

Idioms about time



What is an idiom?

An idiom is a commonly used expression which does not relate to the literal meaning of its words. Idioms are usually used orally because they are informal, but you can also find them on the internet.

1. Match the idioms with the definitions.

IN THE NEAR FUTURE	•	• Used to describe something that will happen very soon.
YOUR DAYS ARE NUMBERED	•	• This means to become successful.
DO TIME / SERVE TIME	•	• It will happen soon.
HIT THE BIG TIME	•	• This means 'absolutely never'.
FROM NOW ON	•	• To begin doing something from now until some unknown time in the future.
ONLY TIME WILL TELL	•	• You have to wait and find out the result of something in the future.
IN DUE COURSE	•	• This is used when one is certain that something will happen, but is unsure exactly when.
AROUND THE CORNER	•	• Used to describe someone's sentence in prison.
NOT/NEVER IN A MILLION YEARS WILL YOU...	•	• You are expected to die soon.
SOONER OR LATER	•	• This means everything will happen at the appropriate time.

2. Choose the right idiom.

The fortune teller told Anna: "**YOUR DAYS ARE NUMBERED/ IN THE NEAR FUTURE/ FROM NOW ON** you will meet a very nice man who will become you husband. I am glad to tell you that **IN DUE COURSE/ NEVER IN A MILLION YEARS/ ONLY TIME WILL TELL** you will have two children, a boy and a girl. **SOONER OR LATER/ AROUND THE CORNER/ FROM NOW ON**, you should start using some make-up, stop wearing tracksuits and start smiling. About your career, you will **IN DUE COURSE/ HIT THE BIG TIME/ SOONER OR LATER** and earn so much money that you will be able to buy a house on the beach and buy a new car."