাকা) : This blind beggar has no means to keep body and soul together.

Look after (To take care of): It is our responsibility to look after our parents.
Look for (To find) : What are you looking for?
Long for (To wish) : She longs for getting educated.
Lose heart (To be disappointed) : Do not lose heart at the sight of danger.
Maiden Speech (First lecture) : That was her maiden speech.
Make sure (To ensure) : Make sure that your daily food consists of all the important elements.
Make haste (To be hasty) : Do not make haste while doing any work.
Null and void (to be cancelled) : The law has been null and void.

## 0

Odds and ends (stray things, টুকি টাকিগুলো) : Your brain is filled with all sorts of odds and ends.

On the brink of Or, On the verge of (very near to, অতি সন্নিকটে) : The gentle man is on the brink of ruin.

Oh behalf of (as representative of, পক্ষে) : Our captain will speak on behalf of our club.

On the contrary (on the other hand, rather than, পক্ষান্ড়রে) : I do not hate you, on the contrary I like you.

Of course (naturally, স্বভাবতই) : Kamal succeeded in life and was of course praised by all.

On the score of Or, On ground of (on account of, কারণে) : The clerk was dismissed on the score of his long absence from office.

One and all (everyone and separately, প্রত্যেকে) : The jurors, one and all declared him innocent.

Once in a while (rarely, কখনও কখনও) : My uncle comes to our house once in a while.

Once and again (frequently, একাধিকবার, প্রায়ই) : I warned him once and again not to go out.
Once for all (now and for the time, শেষবারের মতে) : He left his native land once for all.
Off and on (occasionally, মধ্যে মধ্যে) : My friend comes here off and on.
Of no avail (of no use, নিফ্ফল) : My effort was of no avail.
Of late (recently, সম্প্রতি) : Of late Rahim has become very rich.
On the eve of (just before, প্রাক্কালে) : Mr. Dulal went to Dhaka on the eve of the puja vacation.
On pain of (subject to penalty of, শাস্ড়ির্র ভয় দেখাইয়া) : The man was forced to sign the document on pain of continued harassment.
On the point of (about to, অতি নিকটে) : The patient is now on the point of death.
On the look out for (looking for, সন্ধানে) : Samal is on the look out for a job.
On the whole (generally speaking, মোটের উপর) : The boy's conduct was on the whole good.
Open secret (secret known to all, যে গুপ্ত রহস্য অনেকেরই জানা ) : It is an open secret that this police man takes bribes.
Out and out (fully, সম্পূর্ণরূপে) : Nazrul Islam was out and out a rebel poet.
Out of doors (in or into the open air, খোলা জায়গায়) : Boys were playing out of doors.

Out of gear (out of order, অচল) : War and famine throw human society out of gear.
Out of pocket (a loser, টাকা কড়িহীন) : He is out of pocket by transaction.
Out of date (old fashion, সেকেলে) : The practice is now out of date.

## P

Pull up (টেনে তোলা) : He cannot pull the stake up.
Prepared for (প্রস্ড়ত) : I am prepared for the consequence.
Pass through (অতিক্রু করা) : He passed through Dhaka to reach Gazipur.
Pros and cons (স্বপক্ষে ও বিপক্ষে যুক্তসমূহ) : I know the pros and cons of the plan.
Put down (লেখা) : You should put down the matter.
Put up with (সহ্য করা) : I cannot put up with this insult.

## $\underline{\underline{\mathbf{R}}}$

Red letter day (Memorable day) : 21st February is a red letter day in our history.

Run after (পিছনে ছুটা) : He ran after money.
Rule out (বাদ দেয়া) : The police have ruled out the suicide.
$\underline{\underline{\mathbf{S}}}$
Salt of the earth (persons with very high qualities, পৃথিবীর শ্রেষ্ঠ ব্যক্তিগণ) : Men like vedyasagar and Lincoln were the salt of the earth.

Sheet anchor (the final support, শেষ অবলম্বন) : Alexander the Great's Indian expedition is the sheet anchor of Indian chronology.

Sit on the fence (to remain neutral, নিরপেক্ষ থাকা) : The man who sits on the fence is very often misunderstood.

Skin and bone (skeleton, অস্থি-চর্মসার) : This disease has left my friend skin and bone.

Slow coach (a person who is slow in action, কুড়ে লোক) : You should not depend on a slow coach like him in such an urgent matter.

Snake in the grass (a secret foe, গুপ্ত শত్న) : He suspects his friend, but is unconcerned about the snakes in the grass.
So to say or, so to speak (by the by, বলতে কি) : The head clerk is so to say all in this office.

Square meal (full meal, পেটভরা আহার) : The poor in Bangladesh want only two square meals a day.

Stand to (to stick to, অবিচলিত ভাবে লেগে থাকা) : My friend will ever stand to his promise.

Sum and substance (summary, সারমর্ম) : The sum and substance of his speech is this.

Storm in a tea-pot (to uproar about practically nothing. তুচ্ছ বিষয়ে প্রচন্ড বিক্ষোভ) : She raised a storm in a tea pot over the loss of a handkerchief.
Safe and sound (safe and whole or healthy, without any danger, নিরাপদে) : The fighter plane bombed on the target and returned safe and sound.

Sum and substance (Gist) : I can't understand the sum and substance of the poem.

## T

Talk big (to boast, বড় বড় কথা বলা) : He talks big about himself.
Tall talk (high-sounding talk, বড় বড় কথা) : We should not rely upon a person who always indulges in tall talk.

Take heart (to be encouraged, উৎসাহিত হওয়া) : Mukul took heart at his teacher's words.

Take to heart (to mortify, অন্তরে ব্যথা পাওয়া) : Mr. Khan took the insult to heart.

Take a fancy to (to like, পছন্দ হওয়া) : I took a fancy to his stick.
Take into account or consideration (to regard, বিবেচনার বিষয়িভুক্ত করা) : While teaching the boys a teacher should take their age into account.
Tell upon (to affect, ক্ষতি করা) : His sleeplessness will tell upon his health.
The dogs of war (devastating activities, রক্তপাত ও ধ্বংসলীলা) : Nadir Shah let loose the dogs of war on Delhi.

Through and through (completely, সম্পূর্ণভাবে) : He is wet through and through.
The three R's (elementary education, ন্যূনতম শিক্ষা) : The boy learns the three R's at home.

To a fault (excessively, মাত্রা ছাড়িয়ে) : She is generous to a fault.
To the contrary (in opposition, বিপরীতে) : He will come on Sunday unless you write him to the contrary.
To a T (nicely, সঠিকভাবে) : This new office suits me to a T.
Tooth and nail (desperately, উঠে পড়ে লাগা) : They fought tooth and nail for their right.

To the backbone (in the inmost being, হাড়ে হাড়ে) : This boy is wicked to the backbone.

To the letter (strictly, যথাযথভাবে) : Halem followed my instructions to the letter.
Turn tail (to escape, to run away. লেজ গুটান, পালিয়ে যাওয়া) : At last the pak army turned tail from Bangladesh.
Throw cold water (discourage, নিরুৎসাহ করা) : Nobody should throw cold water on the efforts of children.

Ups and downs (Rise and fall): There are ups and downs in one's life.

## $\underline{\underline{\mathbf{W}}}$

Well off (Solvent) : The condition of their family is well off.
Weal and woe (Happiness and sorrow) : Weal and woe come by turns.
With a view to (In order to) : He went to Dhaka with a view to doing the work.
Worthy of (Qualified) : She is worthy of getting the prize.
Without fail (Surely) : He will come here without fail.

