

Idiom-Magic®

西洋妙語



JOHN AND CHING YEE SMITHBACK

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CONTENTS

HAPPY AS THE DAY IS LONG	1
NAME DROP/NAME-DROPPER	2
THE COCK OF THE WALK	3
TOE THE LINE	4
UP SOMEONE'S STREET/ALLEY	5
RATTLE ONE'S SABRE/SABRE RATTLING	6
BEYOND THE PALE	7
IN THE COLD LIGHT OF DAY	8
SHOOT A LINE	9
IN (SOMEONE'S) BEST BIB AND TUCKER	10
A BIG HAND	11
THROW/KNOCK FOR A LOOP	12
A PEEPING/PEEKING TOM	13
A FLYING VISIT	14
THE BLIND LEADING THE BLIND	15
BEG THE QUESTION	16
A GOOD ÉGG	17
HARP ON ONE STRING	18
LEFT AT THE ALTER	19
TAKE SOMEONE ON (1)	20
TAKE SOMEONE ON (2)	21
STONE DEAF	22
CURIOSITY KILLED (KILLS) THE CAT	23
LETTUCE	24
A SQUARE DEAL	25

IT'S (ALL) DONE WITH (BY) MIRRORS	26
WOULD NOT HURT (HARM) A FLY	27
CAUSE TONGUES TO WAG/SET TONGUES WAGGING.	28
HERE'S MUD IN YOUR EYE.	29
THE FICKLE FINGER OF FATE	30
KICK THE BUCKET	31
ASK FOR SOMEONE'S HAND	32
PUT SOMEONE IN THE PICTURE	33
LIQUID ASSETS	34
A COOK'S TOUR	35
SKIRT AROUND	36
MONEY TO BURN	37
THE RANK AND FILE	38
MAKE A SPLASH.	39
GRIN AND BEAR IT.	40
EVERY INCH A (SOMETHING)	41
JOHNNY-COME-LATELY	42
CUT DOWN TO SIZE	43
THE LONG ARM OF THE LAW	44
BREAK THE ICE	45
RIB-TICKLING	46
THE JOLLY ROGER.	47
CATCH-22/A CATCH-22 SITUATION	48
GIVE/GET THE THIRD DEGREE.	49
RAIN PITCHFORKS.	50
THE SANDMAN (DUSTMAN) IS COMING.	51
CALL IT A DAY.	52
CALL IT A NIGHT	53

THE END OF THE ROAD	54
CROCODILE TEARS	55
MY LIPS ARE SEALED.	56
SOUND AS A POUND	57
A DEAD RINGER.	58
DAVY JONES'S LOCKER	59
A SLANGING/SLINGING MATCH	60
THE CARRIAGE TRADE	61
AFTER A FASHION.	62
COOL AS A CUCUMBER.	63
FED UP (TO THE TEETH/TO ONE'S BACK TEETH)	64
A NEW BROOM/ A NEW BROOM SWEEPS CLEAN	65
TAR AND FEATHER	66
ON THE MOVE	67
CHILDREN SHOULD BE SEEN AND NOT HEARD.	68
SET SOMEONE'S TEETH ON EDGE	69
DRESS A MILLION/ DRESS LIKE A MILLION (DOLLARS).	70
BRING SOMEONE TO HEEL	71
DUTCH COURAGE.	72
THE CAT'S WHISKERS.	73
TAKE (SOMEONE/ SOMETHING) BY THE SCRUFF (OF THE NECK)	74
THE CURATE'S EGG	75
WHAT'S EATING YOU?	76

HAVE A NODDING ACQUAINTANCE WITH (SOMEONE/SOMETHING)	77
OUT ON A LIMB	78
NOT FOR LOVE NOR (OR) MONEY	79
GO HALVES/GO HALVES ON	80
THE TOP OF THE TREE	81
TIE THE (MARRIAGE) KNOT	82
CRY/SCREAM/SHOUT BLUE MURDER	83
A DOG'S LIFE	84
IN SOMEONE'S SHOES	85
CRY OVER SPILT (SPILLED) MILK	86
TRIAL AND ERROR	87
SOMEONE'S MUG	88
A FEATHER IN ONE'S CAP	89
CHILD'S PLAY	90
A BLIND ALLEY	91
MINCE WORDS	92
A PURPLE PATCH	93
PART OF THE FURNITURE	94
A BAD/ROTTEN APPLE	95
SEPARATE THE SHEEP FROM THE GOATS	96
DOING TIME	97
BUILD (SOMETHING) ON SAND	98
IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT	99
NO OIL PAINTING	100
COBWEB THINKING	101
ON/ NOT ON THE CARDS	102
COUNT NOSES	103

HANG IN THE BALANCE	104
HARD TO FOLLOW	105
BURN THE MIDNIGHT OIL	106
JUMPING-OFF PLACE/POINT	107
AT GREAT LENGTH	108
GO TO ANY/GREAT LENGTHS	109
LAND ON ONE'S FEET	110
GET WIND OF (SOMETHING)	111
MAKE A PIG OF ONESELF	112
CUT ONE'S LOSSES	113
WINDOW DRESSING	114
COME UP SMELLING LIKE A ROSE	115
A MONTH OF SUNDAYS	116
MAKE ONES MARK	117
THE SPITTING IMAGE	118
A PRICE ON SOMEONE'S HEAD	119
PUT (SOMEONE) ON A PEDESTAL	120
DRIVE SOMEONE AROUND (ROUND)THE BEND	121
HAVE A NICE DAY	122
IN FOR A PENNY, IN FOR A POUND	123
CLOSE ONE'S EYES TO (SOMETHING)	124
BELLY BUTTON	125
FLY-BY-NIGHT	126
PLAY A WAITING GAME	127
A POISON-PEN LETTER	128
FACE THE MUSIC	129
PATCH (SOMETHING) UP	130
A SQUARE PEG IN A ROUND HOLE	131

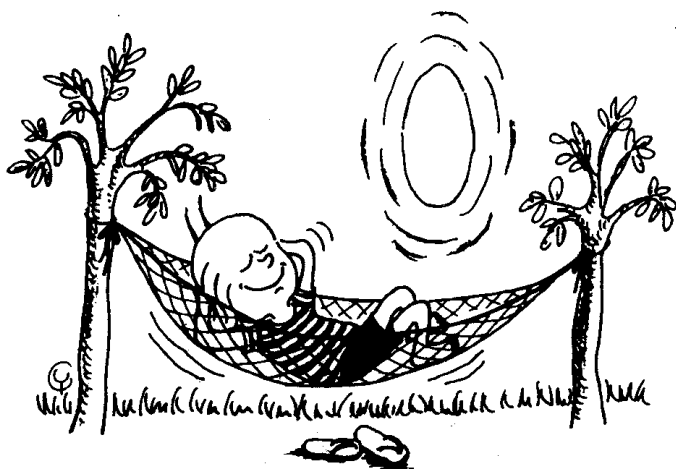
THREADS/NEW THREADS/	
A SET OF THREADS	132
RUN UP AN ACCOUNT (A BILL/A DEBT).	133
LOSE ONE'S MARBLES	134
CRACK A BOTTLE.	135
WHEN THE BALLOON GOES UP	136
SKID ROW	137
DON'T TEACH ONE'S GRANDMOTHER TO	
SUCK EGGS	138
PUT IT ABOUT/PUT SOMETHING ABOUT	139
DRAW THE LINE.	140
EYES POPPED OUT	141
A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS.	142
DROP A LINE	143
PUT SOMEONE IN HIS PLACE.	144
MEET ONE'S MATCH.	145
STEW IN ONE'S OWN JUICE	146
CARRY THE BANNER.	147
CRY (SOB) ALL THE WAY TO THE BANK	148
GET (PUT) ONE'S SKATES ON	149
STAMPING/STOMPING GROUND	150
GET CARRIED AWAY	151
A NUT CASE.	152
SIGN THE PLEDGE	153
GO OVER SOMEONE'S HEAD (1)	154
GO OVER SOMEONE'S HEAD (2)	155
ONCE IN A BLUE MOON	156
PULL UP ONE'S SOCKS	157

A HOUSE OF CARDS	158
ON PINS AND NEEDLES	159
KNOW SOMEONE IN HIGH PLACES	160
OWN UP	161
ANSWER ONE'S CALLING	162
THE MOVING SPIRIT	163
THE BOOBY PRIZE	164
FOR THE BIRDS	165
TURN THE TABLES	166
A TONGUE TWISTER	167
OIL/GREASE THE WHEELS	168
GUM UP THE WORKS	169
THE BEST LAID SCHEMES/PLANS OF	
MICE AND MEN	170
SO MUCH FOR THAT	171
A WHISPERING CAMPAIGN	172
BE A FLY ON THE WALL	173
OFF THE HOOK	174
LEAVE (SOMEONE) HIGH AND DRY	175
GO DUTCH	176
COST AN ARM AND A LEG	177
TO BE ON THE SAFE SIDE	178
FALL FOR SOMEONE	179
IN THE DOLDRUMS	180
HANDS ARE TIED	181
A GIFT OF GAB/THE GIFT OF THE GAB	182
NOT KNOW WHAT SOMEONE IS IN FOR	183
A COOL CUSTOMER	184
KNOW THE ROPES	185

MAKE THINGS HUM/	
KEEP THINGS HUMMING	186
PLAY TO THE GALLERY	187
A STICK-IN-THE-MUD	188
A BLACK SHEEP	189
MILES AWAY (1)	190
MILES AWAY (2)	191
MILES AWAY (3)	192
MIND SOMEONE'S (OWN) KNITTING	193
PLAY UP	194
ON THE BRINK	195
A KING'S RANSOM	196
A CLOTHESHORSE/A CLOTHES HORSE	197
THE POT CALLING THE KETTLE BLACK	198
BEAT THE DRUM	199
THE CAT DID IT	200
LOOKING LIKE A CAT THAT SWALLOWED-	
A CANARY	201
WHERE THERE'S MUCK THERE'S BRASS	202
GO FLY A KITE	203
HARD CHEESE	204
HAVE ONE'S HEAD SCREWED ON THE	
RIGHT WAY	205
PUT/SET/THROW THE CAT AMONG THE	
PIGEONS	206
TURN A DEAF EAR	207
A BAKER'S DOZEN	208
IF WISHES WERE HORSES, BEGGARS	
WOULD RIDE	209

ON THE CHEAP.....	210
THROW ONE'S WEIGHT AROUND.....	211
A MIND LIKE A STEEL TRAP/ A STEEL-TRAP MIND.....	212
A LOVING CUP.....	213
PADDLE ONE'S OWN CANOE/ GO PADDLE ONE'S OWN CANOE.....	214
PIGGY/A PIG IN THE MIDDLE.....	215
NOT TO BE SNEEZED AT.....	216
DO DOGSBODY WORK.....	217
A SKELETON IN THE CLOSET/THE CUP BOARD.....	218
A SHOW OF HANDS.....	219
ON THE ROCKS (1).....	220
ON THE ROCKS (2).....	221
ON THE ROCKS (3).....	222
PIN MONEY.....	223
HARD-BOILED.....	224
HAVE ONE'S WINGS CLIPPED/ CLIP SOMEONE'S WINGS.....	225
ONE'S FACE FELL.....	226
SOMETHING FOR THE BOOKS.....	227
GIVE/LEND A (HELPING) HAND.....	228
SIT ON ONE'S HANDS.....	229
GOOD CLEAN FUN.....	230
LAY THE BLAME/ FAULT AT SOMEONE'S DOOR.....	231
ACHIL'S HEEL.....	232

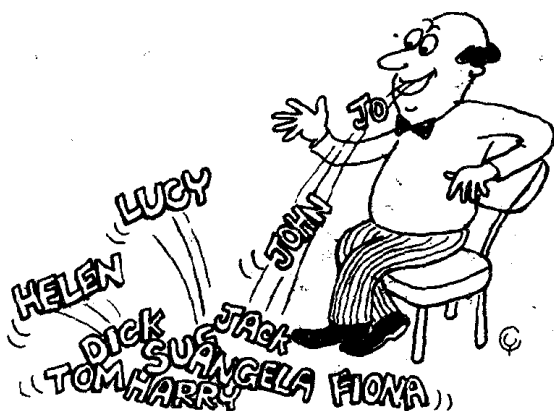
HAVE A (GOOD) HEAD FOR (SOMETHING)/	
A HEAD FOR FIGURES	233
A DUTCH UNCLE	234
SCRATCH THE SURFACE.	235



HAPPY AS THE DAY IS LONG

What joy! What happiness! At last school is over for the summer. No more books, no more studies! Teddy is happy as the day is long. When a person is very content, cheerful and happy he is happy as the day is long. "How I wish that the summer holiday would last forever," Teddy smiled.

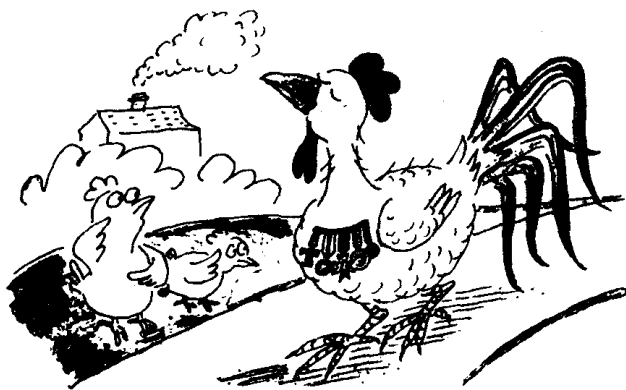
當一個人覺得很滿足，很快樂，很幸福的時候，他便
是「HAPPY AS THE DAY IS LONG」。



NAME DROP/NAME-DROPPER

Have you ever known a person who name drops? If you know prominent or influential people, maybe you name drop. Those who name drop are called name-droppers. They like to impress people by mentioning the names of important people, and that is what it means to name drop.

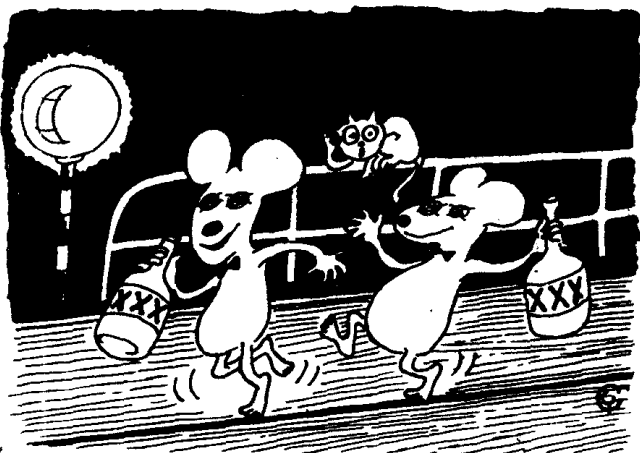
有些人爲去給別人留下印象，便「NAME DROP」，即是於言談間，提及他們認識的名人或要人，這些人都是在社會上顯著和有影響力的。那些「NAME DROP」的人，便被稱爲「NAME-DROPPERS」。



THE COCK OF THE WALK

If two cocks are together in the same pen (called a walk) they'll fight, the strongest usually winning. From that, a person who thinks of himself as important or possessing power is described as the cock of the walk. "Ever since his promotion Aristos thinks he's the cock of the walk around here."

我們若將兩隻雄雞同關進一雞欄裏，牠們便會打鬥不停，直到強者得勝為止。從而，一個自認為重要，自以為權威的人，就被形容為「THE COCK OF THE WALK」。



TOE THE LINE

Simply stated, to toe the line means to obey the rules and do what one is told. "When I was young if I didn't toe the line my parents punished me. Now that I'm older I find that if I toe the line at work my chances of a promotion are very good."

「TOE THE LINE」是服從命令，嚴守規則的意思。這個成語來自田徑賽跑，賽手將腳尖抵在起步線上站着。



UP SOMEONE'S STREET/ALLEY

Something that is up someone's street (or alley) can refer to anything — a job, a subject, a topic of interest for instance — that is of special interest to a person or that he is knowledgeable about. "Reading books is right up my alley but studying mathematics isn't up my street at all."

「STREET」是「街道」。「ALLEY」是「小巷」或「小徑」。任何事物，例如工作、學科、趣味性的論題等，是「UP SOMEONE'S STREET (OR ALLEY)」的，便屬於某人的興趣，又或者是為他所熟知的。