wybrane zwroty i idiomy angielskie -- ciekawie be few and far between iz humorem make the best of be in the same boat be born on the wrong side of the blanket be eaten up with jealous) take it easy

Marek Kędzierski

Wybrane zwroty i idiomy angielskie – ciekawie i z humorem

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Przedmowa

"Wybrane zwroty i idiomy angielskie" to książka mająca na celu rozwinięcie u uczących się języka umiejętności naturalnego posługiwania się utartymi zwrotami i idiomami angielskimi, które siłą rzeczy nie mogą być na polski tłumaczone dosłownie. Ponad pięćset takich zwrotów ujętych zostało w dwudziestu pięciu ciekawych i często zabawnych tekstach. Pod każdym z nich czytelnik znajdzie objaśnienia zastosowanych zwrotów i trudniejszych słówek. Zestawy pytań następujące dalej ułożono w taki sposób, by skłonić odpowiadającego do użycia omawianych zwrotów, co również może być przyczynkiem do otwartej konwersacji. Zadaniem kolejnych ćwiczeń jest utrwalenie poznanego materiału. Na końcu książki znajduje się klucz z rozwiązaniami, umożliwiający sprawdzenie czy ćwiczenia zostały zrobione poprawnie.

Autor

A DIFFICULT CUSTOMER

The job was about ready when he came over and started complaining. Of course, I followed your advice, and I put on an act. I don't know how, but he knew in advance what he could expect of us. He told me to stop acting the fool, or we wouldn't get paid at all. At this point I thought it was a good time to adopt a hard line towards him, and I informed him that we were above his petty complains, and we were not after his dirty money. All of a sudden he started rushing about the office and shouting out loud that it was a scandal. He even threatened that he was going to sue us for damages. Can you believe it? He might have thought that he held all the aces, but it wasn't exactly so. All in all, I was quite patient with him like you told me to, but the moment he called me an ignoramus, I felt that it would be advisable to punch him in the face. Naturally, I had no chance to look that word up in a dictionary (there was no dictionary available in the office), but I decided that even if that word wasn't particularly offensive, a good punch in the face would teach him some manners. As it turned out later, this action agreed with him. He signed all the documents of his own accord (there were no more complaints). His face looked pretty bad, so I offered to accommodate him with a ride home, but he assured me again and again that I shouldn't be bothered, and he would be just fine. Contrary to all appearances, people often tend to become quite cordial when you approach them the right way, don't they?

Explanations:

be about ready complain follow sb's advice put on an act know in advance act the fool at this point adopt a hard line towards be above sth petty complaints be after all of a sudden rush about threaten

sue sb for damages hold all the aces

the face

look the word up

offensive turn out

być prawie gotowym

narzekać

pójść za czyjąś radą odgrywać komedie wiedzieć z góry strugać wariata w tym momencie

przyjać twarde stanowisko wobec

być ponad coś

małostkowe narzekania chodzić o, zabiegać o

nagle

biegać tam i z powrotem

grozić

pozwać do sadu o odszkodowanie trzymać wszystkie atuty w reku advisable to punch him in wskazane walnać go w morde

sprawdzić (w słowniku)

obraźliwy okazać się **agree with** służyć, dobrze robić (coś komuś)

of one's own accord z własnej woli

accommodate sb with służyć komuś (czymś)

again and again ciągle; w kółko not to be bothered nie kłopotać się contrary to all wbrew pozorom

cordial serdeczny

appearances

way

approach sb the right

podejść do kogoś we właściwy

sposób

I. Answer the following questions with full sentences:

- 1. What situations are you always ready to adopt a hard line in?
- 2. What do you think of people who get married because they are after the other person's money only?
- 3. What would you never do on your own accord?
- 4. How would you describe a situation with someone holding all the aces?
- 5. What agrees with you and what doesn't?
- 6. Why is it good to know in advance about potential problems?

II. Fill in the gaps with the right phrase / idiom from the text:

1.	he's one of the best specialists we've
	ever had.
2.	I can't believe you signed the agreement
	The conditions are unacceptable.
3.	If you don't stop I'll go to talk to your
	boss and you'll be in trouble.
4.	She told him she wouldn't lend him the money but he asked
	and she finally agreed to do it.
5.	The bomb was when no one knows why
	it suddenly exploded, killing its constructor.
6.	There was nothing we could do. We had to satisfy their demands. They
7.	They tried to, but I new all along what
	their true intentions were.
8.	Wine doesn't me. I have stomach
	problem after drinking it.

III. Translate the following sentences into English using the phrases from the text:

1. Biegał po pokoju tam i z powrotem.

- 2. Byliśmy prawie gotowi z materiałami.
- 3. Cały czas odgrywał komedię twierdząc, że nic nie wie.
- 4. Jeśli nie przestaniesz strugać wariata, wychodzę.
- 5. Mogę służyć pani drobną pożyczką.
- 6. Musieliśmy zająć twarde stanowisko wobec nich.
- 7. Nie lubię go i w ogóle.
- 8. Tak naprawde to chodzi im o twoje pieniądze.
- 9. Wbrew pozorom to naprawdę przyzwoity człowiek.
- 10. Wino mi nie służy.
- 11.Z góry wiedziałem jak to się skończy.
- 12. Zrobił to z własnej woli.
- 13. Niestety mieli wszystkie atuty w ręku.

LONG LIVE YOUTH!

Life was so beautiful until I came of age. Now and again I could do stupid stuff and all, if you know what I'm saying. The cops all along were trying to can me, but I was under age and qualified for some government programs for juvenile delinquents. I allow that I have a lot to answer for and the long arm of the law would be more than happy to bust me, but I've been around and I know how to avoid serious trouble. They could just as well try to get Michael Jackson for sexual harassment. Wait a minute, joking apart, I recently heard that he actually was under arrest on such charges. Life is full of surprises, man. On the other hand, I guess he was asking for trouble with kids being around in his house all the time. There are opinions that such guys should be above suspicion. What I think though, is that he should move his ass and do some real work. What is it that I have to work my ass off day and night (I do night shifts as well) and at best get enough dough to pay the bills and buy decent grub. But what pisses me off the most, is that some rich guys say that I am a pain in the ass of the society. Man, I hate it so bad! All I can do is chill out and answer back / talk back and tell them they have an attitude problem. Stupid to say that, as it were, it got them thinking: 'What the hell? What is this burn talking about?' At least I had a chance to get away and stay out of trouble. If I were rich, man, I of all people, I would kick asses! Not literally, of course, you know what I'm saying. Oh, no. I would air my views about politicians, social workers, and Mrs Bigley who doesn't want to leave me alone and keeps telling me how wonderful it would be if I joined her church. Last week she had a car accident, but soon I found out that she was alive and kicking. Well, I was actually relieved to learn that she was fine. Dumb as she were I kind of like her. After all she is a decent old woman who means well. While I am about Mrs Bigley, well, I may go and see that church of hers.

Explanations:

long live
come of age
now and again
stuff
and all
cops
all along
can me
under age
juvenile delinquent
allow that
have a lot to answer for
the long arm of the law
bust

I've been around

niech żyje
osiągnąć pełnoletność
co jakiś czas
rzeczy
i w ogóle
gliny
przez cały czas; od początku
zapudłować mnie
niepełnoletni
młodociany przestępca
przyznać, że
mieć dużo na sumieniu
karząca ręka sprawiedliwości
przymknąć; zaaresztować
bywało się w świecie; z

niejednego pieca chleb jadłem

równie dobrze iust as well

sexual harassment molestowanie seksualne

joking apart żarty na bok

pod takim zarzutem on such charges ask for trouble prosić sie o kłopoty poza podeirzeniem above suspicion

ruszyć dupe move one's ass night shift nocna zmiana at best w najlepszym razie

douah szmal

decent grub przyzwoite żarcie what pisses me off co mnie wkurza pain in the ass wrzód na dupie work one's ass off zapieprzać

chill out wyluzować answer back / talk back pyskować

mieć niewłaściwy stosunek do have an attitude problem

otoczenia

as it were niejako; poniekąd

bum włóczega I of all people ia, właśnie ja kick asses skopać tyłki

air one's views publicznie wyrażać swoje poglądy

leave sb alone zostawić kogoś w spokoju

church kościół

after all

means well

decent

find out dowiedzieć sie

w doskonałym stanie; wszystko z alive and kicking

kimś w porządku

I was relieved to learn ulżyło mi jak się dowiedziałem dumb as she were

może i jest głupia

w końcu; tak czy inaczej

przyzwoity

ma dobre intencie

while I'm about skoro już przy tym jestem

I.. Answer the following questions with full sentences:

- 1. What was your life like when you came of age?
- 2. Why do you think young people answer back to their parents / teachers?
- 3. What kind of person would you call a pain in the ass?
- 4. What situation would you like to be left alone in?
- 5. How would you characterise a person who says that he has been around?
- 6. What kind of people should always be above suspicion?

II. Fill in the gaps with the right phrase / idiom from the text:

1.	the accident, well, I want to stress that it was all your fault.
2.	Children shouldn't to their teachers at school. Unfortunately these days they do it much too often.
3.	Don't worry, he'll be just fine. He, so the situation is not new to him.
4.	Going there is
5.	He's a regular He's continuously complaining about the way we do things.
6.	His daughter's demands are growing. This is why he is to satisfy them.
7.	I can't wait to
8.	I don't think we'll get much for the furniture. It's old and we'll receive about 1000\$.
9.	I want to be a politician because then I will be able to
10	.lt's finished and nothing will change it. You can
	try to reach the moon. The result will be the same.
	.Ok gentlemen, , who painted my dog red?
12	The house collapsed, but luckily the people who lived there are
13	.There was nothing the police could do to the youngster. He was so they had to let him go.
14.	You are 21 now. I think it's high time you and found yourself a decent job.
15	You have to help me. You are my brother

III. Translate the following sentences into English using the phrases from the text:

- 1. Daj mi spokój.
- 2. Dosięgnie cię wreszcie karząca ręka sprawiedliwości.
- 3. Jego brat powinien być poza podejrzeniem.
- 4. Mam wiele na sumieniu.
- 5. Mimo wypadku jest w doskonałej formie.
- 6. Moim zdaniem ma niewłaściwy stosunek do otoczenia.
- 7. Może byś ruszył dupę i poszedł szukać pracy?
- 8. Nie mogliśmy nic zrobić, bo był niepełnoletni.
- 9. Nie mogła się doczekać kiedy osiągnie pełnoletniość.
- 10. No dobra, żarty na bok. O co tak naprawdę chodzi?

- 11.Od czasu do czasu odwiedzam ich w domu.
- 12.Od początku są z nim problemy.
- 13. Ona boi się publicznie wyrażać swoje poglądy.
- 14. Przyznaję, że to był błąd.
- 15. Równie dobrze możesz poprosić bym poleciał dziś na księżyc.
- 16. Skoro już jesteśmy przy pieniądzach, to powiedz jak je zdobyć.
- 17. Takim zachowaniem sam prosisz się o kłopoty.
- 18. Ten bachor to prawdziwy wrzód na dupie.
- 19. Ten chłopiec pyskuje do nauczycieli.
- 20. W najlepszym wypadku dostaniesz wyrok w zawieszeniu.
- 21. Właśnie on, ze wszystkich ludzi, musiał zostać wybrany!
- 22.Z niejednego pieca chleb jadłem.
- 23. Zapieprzam za marne grosze.
- 24. Zaufaj mi, jestem w końcu twoim bratem.

LOVE HURTS

I have an impression that she doesn't like me anymore. I guess she thinks I'm anything but handsome. This is probably the end. I don't know what I'm going to do now. Is there any hope for me? Quite apart from the difference in our social background, my personality may not appeal to her. I was ready to go against the current to get close to her. I allowed myself a year for this task. The problem is that I sometimes get into an argument with her in order to clear the air between us. It doesn't help the relationship, but she never listens to what I'm saying. I often think that she just doesn't want me to be on her ass. In any case that's the impression I get because she keeps ignoring me all the time. It's high time to straighten things out between us once and for all. I have to take the dog out now. This is going to be a race against time because the news start in 15 minutes and I have to be back home then. They are going to show her and talk about her again. This will be a good opportunity to tell her that I'm through with her and she isn't my girlfriend anymore. I see no future for us. After all I'm just a dustman and she's the Queen of England. As far as I know such relationships don't work out. There might have been a chance for us if she knew about my existence, but in this situation...

Explanations:

he's anything but handsome quite apart from social background appeal to go against the current allow oneself time for

get into an argument with clear the air relationship be on sb's ass in any case keeps ignoring me straighten things out once and for all take the dog out race against time I'm through with her dustman as far as I know relationship

work out

przystojny to on nie jest

pomijając już pochodzenie społeczne przemawiać do (np. argumenty) iść pod prąd dać sobie / zarezerwować sobie czas na wdawać się w sprzeczkę

oczyścić atmosferę związek zawracać komuś dupę w każdym razie ciągle mnie ignoruje wyjaśnić pewne sprawy raz na zawsze zabrać psa na spacer wyścig z czasem skończyłem z nią śmieciarz o ile wiem. związek zadziałać; udać się

I. Answer the following questions with full sentences:

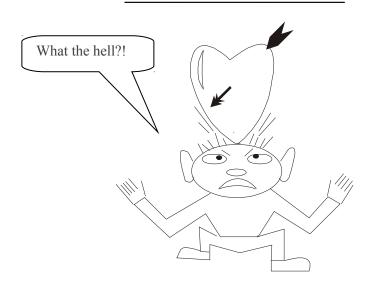
- 1. What would you like to settle once and for all?
- 2. What kind of situation would you call 'racing against time'?
- 3. What kind of arguments never appeal to you?
- 4. When is it good to go against the current?
- 5. Do you agree that most politicians are anything but wise? Why?
- 6. Do you think it is safe to get into an argument with a criminal? Why?

II. Fill in the gaps with the right phrase / idiom from the text:

I.	the accident in which our brand new car
	was smashed, our house was burgled too.
2.	your father is very rich, isn't he? He
	shall pay whatever we demand for you, won't he?
3.	He hates it when people with such trivial
	problems like money.
4.	I told him what I really though about him. He got really upset, but I think
	this between us.
5.	I want you to understand it I will not
	tolerate incompetence, stupidity, and bad manners.
6.	I'm sorry to say this, but your boss is
	intelligent.
7.	My ambition is to be the president of this country. I
	three years for this.

III. Translate the following sentences into English using the phrases from the text:

- 1. Kłótnie często służą oczyszczeniu atmosfery.
- 2. Mój akumulator jest już prawie wyczerpany.
- 3. Nie chce by zawracał mi dupę takimi problemami.
- 4. Nie ma innego wyjścia jak tylko iść pod prąd przez najbliższy rok.
- 5. O ile wiem to ona jest w domu.
- 6. Pomijajac już jej niekompetencje to nie jest nawet ładna.
- 7. Spójrzmy prawdzie w oczy. Inteligentna to ona nie jest.
- 8. Staraj się nie wdawać w sprzeczki z klientami.
- 9. Tego typu działania do mnie nie przemawiaja.
- 10. To będzie wyścią z czasem.
- 11. Załatw wreszcie ten problem raz na zawsze.
- 12. Zarezerwuj sobie pół godziny na naszą rozmowe



MUTINY

I will never lay down my arms! What do you mean there is no one to fight and nothing to fight for? Oh, you're damn wrong! How about those monsters all around? This one on your left, for example, is all but dead. I'm going to finish him off in a moment. Of course you can't see them. They're invisible to people dressed in white. But I see them guite clearly. They've been at large for centuries, but I'm going to put an end to their miserable existence. Oh no, I'm not insane. I'm not a lunatic either. It is the world that has gone crazy. I assure you that soon you all will approach me about the monsters visiting your backyard. You'll see! No, I'm not trying to draw your attention away from the desserts on the table. They are out of my reach anyway. Your insinuations and instructions are of no account to me. You'd better stop banging at the door. I'm not going to answer the door. Nobody's home. Tell the doctor that he may see me by appointment. At worst, the monsters there may eat him up. No, you can't do that! You can't deprive me of my dessert! So what that I'm a patient in this mental hospital? I know my rights. Stop saying that, or I'll bring your practices to the attention of the press. Don't you worry, I'll find a way to make a few telephone calls, and not even the monsters will stop me, let alone the doctors. The female personnel might, if they start wearing miniskirts and are nice to me... You never know he, he,

Explanations:

insinuations

of no account

bang at the door deprive sb of sth

mutinv lay down one's arms there's no one to fight be damn wrong monsters all but finish sb off invisible to people dressed in white be at large put an end to insane **lunatic** go crazy approach about draw sb's attention away out of one's reach

bunt złożyć broń nie ma z kim walczyć grubo sie mylić potwory prawie; o mało wykończyć kogoś niewidoczni dla ludzi ubranych na biało bvć na wolności położyć kres chory umysłowo wariat zwariować zwrócić się w sprawie odwracać uwagę poza czyimś zasiegiem insynuacie

bez znaczenia

walić w drzwi

pozbawić kogoś czegoś

mental hospital bring sth to the attention zwrócić czyjaś uwagę na let alone vou never know

szpital dla umysłowo chorych nie mówiąc już o nigdy nie wiadomo

I. Answer the following questions with full sentences:

- 1. What things are out of your reach?
- 2. What kind of people can you see by appointment only?
- 3. What would you do if you heard of a dangerous animal being at large in your city?
- 4. What things are of no account to you?
- 5. What can at worst happen if you fail your next examination?
- 6. What would you do if your mobile telephone battery were all but dead?

II. Fill in the gaps with the right phrase / idiom from the text:

1.	A serial killer is He escaped from prison yesterday.
2.	After 2 month fighting the defenders decided to and surrender.
3.	By faking an attack on the barracks they are trying to from their real target, which is the
	headquarters.
4.	Forget it. This position is You don't
	have the necessary qualifications.
5.	Their objections are They aren't
	powerful enough to wreck our plans.
6.	There must be some kind of misunderstanding. I've never been to New York, living with her in Manhattan.
7.	Whatever happens they'll have to accept our conditions anyway we'll get their consent a little later than
	expected, but we surely will.

III. Translate the following sentences into English using the phrases from the text:

- 1. Chciałbym zwrócić państwa uwagę na koszty przedsięwzięcia.
- 2. Czas żebyśmy złożyli broń i przyjęli ich warunki.
- 3. Groźne zwierze jest na wolności.
- 4. Ktoś dzwoni. Otworzysz drzwi?
- 5. Nie mamy za dużo pieniędzy nie mówiąc już o samochodzie.
- 6. Oni próbują odwrócić naszą uwagę od problemu kosztów.
- 7. Taki cel jest poza naszym zasięgiem.

- 8. Uwagi takie są dla mnie bez znaczenia.
- 9. W najgorszym razie będziemy musieli obniżyć cenę. 10.Wczoraj zwróciłem się do niego w sprawie pożyczki.
- 11. Z nim można się spotkać tylko po wcześniejszym ustaleniu terminu.

A PRACTICAL SOLUTION

There are many such ideas about,' Mrs Jones said. 'Don't you want to know what ideas?' she asked. Mr Jones said nothing. 'You never pay attention to what I'm saying!' she continued. 'What kind of husband are you?' Mr Jones said nothing. 'You refuse to answer the phone, to answer the door when the postman comes over with your pension, what is it?' she said. 'As opposed to other decent husbands, you do absolutely nothing. You could at least keep up appearances, and pretend, once in a while, that I'm the apple of your eye. It's I who takes you for a walk now and again so that you can take some fresh air. Some gratitude wouldn't be too much, would it? You could say something at last. Don't tell me that you answer to God Almighty only. Why have men never attached significance to plain conversations with their wives? They always try to avail themselves of every opportunity to get away from their beloved spouses. Always, whenever they can. And then, there may be a rude awakening for many a man when they come back home and the wife is gone. One should allow for this eventuality. I may leave you one day, too. Why not? Be sure that I'd do that if you were planning to go for the bad, that is get involved with some other woman. Or perhaps not so. Other girls may be within arm's reach, but not for you my dear, not any more. Fortunately, I thought of that ahead of time and decided to take the necessary measures. I couldn't stand it that you turned your back on me when I begged you not to leave me you old bastard. It was an awful cheek to say that I was too old for you. That's why I put some cyanide in your food, and after I made sure you were dead all right, I cremated your body in our stove. You are just an urn with ashes, and there is no way you could leave me now. We'll be together for the rest of our... not our perhaps... for the rest of my life.

Explanations:

solution rozwiązanie

there are many such krąży wiele takich pomysłów

ideas about

pay attention to zwracać uwagę na what kind of husband are co z ciebie za mąż

vou

answer the phone odebrać telefon

answer the door otworzyć drzwi (jak ktoś puka)

as opposed to w przeciwieństwie do

decent przyzwoity

keep up appearances zachowywać pozory

pretend udawać once in a while udawać co jakiś czas

be the apple of one's eye być oczkiem w głowie

take some fresh air zaczerpnąć świeżego powietrza

gratitude at last

answer to God Almighty

attach significance to plain conversation avail oneself of

get away from beloved

spouses

rude awakening

for many a man allow for this eventuality

go for the bad get involved with be within arm's reach ahead of time

take the necessary

measures

turn one's back on

beg

old bastard an awful cheek

cyanide

you were dead all right cremate ... in stove

urn with ashes

wdzięczność

w końcu; wreszcie

odpowiadać przed Bogiem

Wszechmogącym

przywiązywać wagę do

zwykła rozmowa skorzystać z

uciekać od ukochanych

współmałżonków

przykre zaskoczenie; kubeł zimnej

wody

dla niejednego mężczyzny

uwzględnić; brać pod uwagę tę

ewentualność zejść na złą drogę zaangażować się w

być na wyciągnięcie ręki

przed czasem

podjąć konieczne kroki

odwrócić się plecami do

błagać stary drań

niesłychana bezczelność

cyjanek

całkiem martwy kremować... w piecu urna z prochami

I. Answer the following questions with full sentences:

- 1. What do you always pay attention to? Why?
- 2. What situation would you try to keep up appearances in?
- 3. Who would you like to be the apple of his / her eye? Why?
- 4. What opportunity would you never avail yourself of? Why?
- 5. Can you give an example of a rude awakening?
- 6. Why do you think young people often go for the bad?
- 7. What situation / statement would you call an awful cheek?
- 8. What do you never attach significance to? Why?
- 9. Who do you answer to?

II. Fill in the gaps with the right phrase / idiom from the text:

2.	He didn't expect the job to be so difficult. Obviously it was a
	for him.
3.	He had been such a good boy until he met those young hooligans. It was
	them who made him
4.	His little daughter is He loves her so
	much.
5.	I couldn't believe she said that. It was
	considering all the things they had done for her.
6.	If you don't what you say, you may get into
	serious trouble.
7.	Somebody is knocking at the door. Will you it?
	That was a great opportunity. No wonder he decided to
	it.
9.	The bank is practically bankrupt. All they can do now is to
•	to prevent uncontrolled panic.
10	The investor was very happy to hear that the building would be finished
10	in 2 weeks
11	.We waited for 2 hours and he came
	When he lost all the money he had won in the lottery, all his friends
12	him and he was left all
	alone.
	alulie.

III. Translate the following sentences into English using the phrases from the text using the phrases from the text:

- 1. Córka jest jego oczkiem w głowie.
- 2. Dzwoni telefon. Odbierzesz?
- 3. Krąży wiele takich pomysłów.
- 4. Mógłbyś przynajmniej zachowywać pozory.
- 5. Nie boję się, że moje dzieci zejdą na złą drogę.
- 6. Nie zwracaj uwagi na to, co mówią.
- 7. Nigdy nie przywiązywał wagi do pieniedzy.
- 8. Odpowiadam jedynie przed Bogiem i historią.
- 9. Odwiedzę was co jakiś czas.
- 10. Skorzystałem z okazji i ukradłem ten samochód.
- 11. Sukces był na wyciągnięcie ręki.
- 12. Ta strata to był dla niego zimny prysznic.
- 13. To była niesłychana bezczelność z jego strony.
- 14. Ty stary draniu.
- 15. Ukończyliśmy budowę przed czasem.
- 16. W przeciwieństwie do nich nie jesteśmy bogaci.
- 17. Weźcie pod uwagę możliwość spadku cen.
- 18. Wreszcie przyszli.
- 19. Wszyscy odwrócili się do mnie plecami jak straciłem pracę.
- 20. Wyjdę by zaczerpnąć świeżego powietrza.