



WRITING TIP - USING IDIOMS

IDIOMS are phrases or expressions adopted by a group of people which have a meaning that is hidden in the group of words. For example, "I couldn't wrap my head around..." or "to make a long story short." We have many common idioms in our culture and we often do not know how they originated or what they really mean. We can also be so used to saying them in our conversations that often we don't realize we are using them.

When it comes to writing, we should be careful not to overuse idioms. Deliberately using idioms in writing can add power to our words. However, using too many idioms can take away from the creativity of our writing. Idioms are not your original expression and the reader may not fully understand the meaning of the idiom or what you are trying to say.

Here are my suggestions:

Look out for idioms in your writing. If you are not sure if a phrase is an idiom, search the phrase on Google with "idiom" at the end.

Ask yourself if the idiom you are using fully expresses what you are trying to say. Do you fully understand the meaning of the idiom you are using?

Look up the idiom using Google or use one of these sites:

<https://www.theidioms.com/>

<https://www.idioms.online/>

Rewrite the phrase using your own words. Reread what you have written and see if your original creativity adds power to your writing.