RUSSIAN-ENGLISH DICTIONARY OF IDIOMS

REVISED EDITION

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When the *Russian-English Dictionary of Idioms* first came out in 1995, it quickly drew the attention of translators and other potential users. They immediately recognized a number of features that distinguished it from traditional bilingual dictionaries. The *Dictionary* was the first of its kind in several respects. It included more idioms and meanings than any bilingual dictionary at the time, along with numerous synonyms and variants of idioms. It was the first bilingual dictionary to provide definitions for each entry and meaning, as well as extended usage notes, where needed, in an attempt to create semantic microworlds that would contribute to a better understanding of every idiom presented. By creating a semantic habitat for each idiom, the dictionary offered assistance without curtailing the translator’s ingenuity and creativity. Each idiom was accompanied by essential grammar information and a wide range of style and usage labels—temporal, stylistic, and sociolinguistic—on the Russian side. This information enabled users to develop a sense of how an idiom is used in both typical and atypical contexts, and to pair the Russian idiom with the most suitable equivalent for each context.

The introduction of patterns demonstrating the correlation between Russian and English constructions, especially in syntactically challenging structures, was an additional unique feature. Russian patterns for idiomatic verb phrases were presented in typical tense-aspect forms, as well as in numerous special patterns for negated predicate, imperative, and more, thus showing the user how an idiom was used. Patterns and grammar information were included to encourage users who were willing to take an extra step to make a given idiom part of their active lexicon.

Presentation of English equivalents differed greatly from the traditional approach. It happens very rarely that one English equivalent fits every context. Instead of one or two equivalents traditionally found in bilingual dictionaries, this *Dictionary* offered equivalents for many potential contexts. My aim was to avoid the all-too-familiar impasse experienced when a word or phrase can be easily found on the left side of a bilingual dictionary, but its equivalent on the right side simply cannot be squeezed into a given context. Trying to force it in may weaken the idiomaticity of the English sentence. To highlight the relevance of context, the dictionary provided ample illustrative material for most entries—predominantly bilingual citations from Russian works of literature and expository prose together with their published translations, and, in rare cases, self-contained invented examples. This approach made it possible to select the majority of illustrative examples from works whose translators enjoyed the benefit of having the context of the entire literary work at their fingertips. Finally, an attempt was made to give translators the credit they deserve: every citation could be easily traced to its translator.

The dictionary found its audience not only in English-speaking countries, but also in Russia, where it was published twice: in 1996 by Shkola: Yazyki russkoi kultury, and in 2004 by AST-Press. In both Russian editions, the Guide to the Dictionary and Introduction to the Index were in Russian. Beyond that, there were no changes.

The dictionary was widely reviewed both in English-speaking countries and in Russia, and the response from users, especially translators and lexicographers, has been overwhelmingly favorable. Occasionally, user feedback included suggestions regarding the addition of phrases that recently acquired currency or idioms which had been overlooked in the *Dictionary*, should a new edition materialize. Many of the users’ suggestions are incorporated in this first revised and enlarged edition.

**Features of the First Revised Edition**

The revised edition has built on the strengths of the 1995 dictionary, and the underlying lexicographic principles employed in the original edition have been preserved. The structure of the dictionary entry has remained unchanged. When selecting new equivalents for existing entries and working on new entries, I abided by the ironclad rule that each equivalent should be practically applicable.

At the same time, this edition differs considerably from the original edition. About 550 new entries containing over 900 new idioms along with their synonyms and variants have been added, thus increasing the total number of entries in the current edition to approximately 7,500 and bringing the total number of idioms close to 14,000. These new entries reflect changes in the living language and its use in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries: they present new idioms that have become rooted in the language and are commonly used in speech and writing. Some of the idioms included in the original edition have acquired new idiomatic meanings. These idioms have been revised and are presented differently in this edition. In selecting English equivalents, special attention was paid to phrases that have been enjoying wide currency on television, in the press, and on the street, but have not yet found their way into Russian-English dictionaries. Although most of these phrases, as well as other equivalents presented in the dictionary, are common to all varieties of the English language, the dictionary predominantly reflects American usage.

The availability of language corpora made it possible to check the idioms’ register and usage in multiple contexts and to make the labels more uniform. Numerous citations come from the works of Russian authors of the last two decades: B. Akunin, A. Chudakov, R. Gallego, V. Pelevin, V. Sorokin, L. Ulitskaya, and A. Eppel. While Russian classics of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries figured prominently in the 1995 edition, the current edition has benefited from a number of new translations of these works. Regrettably, I had to reduce the number of citations—a necessary and unavoidable move—in order to make room for new entries and meanings.

It is largely because of the initiative and enthusiasm of my editor Vadim Staklo and Yale University Press that the dictionary has found a new and extended life. I am most grateful.

*Sophia Lubensky*
SAMPLE ENTRIES

A-36 • КАК В АПТЕКЕ [coll, humor] [как + PrepP; Invar; adv] exactly (the right amount, measure etc): [precisely; to the drop (ounce, gram) etc].

B-29 • НЕ ЛЕЗЬ, ПОПЕРЕД БАТЬКИ В ПЕКЛО; ПРЕЖДЕ ОТЦА (БАТЬКИ) В ПЕТЛЮ НЕ СУСИЯ [NE ЛЕЗЬ] [saying] do not rush to undertake sth. risky or dangerous, let older and more experienced people make a move first: = don’t rush ahead of people who know better; don’t jump the gun.

В-215 • СОТРЯСАТЬ ВОЗДУХ [iron] [VP; subj: human; often used with попусту, попусту etc] to engage in excessively wordy and often trivial talk (expressing an unfounded opinion, a point of view that one cannot prove etc, or saying things that an interlocutor finds irrelevant): [X попусту сotronasь воздух = X is just spouting (a lot of) hot air; X is (just) throwing words around; X is indulging in empty (idle) talk]; [X любит сotronasь воздух = X likes to hear himself talk]. ◗ «СОТРЯСЕНИЕ ВОЗДУХА» [NP] = (a lot of) hot air; mere rhetoric (palaver): vaporous talk.

Г-69 • ЗА ГЛАЗА [PrepP; Invar; adv] 1. ~ называть кого кем-чем, говорить что о ком, смешаться над кем и т.п. (to call s.o. sth., say sth. about s.o., laugh at s.o.) in s.o.’s absence: behind s.o.’s back; not to s.o.’s face; when s.o. isn’t around (present).

Г-70 • кому ЗА ГЛАЗА [PrepP; Invar; modif] 1. ~ хватит, достаточно, довольно и т.п. чесо, т.е. часто, кого [PrepP; Invar; modif] (the quantity or amount of sth. or the number of people is) entirely sufficient, (sth. is even) more than sufficient: X-у Y-a ~ хватит = Y is quite (more than) enough for X; Y is more than X needs (will ever need).
Г-424 • НЕ БЫЛО НИ ГРОША, ДА [И] ДРУГ АЛТЫН [saying] suddenly there is a lot of something that had been completely lacking (said in response to unexpected money, luck etc) = it's rags to riches; yesterday a pauper, today a king.

< «дров» is an old coin worth half a kopeck; «алтын» is an old coin worth three kopecks. Neither is any longer in use.

3-203 • ЗАГОВАРИВАТЬ В КАЧЕСТВЕ ГРОША [saying] one's own well-being (or the well-being of those dear to one) is more important than other people's interests (when said of o.s., usu. used to justify one's actions; when said of another, usu. used disapprovantly) = charity begins at home; self loves itself best; self comes first; people look out for number one; people look out for their own skins first; men value their own skins more than those (that) of others.

Я-78 • В ДОЛГИЙ ЯЩИК ОТКЛАДЫВАТЬ, ПОЛОЖИТЬ И Т.П. (умо) coll [PrepP; Invar; adv; the verb is usu. negated or used with нельзя, не надо, незачем etc; often VerbAdv не откладывая; fixed WO] (of a person or group) (to postpone some matter) for an indefinite period: [X не откладывает дел (ничего не откладывает) в долгий ящик = X doesn't put things off (indefinitely); X doesn't leave anything (things) to gather dust on the shelf; X doesn't put things on the back burner;] [Imper не откладывай это в долгий ящик = don't let the grass grow under your feet; don't shelve it; не откладывай в долгий ящик = right away; without delay; losing no time.
GUIDE TO THE DICTIONARY

The first revised and expanded edition of this dictionary presents close to 14,000 idioms. Some 550 new entries containing nearly 900 new idioms, together with their variants, have been added to the body of the dictionary. Numerous idioms are polysemous, ranging from two meanings (for example, П-110 • ВСТАВИТЬ ПЕРВО В БОК) to as many as eight (e.g., С-714 • В СТОРОНУ).

The dictionary is descriptive in that it reflects how the language functions. It combines, in a rather unconventional manner, features of translational and learner’s dictionaries. While presenting sufficient English equivalents to cover any context a translator from Russian may encounter, it also aims to provide sufficient grammatical and explanatory information to allow the user to apply the idioms actively. In general, the dictionary is based on American usage. It is likely, though, that all speakers of English will find it useful, since most of the equivalents presented in the dictionary are common to all varieties of the English language. Speakers of Russian may also benefit from the wide variety of English equivalents presented and from the illustrations of their usage in the examples and citations.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

The dictionary contains a number of features that distinguish it from other dictionaries of Russian idioms, including those published after the original edition of this dictionary came out.

Range of Entries

It includes not only traditional idioms, but also several other types of fixed expressions not found in traditional monolingual or bilingual dictionaries of Russian idioms (see Types of Idioms under Idiomaticity, below).

Grammatical Descriptions

It includes a grammatical description for each entry, a feature generally not found in bilingual dictionaries or, with some recent exceptions, in any existing comprehensive monolingual dictionary of Russian idioms. The grammatical description provides users with the information they need to learn to use the idioms productively.

Definitions

Definitions—another feature rarely found in bilingual dictionaries—are provided for each entry in order to:

1) describe minute semantic nuances that may not be conveyed by the English equivalents alone;
2) help the user determine which sense of a polysemous equivalent is intended in the given instance;
3) provide adequate information to create a context-specific translation, should the user deem this necessary or preferable.

Usage Notes

When applicable, a usage note is provided in conjunction with (or, rarely, in place of) the definition. It describes the contexts in which the given idiom may be used and various other aspects of its usage—information that is for the most part absent in monolingual Russian dictionaries. Usage notes, like definitions, are given in English.

Russian Idioms and Their Equivalents

Sources of Russian idioms include approximately 285 works of Russian literature; numerous contexts provided by the National Russian Corpus; all available monolingual general dictionaries; monolingual phraseological dictionaries; surveys of Russian speakers spanning several generations; and linguistic works on Russian phraseology. In addition to the books used for the original edition, this edition has benefited from the more recent works of B. Akunin, A. Chudakov, R.D.G. Gallego, A. Lvov, V. Pelevin, V. Sorokin, T. Tolstaya, L. Ulitskaya, and A. Eppel.

The equivalents—the English phrases that suitably render the Russian idiom—are intended to cover all possible contexts in which the given idiom can occur and to offer the translator a complete picture of the semantic range of the idiom. The contextual adequacy of the equivalents was evaluated in numerous contexts: citations provided by the National Russian Corpus (including examples from colloquial speech), selected Internet texts, and illustrations in Russian monolingual dictionaries. A number of recent translations of Russian literature, including first-time translations into English and new translations of books quoted in the original edition of this dictionary, have been used for illustration (see Bibliography).

Variables and Patterns

The equivalents for verbal idioms are presented in patterns that employ the variables X, Y, and Z to indicate the subject, object(s), and, occasionally, location. This notation, which is widely accepted by linguists and is used in Mel’čuk and Zholkovsky’s trailblazing “explanatory-combinatorial” dictionary of Russian1 (and Mel’čuk’s et al. dictionary of French2), has several advantages:

1) It allows for the presentation of a wide variety of equivalents that might otherwise not be presented for fear of confusion as to who is doing what, especially equivalents that reverse the Russian subject and object. For example, in Г-89 ПОПАДАТЬСЯ\ПОПАСТЬСЯ НА ГЛАЗА КОМУ…, the use of variables allows for the inclusion of equivalents that have both X and Y as the subject:

\begin{align*}
X \text{ попался на глаза } Y & = X \text{ caught } Y\text{'s eye;} \ Y \text{ caught sight of } X; \ Y\text{'s eyes lighted (lit.) on } X…\end{align*}

2) In Russian the full names of the variables employed can be declined in both the singular and the plural (X-а = икса, X-у = икус, X-ов = иксов, Y-а = игрека, Y-у = игреку, Y-ов = игреков, Z-а = зета, Z-у = зету, Z-ов = зетов, etc.). Therefore, when used in patterns, the variables clearly show both the case and number of the corresponding Russian noun or pronoun. When used in the English equivalents, variables can show the possessive (X’s, Y’s, etc.).
PRINCIPLES, DIMENSIONS, AND ATTRIBUTES OF THIS DICTIONARY

IDIOMATICITY

For the purposes of this dictionary, an idiom is interpreted as a nonfree combination of two or more words that acts as a semantic whole. In most cases, the meaning of an idiom cannot be predicted from the meanings of its components. An idiom is reproduced in speech as a ready-made unit, and it functions as a part of speech or an independent sentence. This dictionary includes idioms per se as well as other phrases whose idiomaticity varies in degree and type.

Characteristics of Idioms

Idioms possess the following characteristic properties, which occur in various combinations:

1) Many idioms have a defective paradigm. The defectiveness of a paradigm may involve:
   a) case – for example, САМАЯ МАЛОСТЬ ‘a tiny bit’ is used only in the accusative case in one of its senses (самую малость)
   b) number – for example, ВЫСОКИЕ МАТЕРИЙ ‘lofty topics (matters)’ is used only in the plural; ДУРНОЙ ГЛАЗ ‘the evil eye’ is used only in the singular
   c) person – for example, БОЮСЬ СКАЗАТЬ ‘I’m not sure’ is used only in the first-person singular; НЕ-ДОРОГО ВОЗЬМЁТ ‘one won’t (wouldn’t) think twice about doing sth.’ is not used in the first person
   d) tense/aspect – for example, В МУТНОЙ ВОДЕ РЫБУ ЛОВИТЬ ‘fish in troubled waters’ is used only in the imperfective; МАЛО НЕ ПОКАЖЕТСЯ ‘it will be worse than anyone can imagine’, only in the perfective; В ЧЁМ ДУША ДЕРЖИТСЯ ‘s.o.’s body and soul are scarcely held together’, only in the present; ПОШЛА ПИСАТЬ ГУБЕРНИЯ ‘there they go’, only in the perfective past
   e) finite versus nonfinite forms – for example, НЕ ПРО-ПАДЕТ (as in За мной не пропадёт ‘I will pay you (him) back’) has no corresponding nonfinite forms (that is, no infinitive, participle, or verbal adverb)

2) Many idioms lack some syntactic functions of the type of phrase to which they belong. For example, some noun phrases are used only predicatively: НЕ ИГОЛКА ‘not exactly invisible’. Others are used only or mainly as a subject or object (that is, not predicatively): ЦЕЛЫЙ КОРОБ новостей ‘a whole lot (of news)’.

While the English equivalents provided for these special patterns tend to be best used in the specified construction, all or most of the equivalents for the basic affirmative pattern can usually be used in the negative, the imperative, the negative imperative, and with many adverbials.

The variables X, Y, and Z cover both genders for human nouns. In those few instances when an idiom can be used only with a female (or male) subject or object, gender specifications are included in the grammatical description; for example:

В-260 • ДАВАТЬ/ДАТЬ ВОЛЮ РУКАМ… 2. [subj: usu. male]… X даёт волю рукам ≈ X lets his hands wander…

С-166 • НОСИТЬ ПОД СЕРДЦЕМ КОГО… [VP; subj: human, female]… X носил Y-а (ребёнка) под сердцем ≈ …X was with child…

The words “person” and “thing” are used with variables X, Y, and Z to indicate animacy/inanimacy restrictions (the word “thing” is used for all types of inanimate nouns). For example, the last equivalent in sense 2 of Г-86 is presented thus:

Г-86 • ОТКРЫВАТЬ/ОТКРЫТЬ… ГЛАЗА КОМУ (НА КОГО-ЧИНО)… X открыл Y-у глаза на Z-а ≈ …thing X was an eye opener (eye-opener).

The notation “thing X” shows that the subject for this equivalent must be inanimate, while the grammatical brackets indicate that any inanimate subject must be abstract.

The compiler’s lexicographic conservatism initially militated against the introduction of variables and patterns. In the end, however, it became obvious that the use of variables is significantly more user-friendly than the traditional one and that it tremendously expands a lexicographer’s possibilities for presenting a greater number of faithful translations in a clear and understandable fashion. Feedback from users suggests they concur.
3) Some idioms are metaphorical extensions of nondiomatic word combinations. For example, ПОДНИМАТЬ ПОДНИМАТЬ РУКУ has the literal meaning ‘to raise one’s hand/arm’, as well as two idiomatic meanings:

1. ~ на него to (try to) harm s.o. physically
2. ~ на него-что to criticize openly and express strong disapproval of some person, idea, policy, school of thought etc

Another such example is ГОЛОВА БОЛИТ. While it literally means ‘s.o. has a headache’, it has the idiomatic meaning ‘s.o. gives himself a headache over sth.’

4) Some idioms contain a unique lexical component not found elsewhere in the language. For example, ВО ВСЕОРУЖИИ ‘fully armed’, ДО СКОНЧАНИЯ ВЕКА ‘till the end of time’, БЕЗ УМОЛКУ ‘nonstop’.

5) Some components of idioms preserve archaic grammatical forms. For example, ТЕМНА ВОДА ВО ОБЛАЦЕ ‘it is all shrouded in darkness’ has the old form of the locative plural of облако – во облацах; СКРЕПИТЬ СЕРДЦЕ ‘reluctantly’ has the old form of the short active participle of the verb скрепить – скрепия (the corresponding modern form is the perfective verbal adverb скрепив).

6) The role of the negative particle НЕ in idioms is often unpredictable.

a) Some affirmative idioms cannot be used with negation at all: БАБУШКА НАДВОЕ СКАЗАЛА ‘that remains to be seen’; КАМЕНЬ С ДУШИ СВАЛИЛСЯ ‘a load was taken off s.o.’s mind’.

b) In other idioms, used only with НЕ, the negative particle loses its meaning of negation: КОМАР НОСА НЕ ПОДТОЧИТ ‘(it’s) done to a T’.

c) Idioms that can be used with and without negation comprise a rather heterogeneous group:

i) The use of negation may produce the antonym of the affirmative idiom: ПО ВКУСУ/НЕ ПО ВКУСУ ‘(not) to s.o.’s taste (liking)’

ii) The idiom with negation may have a different number of senses than the corresponding affirmative idiom. For example, Л-15 В ЛАДУ has only one sense, ‘(to be) friendly with s.o., have a good rapport with s.o.’, whereas Л-16 НЕ В ЛАДУ has three senses:

1. ~ с кем… one is in disagreement with s.o., has a strained relationship with s.o.
2. ~ с чем… one cannot understand or master sth., cannot learn how to use, apply etc sth.
3. rare ~ с чем… sth. is in discord with some other thing

iii) The idiom may have the same meaning regardless of whether it is used with or without negation: (НЕ) ПРИШЕЙ КОБЫЛЯ ХВОСТ ‘excess baggage’

7) Idioms differing only in verbal aspect may have different meanings as well as a different number of meanings. For example, Д-341 ВАЛЯТЬ ДУРАКА (the imperfective) has four meanings:

1. to pretend not to understand, know about (sth.), feign stupidity (in order to fool s.o.)
2. to act in such a way as to amuse (and occasionally annoy) others with one’s tricks, anecdotes etc; behave mischievously, in a silly manner
3. to act irresponsibly, unintelligently, unseriously, make a stupid blunder
4. to be idle, spend time lazily

In contrast, СВАЛЯТЬ ДУРАКА (the perfective) has only one meaning, ‘to make a blunder’. It is included at sense 3 of ВАЛЯТЬ ДУРАКА.

Types of Idioms

The overwhelming majority of entries included in the dictionary are idioms per se, or “traditional” idioms. This group includes idioms that function as a part of speech (ТЕЛЯЧИЯ НЕЖНОСТЬ ‘sloppy sentimentality’ – noun phrase; ИЗ РЯДА ВОН ВЫХОДЯЩИЙ ‘extraordinary’ – adjective phrase; БЕЖАТЬ ВПЕРЕДИ ПАРОВОЗА ‘jump the gun’ – verb phrase; ВКРИВЬ И ВКОСЬ ‘every which way’ – adverb phrase); and idioms that function as a sentence (БАБУШКА НАДВОЕ СКАЗАЛА ‘that remains to be seen’; ТАК НЕ ПОЙДЕТ ‘that won’t do’). The other types of fixed expressions included in the dictionary are:

1) Phrases serving as intensifiers, restrictive markers, etc., for the words with which they collocate. This group includes:

a) pure intensifiers – for example, ДО ПОЛУСМЕРТИ ‘intensely, to a very high degree’

b) negative intensifiers – for example, НУ КАК РЫБКЕ ЗОНТИК ‘(be as much use to s.o.) as an umbrella to a duck’

c) frozen similes – for example, красный КАК РАК ‘(as) red as a beet’; скользкий КАК УГОРЬ ‘(as) slippery as an eel’

d) phrases that consist of a word and its intensifier – for example, ВОЛЧИЙ АППЕТИТ ‘a ravenous (voracious) appetite’

2) Interjections used to express various emotions and reactions. For example, НУ И НУ! ‘well, I’ll be (damned)!’; НИ ФИГА СЕБЕ! ‘if that don’t beat all!’

3) Formula phrases, that is, fixed phrases used in common communication situations (in greeting and in parting, when apologizing or responding to an apology, when thanking s.o., etc.). For example, ВСЕГО ХОРОШЕГО ‘all the best!’; НЕ СТОИТ ‘don’t mention it’.

4) Grammatical, or function, idioms:

a) prepositions – for example, ПО НАПРАВЛЕНИЮ к кому-чему ‘toward’

b) conjunctions – for example, ПЕРЕД ТЕМ КАК ‘before’

c) particles – for example, ТОТО И ГЛЯДИ ‘(one may do sth. (sth. may happen)) any minute now’

5) Approximately 350 commonly used proverbs and sayings that occur in Russian literature and/or colloquial speech. For example, ЯБЛОКО ОТ ЯБЛОНИ НЕДАЛЕКО ПАДАЕТ ‘the apple never falls far from the tree’.

6) Some кривые слова, or “winged words,” that is, commonly used quotations from works of Russian literature and poetry. For example, БЫЛИ КОГДА-ТО И МЫ РЫСАКАМИ ‘we too had our hour of glory’, from А.Н. Apukhtin’s poem “А Team of Bays” («Парад гнедых» 1895).

7) The dictionary follows the Russian lexicographic tradition in including some other types of set phrases that are not strictly idiomatic, such as НЕСТИ/ПОНЕСТИ ВЗДОР (АХИНЕЮ, БЕЛИБЕРДУ… ‘spout drivel’). The dictionary does not include composite terms such as ЦАРСКАЯ ВОДКА ‘aqua regia’, БЕЛАЯ ГОРЯЧКА ‘delir-
Etymological Groups

Etymologically, Russian idioms include the following groups:

1) Idioms rooted in Russian reality, past and present, including the Soviet era. For example, ПОПАДАТЬ/ПОПАСТЬ ВПРОСАК ‘put one’s foot in it’, from the old practice of using a machine called ‘просак’ for making rope; БЕЗ СУЧКА БЕЗ ЗАДОРИНКИ ‘without a hitch’, from the speech of carpenters and joiners; ИСКУССТВОВЕД В ШТАТСКОМ ‘plain-clothes agent’, referring to a secret police agent, specifically to the KGB’s widespread practice of recruiting informers during the Soviet era. The source of such idioms is explained either in an etymological note at the end of the entry, or in the definition and/or usage note.

2) Idioms based on or derived from the Bible. For example, КАНИОНА ПЕЧАТЬ ‘the mark of Cain’; МАННА НЕБЕСНАЯ ‘manna from heaven’.

3) Idioms drawn from Greek and Roman mythology. For example, АХИЛЛЕСОВА ПЯТА ‘Achilles’ heel’; АВГЕЙ–ВЫ КОНЫШИ ‘Augean stables’; ТАНТАЛОВЫ МУКИ ‘the torments of Tantalus’.

4) Idioms that are full or partial loan translations of phrases from other languages. For example, КАЖДОМУ СВОЮ СВОЙ ‘to each his own’ (from the Latin suum cuique); ВЕЩИ В СЕБЕ ‘thing-in-itself’ (from the German Ding an sich); СТРОИТЬ КУРЫ ‘pay court to s.o.’ (partial loan translation of the French faire la court).

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Grammar

It is assumed that the user has a basic knowledge of Russian and English grammar and grammatical terminology. There are, however, several points that deserve special attention.

The term “copula,” used widely in the grammatical descriptions, is understood to embrace a rather broad group of copula-like verbs. It includes both those verbs that are regularly used as copulas (that is, оказывающийся, оказывающийся, казаться, покажется, становящийся, становясь, стать, делаясь, делаясь, считаться, представляться, оставаться, оставаться, остаться, быть, являться, являясь in its copular use) and some other verbs occasionally used as copulas (сидеть, сидя, и the like).

Some idioms are used as subject-complements only with the copular быть, which takes a zero form in the present tense. This is shown in the grammatical brackets of the entry or sense as бытьс.

Some idioms can be used both with copular бытьс, and with existential or possessive быть (which can be used in the present tense in the form есть). Such idioms are presented with two patterns, one with and one without есть. For example, НА ПРИМЕТЕ has the following two patterns:

у Y-а есть на примете один (такой и т.п.) X = Y has an (a certain, one) X in mind…; || (этот) X у Y-а давно на примете = Y has had an (his) eye on (this that) X for (quite) some time…

The user must be aware that when a verb is used as a participle or a verbal adverb (whether as part of an idiom or not), it changes its syntactic function. Such change of function is common to all Russian verbs and is therefore not specified for verbal idioms.

In the dictionary it is assumed that the grammatical subject may be in the nominative or the genitive case. This approach (suggested by a number of linguists including Mel’čuk 1974, Chvany 1975, and Apresjan 1980 and 1985) differs from the traditional approach, which assigns the role of subject only to noun phrases in the nominative case. In addition, a noun phrase in the genitive case is considered to function as the subject in constructions where a quantifier functions as the predicate; for example, Денег у меня кот наплакал ’I have practically no money’.

In definitions and equivalents, the English pronouns “one,” “one’s,” and “o.s.” (for “oneself”) correspond to the subject of the Russian clause, while the pronouns “s.o.” and “s.o.’s” (for “someone” and “someone’s”) correspond to the object of the Russian clause (direct, indirect, and/or prepositional). For example, the idiom УТЕРЕТЬ НОС КОМУ… has the definition ‘to outdo s.o., prove one’s superiority in sth.’ Here, “s.o.” corresponds to the Russian indirect object кому; and “one’s” refers to the Russian subject of the verb phrase. The abbreviated forms “s.o.” and “sth.” are used in all instances except when the phrases “someone else” and “something else” are irreplacable elements in an equivalent, as in the case of С ЧУЖКОГО ПЛЕЧА ‘…off someone else’s back; someone else’s castoff(s);’ НА 3А ЧУЖОЙ СЧЁТ ‘…at someone else’s expense;…on someone else’s tab’. When the Russian verb has two objects, “s.o.” or “s.o.’s” is used in reference to only one of them; the other object is referred to as a “person” (or a “thing”), “another,” etc.

In looking at the equivalents for Russian patterns, one must remember that the Russian and English tense-aspect forms do not fully correspond. For example, the Russian present tense (imperfective verbs only) can be rendered by the English simple present or present progressive; the Russian perfective past can be rendered by the English simple past, present perfect, or past perfect. The English tense-aspect forms most commonly used in patterns are the simple present and the simple past, but they should be viewed as models to be modified as contexts require.

Ordering of Entries

Each entry begins with a letter-number indicator showing its placement in the dictionary, as:

ПП-163 • ВЫСШИЙ ПИЛОТАЖ…

Idiomatic homographs are listed as separate entries, each of which is marked by a superscript number:

ПП-559 • ПО ПРАВУ 1…

ПП-560 • ПО ПРАВУ 2…

Entries are ordered alphabetically by their key words in precisely the same form as the key words are used in the idioms. For example, ИЗ РЯДА ВОЗ ВЫХОДЯЩИЙ is entered under РЯДА (genitive singular) rather than РЯД (nominative singular).

Whenever possible, the key word is a content word. Content words are nouns (including substantivized adjectives and participles), adjectives, numerals, main verbs, adverbs, and pronouns. If a complex particle, conjunction, preposition, or interpolation has a content word, the idiom is placed under that con-
tem word; for example, А МЕЖДУ ТЕМ ‘(and) yet’ is placed under ТЕМ. Idioms not containing any content word (such as many interjections and complex particles) are entered under their first word; for example, АЙ ДА ‘what (a)…!’ is entered under АЙ.

According to this approach, an idiomatic noun phrase is entered under its noun. An idiomatic phrase containing two nouns is entered under the first noun, regardless of the cases the nouns are in. An adjective phrase is entered under its adjective (or the first adjective, if there is more than one), and a prepositional phrase is entered under the key word of the preposition’s nominal complement. When the only noun in an idiom is a proper name (personal or geographical), the idiom is listed under that proper noun; for example, КАК МАМАЙ ПРОШЕЛ ‘it’s as if an army had marched through (some place)’ is entered under МАМАЙ.

Idiomatic verb phrases containing a noun are generally entered under the noun (or the first noun if an idiom contains more than one). For example, ПОДНІМАТИТЬ/ПОДНИМАТЬ ПЛАНКУ ‘raise the bar higher’ is listed under ПЛАНКУ; ВЫХОДИТЬ/ВЫЙТИ ЗА РАМКИ ПРИЛИЧИЯ ‘overstep the bounds of propriety’ is listed under РАМКИ. This approach has been taken for pragmatic reasons, in order to spare the user the difficulty of dealing with Russian verbal aspect. The noun in a verbal idiom is the least changeable part of the idiom; only in rare cases can it change its number and/or gender. One exception is ГОДИТСЯ В ОТЦЫ (В МАТЕРИ, В СЫНОВЬЯ И Т.П.) ‘be old (young) enough to be s.o.’s father (mother, son etc)’, which has changeable noun components and is entered under the verb. Verbal idioms not containing a noun are entered under the verb (or the first verb if there is more than one); for example, РВАТЬ И МЕТАТЬ ‘rant and rave’.

Within a group of idioms having the same key word, idioms are arranged alphabetically word by word rather than letter by letter. For example, the entries for idioms with the key word МЕСТА are arranged as follows:

ВЗЯТЬ… С МЕСТА
ЖИВОГО МЕСТА НЕТ…
МЕСТА НЕ СТОЛЬ ОТДАЛЕННЫЕ
НЕ НАХОДИТЬ… (СЕБЕ) МЕСТА
НЕ СОЙТИ МНЕ… С (ЭТОГО) МЕСТА

HE S OCHIYAY S MESTA
NET MESTA
NI S MESTA
[etc.]

For the purposes of alphabetization, the Russian letters Е and Е are treated as the same letter.

Each element in a hyphenated entry is treated as a separate word, as:

ЧТО ТАМ
ЧТО-ТО НЕ ТАК
ЧТО ТЫ!
ЧТО-ЧТО, А…

Optional elements in parentheses are counted in determining alphabetical order in the dictionary proper, as:

(В) ПЕРВОЕ ВРЕМЯ
(В) ПОСЛЕДНЕЕ ВРЕМЯ
В СВОЕ ВРЕМЯ
В ТО ВРЕМЯ КАК
В ТО ЖЕ ВРЕМЯ

A slightly different approach has been taken in the Index, which is explained at the introduction to the Index.

Lexical, morphological, and orthographic variants in angle brackets are not counted in determining alphabetical order, as:

ПЕСЕНКА (ПЕСНЯ) СПЕТА
ИЗ ПЕСНИ СЛОВА НЕ ВЫКИНЕШЬ

For verb phrases used in both aspects, only the imperfective, which is given first, is counted in determining alphabetical order.

To ensure that the user can easily find any entry, the corpus of the dictionary is followed by an alphabetical Russian index. Each Russian entry is listed in the Index for each of its content words, and each content word is listed in the same form in which it occurs in the idiom. Verbs—both imperfective and perfective forms—are listed in the infinitive. Sayings are listed under each of the first three content words plus all other particularly important words.

THE DICTIONARY ENTRY

Each dictionary entry has the following elements: a letter-number indicator, the head matter proper (rendered in boldface capital letters), grammatical information, a definition, and one or more English equivalents. The head matter proper includes variations and optional elements that constitute the idiom(s) being presented. Most entries include some or all of the following as well: collocates; an indication of case government; style and usage labels; a usage note; a Russian pattern or patterns (for verb phrases and selected other idioms); illustrations (literary citations and/or invented examples); and an etymological note.

HEAD MATTER

All entries are presented in their canonical variant(s), that is, in the form or forms common in Standard Russian. Regular word stress is marked for all polysyllabic words in the head matter, in synonyms presented in the various senses, and in related noun phrases. When a word or phrase allows two possibilities for stress, both are indicated: НАДЕВАТЬ… ПЕТЛЮ НА СЕБЯ; НА СЕРДЦЕ. Stress may be marked on monosyllabic words to denote phrasal stress in interjections (НУ! И НУ! ‘how do you like that!’) or to indicate unusual emphatic stress patterns (Я ТЕБЕ! ‘I’ll teach you!’).

Idioms that are synonymous with only one of the senses of a polysemous idiom do not appear in the head matter, but, rather, are listed at the applicable sense after the word “Also.” For example, МЕДНАЯ ГЛОТКА ‘(s.o.) has a lot of lung power’ is synonymous with sense 2 of Г-148 ЛУЖЕНАЯ ГЛОТКА, and so is presented at the latter as: 2. Also: МЕДНАЯ ГЛОТКА.
Noun and Adjective Phrases

Noun phrases used only in the singular or in both the singular and the plural are listed in the nominative singular: КОКОЙ ВЗГЛЯД ‘sidelong glance’. Noun phrases used only or commonly in the plural are listed in the plural: МЕРТВЫЕ ДУШИ ‘dead souls’; РАБОЧИЕ РУКИ ‘manpower’; АХИ И ОХИ ‘ohs and ah’s’. Adjective phrases used only in the singular or in both the singular and the plural are listed in the nominative singular, masculine: ВЕРНЫЙ САМОМУ СЕБЕ ‘true to o.s.’

Verbal Idioms

Verbal idioms used in finite forms and in all or some of the nonfinite forms (the infinitive, participles, and verbal adverbs) are listed in the infinitive: ДУТЬ В ДУДУК ‘play s.o.’s tune’; РВАТЬ И МЕТАТЬ ‘rant and rave’. If an idiom is used in both the imperfective and the perfective aspects, the imperfective is entered first, followed by a slash and the perfective: РАЗМАЗЫВАТЬ/РАЗМАЗАТЬ ПО СТЕНКЕ КОКО ‘wipe the floor with s.o.’. If only one aspectual form is listed, it means that the other aspect is not used in the given idiom or that the verb does not have an aspectual partner. For example, БИТЬ БАЛУШИ ‘twiddle one’s thumbs’ is listed only in the imperfective and НАВЯЗНУТЬ УХОДИТ ‘bore s.o. to death’ is listed only in the perfective, because neither of these verbs has an aspectual partner. Verbal idioms that are used only in finite forms are generally listed in the third-person singular present and perfective past forms (and have sentential definitions): БРОСАЕТ/БРОСИЛО В КРАСКУ ‘s.o. flushes out of shame, embarrassment’. If no restrictions are stated, such idioms can be used in the future tense as well. Future-tense forms are presented in the head matter only for idioms that are used exclusively or predominantly in the future tense (usually the perfective future): НЕДОРОГО ВОЗЬМЕТ ‘one won’t (wouldn’t) think twice about doing s.th.’. Idioms used only in one finite form are listed in that form: НЕ КАПЛЯ ‘s.o. is not in any rush’; БОИСЬ СКАЗАТЬ ‘I’m not sure’. Idioms with one component functioning as the subject are presented in sentential form: ДУЖА УХОДИТ/УШЛА В ПЯТКИ ‘s.o.’s heart sinks into his boots’; УДАР ХВАТИЛ КОКО ‘s.o. had a seizure’.

An idiom containing the word НЕТ used as a predicate is described as a verb phrase (shown as VP). Numerous idioms with НЕТ are presented only in their present-tense form: ИЗНОСУ НЕТ ЧЕМУ ‘sth. doesn’t wear out’. If no restrictions are stated for such idioms, they can be used in the past (не было) and future (не будет) tenses as well.

Idioms used only or most commonly in the negative are listed in the negative. Most idioms presented in the negative can never be used without negation: НЕ ВЫХОДИТ (НЕ ИДЕТ, НЕЙДЁТ) НЕ ЗНАТЬ ‘s.o. can’t get s.th. out of his mind’; НЕ СМОТРИТЬ ‘know no peace’; НЕ ОСТАВЛЯТЬСЯ ‘not stay in the dark’ ‘pay s.o. back (in kind)’. Some idioms, however, while generally negative, can occur, occasionally be used without negation; they are described as “used without negation to convey the opposite meaning.”

Collocates and Case Government

For idioms with a limited range of collocates, the collocates (or the most typical of them) are listed, for example: С ВЕРХОМ НАЛИТЬ, НАПОЛНИТЬ, НАСЫПАТЬ НИТО ‘(fill, pour s.th.) to the brim’. When collocates differ for different senses of a polysemous idiom, they are listed separately in each sense, as at H-240 НОСОМ К НОСУ:

1. ~ столкнуться, встретиться… (to meet, run into one another) right up close, facing one another…
2. увидеть КОЛО-ЧТО И Т.П. ~ (to see s.o. or sth.) at close proximity…

Case government for both the main entry and its collocates is shown by the forms КОКО-ЧЕГО, КОМУ-ЧЕМУ, К КОМУ, К ЧЕМУ, etc. КОНО, КОМУ, etc., must be replaced by human (or, occasionally, animal) nouns, whereas ЧЕГО, ЧЕМУ, etc., can be replaced by inanimate or collective nouns, as: НЕ ПАРА КОМУ ‘one is not a (good) match for s.o.’. ПО СЕБЕ (sense 1) найти, выбрать КОЛО-ЧТО ‘(to find, choose s.o. or sth.) coinciding with one’s taste, of one’s preference, commensurate with one’s abilities, status etc’.

In instances when the main entry includes two or more synonymous idioms with the same government or collocates, the collocates and government are shown with the first idiom only, implying that they carry over to successive idioms. For example, Г-94 contains three synonymous idioms with the same government and collocates:

ПУЩЕ ГЛАЗА беречь КОЛО-ЧТО, ХРАНИТЬ ЧТО; ПАЧЕ ГЛАЗА (ОКА) добр…

If the verbal government differs for variants or synonyms, it is provided for each one, as: ПОКАЗЫВАТЬ (УКАЗЫВАТЬ, ТЫКАТЬ) ПАЛЬЦЕМ… (НА КОЛО-ЧТО); ТЫКАТЬ ПАЛЬЦЕМ… В КОКО.

The head matter for verbal idioms does not include related noun phrases; these are shown after the verbal equivalents following the symbol ○.

Proverbs and Sayings

Proverbs and sayings are given in their canonical forms. If part of a saying is used as an independent idiom, it is presented as a separate entry. For example, the saying ЛУЧШЕ СИНИЦА В РУКАХ, ЧЕМ ЖУРАВЛЬ В НЕБЕ ‘a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush’ has two offshoot idioms: СИНИЦА В РУКАХ ‘the proverbial bird in the hand’ and ЖУРАВЛЬ В НЕБЕ ‘(like) the proverbial two birds in the bush’. The full saying is given as one entry (at C-220), and each of its offshoots is entered separately (C-221, J-92) with a note referring the user to the full saying.

Usage Labels

Usage labels are provided for Russian idioms only. When provided, usage labels follow the idiom to which they refer, whether it is located in the head matter of the entry or only at a given sense. The label or labels apply as well to any lexical variants, morphological variants, or synonymous idioms that appear in angle brackets. For example, in К-65 НА КАПЛЮ (НА КАПЕЛЬКУ)… coll (‘hardly’) an ounce (of…), the label coll refers to both КАПЛЮ and the КАПЕЛЬКУ variant. If synonymous idioms that are separated by a semicolon take the same usage label, it is preceded by the word “both” (for two variants) or “all” (for three or more variants). For example, the label all coll at C-527 refers to all four cited variants of the idiom:

ПО СОВЕСТИ; ПО СОВЕСТИ ГОВОРИТЬ (СКАЗАТЬ, ПРИЗНАТЬСЯ) all coll… speaking openly…

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A label is placed within the angle brackets when it refers only to the variant inside those brackets. For example, the label \textit{obs} at \textsc{Л-71} refers only to the variant В РЕКУ ЗАБВЕНИЯ:

\textbf{КАНУТЬ В ЛЕТУ \textsc{(В РЕКУ ЗАБВЕНИЯ \textit{obs})} lit... to disappear completely, be forgotten forever...}

Usage labels fall into three main categories: temporal, stylistic, and emotive-expressive.

Stylistic and emotive-expressive labels should be seen as general, not absolute, guidelines for the interpretation and use of an idiom, since the nuances that an idiom can convey depend largely on contextual factors. One exception in this regard is the type of label attached to expletives. To help English speakers correctly understand the sociolinguistic usage of phrases that go far beyond the boundaries of standard literary Russian, the dictionary provides a number of “prohibitive” labels.

\textit{Temporal} labels indicate an idiom’s standing in relation to contemporary usage. These are the temporal labels used in the dictionary:

- \textit{obs} (obsolete) – The idiom is not generally used in contemporary literary or colloquial Russian; it may be used strictly for stylization purposes.
- \textit{obsoles} (obsolescent) – The idiom is used rarely in contemporary literary or colloquial Russian and is perceived as becoming out of date.
- \textit{old-fash} (old-fashioned) – The idiom is used only or chiefly by older people.
- \textit{rare} – The idiom is used rarely and may be perceived as somewhat unusual.
- \textit{recent} – The idiom is typically perceived as relatively recent.

\textit{Stylistic} labels indicate the stylistic register of an idiom. Russian idioms presented without a stylistic label are stylistically neutral, meaning that they can be used under any circumstances and with any interlocutor. Two major factors have been considered in the assignment of stylistic labels: first, the circumstances in which an idiom can typically be used (a friendly conversation or letter, an official gathering, etc.); second, the ages and relative social status of the speaker, his interlocutor, and the person(s) referred to. While no stylistic labels are provided for English equivalents, an effort was made to find equivalents that are as close as possible to the stylistic register of the Russian. The following stylistic labels appear in the dictionary:

- \textit{coll} (colloquial) – The idiom is used in casual or informal speech and writing.
- \textit{highly coll} (highly colloquial) – The idiom is used in very casual speech and writing and is often colored by the speaker’s emotive attitude; highly colloquial idioms are inappropriate in formal or semiformal situations.
- \textit{substand} (substandard) – The idiom is characterized by a deviation from grammatical or syntactical standards and/or by having a vernacular word as one of its components; it is used by less educated or uneducated people.
- \textit{slang} – The idiom has come into the spoken language from, or is still used predominantly in, the speech of a specific social group, profession, age group, etc. Such idioms are used in extremely casual speech; they are often metaphorical and sometimes sexually suggestive.

- \textit{euph} (euphemism) – The idiom is used as an inoffensive substitute for a vulgar, blasphemous, or shocking expression.
- \textit{iron} (ironic) – The idiom is used in a meaning opposite to its direct meaning.
- \textit{lit} (literary) – The idiom is characteristic of educated, well-read people and is used mainly, albeit not exclusively, in learned conversation and formal speech and writing (public speeches, scholarly essays, etc.).
- \textit{rhet} (rhetorical) – The idiom is used with the intention of producing a certain effect on the listener(s) or reader(s). It occurs mainly, but not only, in declamatory speech or in exhortative speech and writing.
- \textit{elev} (elevated) – The idiom is used in exalted (sometimes stilted) writing or very formal speech.
- \textit{offic} (official) – The idiom is used in formal, official contexts and/or belongs to bureaucratic jargon.
- \textit{special} – The idiom is used only or predominantly in specialized contexts.
- \textit{folk poet} (folkloric poetic) – The idiom comes from popular lore, especially folk tales, and preserves to some degree or other its folkloric, poetic overtones.
- \textit{vulg} (vulgar) – The idiom is socially or aesthetically in bad taste, or is generally considered indecent or obscene.
- \textit{taboo} – The idiom directly refers to sexual and/or scatological practices, and is unacceptable in standard contexts.

Occasionally, synonymous idioms of two different registers are grouped together in the same head entry, as: ГОЛОВА ВАРИТ (у коего) \textsc{coll}; КОТЕЛКА ВАРИТ \textsc{substand}; МОЗГИ ВАРИТ \textsc{substand}... ‘s.o. is bright, intelligent’. An attempt has been made to provide equivalents covering all stylistic registers presented in the entry.

\textit{Emotive-expressive} labels describe the emotions commonly conveyed by the given idiom. The intensity of these emotions, expressed particularly clearly in colloquial speech, may be affected by such factors as the speaker’s frame of mind, the relationship between the speaker and the interlocutor, and the status of the party to whom the idiom refers (the speaker himself, the interlocutor, or a third party). These are the emotive-expressive labels appearing in the dictionary:

- \textit{humor} (humorous)
- \textit{iron or humor, humor or iron} – Said with ironic or humorous intonation; the prevailing emotion comes first.
- \textit{disapprov} (disapproving)
- \textit{derog} (derogatory)
- \textit{condes} (condescending)
- \textit{impol} (impolite)
- \textit{rude}

\textbf{GRAMMATICAL INFORMATION}

The grammatical description is intended to supply the basic information needed to use an idiom actively in speech and writing. The majority of the terminology in the grammatical descriptions should be familiar to anyone who has studied a foreign language; exceptions are specified below.

The grammatical description appears within square brackets [ ] and refers to the Russian idiom and its variants and/or synonyms as presented in the head matter. If an idiom’s variants and synonyms differ in structure and/or syntactic function
from the main form, a description of each variant/synonym is provided. When different senses of a polysemous idiom require different grammatical information, grammatical brackets are included at each numbered sense.

An idiom is described according to its phrase type in those instances when it is used in all or most of the syntactic functions characteristic of the given type of phrase. The phrase types referred to in the grammatical brackets are NP (noun phrase), VP (verb phrase), AdjP (adjective phrase), AdvP (adverb phrase), and PrepP (prepositional phrase). To avoid complicating the grammatical description, the following labels are included at each numbered sense. The phrase types referred to in the grammatical brackets are NP (noun phrase), VP both a verb and a verb phrase; and so on. (These grammatical labels and their syntactic parameters are described separately below.)

When an idiom is “frozen” and the description of the type of phrase (if altogether possible) would in no way help the user to apply it correctly, it is described either as “Invar” (invariable) or as “these forms only.” “Invar” indicates that the single form presented in the head matter is the only form used: Г-429 ГРУДЬ В ГРУДЬ [Invar; adv]. The label “these forms only” indicates that the multiple variants presented in the head matter are the only forms used: Д-305 ДОХНУТЬ (ДЫХНУТЬ) НЕ-КОГДА [these forms only; impers predic with быться]. The labels “Invar” and “these forms only” are also used to describe sentential idioms that are used only in the form or forms listed in the head matter: Б-6 БАБУШКА (ЕШЁ) НАДВОЕ СКАЗАЛА (ГАДАЛА) [these forms only]. These two labels do not imply anything about the linear order of the components of an idiom, which is described separately.

When an idiom requires an object or complement to perform a specific syntactic function, its grammatical description includes an indication of the required object or complement: М-32 ПОД МАРКОЙ чегоз [the resulting PrepP is adv].

When an idiom functions only as a subject-complement, it is described in grammatical brackets as “subj-compl.” In some instances, an idiomatic subject-complement can be used only with быться, such an idiom is described as “subj-compl with быться.” In other instances, an idiomatic subject-complement can be used with other copular verbs, in which case it is described as “subj-compl with copula.”

When an idiom that functions as an object-complement can be used only with a specific verb or verbs, the grammatical brackets specify that verb or those verbs:

- Ж-40 • В ЖИВЫХ [PrepP; Invar; subj-compl with быться, оставаться (subj: human) or obj-compl with заставить (obj: human)]

When an idiom that is not fixed in form (not “Invar” or “these forms only”) is used as a subject- or object-complement, its gender and number are controlled by the subject or object, respectively.

**Noun Phrases**

As stated above, an idiom is described as “NP” when it is used in all or most of the typical syntactic functions of a noun phrase; that is, as a subject, an object, and a complement. For idioms in which one noun governs another or others, NP refers to the key word of the idiom: ГЕРОЙ ДНЯ ‘the hero of he hour’; КНИГА ЗА СЕМЬЮ ПЕЧАТЯМИ ‘a closed book’; ПАРА ПУСТЯКОВ ‘child’s play’. Grammatical brackets indicate when an idiom is used only or predominantly in one or two of the above functions: К-313 ЦЕЛЫЙ КОРОБ [NP; sing only; subj or obj]. Grammatical brackets also indicate when an idiom is usually (or often) used as a vocative or appositive: Г-225 ШАЛЬНАЯ ГОЛОВА [NP; usu. appos, vocative, or subj-compl with copula (subj: human)].

Restrictions are provided for noun phrase idioms that are used only in one grammatical case; for example, sense 2 of М-18 САМАЯ МАЛОСТЬ… ‘a tiny bit’ has the restriction “accus only” (sense 1 has no restrictions with regard to case).

Restrictions are also given for noun phrase idioms used only in the singular or only in the plural: В-290 АДМИНИСТРАТИВНЫЙ ВОСТОРГ [NP; sing only] ‘bureaucratic zeal’; Д-401 МЕРТВЫЕ ДУШИ [NP; pl only] ‘dead souls’. Such restrictions are not presented for idioms whose key noun is used in the language only in the singular or only in the plural: Г-327 ТОРО ЛУКОВОЕ (you) lummox’ and Т-56 ТАРЫ-БАРЫ ‘title-tattle’.

For idioms comprised of two nouns connected by a conjunction, the grammatical restriction “sing only” refers to each noun component of the idiom: ЦАРЬ И БОГ ‘lord and master’; АЛЬФА И ОMEГА ‘the alpha and omega’. Similarly, АХИ И ОХИ ‘ohs and ah’s’ is described as “pl only,” which means that each of its components may be used only in the plural.

For idioms consisting of a noun in the nominative case plus another element, the restriction “sing only” or “pl only” refers only to the noun in the nominative case. It is understood that the remaining component(s) of the idiom can be used only in the form or forms shown in the head matter: for example, in the idioms ДОЛЯ ПРАВДЫ ‘grain of truth’ and ПРЕВРАТНОСТИ СУДБЫ ‘vagaries of fate’, the indicators “sing only” and “pl only” refer only to the words ДОЛЯ and ПРЕВРАТНОСТИ, respectively.

When a noun phrase that is used as a subject-complement can occur both in the nominative and in the instrumental case, the noun phrase is described as “subj-compl with copula, nom or instrum”; for example:

- В-235 • ВОЛК В ОВЕЧЬЕЙ ШКУРЕ… [NP; usu. subj-compl with copula, nom or instrum (subj: human)…] …wolf in sheep’s clothing.

**Adjective Phrases**

Adjective phrases (including participles) that contain long-form adjectives are presented in the nominative case only, in the masculine singular: ЦЕЛЬНЫЙ И НЕВРЕДИМЫЙ ‘safe and sound’. Adjective phrases that contain short-form adjectives are listed in the masculine singular: НИ ЖИВ НИ МЕРТЬ ‘more dead than alive’. If no restrictions are provided, the given adjective phrase can be used in other genders, in the plural, and (long-form only) in other cases as well.

An adjective phrase that can be placed only before or only after the word or phrase it modifies is described as “premodif” (premodifier) or “postmodif” (postmodifier), respectively.

An adjective phrase that is used as a subject-complement with a plural subject only is listed in the plural: ОДНИМ МИРОМ МАЗАНЫ ‘tarred with the same brush’. An adjective phrase used as a subject- or object-complement is described similarly to a noun phrase used in these functions. For example, НЕ ЛИШНЕЕ (НЕ ЛИШНЕ) ‘it wouldn’t be (such) a bad idea (to do sth.)’ is described as:

- [AdjP; subj-compl with быться (subj: usu. infin or a clause) or obj-compl with находить, считать (1st var. only, obj: usu. deverbal noun or infin)]
Verb Phrases
A verb phrase is described as “VP” when it can be used in all or at least some finite and non-finite forms: ВЛЕЧЬ/ПОВЛЕЧЬ ЗА СОБОЙ что ‘lead to (sth.)’.

Verbal idioms that function as predicates require that a subject (and often an object or objects) be added to them to create a complete utterance. To help the user apply such idioms actively, the grammatical brackets indicate the type(s) of subject(s) and, if relevant, object(s) with which the given idiom is used: human noun, personal or geographical name, animal noun, collective noun, concrete noun (understood as denoting a thing), abstract noun, infinitive, and clause. For example, В-196 ЛИТЬ ВОДУ НА МЕЛЬНИЦУ чьё, КОГО ‘be grist to s.o.’s mill’ has a human or abstract subject and is described as “VP; subj: human or abstr.” When an idiom can be used only with a specific thematic group or a limited number of nouns as subjects and/or objects, this restriction is indicated:

К-116 • КАШИ ПРОСЯТ… [VP; subj: a noun denoting heavy, sturdy footwear or individual parts of shoes…] s.o.’s boots (shoes etc) are in bad condition, in need of repair…

К-97 • СТАВИТЬ ПОСТАВИТЬ НА КАРТУ что [VP; subj: human or collect; obj: abstr (usu. жизнь, честь etc)] to risk one’s life, reputation, security etc in the hope of winning or gaining sth…

Д-7 • ДАВАТЬ/ДАТЬ СЕБЯ ЗНАТЬ… [VP; subj: abstr or conctr…] to manifest itself, become noticeable…

Р-170 • НА РОДУ НАПИСАНО… [AdjP; subj-compl with быть, (subj: infin or a clause)] sth. is predestined, preordained for s.o…

Restrictions are provided for verb phrases and sentences that are used only or usually in the specified tense-aspect and/or person form(s):

К-117 • МАЛО КАШИ ЕЛ/СЪЕЛ… […2nd or 3rd pers; past only…] one is (too) inexperienced, young etc (for sth…)

В-225 • НЕДОРОГО 〈НЕ ДОРОГО〉 ВОЗЬМЕТ… […] fut only…] one will do sth. (sth. bad, reprehensible, as denoted by the preceding verb) readily, without hesitation…

К-46 • КАМЕНЬ… С ДУШИ (С СЕРДЦА) СВАЛИЛСЯ У КОГО […] usu. past] s.o. experienced a sense of relief, felt liberated from his worries…

Some idioms are used only or predominantly in the generic “ты” form, perfective future. This feature is indicated in the grammatical brackets, along with the verb form itself:

К-35 • КАЛАЧОМ НЕ ЗАМАНИТЬ… […] usu. fut gener. 2nd pers sing не заманиш…] to be unable by any means to convince s.o. to go to some place or see s.o…

In those rare instances in which a verbal idiom consists of two verb forms, only one of which conjugates, the grammatical brackets specify “only verb conjugates”:

Д-329 • И ДУМАТЬ ЗАБЫТЬ… […] only забыть conjugates…] to stop thinking about s.o. or sth…

Some infinitival idioms do not act as regular verb phrases in that they do not conjugate and are used only as the complement of given predicates. The entries for such idioms indicate the type of predicates with which the idiom can be used. For example, С-318 ДВУХ СЛОВ СВЯЗАТЬ, which is not used as a regular verb phrase, is presented as follows:

В-12 • ВДОЛЬ И ПОПЕРЕК… 1. [more often used with pfv verbs] …far and wide…

Г-48 • ВО ВСЕ ГЛАЗА… […] used with impfv verbs…] …all eyes…

Idioms Functioning as Adverbials
Idioms that function as adverbials are divided into two groups based on their function. The first group, labeled “adv” (adverbial), comprises adverbials of manner, time, space, degree, cause, etc. The second group, labeled “sent adv” (sentence adverbial), comprises adverbial idioms that refer to the sentence or clause as a whole and are syntactically more detached from the elements of the sentence than adverbials belonging to the first group. Sentence adverbials may do the following:

* Indicate a manner of speaking (МЯГКО ВЫРАЖАЯСЬ ‘putting it mildly’)

* Express an emotion or a value judgment (К НЕСЧАСТНЫМ ‘unfortunately’; НА ДЕЛЕ ‘in deed’)

* Convey modality (ОТКРОВЕНО ГОВОРЯ ‘frankly speaking’)

* Anticipate the possibility that something might happen (ЧЕГО ДОБРОГО ‘for all one knows, s.o. (sth.) might…’)

* Emphasize a statement or one of its parts (ЕСЛИ ХОТИТЕ ‘if you will’; МОЖНО СКАЗАТЬ ‘one might say’)

* Play an organizing role in a text or speech in various ways:

1) by connecting two halves of a statement by means of a contrast (С ОДНОЙ СТОРОНЫ… С ДРУГОЙ СТОРОНЫ… ‘on the one hand… on the other [hand]’)

2) by marking a transition to a new topic (К ПРИМЕРУ ‘in conclusion’), a specification (К ПРИМЕРУ ‘for example’), a result (В РЕЗУЛЬТАТЕ ‘as a result’), and so forth.

Most of the idioms used as adverbials or sentence adverbials cannot change in form and are therefore described as “Invar; adv,” “Invar; sent adv,” “these forms only; adv,” or “these forms only; sent adv.”

The grammatical brackets note when an idiom functioning as an adverbial occurs only or mainly with one verbal aspect:

С-318 • ДВУХ СЛОВ СВЯЗАТЬ не мочь, не уметь в т.п. [VP; infin subj-compl with не мочь, не уметь (subj: human)] to be unable to speak or express one’s thoughts coherently…
stand sth. like a pig understands oranges’, means ‘to understand absolutely nothing (with regard to sth.)’.

Adverbials used only with a negated predicate are described as “used with negated verbs.” This group of idioms consists mainly of НИ idioms such as НИ ЗА КАКИЕ БЛАГА (В МИРЕ) ‘not for anything (in the world)’. The definitions for these idioms include an English negation (usually “not”), which corresponds to the combination of НЕ and НИ.

In adverbials of the type как + adjective (КАК ОШИПА-РЕЙНЫЙ ‘as if one had been scalped’) and как + noun (КАК БАРАН ‘like a mule’), the adjective and noun, respectively, are always in the nominative case. Therefore such idioms are described as “nom only.” These idioms are co-referential with the subject or object in gender (adjectives only) and number (both adjectives and nouns).

**Quantifiers**

Quantifiers may function as predicates and/or adverbials. Quantifiers that function predicatively are described as “quantit subj-compl” (quantitative subject-complement). Some predicative quantifiers can be used only with быть, and are described as “quantit subj-compl with быть.” Other predicative quantifiers can be used with a number of copular verbs and are described as “quantit subj-comp with copula.” For example, КОТ НАПЛКАЛ ‘practically no… (at all)’ and ХОТЬ ЗА- ВАЛИСЬ ‘lots (a lot) of’ are described as “quantit subj-compl with copula.”

Quantifiers that function as adverbials—for example, КАК НА МАЛАНЬИНУ СВАДЬБУ ‘(cook) enough for an army’—are described as “adv (quantif).”

**Interjections**

The label “Interj” (interjection) describes idioms that express the speaker’s emotional attitude toward, or emotive evaluation of, the person, thing, situation, etc., in question. Interjections are syntactically independent structures that can express different, and sometimes even opposite, emotions depending on the context and the speaker’s intonation; for example, ЕЛКА-ПАЛКИ can express annoyance, admiration, delight, surprise, and bewilderment, among others.

**Formula Phrases**

The label “formula phrase” describes situationally conditioned idioms used in communicative contexts. Such idioms are often referred to as “speech etiquette formulae” in Russian sources. They are used in greeting (СКОЛЬКО ЛЕТ, СКОЛЬКО ЗИМ! ‘it’s been ages!’), at parting (ВСЕГО ХОРОШШЕТО (ДО- БРОГО)! ‘all the best!’), when wishing someone something (СЧАСТЛИВОГО ПУТИ! ‘have a good trip!’), in making a request (БУДЬ ДОБР (БУДЬТЕ ДОБРЫ) ‘be so kind as to…’), in expressing gratitude (ПОКОРНО БЛАГОДАРЮ, sense 1, ‘I humbly thank you’), in responding to an expression of thanks (НЕ СТОИТ ‘don’t mention it’), and the like.

**Sentential Idioms**

Sentential idioms fall into three basic groups:

1) **Idioms that need only a direct, indirect, or prepositional object to become a complete sentence.** For example, in order to become a complete sentence, НОГИ НЕ ДЕРЖАТ кого- ‘s.o.’s legs won’t support him’ requires a direct object, and ВРЕМЯ РАБОТАЕТ на кого- ‘time is on s.o.’s side’ requires a prepositional object. Such idioms are described as “VP subj,” which means that they contain both the subject and the predicate (or part of the predicate).

2) **Idioms that need a copula, or another copular verb (and often an object) to become a complete sentence.** Such idioms are described as “VP subj with быть,” or “VP subj with copula”; for example, ГАЙКА СЛАБА у кого- ‘s.o. doesn’t have it in him (to do sth.)’ is described as “VP subj with copula.”

3) **Idioms that are complete sentences as they are listed.** Such idioms are described as “sent.” This group includes numerous sayings, adages, and крылатые слова (‘winged words’), as: БАБУШКА НАДВОЕ СКАЗАЛА ‘that remains to be seen’; РУКОПИСИ НЕ ГОРИЯТ ‘manuscripts don’t burn’. Generally, such idioms can function in all or some of the following ways: as an independent sentence, as a clause in a compound sentence, or as the main or subordinate clause in a complex sentence. Exceptions are specified.

**Sayings**

All proverbs and sayings are described as “saying” since, for the purposes of this dictionary, the difference between a proverb and a saying is irrelevant.

**Word Order**

When an idiom has a fixed order of elements, no reference to word order (WO) is made in the grammatical description. However, when an idiom has a fixed order of elements, it is described as “fixed WO,” as in КАЛАЧА ПОЖАРНАЯ […fixed WO] ‘beanpole’.

When the order of an idiom’s components can be changed only in rare cases, the idiom is described as “usu. this WO.”

When only one component of an idiom can change its position (and the rest cannot), this information is provided, as:

**К-37 • ДОВОДИТЬ/ДОВЕСТИ ДО БЕЛОГО КАЛЕ-НИЯ… […]the verb may take the final position, otherwise fixed WO] to irritate s.o. past the limits of his endurance, make s.o. lose his self-control completely…**

**Д-11 • ДОРОГО БЫ ДАЛ… […]fixed WO with бы movable] one would be willing to give up, sacrifice s.th. of great value in order to get s.th. he really wants or make some desired event happen…**

In the second example the grammatical description shows that бы can be placed before ДОРОГО or after ДАЛ.

When the word order of a noun phrase can change only when the noun phrase is used in a specified syntactic function, this information is provided: for example, ВОЛЧИЙ АППЕТИТ [fixed WO except when used as VP subj] as in Он ел с волчьим аппетитом ‘He ate with a ravenous (voracious) appetite’, but Аппетит у него волчий ‘He has a ravenous (voracious) appetite’.

Since “grammatical” idioms (conjunctions and prepositions) and hyphenated idioms always have fixed word order, the label “fixed WO” is not provided for them.

The labels “fixed WO” and “usu. this WO” apply to the idiom per se only and do not take into account placement of the copula, collocate(s), object(s), etc., whose typical placement is shown in patterns and citations.

It should be understood that even when a given idiom has fixed word order in standard literary and colloquial usage, this does not exclude its occasional use with a different word order in poetry, in utterances with shifted emphasis, or by an individ-
DEFINITIONS AND USAGE NOTES

The definition and, where applicable, usage note are placed directly after the grammatical brackets. When possible, the definition is presented in the same form as the defined Russian idiom, that is:

* as a noun phrase for a Russian noun phrase: ВЛАСТИТЕЛЬ ДУМ [NP] ‘a person who has much influence on his contemporaries, an intellectual and spiritual leader’
* in the infinitive for a regular verb phrase presented in the infinitive: СБЫГРАТЬ В ЯЩИК [VP] ‘to die’
* as an adjective phrase for a Russian adjective phrase: ЦЕЛЬНЫЙ И НЕВРЕДИМЫЙ [ЦЕЛ И НЕВРЕДИМ] ‘unhurt, in fine condition’
* as an adverb for a Russian idiom functioning as an adverbial: НЕЖДАННО-НЕГАДАННО [AdvP] ‘(to appear, arrive etc) suddenly, unexpectedly’

Idioms that function as sentences have sentential definitions; for example: БАБУШКА НАДВОЕ СКАЗАЛА… ‘it is yet unknown whether the event in question will happen or not (usu. the implication is that it will not happen)’.

In entries with two or more senses, each sense has its own definition, placed after the Arabic numeral introducing the sense.

Definitions and usage notes use generic “he” to refer to both sexes. In usage notes, “of” generally introduces the subject of the Russian phrase or the person or thing modified by the phrase; “in refer. to” indicates the object of the Russian phrase or the general situation surrounding the use of the idiom. For example:

М-153 • СИДЕТЬ МЕШКОМ на ком… (of a garment that is too large, wide etc) to fit poorly…
Л-58 • КТО В ЛЕС, КТО ПО ДРОВА… (often in refer. to singing and playing musical instruments) (people do sth.) without coordination among themselves, without agreement, cooperation…

Collocates in Definitions

The translations of collocates are generally given in parentheses as part of the definition. However, in those rare cases in which different collocates would require different wordings of the definition, the collocates are not included in the definition; for example: П-493 ОТДАТЬ на ПОТОК И РАЗГРАБЛЕНИЕ что; предать ПОТОКУ И РАЗГРАБЛЕНИЮ что… ‘complete destruction and widespread looting (of some place, country etc)’. Usage of the collocates is then shown in patterns:

Х-ы отдали У на поток и разгреблиение ≈ Xs surrendered Y to be ravaged and plundered (pillaged and ruined); || X-ы предали У потоку и разгреблиению ≃ Xs ravaged and plundered (pillaged and ruined) Y.

Prepositions, Conjunctions, Particles

No definition per se has been provided for most complex prepositions, complex conjunctions, and particles; instead, there is a usage note describing the relationship between the element(s) associated with the idiom and other elements of the context. In those cases where a definition per se has been provided, it follows the usage note. Some typical descriptions are:

* used to indicate the unexpected nature of the action that follows
* used to introduce a clause, phrase etc whose information adds to, and is more important than, the information in the preceding statement
* used to show that the situation or action presented in the main clause immediately follows the situation or action presented in the subordinate clause
* used to show that the truthfulness or realization of what is stated in the main clause is contingent upon the fulfillment of the condition stated in the subordinate clause

Interjections

Interjections are described in terms of the emotions they can convey; for example: НУ И НУ! ‘used to express surprise, delight, displeasure, an ironic attitude etc.’

ENGLISH EQUIVALENTS

The overwhelming majority of entries contain more than one English equivalent, since different contexts often require different translations of a given idiom. When a Russian idiom has several English equivalents, those that are most broadly applicable (or most similar to the Russian) are presented first, and those that are most restricted are presented last. Equivalents in a given entry may differ stylistically in order to cover nineteenth- as well as twentieth- and twenty-first-century contexts.

Whenever possible, equivalents are presented in the same form as the Russian idiom, that is, an English noun phrase for a Russian noun phrase, an English verb phrase for a Russian verb phrase, and so forth. Equivalents for Russian idioms that function as complete sentences are presented in sentential form.

The notation “Cf.” (which when given follows the last English equivalent in an entry) is used to introduce English idioms and sayings that, although not suggested for purposes of translation, provide insight into the meaning of the Russian idiom. Often such phrases (as “every Tom, Dick, and Harry” for КАЖДЫЙ (ВСЯКИЙ) ВСТРЕЧНЫЙ ‘anyone and everyone’) have a distinct national flavor, include typical American or British names, and the like. However, not all culturally bound elements are reserved for “Cf.” Since substantial Russian communities can be found in English-speaking countries, the terms “ruble” and “kopeck,” for example, are included with “penny,” “dime,” etc., in numerous English equivalents.

Collocates in Equivalents

In cases when it is impossible to present the English equivalent of a Russian idiom without collocates, the collocates are provided along with the equivalent (in parentheses, when possible). For example, many adverbial intensifiers cannot be translated without a verb. In such cases, the English equivalents are
presented with their collocates, occasionally in a pattern, as in
(И) В ГЛАЗА НЕ ВИДАЛ, НЕ ВИДЕЛ:... X (и) в глаза не видел
Y-a ≈ X has never set (laid) eyes on (upon) Y...

Infinitives
Infinitives in the equivalents are presented without the infinitive marker "to," except in instances when "to" is a fixed component of the English equivalent, as in ПО ПРАВДЕ
ГОВОРИ (СКАЗАТЬ)... ‘to tell (you) the truth’ used as a sentence adverbial.

Articles
Noun phrases are generally presented without an article, but there are some exceptions. For example, the definite article “the” is provided when an idiom is not used without it (ЦАРСТВО НЕБЕСНОЕ, sense 1, ‘the kingdom of heaven; the heavenly kingdom; the kingdom of God’); the indefinite article “a/an” may be added to indicate that the equivalent cannot be used without an article or specifier of some type (ФОМА НЕВЕРНЫЙ ‘a doubting Thomas’).

Illustrative Patterns
Some English equivalents are preceded by a Russian pattern that illustrates the use of the idiom in a sentence. Patterns are used for all verb phrases and for many idioms functioning as subject-complements.

Some Russian idioms that function as predicatives do not contain a verb, and the temporal frame of the action must be interpolated from the context. In order to translate the Russian pattern, some temporal context must be assumed. The assumed temporal context is indicated in brackets preceding the English equivalents: for example, the pattern for Н-171 НИ НОГОЙ
(sense 1) reads:

X к Y-у (в месте Z) ни ногой ≈ [in present contexts] X
doesn’t set (never sets) foot in Y’s house (in place Z etc)...

Occasionally, patterns are provided for context-specific uses of an idiom. For example, Д-247 ПО ДОЛГУ ЧЕГО ‘in order to meet the demands dictated by or intrinsic to sth.’ has separate patterns for по долгу службы ‘as part of one’s (s.o.’s) duties (responsibilities etc)’... and по долгу чести ‘true to one’s honor’. In addition to the equivalents offered in these patterns, some or all of the general equivalents presented for this idiom may also fit по долгу службы and по долгу чести.

Restrictions
A restriction is presented in square brackets and applies to all equivalents that follow it, up to the next restriction or pattern, if there is one. English equivalents that can be used only in select contexts and should therefore be used cautiously are preceded by the restriction “[lim.]” to indicate that they are to be used only in limited contexts. Other restrictions may point out syntactic or situational limitations, the collocates with which an equivalent may be used, or the particular element of a semantically rich Russian idiom that is stressed by the equivalents that follow; for example:

Б-213 • НАШ БРАТ... [when used as obj or subj] people
(мен, guys, fellows etc) like us (me); ...[usu. when foll. by
an appos] we (us) writers (workers etc); our (my) fellow
writers (workers etc)...

The entry 3-203 ЗАГОВАРИВАТЬ/ЗАГОВОРИТЬ ЗУБЫ
has the following restrictions: [esp. with the goal of avoiding
an unpleasant topic]; [esp. with the goal of deceiving the interlocutor]; [esp. with the goal of obtaining sth. from s.o. or extricating o.s. from an uncomfortable situation].

When a Russian idiomatic preposition can be used with both animate and inanimate nouns, but its English equivalents have animate/inanimate restrictions, these restrictions are specified as part of the equivalent; for example:

С-714 • В СТОРОНУ... 1. ~ кого-что, чьё... in the
direction of s.o. (sth.); in s.o.’s direction; toward s.o. (sth.);
s.o.’s way...

CITATIONS AND EXAMPLES
Most of the entries in the dictionary are illustrated by citations from Russian and Soviet literature accompanied by a published translation or, in many cases, more than one translation. In the absence of clear, typical, or correctly translated citations, some entries are provided with invented examples. No excerpts from published translations have been retranslated for the purposes of this dictionary. Literary citations and invented examples are generally presented in the same order as their corresponding equivalents.

Style and Conventions
All citations from works of literature, memoirs, and so forth are followed by the author’s name and the number that gives the work has been assigned in the Bibliography. The English translation of the citation is followed by the same number plus a letter indicating which translation of the work has been cited (that is, if two translations of a work have been used, they are designated “a” and “b”). Illustrations that do not include an author’s name at the end are invented examples provided by the compiler. When selecting literary citations for illustration, minor inaccuracies in translation have been disregarded if they do not harm the sense of the text or the effective illustration of the idiom. It must be kept in mind that a certain amount of freedom is acceptable, and even desirable, in literary translation, as the goal is to make the translation faithful to the original both in meaning and in style. However, some steps have been taken to draw the Russian and English versions of the citations closer together and to clarify points that may not be clear out of context.

In some cases, for example, part of the Russian and/or English text has been edited in order to make the texts match better. There is no typographical difference between the author’s/translator’s ellipsis points and the compiler’s.

In other cases a word in a citation is followed by square brackets providing information about that word (for example, that it is a nonce word, a phonetically spelled word, or an ungrammatical, dialectal, regional, or Ukrainian word). Square brackets in citations are also used to indicate pertinent names and pieces of information intended to clarify citation contexts.

Finally, some bracketed additions serve to make the Russian and English variants more similar. It should be noted that such insertions do not imply that the translation is unfaithful; they merely reflect the reality that dictionary contexts are sometimes insufficient to present the situation clearly. Wherever possible, wording found in the cited texts is used for such insertions.

[ xxv ]
When a speech impediment is shown through English spelling, as in some citations from Tolstoy, the affected words have been replaced by their correctly spelled counterparts in brackets. For example, in ОТДУВАТЬСЯ СВОИМИ БОКАМИ ‘bear the brunt of sth.’ the translation of the citation from Tolstoy’s War and Peace reads, “This is certainly Scythian warfare. It’s all [very] fine—except for those who bear the [brunt] of it.” The translator has spelled the bracketed words as “veyw” and “bwnwt.”

Generally, the transliteration chosen by the translator is preserved for proper names in citations and for the names of characters in plays. However, since the designations of characters in Gogol’s The Government Inspector are so different in different translations, the compiler has chosen to make uniform the names of the characters when indicating the speaker in citations. For example, although Городничий is translated as “Mayor,” “Chief of Police,” and “Prefect” in various translations, it is uniformly rendered “Mayor” in this dictionary.

Occasionally, two or more translations of the same citation are quoted. The user must be aware that translators’ approaches differ, and so there may be significant differences in the cited translations. For example, two translations were used for Saltykov-Shchedrin’s История одного города (The History of a Town). The names in this book are meaningful. One translator (Susan Brownsberger) chose to translate them into meaningful English names, while the other (I.P. Foote) transliterated them. Thus, “Melancholov” and “Dormousov” in the Brownsberger translation represent the same characters as “Grustilov” and “Bajbakov,” respectively, in the Foote translation.

In some cases, the tense forms in the Russian and English versions of a citation do not coincide, but it would require a great amount of context to show why this is so. In such cases, the tense discrepancy has been overlooked. For example, in K-269 Мужикам Zalygin reads «…» (present tense) and the translation has “By their nature they [men] needed any sort of science…” (past tense).

Another lack of parallelism in citations concerns the use of quotation marks. Some Russian authors (as Aksyonov and Zinoviev) omit quotation marks in some of their works, while their translators have chosen not to do so. The authors’ and translators’ choices are retained in the presentation of citations.

Russian citations are presented exactly as they appear in the published text with the exception of a few archaic forms that have been replaced with contemporary ones. For example, in the entry Б-274 НИЧУТЬ… НЕ БЫВАЛО the archaic того же дня in the Gogol citation has been replaced by the contem- порарного того же дня. In some cases, Western editions of Russian texts have been used as sources for citations. However, since these editions are not as carefully edited as most editions published in Russia and the former Soviet Union, Soviet/Russian editions have occasionally been used to check punctuation, spelling, etc.

The word «Бог» in the citations is capitalized when the source has it capitalized, and lowercase when the source has it lowercase.

The transliteration of proper names in invented examples and Russian names in etymological notes follows the transliteration system used in the Handbook of Russian Literature, edited by Victor Terras. The transliteration of authors’ names in the Bibliography follows the spelling currently used by the Library of Congress (with diacritics omitted).

When a Russian author uses a nonstandard form of an idiom, the citation is preceded by the bracketed label “author’s usage.” When a Russian author uses an idiom either metaphorically or in an atypical context, the citation is preceded by the label “extended usage.”

When the English translation of a citation translates the given idiom correctly but in a way that would not apply in most or any other contexts, the translation is preceded by the label “context transl” (contextual translation). Such translations of idioms are not included in the list of equivalents. Citations with contextual translations are presented in order to offer the user examples of creative and original approaches to translation.

When an idiom that originated in a work of Russian literature is illustrated by a citation from that same work, the citation is preceded by the label “source.” For example, the idiom Р-432 КУВШИНОЕ РЫЛЬЕ ‘jug snout’ originated in Gogol’s Dead Souls, so the Dead Souls citation containing the idiom has this label.

English translations of citations are rendered precisely as they occur in the published texts with two exceptions: spellings or orthographic forms that are not found in any mainstream American or British dictionary have been normalized, and the American system for quotation marks has been adopted throughout (that is, double quotes for direct speech and single quotes for a quote within a quote).

In some instances, a translator has come up with an original and creative translation of a Russian idiom or saying. When such translations are offered in this dictionary as regular English equivalents, the translator’s version is acknowledged by citing the excerpt in question. For example, the saying ПАНЫ ДЕРУТСЯ, А У ХЛОПЦЕВ (ХОЛОПОВ) ЧУБЫ ТРЕЩАТ has two equivalents, both of which come from published translations, and both of which are illustrated by their respective citations: “the poor man always gets the blame” comes from a Nabokov citation (translated by Michael Scammell), and “when (the) masters fall out their men get the clout” comes from a Sholokhov citation (translated by Robert Daglish). All the translators’ names are, of course, indicated in the Bibliography.

Every citation was cross-referenced to ensure that a citation used to illustrate idiom A, for example, does not have an incorrect equivalent for idiom B. Ideally, and in most cases, the translation of idiom B will be among the equivalents presented in entry B. However, in view of the fact that there are many criteria for a good overall translation apart from idiom translation, this rule has been relaxed in some instances. In no case has a citation been used for one idiom that has an incorrect translation of another idiom in it, but occasionally the translation of the secondary idiom may be bland and read more like the definition of the idiom than an idiomatic equivalent, or be correct only as a contextual translation, not as a general one.

Notes on the Origin of Idioms

Notes on the source or origin of idioms and other relevant information have been provided in cases where they might contribute to the user’s understanding of a Russian idiom and
facilitate the selection of an English equivalent. Notes have been provided for the following groups of idioms:

1) idioms from the Bible
2) idioms from works of Russian and Western literature
3) idioms from Russian folk tales
4) idioms that are loan translations of phrases from classical or modern languages
5) idioms that are rooted in Russian history, customs, and the Russian way of life.

For Biblical references, the King James Bible was used. English titles of works of Russian literature are presented as they are known in English translation.

**NOTES**

O-1 • ПО́РТИТСЯ/ИСПО́РТИТСЯ (всю) ОБЕ́ДНЮ (МУ́-ЗЫКУ) komu coll [VP; subj: human or, less often, abstr] to hinder, harm s.o. in some matter, upset s.o.’s plans: X не по- портил Y-y всю обедню = X ruined things (the whole thing) for Y; X upset Y’s (the) appletarc; X spiked Y’s guns; X cooked Y’s goose; X screwed (mess) things up for Y.

[Косыгн:] Вчера объявил маленький шлем на трёфах, а взял большой. Тольк опять этот Барabanов мне всю музыку испортил!! Пожалуй, мэрзавец, тута, я объявил бы большой шлем… (Чехов 4). [К.:] Yesterday I declared a little slam in clubs and got a grand slam. But once again again friend Barabanov cooked my goose.… If the swine had shown his ace I’d have declared a grand slam… (4b).

O-2 • НЕ ОБЕРЁШЬСЯ чего, и.н.: хлопот, неприятно- стей, греха, стыда, стыдно и т.п. (с кем-кем) coll [VP; neg pfv fut, gener. 2nd pers sing only] there will be a great deal of sth. (usu. trouble with some person or matter), s.o. will feel a great degree (of shame with regard to some matter etc); Y-ов не оберётся = there will be no end (or limit) to (the) Ys; there will be endless Ys; Ys will be endless (inexhaustible); хлопот (с X-ом) не оберётся = there will be (you have) no end of trouble (with X); there will be (you'll get involved in) endless trouble (with X); [lim.] X could (is going to be) a lot of trouble; стыда (сраму, позора) не оберётся = you won’t know where to hide for shame; you’ll never live it down; you’d be too ashamed; страхов не оберётся = your fear will hold no bounds.

Председатель тревожно прислушивался к новым интонациям в голосе посетителя. «А вдруг припадочный? — подумал он. — Хлопот с ним не оберётся» (Илья и Петров 2). The chairman noticed the change in the visitor’s tone with alarm. “What if he’s an epileptic?” he thought. “He could be a lot of trouble” (2d). — Николайчик, — сказал „дед“. — Ты же позора не оберёшься. Если ты сеты вырвучишь, а людей — оставишь. На всю жизнь позора» (Владимир 2). “Nikolayich,” said the Chief. “You’ll never live it down, if you save your nets but abandon a shipload of fellow human beings. You’ll be disgraced for the rest of your life” (2a).

O-3 • В ОБИДУ, НА КОГО [PrepP; Invar; subj-compl with быть, subj: human; often neg] to feel annoyed, displeased with s.o., feel o.s. aggrieved: X на Y-а в обиду = X is offended (by Y’s words (by what Y did etc)); X has taken offense (umbrage) at Y (at Y’s words etc); X feels resentment toward Y; X resents Y’s actions (what Y did etc); X is peeved at Y; Neg X не будет на Y-а в обиду = X won’t mind.

…Мечтал всесильный Парвус. Да он справедливо мог быть и в обиде. А не исключено: испытывал Ленина нервы, усилил свою позицию выживанием (Солженицын 5). …The all-powerful Parvus said nothing. Of course, he had every right to be offended. And it was quite possible that he was testing Lenin’s nerves, and holding out to strengthen his own position (5a).

O-4 • НЕ В ОБИДУ (НЕ ВО ГНЕВ obs, lit) БУДЬ СКАЗАНО (кому) coll [these forms only; sent adv (parenth); fixed WO] offense should not be taken at what I said or am about to say: no offense meant (intended); no harm meant; no insult intended; don’t take it (this) the wrong way, but…; don’t take this amiss, but…; no offense, but…; if you don’t mind my saying so.

«Послушай, Юрошка, что Анфим Ефимович говорит. Между прочим, не во гнев вам будь сказано, имя отчества у вас — язык сломаны (Пастернак 1). “Listen to what Anfim Efimovich told me, Yurochka, and by the way, if you don’t mind my saying so, Anfim Efimovich, your name is a real tongue-twister!” (1a).

O-5 • НЕ ДАВА́ТЬ/НЕ ДАТЬ В ОБИДУ КОГО [VP; subj: human or collect] not to allow s.o. to be injured, wronged in any way: X не даст Y-а в обиду = X will not let anyone harm (hurt, insult etc) Y; X will make sure (see to it) that no (possible) harm comes to Y; X will not see Y harmed (insulted etc); X will not let Y be (allow Y to be) hurt (insulted etc); X will not allow any harm to come to Y.

«И давайте сразу договоримся: я в обиду не дам — только вы должны во всём меня слушаться» (Михайловская 1). “Let’s have an understanding: I will not let anyone harm you, but you must do what I say” (1a). — Я попрошу Алексея, чтобы тебя не дали в обиду» (Булгаков 3). “I shall ask Alexei to make sure that no possible harm comes to you” (3a).

O-6 • НЕ ДАВА́ТЬ/НЕ ДАТЬ СЕБЯ В ОБИДУ (кому) [VP; subj: human or collect] not to allow o.s. to be harmed, to know how to defend or protect o.s.: X себя в обиду не даёт = X stands (knows how to stand) up for himself; X can look after (out for) himself; X doesn’t let anyone push him around.

Старуха не будь за Люся, верила, что она себя в обиду не даст — не такой она человек (Распутин 3). On Lusia’s account she [the old lady] had nothing to fear. She knew Lusia could look after herself; she was that type (3a).

O-7 • БЕЗ ОБИНАЯ́КОВ говорить, спрашивать и т.п. coll; БЕЗ (ВСЯКИХ) ОКОЛЮЧНОСТЕЙ obs [PrepP; these forms only; adv] (to speak or ask sth.) directly, openly, without allusiveness: without beating around (about) the bush; in no uncertain terms; in so many words; not mincing (one’s) words; pulling no punches; [lim.] getting down to brass tacks; getting (coming) straight to the point.

«Скажите, Карамазов, вы ужасно меня презираете? — отрезал вокруг Коля… — Сделайте одоление, без обиняков» (Достоевский 1). “Tell me, Karamazov, do you despise me terribly?” Kolya suddenly blurted out…. “Kindly tell me, without beating around the bush” (1a).

O-8 • ВХОДИ́ТЬ/ВОЙТИ́ В ОБИХО́Д (В УПОТРЕБЛЯ́НИЕ) [VP; subj: abstr or, rare, conctr] to begin to be used: X вошёл в обиход = X has come into use; X has begun to be utilized; [used with abstr subjects only] X has gained currency; X has become current.

O-9 • ВЫХОДИ́ТЬ/ВЫЙТИ́ ИЗ ИСЧЕЗА́ТЬ/ИСЧЕЗНЕ́ТЬ ИЗ ОБИХО́ДА; ВЫХОДИ́ТЬ/ВЫЙТИ́ ИЗ УПОТРЕБЛЯ́НИЯ [VP; subj: abstr or, rare, conctr] to cease being used: X вышел из употребления = X is no longer used (in use); X is no longer utilized; X has fallen into disuse (desuetude); X has gone out of use (practice); X disappeared from common use; X is (has become) out-of-date (obsolete); [used with abstr subjects only] X is no longer
current; X has lost currency; || вышедшй из обихода = obsolete; outdated; outmoded; passé.

Даже застечное называние Дымки исчезло из обихода, заменялось внушительным— Дымковское строительство (Тендряков 1). Even the modest name of Dymki disappeared from common use and was replaced by the grander sounding “Dymki Project” (1a).

O-10 • ВИТАТЬ (ПАРИТЬ) В ОБЛАКАХ (В ЭМИРЕЯХ lit, МЕЖДУ НЕБОМ И ЗЕМЛЕЙ); УНОСИТЬСЯ В ОБЛАКАХ (К ОБЛАКАМ) [VP; subj: human] to be distanced, detached from reality (either by daydreaming etc, or by viewing a situation unrealistically):
X витаает в облаках = X has (is with) his head in the clouds; || Neg X не витает в облаках = X has his feet (planted firmly) on the ground.

«Витаёт он где-то там в своих эмпиреях, а его вдруг на землю суетят и спрашивают: а что вы, милейший, думаете относительно, скажем, левого уклонизма или правого оппортунизма?» (Войнович 4). “There he is with his head in the clouds, and suddenly they bring him back to earth and ask him: So, my good man, (what are your thoughts regarding, say, leftist deviation or right-wing opportunism?” (4a). • «Вот я вчера говорила с Кончуровым, вы ведь знаете, он не витаёт в облаках (Гроссман 2). “I was talking to Kochkurov yesterday. You know what he’s like—he’s certainly got his feet on the ground” (2a).

O-11 • СПУСТИТЬСЯ С ОБЛАКОВ coll [VP; subj: human] 1. Also: СВАЛИТЬСЯ (УПАСТЬ) С ОБЛАКОВ coll [often past after как, будто, словно, точно] to appear, arrive very suddenly: X как с облаков свалился = X appeared out of the blue (out of nowhere, out of thin air); it is as though X fell from the sky.
2. [usu. infin with пора, нужно etc] to stop being out of touch with reality and start to live, think, look upon a situation etc realistically, practically: пора X-у спуститься с облаков = it’s time for X to come down to earth (to get his head out of the clouds).

O-12 • В ОБЛАСТИ (of the) sphere of (work, activity, human interest etc): in the area (the field, the realm, the domain) of; in; [lim.] as far as… goes; where… is concerned.

…В отличие от прочих областей общественности, в области кладбищенского дела старый режим прогнил, так сказать, не насквозь, а только частично… (Федин 1). …Unlike other areas of public life, in the area of cemetery affairs the old regime was not rotten, so to speak, all through, but only partially… (1a).

O-13 • это ИЗ ОБЛАСТИ ФАНТАСТИКИ [subj: abstr., often это, or infin.; fixed WO] sth. imaginary and, from the speaker’s viewpoint, unrealizable: that’s pure fantasy (fiction); you (they etc) are (must be) (pipe)dreaming!

Ваша идея неосуществима, это из области фантастики. Your idea won’t work—you’re dreaming!

O-14 • ОТХОДИТЬ/ОТОЙТИ (УХОДИТЬ/УЙТИ) В ОБЛАСТЬ ПРЕДАНИЯ (ПРЕДАНИЙ, ВОСПОМИНАНИЙ) lit [VP; subj: abstr; fixed WO] to cease to exist or be used, pass out of existence, disappear: X отошёл в область преданий = X is (has become) a thing of the past; X has passed into oblivion.

O-15 • знать что как ОБЛУПЛЕННОГО highly coll [как + NP; obj-controlled; adv] (to know s.o.) very well: X знает Y как облупленного = X knows Y inside out (through and through).

…Немца этого я знал, как облупленного, равно как и он меня (Попов 1). I knew this German inside out, just like he knew me (1a).

O-16 • ОПТИЧЕСКИЙ ОБМАН [NP; sing only; fixed WO] 1. special. Also: ОБМАН ЗРЕНИЯ a visually perceived image that represents the perceived object differently from the way it is in reality: optical illusion; [lim.] trick of the light.

«В осенние ночи на островах… из-за особой озонированности воздуха и эффекта водяного зеркала нередки всякие оптические обманы» (Акунин 2). “During the autumn nights here on the islands… the exceptionally high level of ozone in the air and the effect of light reflected from the surface of the water frequently give rise to various kinds of optical illusion” (2a). • …Однажды она… краем глаза заметила что-то странное — вымазанного говном человека. …Как ужасно… краем глаза заметила что-то странное — вымазанного говном человека… Но когда она повернула голову, чтобы как следует рассмотреть этого человека, оказалось, что с ней произошёл обман зрения — на самом деле на нём просто была рыже-коричневая кожаная куртка (Пелевин 1). …One day… she noticed something strange out of the corner of her eye—a man smeared all over with shit. …But when she turned her head for a better look at the man, it turned out to be nothing but a trick of the light—he was actually wearing a russet-brown leather jacket (1a).

2. lit sth. that seems to be real but actually is not: optical illusion; product of s.o.’s imagination.

Мечте, загадочному, таинственному не было места в его душе. То, что не подвергалось анализу опыта, практической истины, было в глазах его оптический обман… (Гончаров 1). There was no room for the mystical, the mysterious, the illusion in his temperament. Anything that did not stand the test of practical experience or the scrutiny of analysis he rejected as an optical illusion… (1c).

O-17 • ПАДАТЬ/УПАСТЬ В ОБМОРОК [VP; subj: human] to lose consciousness: X упал в обморок = X fainted (away); X fell in a (dead) faint; X fell into a swoon; X swooned; X passed out.

Сам он, окончив речь свою, поспешно вышел и, повторяя, почти упал в другой комнате в обморок (Достоевский 2). He himself, having finished his speech, left hastily and, I repeat, nearly fainted in the next room (2a).

O-18 • В ОБНИМКУ coll [PrepP; Invar; adv] 1. ~ (с кем) ходить, гулять и т.п. (of persons, usu. two, walking, strolling etc) each having an arm around the shoulder or waist of the other (or those on either side of one): with one’s arm around s.o.; with one’s arms (around each other) 〈one another〉.

[Жен.] Мама! Весь сьр-бор из-за того, что они шли в обнимку. Теперь все так ходят (Рощин 1). [Zh.] Mother! All this fuss because they’ve been seen with their arms round each other. Everybody does that now (1b).

2. ~ держать, брать что (to hold, take hold of sth.) with both arms (around it): (hold (grab) sth.) around the middle with one’s arms; (have) both 〈one’s〉 arms wrapped around sth.

O-19 • БРАТЬ/ВЗЯТЬ В ОБОРЫ (В РАБОТУ) кого coll [VP; subj: human; more often prf] 1. to put great pressure on s.o. in order to make him act as one desires: X взял Y-a в оборот = X turned (put) the heat on Y; X took Y in hand; X got after Y; [lim.] X twisted Y’s arm.

То поэзию, которую заслуживают лишь немногие, обычно убивают или ещё хуже — поэту берут в оборот, запутывают и
1. to reprimand, scold s.o. (for sth.): X взял Y-a в обorget ≈ X took Y to task; X gave Y a (good) talking-to (dressing-down); X dressed Y down; X gave Y what for.

O-20 • ПРИНИМАТЬ/ПРИНИТЬ какой ОБОРОТ [VP; subj: abstr, often d.; события, всё это etc] (of a situation, events etc) to develop or change in a certain direction (as specified by the modifier): X принял дурной (серьёзный, неожиданный и т. п.) оборот ≈ X took a bad (serious, unexpected etc) turn; [with d. движ, плохой etc only] X took a turn for the worse.

В его голосе чувствовался и удивление, и беспокойство, что дело может принять неожиданный оборот… (Войнович 4). Surprise, and anxiety that things might take an unexpected turn, could be heard in his voice… (4a). «Будем надеяться, что дело вашего отца не приведет к дурному обороту…» (Рыбаков 1). “Let’s hope your father’s case doesn’t take a turn for the worse” (1a).

O-21 • ПУСКАТЬ/ПУСТИТЬ В ОБОРОТ что [VP; subj: human; more often pfv] 1. special ~ деньги, капитал to put (money) into commercial-industrial operations with the goal of receiving profits: X пустил деньги в оборот ≈ X invested money.

[3-й госте:] Процентные бумаги дают весьма немного дивиденда, а пускать деньги в оборот чрезвычайно опасно (Чехов 4). [Third Guest:] Interest-bearing securities yield exceedingly small returns, and to invest money is extraordinarily dangerous (4a).

2. coll to utilize sth.: X пустил Y в оборот ≈ X made use of Y; X put Y to use; X used Y.

«Когда жить? — спрашивал он опять самого себя. — Когда ж, наконец, пускать в оборот этот капитал знаний, из которых большая часть ещё ни на что не понадобится в жизни?» (Гончаров 1). “When am I to live?” he used to ask himself. “When shall I ever be permitted to make use of this store of knowledge, most of which will serve no purpose in my life?” (1b).

3. Also: ВВОДИТЬ/ВВЕСТИ В ОБОРОТ; ПУСКАТЬ/ПУСТИТЬ В ОБРАЩЕНИЕ to bring sth. into general, widespread use: X ввёл Y в оборот ≈ X started (using) Y; X put (introduced) Y into (widespread) circulation; X put Y into use.

…Всё, что мог, он [Горький] уже совершил. Образец для продолжения следующих поколений социалистов — роман “Мать” — уже написал. Ленина и Сталина прославил. И свою знаменитую фразу “Если враг не сдаётся — его уничтожают” уже пускать в обращение (Войнович 1). [context tranls] He [Gorky] had already accomplished all he was capable of. He had already written Mother, the novel that would serve as the model for coming generations of socialist realists. He had sung the praises of Lenin and Stalin. And his most famous phrase “If the enemy does not surrender, he is wiped out” was already in circulation (1a).

O-22 • БРАТЬ/ВЗЯТЬ ЗА ОБРАЗЕЦ кого-чего [VP; subj: human or collect] considering s.o. or sth. worthy of emulation, to try to imitate him or it: X взял Y-a за образец ≈ X followed the example of Y (Y’s example); X took thing Y for (as) a model; X (re)structured sth. on the model (pattern) of Y; X chose person Y as a role model.

Стихотворение это, написанное красивым круглым пером на тонком почтовом листе, понравилось мне по трогательному чувству, которым оно проникнуто; я тотчас же выучил его наизусть и решил взять за образец (Толстой 2). This composition, inscribed in a handsome rounded hand on a thin sheet of notepaper, appealed to me by virtue of the touching sentiments with which it was imbued; I immediately learned it off by heart and decided to take it for a model (2b).

O-23 • ГЛАВНЫМ ОБРАЗОМ [NP instrum; Invar; adv or sent adv (occas. parenth.) fixed WO] basically: mainly; chiefly; essentially; for the most part; primarily; mostly: [when used in conjunction with a clause of purpose; in limited contexts] one’s main goal (objective, object) (in doing sth. is…); with the main goal (objective, object) (of doing sth…).

...Несмотря на то, что большинство его современников, был чужд изобразительному искусству и понимал культуру главным образом как просвещение (Терп 1). …Like most of his contemporaries, Chekhov was indifferent to the visual arts and understood culture mainly as education (3a). ● По нынешним понятиям из прошлого, он [Чернышевский] посветил Герцену главным образом для того, чтобы перевернуть об издании “Современника” за границей… (Набоков 1). According to certain reports from the past his [Chernyshevsky’s] main object in visiting Herzen was to discuss the publishing of The Contemporary abroad… (1a).

O-24 • КАКИМ ОБРАЗОМ [NP instrum; Invar; adv; fixed WO] in what manner; how; in what way; [lim.] by what means; the way (s.o. does sth. (sth. happens)).


O-25 • НЕКОТОРЫМ ОБРАЗОМ [NP instrum; Invar; adv or modif; fixed WO] in some manner or measure: in a (some) way; after a fashion; to some (a certain) extent (degree); somewhat.

…Он ещё не может знать, не подозревает о существовании этих фактов, но эти факты тем не менее существуют сами по себе и существуют, некоторым образом, в его незнании (Битов 2). …He cannot yet know about and does not suspect the existence of these facts, yet the facts nevertheless exist independently and also exist, after a fashion, in his ignorance (2a).

O-26 • НИКАКИМ ОБРАЗОМ coll; НИКАКИМ ОБРАЗОМ [NP instrum; these forms only; adv; used with negated verbs; fixed WO] not under any circumstances, not at all: in no way; by no means; not by any manner of means; not by a long shot; absolutely not; [when used as an indep. remark] (that’s) (absolutely) impossible.

И человек с искренним от горя лицом вынужден был отказаться от своих попыток прорваться к новозовкам, с которых уже сняли столбы. Эти попытки ни к чему не привели бы, кроме того, что он бы был схвачен, а быть задержанным в этот день никим образом не входило в его план (Булгаков 9). And the man, his face contorted with grief, was compelled to abandon his attempts to break through to the carts, from which the posts had already been taken. These attempts would have resulted in nothing but his capture, and it was certainly in no way part of his plan to be arrested that day (9a).

O-27 • РАВНОМЕРНЫМ ОБРАЗОМ coll; РАВНОМЕРНЫМ ОБРАЗОМ [NP instrum; Invar] 1. Also: В РАВНОЙ СТЕПЕНИ (СТЕПЕНИ) lit [PrepP; modif; foll. by AdvP or AdjP] to an equal degree: equally; just as.

Великий комбинатор не любил квестов. В равной степени он отрицательно относился к равным, далай-ламам, муддеям, шаманам и прочим служителям культа (Ильф и Петров 2). The smooth operator didn’t like Catholic priests. He took an equally dim view of rabbis, dalai lamas, popes, muzzinzs, medicine men, and other such ministers of religious worship (2a).
2. [sent adv] used to liken a statement to the preceding statement: similarly; likewise; [lim.] by the same token.

«... Мы осторожнее говорить Петру Петровичу [Лужину] хоть о чём-нибудь из этих дальнейших мечтаний наших и, главное, о том, что ты будешь его компанией... Равным образом ни я, ни Дуня ни полсова ещё не говорили с ним о кренк-кой надежде нашей, что он поможет нам способствовать тебе деньгами, пока ты в университете...» (Достоевский 3). «...We have been careful not to let slip a word to Mr. Luzhin about any part of these dreams of ours for the future, and especially about you becoming his partner.... Similarly, neither I nor Dunya have said a word to him yet about our confident hope that he will help us to supply you with funds while you are at the university” (3a).

O-28 ТАКИМ ОБРАЗОМ [NP instrum; Invar; fixed WO] 1. [adv] in the fashion or manner indicated or implied: so; (in) this (that) way; thus; like this (that); in such a way.

Дом стоял таким образом, что один конец веранды нависал над открытым, поросшим непроходимыми зарослями ежевики и терновника (Исаков 3). The house was so situated that one end of the veranda hung over a precipice overgrown with impassable thickets of blackberries and blackthorn (3a).

2. [sent adv (parenth)] used to introduce a deduction; conclusion: thus consequently; therefore; accordingly; hence; (and) so.

«... Сейчас мы тебя отправим к камере. Но имей в виду следующее: я скажу Сударю, что ты молчишь и, таким образом, беришь на себя роль главаря банды» (Семёнов 1). “…We’ll send you down to the cells now. But bear this in mind: I shall tell Squire that you’re refusing to talk and are thus taking on the role of gang leader” (1a).

O-29 ПО ОБРАЗУ (ОБРАЗЦУ) И ПОДОБИЮ ЧЬЕМУ, КОГО obsol [PrepP; Invar; adv; fixed WO] patterned after s.o. or sth., using s.o. or sth. as an example: in the image and likeness (semblance) of s.o. (sth.); in s.o.’s image and likeness; in s.o.’s image (likeness).

Повторяем: вся эта тяга к стиху, созданной по образу и подобию определённых социально-экономических богов, была в Чернышевском бессознательна... (Набоков 1). Let us repeat: all this leaning toward a line created in the image and likeness of definite socio-economic gods was unconscious on Chernyshevski’s part... (1a).

< From the Bible (Gen. 1:26).

O-30 ПО ОБРАЗУ ПЕЩЕГО ХОЖДЕНИЯ obs, humor [PreP; Invar; adv; fixed WO] walking: on (by) shanks’ mare.

O-31 ВСЁ ОБРАЗУЕТСЯ/ОБРАЗОВАЛОСЬ coll [VP subj; these forms only; fixed WO] the difficulties will be resolved, the situation will clear itself up: it (things) will (all) come (out) right in the end; it (things) will (all) work out in the end; everything will be all right; things will smooth out; it (things) will (all) come together.

«Всё образуется. Ведь я, Варвара Андреевна, не амбициозна и всегда готов признать свою ошибку» (Акунин 5). “Everything will be all right, Varvara Andreevna. I’m not proud and I’m always willing to admit my mistakes” (5a).

O-32 ПО ОБРАЗУ КОГО-ЧЕГО [PreP; Invar; the resulting PrepP is adv] as s.o. or sth. else (does, is organized etc): on (after, upon, following) the model of: on (after, following) the pattern of; modeled after; (patterned (presented etc) on the example of.

Второй этаж дома у них сделан по образцу городских квартир. The second floor of their house is modeled after city apart-

ments. • Днём с приятным ровным гулением бегали травами с жёлтыми солнечными нулями сидениями, по образцу загра-

ничных (Булгаков 3). In the daytime, the streetcars with their soft yellow straw seats, on the foreign example, sped along with a pleas-

ant steady hum (3b).

O-33 • В ОБРЕЗ (ЧЕГО У КОГО) [PreP; Invar; subj-compl with copula (subj/gen: usu. a noun denoting time or money) or adv (quantif)] (there is, s.o. has etc) barely an adequate amount, no extra: just (barely) enough; just barely enough; none (no [NP]) to spare; || у X-а времени в обрез = X is short of time; X doesn’t have much time; X is pressed for time; there is no time to lose; time is short.

[Алексей:] Помнишь, когда вы у нас жили, отца в армию взяли?.. Ну, не вернулся он... Денег — в обрез. Я и задумал подработать (Розов 1). [А:] Do you remember, when all of you stayed with us?—they drafted Father into the army.... Well, he never came back.... Money—there was none to spare. So I decided to help out—do odd jobs after school (1a). • «Хотите взглянуть [на лагерь]?»... — «Разве что взглянуть, — неувидев уступить он соблазну. — Только не задерживаться, времени у меня в об-

рез» (Максимов 1). “You want to take a look [at the camp]?...” “Well, we could have a look, I suppose,” he said, succumbing to the temptation. “But we mustn’t delay. I’m very pressed for time” (1a).

O-34 • НЕ ОБСЕВОК В ПОЛЁ subst sub-

bund [NP; subj-compl with by/by, subj: human, pres only; used without negation to convey the opposite meaning: fixed WO] one is not a non-

entity, not worse than others: X is no obseвок in pole = X is not a nobody; X is no worse than anyone else; X is no slouch.

O-35 • БРАТЬ/ВЗЯТЬ ПОД ОБСТРЕЛЬ КОГО-ЧТО [VP; subj: human or collect to] (begin to) criticize s.o. or sth. harshly, sharply: X blasted Y.

O-36 • В ОБТЯЖКУ [PreP; Invar; nonagreeing postmod if adv] (a piece of clothing that) hugs the body, fits or is made to fit tightly: close-fitting; snug-fitting; [lim.] skin-

tight.

Московское платье оказалось превосходно: коричневые полувуаечки с бронзовыми пуговицами были сшиты в обтяжку — не так, как в деревне нам шили, на рост... (Голстой 2). Our Moscow clothes turned out to be superb: the brown dress coats had bronze buttons and were made close-fitting—not like they had been made in the country, with room for you to grow (2b).

O-37 • (УДАРИТЬ БЫТЬ rаре/УДАРИТЬ КАК БУД-ТО, СЛЁЗО, ТОЧНО) ОБУХОМ ПО ГОЛОВЁ coll [VP or как etc + NP (subj-compl with by/by, subj: usu. abstr; fixed WO]) (of an unexpected piece of news, event etc) to shock s.o. greatly: X был (для Y-а) как обухом по голове = X hit Y like a thunderbolt (a bolt of lightning, a ton of bricks); X was (like) a body blow (to Y); Y was stunned by X.

Оба эти подонка... стали давать против меня показания. Чего только они не врала...! Вышел я от следователя как убитый... Будто обухом по голове была для меня вся эта история (Бу-

ковский 1). ...These two rats began giving evidence against me. The bullshit they talked!... I left the investigator’s office pelle-

axed.... This whole business had been a body blow (1a).

O-38 • В ОБХОД [PreP; Invar; adv] 1. ~ (чего) ити, двигаться и т.п. Also: поехать, отправиться и т.п. В ОБХОД (to go, travel somewhere) by an indirect route.
(that takes longer than the direct route): make a detour; go (take) a (the) roundabout way; go (take) the long way (around); [lim.] skirt sth.

[Бородавкин] вынужден был отступить от горы с урном. Пошли в обход, но здесь наткнулись на болото, которою никто не подозревал (Салтыков-Щедрин 1). [...] Wartin] was forced to retreat from the mountain with casualties. They started to make a detour, but now they ran up against a swamp, the existence of which no one had suspected (1a).

2. ~ кого-чего идти, двигаться и т.п. mil (to go, maneuver) around the flank (of an opposing military unit): out-flank(ing).

...Минут, желая загладить свою ошибку, тотчас же двинул свои войска на центр и в обход обоих флангов, надеясь еще до вечера и до прибытия императора раздвинуть ниточкой, стоявший перед ним отряд (Толстой 4). Murat... anxious to make amends for his error, instantly moved his forces to attack the center and outflank both Russian wings, hoping before evening, and before the arrival of the Emperor, to crush the insignificant detachment facing him (4a).

3. ~ закона, правил и т.п. avoiding the observance of (the law, rules, regulations etc): in contravention of the law (the rules etc); (by) going against (skirting, getting around, sidestepping) the law (the rules etc).

4. ~ кого повышать (в должности), выдвигать, награждать и т.п. to promote, nominate etc a person over Y’s (of an opposing military unit): they promoted X, passing over Y; X was promoted (they promoted X) over Y (over Y’s head, ahead of Y, over the heads of others).

Филатов назначил директором в обход Петрова, хотя Петров был гораздо опытнее его. Впоследствии, Филин директором, они даже перешли в Певеров, но Певеров был еще более опытнее его. He knew the name, of course, and he knew who the fellow was—Bannin, the electrician—but by and large he didn’t stand out in a crowd despite all the fuss kicked up about him on the big holidays (3a).

O-41 • В ОБЩЕМ И ЦЕЛЮМ [PrepP; Invar; sent adv (often parenth); fixed WO] in general, in essence, without considering all the particulars, details: on the whole; in all; by and large; generally speaking.

...Валерий Кирпиченко не обращал на него особого внимания. Понятно, фамилию этой знал и личность была знакомая — электрик Банин, но в общем и целом человек это был незаметный, несмотря на весь шум, который вокруг него поднимались по праздникам (Аксёнов 5). Kirpichenko never took much notice of him. He knew the name, of course, and he knew who the fellow was—Bannin, the electrician—but by and large he didn’t stand out in a crowd despite all the fuss kicked up about him on the big holidays (3a).

O-42 • С РАСПРОСТЁРЫМИ ОБЪЯТИЯМИ принять, встречать кого coll [PrepP; Invar; adv; fixed WO] (to receive, welcome s.o.) warmly, cordially: with open arms.

С большим мастерством, с живостью изложения необыкновенной (с её почти почти принято за сострадание), Страннолюбовский описывает его [Чернышевского] вдохновение на жительство в Астрахани. Никто не встречал его с распёртыми объятиями... (Набоков 1). With great mastery and with the utmost vividness of exposition (it might almost be taken for compassion) Strannollyubski describes his [Chernyshevski’s] installation in his Astrakhan residence. No one met him with open arms... (1a).

O-43 • В ОБЪЯТИЯХ МОРФЕЯ быть, находиться: В ОБЪЯТИЯХ МОРФЕЯ (К МОРФЕЮ) пора and т.п. old-fash, elev [PrepP; these forms only; subj-compl with copula with subj; human (1st var.) or adv; fixed WO] (to be) asleep, (it is time to go) to sleep: be (nestled) in (fall into) the arms of Morpheus; be in the Land of Nod.

Базаров начал зевать. «Я полагаю, пора путешественникам в объятия к Морфею», — заметил Василий Иванович (Тургенев 2). Bazarov began to yawn. “I suppose it’s time our travelers were nestled in the arms of Morpheus,” observed Vasily Ivanovich (2g). Bazarov began to yawn. “I suppose it is time for our travellers to fall into the arms of Morpheus,” observed Vasily Ivanych (2c).

< Morpheus is the god of dreams in Greek mythology.

O-44 • ДУШИТЬ / ЗАДУШИТЬ В ОБЪЯТИЯХ кого [VP; subj; human] to embrace s.o. firmly, with emotion: X душил Y-a в объятиях = X smothered Y with embraces.

[Лидиа] Теперь уж, когда мне придёт в голову задушить тебя в своих объятиях, так я задуши (Островский 4). [L: And now, when I take it into my head to smother you with embraces, I’m going to do it (4a).

O-45 • ПО ОБЫКНОВЕНИЮ; ПО СВОЁМУ ОБЫКНОВЕНИЮ [PrepP; these forms only; sent adv (often parenth)] as is always the case, as s.o. or sth. always does: as usual; as always; as is one’s habit (custom, wont, way); following one’s usual habit of (doing sth.); [lim.] one’s (its) usual...; [when used disapprovingly or ironically] true to form (, one did sth.).

[Павлин] Газеты же, по обыкновению, луг! (Горький 2). [P.] The papers are lying, as usual (2a). • ...Судя по грохоту кас-
троль, доносившемуся из кухни, можно было допустить, что Бегемот находится именно там, валья дурака, по своему обыкновению (Булгаков 9). Judging... from the crash of pots and pans coming from the kitchen, it could be deduced that Behemoth was there, playing the fool, as was his habit (9c).

O-46 • ПРОТИВ ОБЪЯВЛЕНИЯ; ВОПРЕКИ ОБЪЯВЛЕНИЮ [PrepP; Invar; sent adv (often parenth)] in contrast to what is usually the case, what s.o. or sth. usually does etc: contrary to usual...; contrary to one’s custom (habit); contrary to (one’s) usual (normal) practice; contrary to routine (normal, standard) procedure; ...which is quite unusual for s.o.; [lim.] for once; unusually [AdvP or AdjP].

Илья Ильич (Обломов) проснусь, против обыкновения, очень рано, часов в восемь (Гончаров 1). Обломов, contrary to his custom, had woken up very early—about eight o’clock (1a). Иля Ильич had awoken very early, contrary to habit, at about eight o’clock (1d). Иля Ильич had woken up at about eight o’clock, an unusually early hour for him (1c). Майор, против обыкновения, оказался на месте (Максимов 1). For once the major was in his office (1a).

O-47 • ВМЕНИТЬ/ВМЕНИТЬ В ОБЯЗАННОСТЬ кому что от что [PreP; subj: human] to obligate s.o. or o.s. to do sth.: X вменил Y-у (себе) в обязанность делать Z ≈ X made it Y’s (X’s) duty to do Z; X imposed on Y (on himself) a duty to do Z; X considered it Y’s (X’s) obligation (duty) to do Z; X considered it an obligation (duty) to do Z; [lim.] X made it a requirement that Y do Z.

Повторю: я вменял себе в обязанность писать, ничего не утайя (Замятин 1). I repeat: I have made it my duty to write without concealing anything (1a). ♦ Как когда-то ей самой Шунечке, она вменяла своим женщинам убавить в обязанность, в служебный долг (Герцог 3). As Shunechka had done to her, she imposed on her women a duty to smile as part of their work (3a).

O-48 • ОДЕЛИТЬ/ОДЕЛИТЬ ОВЁЦОТКОЗЛИЩ [lit [VP; subj: human; usu. this WO] to separate the good from the bad, the useful from the harmful (may refer to people): separate the sheep from the goats; make a distinction between the sheep and the goats.

...Именно люди двадцатых годов начали аккуратно отделять овец от кошлиц, своих от чужих, сторонников «нового» от тех, кто ещё не забыл своих примитивных правил общежительства (Манделштам 1). It was the people of the twenties who first began to make a neat distinction between the sheep and the goats, between “us” and “them,” between upholders of the “new” and those still mindful of the basic rules that governed human relations in the past (1a).

O-49 • ОВЛАДЕВАТЬ/ОВЛАДЕТЬ СОБОЙ; СПРАВЛЯТЬСЯ/СПРАВЛЯТЬСЯ С СОБОЙ [VP; subj: human; fixed WO] to overcome one’s agitation, nervousness, distress etc and gain control of o.s.: X овладел собой ≈ X recovered his self-control; X composed (collected) himself; X regained control of himself (his composure); X took himself in hand; X pulled himself together; X got a grip on himself.

...Иван Фёдорович, по-видимому, совсем уже успел овладеть собой (Достоевский 2). ...Ivan Fyodorovich had now apparently managed to regain control of himself (2a).

O-50 • ВСЯКОМУ (КАЖДОМУ) ОВОЩУ СВОЁ ВРЕМЯ [saying] there is a proper time for all undertakings: everything in its season; there’s a (right) time for everything.

O-51 • ЗАБЛУДШАЯ ОВЦА (ОВЕЧКА) lit [NP: usu. sing] a person who has strayed from a righteous way of life: lost sheep; sheep that has gone astray.

< From the Bible (Matt. 18:12, Luke 15:4–6).}

O-52 • (ОДНА) ПАРШИВАЯ ОВЦА ВСЕ СТАДО ПОРТИТ [saying] a bad person has a harmful effect on the group to which he belongs or creates a bad impression of the group he represents: := one rotten (bad) apple spoils the whole barrel; one scabby sheep infects the whole flock.

O-53 • С ПАРШИВОЙ ОВЦЫ НЕТШЕРСТИ КЛОК [saying] you might as well take whatever you can get from s.o., even though it is unsatisfactory etc, because you will not get anything better and you will be the one to lose out by refusing it (said with disdain about s.o. who produces sth. inferior, is inferior in some way etc): := even a mangy sheep is good for a little wool; something is better than nothing; half a loaf is better than none.


O-54 • ОБИЧИНКА ВЫДЕЛИКИ НЕ СТОИТ [saying] the matter in question is not worth the time, energy, resources spent on it: := the game isn’t worth the candle; it’s more trouble than it’s worth; it’s not worth the trouble; it won’t pay.

Он относялся к своей работе как ко всякой работе, дающей средство существования, но не вкладывал в неё душу. Оичника выделки не стоит (Зиновьев 2). Consider your work like any job that keeps you in food, but don’t try to put your soul into it. The game isn’t worth the candle (2a).

O-55 • ПОЛУЧАТЬ/ПОЛУЧИТЬ ОГЛАСКУ [VP; subj: abstr (often дело, история etc)] to become known to a lot of people: X получил огласку ≈ X became widely known; X became public knowledge; [lim.] X was publicized.

Все знали... что дело это получило всероссийскую огласку, но всё-таки не представляли себе, что оно до такой же жгучей, до такой раздражительной степени потрясло всех и каждого... (Достоевский 2). Everyone... knew that the case had been publicized all over Russia, but even so they never imagined that it had shaken all and sundry to such a burning, such an intense degree... (2a).

O-56 • КАК ОГЛАШЕННЫЙ [PreP; adv (often, sometimes etc)] highly coll, disapprov [aka + AdjP; nom only; adv (intensifier)] 1. орать, кричать ~ (to yell, shout) very loudly, furiously, hysterically: (shout (scream)) like mad (crazy); (yell (scream)) one’s head off; (scream) like a banshee (the dickens); scream bloody murder (as if possessed).
2. бежать, носиться, метаться и т.п. ~ to run, run around, race in a panicky fashion, as if one has lost his mind: (run (rush about etc)) like mad (crazy); (run (rush around etc)) like a madman (a madwoman); (run (rush about etc)) like one possessed.

O-57 • ПОВОРАЧИВАТЬ/ПОВЕРНУТЬ (ПОВОРО-ТЫТЬ) ОГЛЮБЛИ (НАЗАД) highly coll [VP; subj: human] 1. руде when addressed to the interlocutor to set off back in the direction from which one came, leave some place (usu. with the implication that one has failed, or is about to fail, to accomplish what one set out to do): X повернул оглюблi = X went back (where he came from); X (gave it up and) turned back; X turned back empty-handed; [lim.] X turned tail.

[Подхалюзи:] А то вон, что сватался за Алиминуку Самсонову, благодарный-то, — и оглюбли назад поворотил (Остромыслов 10). [П.] As for that noble’s courting Олимпиада Самсонova—all he’s kept tail already (10b).

2. [imper only; fixed WO] руде go away, leave immediately: поворачивая оглюблi! = clear out!; scram!; make yourself scarce!; beat it!; get lost!; buzz (bug) off!

3. to retreat from one’s former position, renounce one’s former convictions, go back on one’s promise(s) etc: X повернул оглюбли = X did (made) an about-face; X back-pedaled; X changed his tune.

O-58 • БЕЗ ОГЛЮДКИ coll [PrepP; Invar; adv] 1. бежать, убегать и т.п. ~ (to run, run away etc) very quickly and without turning around to look behind one: (fast and) without a backward glance; (fast and) without looking back; with abandon.

Орозкул встал, подтянув штаны и, боясь оглянуться, затру- сил прочь… Но Кулубек остановил его: «Стои! Мы тебе скажем последнее слово. У тебя никогда не будет детей. Ты злой и негодный человек… Уходи — и чтобы навсегда. А ну быстрее!» Орозкул побежал без оглядки (Айтматов 1). Орозкул stood up, pulled up his trousers, and, afraid to glance back, ran away at a quick trot… But Kulubek stopped him: “Wait! We’ll say to you one final word. You will never have any children. You are an evil and worthless man…. Go from here—for ever. Double quick!” Orozkuł ran off without a backward glance (1a).

2. (to make a decision, set out upon a course of action etc) resolutely, without vacillation: without looking back; without a backward glance; without any hesitation; without a second thought; without thinking twice.

3. предваваться чему, делать что и т.п. ~ (to do sth.) unrestrainedly, forgetting all else, (indulge in sth.) without limiting o.s. etc: unrestrainedly; without restraint (reserve); (give o.s.) completely (to sth.).

4. любить кого, верить кому ~ (to love s.o.) to the greatest possible extent, (to trust s.o.) fully and completely: without any reservations; without reservation; unreservedly; unconditionally.

…Любить она [Кира] умела, как любят сейчас на Земле, — спокойно и без оглядки… (Стругацкие 4). Кира was capable of true love, the way women on Earth would love—quiet and without any reservations (4a).

5. imprudently; without due consideration: carelessly; recklessly; rashly; thoughtlessly; indiscriminately.

Вместе с Ахматовой он [Мандельштам] выдумал игру: у каждого из них есть куча талонов на призание поэтов, но она — жмот, сканалы — свои талоны бережёт, а он истратил последние на старика Звенигородского и просит взаймы хоть один, хоть половину… Она действительно свои талоны берегла, а в старости стала раздавать их без оглядки — направо и налево (Мандельштам 2). Не [Mandelstam] and Akhmatova even invented a game: each of them had a certain number of tokens to be expended on the recognition of poets—but while she was tightened and hung on to her tokens for all she was worth, he spent his last one on old Zvenigorodski, and then had to beg her to “lend” him one, or even half of one…. Having hoarded them up so jealously, in her old age Akhmatova began to hand out her tokens indiscriminately, right, left, and center (2a).

O-59 • С ОГЛЯДКОЙ coll [PrepP; Invar; adv] (to do sth.) cautiously, warily: looking over one’s shoulder; with a perpetual glance over one’s shoulder; with caution; discreetly; with care; circumspectly.

Огромное большинство, миллионы людей, оплакивали Сталина и в рыданиях спрашивали друг друга: что же теперь будет? Другие радовались, но — молча, недоверчиво и с огляд- кой. И лишь немногие рисковали выражать свою радость открыто (Новиков 1). The vast majority, millions of people, wept for Stalin and asked each other through sobs: what will happen now? Others rejoiced—but in silence, furtively, and looking over their shoulders. Only very few were bold enough to give open expression to their joy (1a).

O-60 • ОГЛЯНУТЬСЯ НЕ УСПЕЕШЬ (НЕ УСПЕЕТ и т.п.), (как….) coll [VP; subj: human; often fut gener. 2nd pers sing не успеешь] (sth. will happen, take place etc) very quickly, almost immediately: before you know it; before you have time to look around; before you can turn (look) around.

Она сказала Андрею в тот разговор, когда он пристал с расспросами, что человек живёт на свете всего ничего. И верно, не успеешь огляднуться — жизнь прошла (Распутин 4). She had told Andrei when he was pestering her with questions that man lives almost no time at all. And it was true—before you knew it, life was over (4a).

O-61 • МЕЖДУ (МОЖЕТ) ДВУХ ОГНЕЙ coll [PrepP; these forms only; usu. adv or subj-compl with copula (subj: human, collect, or, rare, abstr); fixed WO] (to be, find o.s.) in a difficult situation, when danger or trouble threatens from both sides: between two fires; between a rock and a hard place; between the devil and the deep blue sea; caught in the crossfire.

«Жена совершенно права. И без вас не сладко. Собачья жизнь, сумасшедший дом. Всё время меж двух огней…» (Пастернак 1). “My wife is quite right. Things are bad enough without you. It’s a dog’s life, a madhouse. I am caught between two fires” (1a).

♦ «[Андрей] оказался меж двух огней. Подозрение сверху и подозрение снизу…» (Аксёнов 12). “He’s [Andrei is] caught between a rock and a hard place. Suspicion from above and suspicion from below…” (12a).

O-62 • ГОРИ ОГНЁМ что-что; ГОРИ (ОНО) СИНИМ (ЯСНЫМ) ОГНЁМ (ПЛАМОН) ГОРИ (ОНО) ВСЕЙ ПРАХОМ all coll [Interj; these forms only; fixed WO] used to express indignation, resentment, annoyance: to the hell with s.o. (sth.); I don’t give a damn (a hoot) about s.o. (sth.); damn s.o. (sth. it all).

…Возможно, похохотиться за жены умывателем девушки вызвала в нём [Тенделе] прилив такого бескорыстного азарта, что он остался совершенно холоден к возможности получения патефона… «Гори огнём ваш патефон! — даже прикрикнул он на них. — Вы что, не видите, что творите?» (Некрасов 3). The opportunity to go hunting for the live abductor of a maiden roused him [Tendel] to such unselfish fervor that he remained completely cold to the opportunity to acquire a phonograph…. “To hell with your phonograph!” he even shouted at them. “Don’t you see what’s happening?” (3a).
О-63 • ДНЕМ С ОГНЁМ не найти, не найдёшь, не съесть, не съешь, поиска и т.п. кого-чего о чого coll [AdvP; Invar; adv; usu. used with infin or neg pfv fut, gener. 2nd pers sing не найдёшь etc; fixed WO] (of a person with remarkable qualities or qualifications, or a thing rarely come across or difficult to obtain) rare, almost impossible to find even when much effort is put into searching: X-a (такого or таких, как X,) днём с огнём не найдёшь = Xs (people like X, things like X) are hard to find (as scarce as hen’s teeth); never in the world will you find another X (another ([NP]) like X); try as you may (might) you’ll never find another X (another ([NP]) like X); [lim.] person X is one in a million; you can’t get thing X for love (nor) money.

«Ну и беда ж ты бедами, мать! Гляди, как Бог тебя милует. Днём с огнём таких поискать» (Пастернак 1). “Well, you are poor in sorrows, my dear. See how merciful God has been to you! Such as you are hard to find” (1a). • Днём с огнём не съешь другого такого человека, который умел бы так держать себя в руках (Исаков 3). Never in the world will you find another man with the self-control that he has (3a).

О-64 • ИГРАТЬ (ШУТИТЬ) С ОГНЁМ [VP; subj: human] to act improvidently, do things that may bring about dangerous consequences: X играет с огнём = X is playing with fire; X is courting disaster; X is flirting with danger (disaster); X is inviting trouble.

«…У людей такой отчаянной жизни иногда бывает желание попить с огнём и попытать судьбу» (Пастернак 1). “…People who live desperate lives often want to play with fire and tempt their fate” (1b).

О-65 • ОГНЁМ И МЕЧЬЮ ПОКОРИТЬ КОГО-ЧТО И Т.П. lit [NPinstrum; Invar; adv; fixed WO] (to conquer, vanquish) brutally: with fire and sword; ruthlessly; mercilessly; raining death on s.o.

О-66 • ПРЕДАВАТЬ/ПРЕДАТЬ ОГНИЩУ ЧТО ОДНО [subj: human or collect] to burn sth.: X-ы предали Y огонь = Xs set fire to Y; Xs torched (a torch to) Y.

Несколько троек, наполненных разбойниками, разъезжали днём по всей губернии, останавливали путешественников и, когда, приезжали в села, грабили помещичьи дома и предавали их огню (Пушкин 1). Several troikas, filled with brigands, roamed the whole province in broad daylight, holding up travellers and mail-coaches, driving down into the villages and robbing and setting fire to the houses of the landowners (1b). All over the province, in broad daylight, brigands were driving about in troikas, stopping travellers and mail-coaches, entering villages, pillaging and torching the houses of landowners (1c).

О-67 • ПРЕДАВАТЬ/ПРЕДАТЬ ОГНЁМ И МЕЧУ КОГО-ЧТО [VP; subj: human or collect; obj: usu. землю, строи, etc] to ravage sth. mercilessly, destroying and burning everything: X-ы предали Y огонь и мечу = Xs wreaked destruction upon Y; Xs laid Y waste with fire and sword; Xs reduced Y to rubble and ashes.

«…Ты идешь со своими сотнями, как Тарас Бульба… и всё предаёшь огонь и мечу и казаков волкуешь. Ты остепенился, по- жалуйста, пленил смерти не предавай, а направляй к нам» (Шолохов 4). “…You are riding with your squadrons like Taras Bulba…, laying everything waste with fire and sword, and alarming the Cossacks. Steady up, please and stop putting prisoners to death; send them to us instead” (4a).

О-68 • ПОСАДИТЬ ИЗ ОГНЯ (ДА) В ПОЛЫМИЮ [PrepP; these forms only; adv; fixed WO] (to get) out of one difficult situation, condition etc and (fall) into an equally difficult or more difficult one: = out of the frying pan (and) into the fire.

Мы были остановлены караульными. На вопрос: кто едет? — ямщик отвечал громогласно: “Государь кум со своею хозяйкою”. Вдруг толпа гусаров окружила нас с ужасною бранью. “Выходи, беоз кум!” — сказал мне усатый вахмистр… Вахмистр повёл меня к майору. Савельч от меня не отставал, говоря про себя: “Вот тебе и государев кум! Из огоня да в полымы…” (Пушкин 2). We were stopped by the sentries. To the challenge, “Who goes there?” our driver replied in a thunderous voice, “The Sovereign’s trusty friend with his bride.” Suddenly a throng of Hussars surrounded us, swearing frightfully. “Get out of there, devil’s trusty friend!” the sergeant said to me…. The sergeant proceeded to conduct me to the major. Savelich followed right behind me, muttering to himself, “So much for the Sovereign’s trusty friend! Out of the frying pan into the fire!” (2a).

О-69 • КАК (ПУЩЕ обр) ОГНЯ БОЯТЬСЯ КОГО-ЧЕГО coll [κακ + NP; these forms only; adv (intensif)] (to fear s.o. or s.th.) very intensely: X боится Y-а как огня = X fears Y like the plague (like the very devil); X is scared stiff of Y; X lives in mortal fear of Y.

Борис Григорьевич боялся её [Зайцеву] как огня. Зайцева была из тех администраторов, которые свою малую, временную власть над людьми воспринимают как великую, вечную (Гре- кова 3). Boris Grigorievich feared her [Zaitseva] like the plague. Zaitseva was one of those administrators who perceive their limited temporary power over people as great and permanent… (3a).

О-70 • НА ОГОНЁК К КОМУ ЗАЙТИ, ЗАГЛЯНУТЬ, ЗАБЕЖАТЬ coll [PrepP; Invar; adv] (to call on s.o.) while passing by his home, having seen by his lighted window(s) that he is home (occas. may refer to one’s calling on s.o. at his office after hours etc): X зашёл к Y-у на огонёк = X saw Y’s light(s) (the light in Y’s window) and dropped in (decided to drop in etc).

[Михаил] хлопнул калиткой, топнул сапогами по мост- кам, a first раз не ползем, не на четвереньках, a как муж- чина, с распрымлённой спиной поднялся на крыльцо… Он ска- зал: “Шёл мимо — давай, думаю, на огонёк…” (Абрамов 1). Не [Mikhail] banged the gate, stamped his boots on the plank footpath… and for the first time went up to the porch, not crawling on all fours, but standing up straight like a man…. He said, “I was just passing by and I saw the light in the window, so…” (1a).

О-71 • (ИДТИ/ПОЙТИ) В ОГОНЬ И В ВОДУ ЗА КОГО-ЧТО, ЗА КЕМ coll [VP or PreP used as predic; subj: human or collect; often used with roron; fixed WO] to perform selfless acts without hesitation, despite personal risk or danger (out of devotion to some person, cause etc): X готов за Y-а в огонь и в воду = X would go through fire and water for Y; X would go through hell and (or) high water for Y; X would go to hell and back for Y.

…За каких-нибудь двадцать-тридцать минут Подрезов так накалил молодняк, что тот готов был ради него и в огонь, и в воду (Абрамов 1). …Within twenty or thirty minutes, Podrezov had the young men so revved up that they were ready to go through fire and water for him (1a).

О-72 • ПОЙТИ (СКВОЗЬ ЧЕРЕЗ, И) ОГНЬ И ВОДУ (ОГНИ И ВОДЫ) (И МЕДНЫЕ ТРУБЫ) coll [VP; subj: human; usu. past; the verb may take the final position, otherwise fixed WO] (of a person who, in the course
of a difficult or complex life, has acquired vast life experience; occas. of a person with a tarnished reputation, indiscriminating sexual experiences etc) to experience, endure much: Х прошёл огонь и воду (и медные трубы) = Х has been (gone) through fire and water; Х has survived fire and water; Х has been through the mill (through it all, through hell, through the wringer); Х has been there and back; [lim.] there’s nothing X doesn’t know.

Осталась она [при некоторых потом] потому, что как пострадавшая от Советской власти ждала себе от немецкого хорошего и, пройдя огонь и воды и медные трубы… решила, что и здесь не пропадёт (Рыбаков 1). She had stayed behind because she thought that, as someone who had suffered under Soviet rule, she could do well for herself with the Germans, and as she had already survived fire and water… she thought she would survive this, too (1a).

O-73 • КАК ОГОНЬКОМ coll [PrepP; Invar; adv] (to do sth.) with enthusiasm, animation: with zest (verve).

...А как работали, разве так, как теперь? С огоньком работали, с душой (Суслов 1). And how they worked, not at all like now! They worked with zest, with spirit (1a).

O-74 • ОГОНЬ ГОРОДИТЬ coll [VP; subj: human; usu. infin with для чего, стоит ли, не стоит, незачем etc; fixed WO] to undertake some bothersome and unnecessary matter: не надо было огород городить = 1 (we should) shouldn’t have started the whole thing (bothered, made a fuss etc) (in the first place); | зачем огород городить? = why go to the trouble (make a fuss etc)?

O-75 • В ОГОРОДЕ БУЗИНА, А В КИЕВЕ ДЯДЬКА [saying] there is no logical connection between the various things s.o. is saying: = you’re making apples and oranges; that’s (mixing) apples and oranges.

O-76 • КАК ОГУРЧИК (свежий) highly coll [как + NP; nom only; adv or subj-compl with быть, to (subj: human)) completely healthy-looking: (look be) the picture of health; (be look) fit as a fiddle.

[author’s usage] [Бургомистр]: Вспомните, кем я был при проклятом драконе? Больным, сумасшедшим. А теперь? Здорова как огурчик (Шварц 2). [B.:] Remember what I was like in the days of the accursed Dragon! I was sick, I was insane. But now I’m as fit as a fiddle (2b).

O-77 • ПО ОДЕЖКЕ (ПО ПЛАТЬЮ) ВСТРЕЧАЮТ, ПО УМУ ПРОВОЖАЮТ [saying; often only the first half of the saying is used] the first thing one notices when meeting s.o. is his outer appearance, but once one gets to know him it is his intelligence, personality etc that matters: = clothes count only for first impressions; looks (appearances) matter only upon first meeting; you are judged by appearances at first but by your mind later on; [when only the first half is used] people judge you by appearances; people treat you according to your clothes; beauty is a good letter of introduction.

[Виктория:] По одежке, значит, встречаете? [Калошин:] А ты думала? На этой работе глаз — первое дело… [Виктория:] А что — одежка? Есть большие люди, и одевают скромно… (Вампилов 1). [V.:] You mean you treat all guests according to their clothes? [K.:] What do you think? In this job you don’t get far without sharp eyes… [V:] What do clothes tell you? Plenty of important people dress modestly… (1a).

O-78 • ПО ОДЕЖКЕ ПРОТИВИГАЙ НОЖКИ [saying] live according to your means, in keeping with your income: = cut your coat according to your cloth; cut your coat to fit your cloth; put your hand no further than your sleeve will reach.

«Где же я денег возьму? Ты знаешь, а я законный брак вступить: две семьи содержать не могу, а вы с барином-то по одежке противи́гайте ножки» (Гончаров 1). “Where do I think I can get the money? You know I’m getting married! I can’t provide for two families, and you and your gentleman had better cut your coat according to your cloth” (1a). “Where do you think I can get the money? You know I’m getting married! I can’t keep two families, so you and your fine gentleman must cut your coat to fit your cloth” (1b).

O-79 • ТИНУТЬ ОДЕЯЛО НА СЕБЯ recent, coll [VP; subj: human or collect; usu. this WO] to pursue one’s own interests while disregarding the potentially adverse effect one’s actions may have on others involved (usu. in a situation involving the interests of many people or a group): Х тянуть одяло на себя = X tries to get more than his share (of the pie); X tries (seeks) to grab (get) the biggest piece (slice) of the pie; X takes (good) care of (watches out for, looks out for) number one; X doesn’t lose (never loses) sight of his own interests; X looks (watches) out for himself; [lim.] X tries to grab (seize) control (as much control as he can, power etc).

O-80 • (все) КАК ОДИН (ОДНА); КАК ОДИН ЧЕЛОВЕК [как + NP; these forms only; modif or adv; fixed WO] (of a group or crowd of people) absolutely everyone, excluding no one: one and all; all to a man; all, without exception; every (last) one of us (you, them); (right) down to the last man; [in refer. to everyone’s voicing some common opinion, supporting s.o. or sth. etc in a unified manner] as one man.

... Все, как один, остались скорбно сидеть в своём классе, не поднимаясь в кабинет физики… (Битов 2). ... One and all were still sitting mournfully in the classroom, not going up to the physics lab (2a). ♦ Женщины, стоявшие со мной в очереди, в разговоры старались не втягиваться. Все как одна утверждали, что их мужей взяли по ошибке и скоро выпустят… (Мандельштам 1). The women who stood in line with me tried not to get drawn into conversation. They all, without exception, said that their husbands had been arrested by mistake and would soon be released (1a).

O-81 • ОДИН ЗА ВСЕХ, ВСЕ ЗА ОДНОГО; ВСЕ ЗА ОДНОГО, ОДИН ЗА ВСЕХ [saying] each person (within a certain group) supports, defends, and feels bound by friendship to the others: = all for one and one for all.

«У них все за одного, один за всех. Знаешь, что у них на выпускном жетон будет написано: Счастье — в жизни, а жизнь — в работе” (Каверин 1). “They’re all for one and one for all. You know, the motto on their leaving certificates is: Happiness comes from life, and life from work”’ (1a).

O-82 • ОДИН ЗА ДРУГИМ [NP; fixed WO] each following the one in front of him or it: one after another (the other); one by one.

Опять шли гуськом тени одна за другой, всё шли, всё шли… (Салтыков-Щедрин 1). Again the shadows walked one after another in single file, kept walking, kept walking… (1a).

O-83 • ОДИН К ОДНОМУ1 (В ОДНОГО, В ОДИН); ОДНА К ОДНОЙ (В ОДНУ); ОДНО К ОДНОМУ (В ОДНО) all coll. usu. approv [NP; these forms only; subj-compl with быть, to (subj: human, animal, or concr. pl) or detached modif; fixed WO] (usu. in refer. to the physical features of

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some people, animals, or things) all are exceptional, or (when a particular quality is specified) all possess the positive quality in question to a great degree: one better than the other (the next); first-class (topnotch), every one of them; all equally good; you won't find a better bunch (group etc); each (one) more [AdjP] than the next.

[Нина:] А ты? Интересно работашь? [Лява:] Сверху! Чудом попал в самый интересный отдел... Там такие вопли! И атмосфера... какая атмосфера!.. А главное — люди, Нина, какие у нас люди — один к одному! (Розов 4). [Н.] But what about you? Is your work interesting? [L.:] I should say! By a miracle I managed to get into the most interesting department... The conditions are so marvellous. And the atmosphere—what an atmosphere!... But the main thing, Nina, is the people there—first-class, every one of them (4a).

O-84 • ОДИН К ОДНОМУ [postoить, скопировать, сделать и т.п. что] coll [NP; Invar; adv; fixed WO] (to copy sth., build or make a replica of sth. etc) such that the copy or replica turns out to look precisely the same as the original: (make [build etc]) an exact replica (carbon copy) (of sth.); (make [build etc] sth.) exactly like (sth. else); (make things so that they come out) exactly alike.

Сверх одного, по-настоящему стреляющего пистолета, были у нас две деревянные модели, которые я сделал с отцовского пистолета «ТТ» один к одному, миллиметр к миллиметру и выкрасил в чёрную бластную краску (Лимонов 1). В дополнение к одному пистолету, который действительно работал, у нас было два деревянных пистолета, которые я сделал после того, как он был завершен. Пистолеты были точными копиями, выполнены из оригинальной модели, и имели одинаковую краску.

O-85 • ОДИН НА ОДИН (c kem-чем) [NP; Invar; fixed WO]
1. останься (c kem-чем), поговорить (c kem) — и т.п. [subj-compl with copula (subj: human) or adv] (to remain with s.o. or sth., have a talk with s.o. etc) in private, without others: alone (with s.o. (sth.)); one on one.

Я снова останутся один на один со своим героем... (Аржак 2). Again I’ll remain alone with my hero... (2а).

2. биться, сражаться и т.п. ~ [adv] (to engage in combat, fight etc) without aid or support from others, without allies: alone against s.o. (sth.); single-handed; all by o.s.; [usu. when only two people are involved] one on one; in single combat.

Дедушка был один на один с десятым рассерженным ломовой извозчиком, которые готовы были своими ломами сделать из него котлету (Рыбаков 1). Grandfather was alone against ten infuriated wagon-drivers who intended to use their crowbars to turn him into mincemeat (1a).

O-86 • ОДИН-ОДИНЁХОНЕК (-ОДИНЁШЕНЬКЕ); ОДНА-ОДИНЕХОНЬКА (-ОДИНЕШЕНЬКА) all coll [AdjP; usu. nom; usu. subj-compl with copula (subj: human) or detached mod] absolutely and completely alone: all alone; all by one's lonesome; all by o.s.

Бывало, он меня не замечает, а я стою у двери и думаю: «Бедный, бедный старик! Нас много, мы играем, нам весело, а он — один-одинёнёшеньк...» (Толстой 2). Sometimes he did not notice me and I would stand at the door and think. Poor, poor old man! There are lots of us, we can play and it’s fun for us, but he—he’s all alone... (2b).

O-87 • В ОДИНОЧКУ [PrepP; Invar; adv] 1. separately, not with others, apart from others: alone; by itself (himself etc); singly; [in limited contexts; of people only] in solitude.

Выйдя из лесу, они увидели стоящий в одиночку дом. Coming out of the woods, they caught sight of a house standing by itself.

* Одно время начальник лагеря ещё такой приказ издал: ника́им заключённым в одиночку по зоне не ходить (Солженицын 7). At one time the camp commandant had given orders that zeks were not to walk about the camp singly (7c).

2. by one’s own efforts, without the participation of or help from others: [all] alone; on one’s own; by o.s.; single-handedly; [lim.] go it alone; make one’s own way (do one’s own thing etc).

Ему не нужна поддержка начальства, ему не нужна любовь друзей, душевная общность с женой, он умеет воевать в одиночку (Гроссман 2). No, he didn’t need the authorities’ support, his friends’ affection or his wife’s understanding; he could fight on alone (2а). ♦ «За обедом Марья Ивановна сказала Жене: «Егве́ния Николае́вна, если разрешите, я могу пойти вместе с вами... Вдвоём как-то легче». Жена смущилась, ответила: „Нет, нет, спасибо большое, уж это дело надо делать в одиночку“ (Гросс- маан 2). While they were eating, Maria Ivanovna said to Yeveginya: “Let me go with you, Yeveryenia Nikolaevna.... It’s always easier with someone else.” Yeveginya looked very embarrassed. “No, no,” she said, “but thank you very much. There are things one has to do on one’s own...” (2а).

O-88 • ОДНÓ К ОДНОМУ́ coll [NP; Invar; indep. clause or subj-compl with быть, быть, be, pres only; fixed WO] (this is a case in which) one trouble is coming right after another: (it’s) one thing after another; (it’s) one thing (trouble) on top of another; [lim.] it never rains but it pours; troubles never come singly.

[Василиса:] Гони! (Planem.) [Егор:] Что ты? [Василиса:] Я боюсь. [Егор:] За Марию? [Василиса:] И за неё, и... ох, как всё одно к одному! За тебя тоже боюсь (Сальский 1). [V.:] Yegor! (Bursts into tears) [Y.:] What’s the matter? [V.:] I’m afraid. [Y.:] For Maria? [V.:] For her too and—oh, troubles never come singly. I’m afraid for you too (1а).

O-89 • все ДО ОДНОГÓ (ДО ОДНОЙ, ДО ЕДИНОГó, ДО ЕДИНОЙ) coll [PrepP; these forms only: modif] (all) excepting no one: every last (single) one of; every last (single) [NP]; everyone (all) without exception; each and every one of; one (each) and all; (all) to a man; all down to the last; (all) right down to the last one; [usu. in contexts of killing, being killed etc] all (down) to the last man.

Поступаете опрометчиво, молодые люди. Через два дня здесь будет генерал Крымов. А мы вас всех запомним, до единого... (Трифонов 6). “You’re being hasty, young men. General Krymov will be here in two days, and we’ll remember you all, every single one of you” (6a). ♦ «Брё послышался сперва с ними [иностранными]. Последний раз со шведом. Мы его знаем и всех, кто был до него, всех до единого» (Рыбаков 2). “That’s a lie. You slept with [foreigners]. The last time it was with the Swede. We know about him, and we know about all the others before him, right down to the last one” (2а).

O-90 • ПО ОДНОМУ́ [PrepP; Invar; adv] singly, not all together, following in succession: one by one; one at a time; [lim.] in single file.

Альбом держат в кабинете Куэнко, впускают туда по одному му членам правления и запирают снаружи каждого на десять минут (Аксёнов 12). The album was kept in Kunenko’s office, and they let all members of the university board at a time for ten minutes and locked the door from the outside (12a).

O-91 • В ОДИНОЧКА́СЬ coll [PrepP; Invar; adv] in a very short period of time, almost instantly: overnight; in no time (at all); in nothing (no time) flat; suddenly; all of a sudden; at once; just like that; [when impulsiveness is emphasized] on the spur of the moment.
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Сама Анна Фёдоровна осталась... без матеря, когда Мур в одночасье бросила доктора Штёрха по мнимому вдохновению, выйдя одинажды из дому и как бы забыв вернуться (Уличная 2). Anna herself was... left without a mother, when, after a sudden inspiration, she left her home without any intention of returning (House on Ulitsa 2).

O-92 • НА СМЕРТНОМ ОДРЕ eleve; НА ОДРЕ СМЕРТИ obs [PrepP; these forms only; subj-compl with быть (subj: human), obj-compl with найти, застать кого (obj: human), or sent adv; fixed WO] when s.o. is dying, in a state close to death: on one's (s.o. 's) deathbed.

Поздно, поздно переживать человека на смертном одре (Абрамов 1). It's too late to re-educate a man, when he's on his deathbed (1a).

O-93 • БОЖИЙ ОДУВАНИЧК clove, iron [NP; fixed WO] a very old, frail person (usu. said condescendingly, although not unkindly; more often of a woman): (nice) little old lady (man); old grannie (grandpa).

Mitka was glistening with restrained joy. Triumph surged through every movement. Contrary to expectations, the lieutenant seemed not in the least put out... (2a).

O-94 • СВЕРХ (ПРОТИВ) (ВСЯКОГО) ОЖИДАНИЯ (ВСЯКИХ) ОЖИДАНИЙ; ВОПРЕКИ (ВСЯКОМУ) ОЖИДАНИЮ (ВСЯКИМ) ОЖИДАНИЯМ) [PrepP; these forms only; sent adv (parenth) in spite of or exceeding what is expected: contrary to (all) expectation(s); against all (one's) expectations.

Мысли лоснились держимаемой радостью. Торжество сквозило в каждом его движении. Сотник против ожидания показался Григорию нимало не скучившимся... (Шолохов 2). Mitka was glistening with restrained joy. Triumph surged through every movement. Contrary to expectations, the lieutenant seemed not in the least put out... (2a).

O-95 • ОЙ ЛИ? highly coll [Interj; Invar] used in reaction to a statement to show that one doubts, disbelieves, is skeptical of, or does not entirely agree with it (in some cases surprise is expressed as well): (oh) really (yeah)? is that so? you don't say (so)!(I'm not so sure (about that)); (lim.) is it (do you have, they etc)?

Нам так нужно, и мы в этом не виноваты. Не виноваты? Ой ли? (Аксёнов 6). That is what we need, and it is not our fault. Not our fault? Really? (6a). * [Verb:] В таком случае вы можете ему сказать... что я готова за него замуж выйти. [Шпигельский (с радостным изумлением):] Ой ли? (Тургенев 1). [V:] Then, you can tell him... that I am willing to marry him. [Sh. (with joyful amazement):] You don't say so! (1a). * [Мелания:] Птичка заснула, с каждым событием. Сдохнёт... [Ксения:] Ой ли? (Горький 2). [M:] He's pretending to be mad. Just pretending...... [K:] I'm not so sure (2a).

O-96 • НЕДРЕМАННОЕ ОКО iron [NP; sing only] a vigilant observation (formerly often used in relation to political police, it came to refer to censors, the KGB etc during the Soviet period): watchful (vigilant) eye; unslumbering (unblinking) eye.

...[Посреди толпы недремающим оком бдествовал неустрашимый штаб-офицер (Салтыков-Щедрин 1). ...[Among the crowd] the intrepid staff-officer was keeping vigil with watchful eye (1a).

O-97 • ОКО ЗА ОКО (, ЗУБ ЗА ЗУБ) lit [usu. indep. sent; fixed WO] an insult, injury is avenged in the same way, a punishment is as cruel as the crime: an eye for an eye (and a tooth for a tooth).

«Неужели, Юра, трудно понять, что если всегда „око за око“, то кровь никогда не кончится» (Максимов 3). “Surely it isn’t so hard to understand, Yura, that if it’s always ‘an eye for an eye’ there’ll never be an end to bloodshed” (3a).

O-98 • (ХОТЬ) ВИДИТ ОКО, ДА ЗУБ НЕЙМЕТ [indep. sent; fixed WO] the thing one strongly desires is or seems to be near, yet is not attainable: so near and yet so far.

< From Ivan Krylov’s fable Fox and the Grapes («Лисица и Виноград»), 1808.

O-99 • В ОКРУЖЕНИИ [PrepP; Invar; Prep, used with pl or collect nouns; the resulting Prepp is adv] 1. ~ кого together with or encircled by (other people): surrounded by; flanked by; accompanied by; in the company of.

Тогда Маргарита опять увидела Воланд. Он сел в окружении Абаддоны, Азазелло и ещё нескольких похожих на Абаддону... (Булгаков 9). Then Margarita again caught sight of Woland. He was walking, surrounded by Abaddon, Azzazello, and several others who resembled Abaddon... (9c).

2. ~ кого (having (some things) around (s.o. or sth.); among: in the midst of; surrounded by; amid; with... all around (s.o. [sth.]).

Когда стоял далеко от дороги, в окружении берёз. The cottage was set back from the road and surrounded by birches. * «Представляю себе: лежу я в гробу прекрасная и бледна, вся в окружении белых охр...» (Ахунин 8). “I imagine myself lying there in my coffin, all pale and beautiful, with white roses all around me” (8a).

O-100 • ОЛУХ ЦАРЯ НЕБЕСНОГО highly coll, derog. occas. humor [NP; fixed WO] a very stupid, dull-witted person: birdbrain; blockhead; half-wit; numskull.

O-101 • ТЯЖИЙ ОМУТ [NP; sing only; fixed WO] a quiet, secretive person who has the capacity for deep thoughts, emotional experiences, unexpected actions etc: still waters (run deep).

< From the saying «В тихом омуте черти водятся». See O-102.

O-102 • В ТЯХОМ ОМУТЕ ЧЕРТИ ВОДЯТСЯ [saying] a quiet, secretive person is capable of deeds that might seem unexpected of him: = still waters run deep.

«Одинцов очень мила — бессспорно, но она так холодна и строго себя держит, что...» — «В тихом омуте... ты знаешь!» — подхватил Барзов (Тургенев 2). “Madame Odintsov is very charming—there is no doubt about that—but so cold and reserved that...” “Still waters... you know,” put in Bazarov (2c). “Odintsova is very nice—no doubt, but her behavior’s so cold and severe that...” “Still waters run deep, you know!” Bazarov interrupted” (2g).

O-103 • СО ВСЕМИ ОНЁРАМИ obs, humor [PrepP; Invar; postmodif or subj-compl with быть (subj: abstr or conc); fixed WO] having, possessing, displaying etc every possible desirable feature (characteristic, aspect etc); with all the trimmings; with everything one could possibly want; with the works.

< «Онёр» (from the French ohneur) was a high trump card in some card games. The word is used in this idiom only.

O-104 • ИЗ ДРУГОЙ (НЕ ИЗ ТОЙ) ОПЕРЫ coll [PrepP; these forms only; subj-compl with быть (subj: usu. это); fixed WO] sth. is not related to the matter at hand: это из...
другой оперы = that’s another (a different) story; that’s a different matter (thing).


O-105 • НЕ ПОДДАВАТЬСЯ ОПИСАНИЮ [VP: subj: abstr] to be so strong, exceptional, far beyond the limits of the ordinary that it cannot be described: Х не поддаётся описанию ⇒ Х деликатен (defies) description; Х is beyond description; words cannot describe (express) Х.

Действие смертей и в особенности Суринамской жабы на Персию не поддаётся описанию (Булгаков 10). The effect of the deaths, especially that of the Surinam toad, upon Persikov десярии description (10a). The effect of the deaths, especially that of the Surinam toad, on Persikov defies description (10b).

O-106 • КАК ОПЛЕВАННЫЙ СТОИТ, СИДИТ, ХОДИТ, ОСТАЛСЯ И Т. П. highly coll [kaːk 'adj]; nom only; adv] (of a person who feels) deeply (and usu. undeservedly) embarrassed, offended, insulted: (Х стоял (сидел и т. п.)) как оплёванный ⇒ (X was standing (sitting etc) there) feeling deeply (bitterly, totally etc) humiliated; terribly horribly slighted; crushingly snubbed; feeling (as if he’s been) chewed up and spit (spat) out.

«Он, наверно, высушивал немецкий журнал „Ярбух фор психоаналитик удз психоанатологи“», — высказал предположение непонятный ученый. Берлажа стоял как оплётанный. А знатоки так и сыпали мудрёными выражениями из области теории и практики психоаналитика (Ильф и Петров 2). The quasi-man with the mustache suggested, “He probably subscribes to that German journal, Jahrbuch für Psychoanalytische und Psychopathologische Forschungen.” Berlaga stood there, completely humiliated, while the experts showered him with learned phrases from the theory and practice of psychoanalysis (2c).

O-107 • ГОРЫВЫЙ ОПЫТ: often наученный, прийт к чему; ГОРЫВЫМ ОПЫТОМ; убедиться НА (СОБЕМ) ГОРЫВОМ ОПЫТЕ [NP, sing only, or PrepP (adv); fixed WO] (through) difficult experiences: (learn sth. by (become wise from)) (one’s) bitter experience; (find sth. out) the hard way; (learn sth. in) the school of hard knocks.

«Вы меня понимаете?» — «Отлично понимаю, — серьёзно ответил Стравинский и, коснувшись колена поэта, добавил: — не волнуйтесь и продолжайте». — «Продолжай», — сказал Иван, стараясь попасть в тон Стравинскому и зная уже по горькому опыту, что лишь спокойствием поможет ему… (Булгаков 9). "Do you understand me?" “I understand very well,” Stravinsky answered seriously and, touching the poet’s knee, he added: “Don’t get upset. Continue please.” “I will continue,” said Ivan, trying to strike the same tone and knowing from bitter experience that only a calm approach could help him (9a).

O-108 • ОПЫТЬ ДВАДЦАТЬ ПЯТЬ! coll [Interj; Invar; fixed WO] (in refer. to sth. tiresome, constantly repeated) again the same thing: here we go again!; there you go again!; back to square one!; not again!; the same (old) thing (question etc) over and over (again)!

“Я бы тебя выколол, да вот дядя Илья не хочет. А за это ты нам с дядей Ильёй должна приснуть чего-нибудь закусить. Понял?" — «Понял», — «И холеры ты не понял», — «Я мамке скажу, она даст». — «Опять двадцать пять. Опять она мамке скажет. Да ты без мамки-то не можешь, что ли?» (Разутный 3). “I’d give you a good spanking, but Uncle Ilia doesn’t want me to. So in return you can bring me and Uncle Ilia something to eat. Got that?” “Yes.” “Like hell you have.” “I’ll tell Mummy, and she’ll give me something.” “Here we go again! Telling Mummy again. Can’t you do it without telling Mummy?” (3a).

O-109 • ОПЯТЬ ЖЕ coll [AdvP; Invar; sent adv (parenth)]] in addition to sth. (just mentioned): and then (again); what’s more: on top of that; and besides

«Было случай скandal, он конец человек. Я британские общины знают — в обществе ему никто руки не подаст, хоть обс — сущие ордена с головы до ног. Опять же два убийства — это не шутки» (Акубин 5). “After all, if there is a scandal, he’s finished. I know how the British are about such things—no one in society will ever offer him their hand again, even if he is covered with medals from head to foot. And then again, two murders is no laughing matter” (5a).

O-110 • ОРЕЛ ИЛИ РЕШКА? [indep sent; fixed WO] the question asked when playing pitch-and-toss (орлянка): heads or tails?

O-111 • РАЗДЕЛЫВАТЬ РАЗДЕЛАТЬ (ОТДЕЛЫВАТЬ/ ОТДЕЛАТЬ) ПОД ОРЕХ coll [VP; subj: human; usu. pvf] 1. ~ кого to scold s.o. severely, criticize s.o. mercilessly: X разделал Y-a под орех ⇒ X gave it to Y hot (but good); X gave Y a going-over (a good dressing-down); X cut (picked) Y to pieces; X let Y have it (with both barrels).

Дело разбиралось в клубе, на собрании городской комсомольской ячейки. Я отлично помню Лёву на трибуна — разделал несчастного Зыму под орех (Рыбаков 1). The case was dealt with at the club at a meeting of the town Komsomol cell. I can remember Lyova on the platform perfectly, as he gave the wretched Zyama a going-over… (1a).

2. ~ кого-что [obj: usu. pl or collect] to defeat (the enemy, an athletic team, a competitor etc) overwhelmingly: X-ы разделали Y-ов под орех ⇒ Xs crushed (rotted, creamed, licked) Ys; Xs made mincemeat out of Ys; Xs wiped (mopped) (up) the floor with Ys.

3. ~ что to do sth. thoroughly, well: X разделал Y под орех ⇒ X did a splendid (fine, crackerjack) job (with (on) Y).

O-112 • НА ОРЕХИ достается, попадает, будет кому (от кого), задать кому coll; на КАЛАЧИ obs [PrepP; these forms only; adv] (s.o. will be scolded, punished, or to scold, punish s.o.) severely (occas, used in refer. to driving an opponent hard or being driven hard in a military conflict, athletic competition etc): X-у достанется на орехи (от Y-a) (Y задаст X-у на орехи) ⇒ X will (really) get it; X will be in for it; X will catch hell (for sth.); X will take (get) his lumps; Y will make it hot for X; Y will give X what for (a going-over, a good dressing-down); Y will let X have it (with both barrels).

“Я тоже шепотом: „Любовник, что ли, скрёбётся?“ — „Какой любовник? Револ, кажется, раньше времени из поездки вернулся. Будет теперь мне на орехи — замучил старик проверками“» (Чернёнов 1). “I whisper back, ‘Is that your lover scratching at the door?’ ‘What lover? I think Revaz is back from his trip earlier than planned. I’ll really get it now—the old man is exhausting me with his suspicions’” (1a). • [Лебедь:] Только смотри и види не по-другому, что у меня занял [деньги], хранит тебя бог! А то доста-ется мне на орехи от кружевного варенья! (Чехов 4). [Л.:] Only mind you don’t let on that you borrowed it [the money] from me—God help you—or Madame Gooseberry-Jam will make it hot for me! (4a).

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O-113 • ЩЕЛКАТЬ КАК ОРЁХИ (ОРЕШКИ) что coll [VP; subj: human; obj: pl] to solve (problems, crossword puzzles etc) easily and quickly: X щёлкает Y-н и как орехи = X cracks (solves) Ys just like that; X breezes (whizzes) right through Ys; [lim.] Ys are a snap (as easy as pie) for X.

По части кроссвордов я с тобой соревноваться не могу, ты ведь щёлкаешь их как орехи. И я не могу с ним соперничать, когда приходит в голову ему решить задачи, как детские игры.

O-114 • КРЕПКИЙ (ТВЁРДЫЙ) ОРЁХ (ОРЕХ) coll [NP; sing only] 1. a person who is unbending, difficult to deal with, convince, subjugate etc: tough cookie (nut, customer); hard nut (to crack).

«Напрасно вы упрекаете... Ответьте нам на один вопрос, и мы отпустим вас в камеру отдыхать. Так всё-таки кто же вас заспал в деревню Красное?» — «Кому надо, тот знает», — сказал Чонкин, отдуваясь. Сильно кувалдой дали ему в подбородок... «Крепкий орешек», — потирая ушибленную руку, задумчиво сказал полковник (Войнович 4). «Там нетрудного не будет. Ответьте нам на один вопрос, и мы отпустим вас в камеру отдыхать... » (1a).

2. (of a matter, concept) difficult to understand, (of a problem) difficult to solve, (of an undertaking) difficult to accomplish, (of a fortress, city etc) difficult to capture etc: tough (hard) nut to crack.

O-115 • БРАТЬСЯ/ВЗЯТЬСЯ ЗА ОРУЖИЕ [VP; subj: human or collect] to begin an armed struggle: X-ы взялись за оружие = Xs took up arms; Xs went to war.

Плохи времена, подумал дядя Сандро, если этот табачник взялся за оружие (Искандер 3). Times are bad, thought Uncle Sandro, if this tobacco grower has taken up arms (3a).

O-116 • НОСИТЬ ОРУЖИЕ [VP; subj: human; usu. infin. after способный, уметь etc] (to be able, know how etc) to use arms and (be in adequate physical condition) to put that ability to use: X способен носить оружие = X is able to bear (capable of bearing) arms.

На сходе постановили мобилизовать всех способных носить оружие, от шестнадцати и до семидесяти лет (Шолохов 4). At a village meeting it was decided to mobilise everyone capable of bearing arms, from the age of sixteen to seventy (4a).

O-117 • СКЛАДЫВАТЬ/СЛОЖИТЬ ОРУЖИЕ [VP; subj: human or collect] 1. Also: КЛАСТЬ/ПОЛОЖИТЬ/БРОСАТЬ/БРОСИТЬ ОРУЖИЕ to cease armed resistance, surrender: X-ы сложили оружие = Xs laid down (their) arms.

«Русская армия под угрозой окружения с фланга и тыла сложила оружие» (Солジェнцын 1). “The Russian army laid down its arms under threat of encirclement from the flank and the rear” (1a).

2. to stop fighting for sth., abandon some course of action, admit defeat: X сложил оружие = X gave up (the fight (the struggle etc)).

Письмо с отъездом, полученное Хлебцевичем на этот раз, было уже чрезвычайно резким и даже несколько угрожающим... Невероятно, но факт: Хлебцевич не сложил оружия и после всего (Владимир 1). The letter rejecting his proposal which Khlebschvicek received this time was extremely abrupt and even threatening in character... However unlikely it may seem in Soviet conditions, Khlebschvicek still did not give up even after this refusal (1a).

O-118 • БИТЬ КОГДА (БОРÓТЬСЯ С КЕМ) ЕГО (ЕГО СОБСТВЕННОГО) ОРУЖИЕМ [VP; subj: human; obj: usu. противника, апара etc] to achieve superiority over an opponent by employing his own arguments, methods etc: X бил Y-а его же оружием = X fought Y with Y’s own weapon(s); X used Y’s own weapons against him; X beat Y at Y’s own game; X turned the tables on Y; [lim.] X fight fire with fire.

...Пытаясь бороться с врагами их же оружием, то есть, в свою очередь, предавая их, Львы никак не удавалось перенять их, перегонять в предательстве (Бытов 2)... Although he tried to fight his enemies with their own weapon, that is, betrayed them in his turn, Lyovenko simply could not outplay them, outdo them in treachery (2a).

O-119 • БРЯЦАТЬ (ПОТРЯСАТЬ) ОРУЖИЕМ lit [VP; subj: human or collect] to threaten with military action, attack; by extension to threaten with hostile actions: X-ы начали браться оружием = Xs began to brandish weapons (to rattle their sabers). О БРЯЦАНИЕ ОРУЖИЕМ [NP] ≃ saber-rattling.

«Это легко браться оружием, когда подписано перемирие» (Эренбург 1). “It’s easy to brandish weapons when an armistice has been signed” (1a).

O-120 • ПЕТЬ (ВОСКЛИЧИВАТЬ, ВОЗДАВАТЬ) ОСАНЬЮ кому-чему obs, lit [VP; subj: human] to extol s.o.: X пел осану Y-у = X sang hosannas to Y.

O-121 • БУРИДАНОВ ОСЁЛ lit [NP; sing only; fixed WO] an extremely indecisive person who is unable to choose between two equally desirable options: Buridan’s ass.

< The idiom derives from the name of Jean Buridan, a French philosopher of the 14th cent., who wrote not about an ass but about a dog who, although dying of hunger, could not choose between two equidistant piles of food.

O-122 • КАК ОСЁЛ (МУЛ) упрямый, упьется coll [kak + NP; nom only; adv] (to be) very stubborn, (to resist) strongly: (as) stubborn as a mule; (balk) like a mule.

Он был добр и человеколюбив, лечил бедных больных и крестьян даром, сам ходил в их конюхи и избы и оставлял деньги на лекарство, но при том был и упрям, как мул. Сбить его с его идеи, если она засела у него в голове, было невозможно (Достоевский 2). He was kind and philanthropic, treated poor patients and peasants for nothing, visited their hovels and cottages himself, and left them money for medications, yet for all that he was stubborn as a mule. Once an idea had lodged itself in his head, it was impossible to shake it out of him (2a).

O-123 • ДАВАТЬ/ДАТЬ ОСЕЧКУ (в чём) coll [VP; subj: human or abstr] (of a person) to make a blunder, do sth. foolish, (of a method, approach etc) to fail, go wrong: X дал осечку = person X goofed (slipped up etc); thing X went wrong (fell flat, misfired etc); (doing sth.) wasn’t one of person X’s better (smarter) moves (ideas); (doing sth.) wasn’t a smart thing to do (a smart move etc); X missed the mark (was wide of the mark etc).

Правда, в последние годы, то ли под влиянием радиации, то ли ещё что, но негритянские гены, между нами говоря, стали не те. Осечки дают. Нет-нет да и появится смутлёнок (Искандер 4). True, in recent years, whether under the influence of radiation, or whatever, Negro genes aren’t what they used to be, just between us. They misfire. Every once in a while you get a little brown-skinned baby (4a).
O-124 • НАБИВА́ТЬ НАБИВА́ТЬ ОСКО́МИНУ́ coll [VP; usu. pfv] 1. (чем) [subj: usu. human] to get an astringent sensation in one’s mouth from sth. sour, tart (often unripe apples, berries etc): X набил оскомину (Y-ям) = X had a bitter taste in his mouth (from Ys); Ys left (X with) a bitter taste in X’s mouth; Ys made X’s mouth pucker; X set his teeth on edge (with Ys); Ys set (put) X’s teeth on edge.

«Они должны понять, что мы только можем прониграть, действуя наступательно…» — думал Кутузов. Он знал, что не надо срывать яблока, пока оно зелено. Оно само упадет, когда будет зрело, а сорвёшь зелёное, испортится яблоко… и сам оскомину набьёшь (Толстой 7). “They must see,” he [Kutuzov] thought, “that we can only lose by taking the offensive…” He knew that the apple must not be picked while it is still green. It will fall of itself, if it is left; but if you pick it unripe you spoil the apple… and set your teeth on edge (7a).

2. ~ (кому) [subj: usu. abstr] (of a statement, idea, procedure etc) to elicit an unfavorable reaction, cause s.o. to react negatively (by being or having been overused, often repeated, boring etc): X набил (Y-у) оскомину = X sets Y’s teeth on edge; Y is has become) sick and tired of X; Y is fed up with X; X набил оскомину (тут, м-б) = сномину (вид, клише и т.п.) = hackneyed (trite, tired old etc) joke (phrase etc); cliché.

“Пары, встречи, караулы — вся эта дворцовая служба набила мне оскомину” (Шолохов 2). “I am sick and tired of the whole business of service at court with its parades, receptions, changing of the guard and so on” (2a).

O-125 • ВАЛАА́МОВА ОСЛИ́ЦА (ЗАГОВОРИ́ЛЯ) lit [NP (sing only) or VPsub (usu. indep. clause)] a meek, quiet person who unexpectedly begins to protest sth. or express his opinion about sth.: Balaam’s ass (has begun to speak).

“Ну, теперь тебе удовольствие будет, и именно на твою тему. Насмеёшься. У вас валамова ослица заговорила, да как говорит-то, как говорит!” Валамовову ослицей оказался лакей Смердяков (Достоевский 1). “Well, now you’re going to have some fun, and precisely in your line. You’ll laugh your head off. Balaam’s ass, here, has started to talk, and what a talker, what a talker!” Balaam’s ass turned out to be the lackey Smerdyakov (1a).

< From the Bible (Num. 22:27–28).

O-126 • НАКАКОМ ОСНОВÁНИИ? [PrepP; Invar; sent adv or subord Conj; fixed WO] why? with what justification?: on what basis (grounds)?; for what reason?; on account of what?

“На каком основании я арестован?” (Семёнов 1). “…On what basis have I been arrested?” (1a). • Не каком же основании вы были так щедры к господину Ракитину? (Достоевский 2).

“And on what grounds were you so generous to Mr. Rakitin?” (2a).

O-127 • НА ОСНОВÁНИИ ЧЕГО, В ЧЕМ; НА ОСНОВÁНÍЯ ЧЕГО, КАКИМ; НА ОСНОВЕ ЧЕГО, КАКОЙ [PrepP; these forms only; Prep; the resulting PrepP is adv] stemming, proceeding from sth., founded on sth.: on the basis (the strength) of; based on; on the ground(s) of (that…); assuming sth. as the basis; on a [AdjP] basis; on [AdjP] grounds; [lim.] on account of.

Рекомендации по этому вопросу разработаны на основе мнения экспертов. Recommendations on this issue have been formulated on the basis of expert opinions. • Фашизм пришёл к идею уничтожения целых слоёв населения, национальных и расовых объединений на основе того, что вероятность скрытого и явного противодействия в этих слоях и прослояках выше, чем в других группах или слоях (Гроссман 2). Fascism arrived at the idea of the liquidation of entire strata of the population, of entire nations and races, on the grounds that there was a greater probability of overt or covert opposition among these groupings than among others… (2a).

O-128 • ДО ОСНОВАНИЯ разрушить что, истребить, посягнуть что-что и т.п. [PrepP; Invar; adv] (to destroy some group of people, some phenomenon etc) completely, (to shock s.o.) profoundly etc: разрушить (истребить) ~ totally (utterly) destroy (ruin, annihilate) s.o. (sth.); wipe out s.o. (sth.); [lim.] raze (level) sth. (to the ground); destroy sth. to its (the) roots; [potрiвь ~ shake sth. to its foundations; shake s.o. badly.

…Ошибка [Ивана] Грозного была не в том, что он казнил бояр, а в том, что мало казнил, не истребил четыре главных бо́ярских рода до самого основания (Рыбаков 2). …Ivan’s mistake was not that he punished them [the nobles], but that he didn’t punish them enough, he did not destroy the four main noble clans right down to their roots (2a).

O-129 • НЕ БЕЗ ОСНОВАНИЯ [PrepP; Invar; adv] not accidentally, having a rational cause: not without (good) reason; with good reason.

…[Хачик] всё заталкивал крупного мужчину поближе к мощному кactusу, а тот пуливо озирался, не без основания опасаясь напороться на него… (Искандер 5). …[He [Khachik] kept jostling a big man closer to a mighty cactus, while the man looked back fearfully, afraid of running into it, and with good reason… (5a).

O-130 • ЛЕЖАТЬ В ОСНОВЕ ЧЕГО; ЛОЖИТЬСЯ/ЛЕЧЬ В ОСНОВЕ ЧЕГО [VP; subj: abstr] to be or become the main principle, guiding idea of sth.: X лежит в основе (лёг в основу) Y-а = X is has become) the basis of (for) Y: X has formed the basis of Y; X has served as the basis for Y; X underlies Y; X is has become) the essential principle of Y; Y is has become) based on X.

Мысль, внезапно поразившая ночью на улице Штрума, легла в основу новой теории (Гроссман 2). Victor’s sudden inspiration, the idea that had come to him on the street that night, formed the basis of an entirely new theory (2a).

O-131 • В ОСНОВАНИИ [PrepP; Invar; adv or sent adv (parenth)] 1. (appl) in more cases than not, (done) to a greater extent than not etc: basically; mainly; in the main; for the most part; mostly; on the whole; by and large.

…В основном подписывались [под заявлением] охотно. Один из чувств справедливости, другие из хорошего отношения к автору этих строк, третьи из ненависти к Турганову и Иванову (Войнович 3). …On the whole they signed [the petition] gladly. Some out of a sense of justice, others out of regard for the author, still others out of hatred for Turganov and Ivanov (3a).

2. predominantly: mainly; mostly; primarily.


O-132 • КЛАСТЬ/ПОЛОЖИТЬ что В ОСНОВУ ЧЕГО; БРАТЬ/ВЗЯТЬ что ЗА ОСНОВУ ЧЕГО; ПРИНИМАТЬ/ПРИЯТЬ ЗА ОСНОВУ что [VP; subj: human or collect] to use sth. as the main premise, foundation: X положил Y в основу Z-a = X used (assumed) Y as the basis of (for) Z; X made Y (X used Y as) the basic premise of Z; X used Y as the essential principle of Z.

В основу рассказа автор положил реальное событие, изменения лишь время и место действия. The author used real events as the basis for the story, changing only the time and place of the action.
O-134 • НИЧЕГО ОСОБЕННОГО [NP; Invar; indep. sent or obj; fixed WO] (of a person’s appearance or specific quality, an impression made by a person or thing, an event etc) not in any way above the average, not at all outstanding: nothing special (much); nothing out of the ordinary; nothing extraordinary (exceptional, unusual) (about…); nothing to write home about.

Вроде бы англичанка и англичанка, ничего особенного… (Акунин 7) She appeared to be a typical Englishwoman, nothing out of the ordinary… (7a). ♦ Проходит месяц, другой, и получую от Сои письмо… И на конверте обратный адрес. Ничего особенного, а всё же письмо! Значит, не всё кончено, не нитрижка, не дичный роман (Рыбаков 1). A month or two went by and I received a letter from Sonya… Nothing special, but it was a letter, all the same, and she had written her address on the envelope. So it wasn’t all over, it hadn’t been an infatuation or a summer fling (1a).

O-135 • В ОСОБЕННОСТИ [PrepP; Invar; adv (used as restr marker) or sent adv] most of all: in particular; particularly; especially; above all; [after a negation] certainly not. Странная вещь сердце человеческое вообще, и женское в особенности! (Лермонтов 1). The human heart is a funny thing, particularly the heart of a woman (1c).

O-136 • СЧАСТЛИВО ОСТАВАТЬСЯ! col. [formula phrase; Invar; fixed WO] used to wish those staying behind well when departing: all the best; take care (of yourself); [lim.] good luck (to you); lots of luck.

Подбежал вестовой солдат, прося огонь в пехоту. «Огоньку горяченького в пехоту! Счастливо оставаться, земляк, благодаря за огонь…» — говорят он, унося куда-то в темноту краснеющую головешку (Толстой 4). …A cheerful soldier ran up begging a little fire for the infantry. “A nice little hot torch for the infantry! Good luck to you, fellow countrymen. Thanks for the fire…” said he carrying away into the darkness a glowing stick (4b).

O-137 • ОСТАВЛЯТЬ/ОСТАВИТЬ ЗА СОБОЙ [VP] 1. ~ кого-что обособли. Also: ОСТАВЛЯТЬ/ОСТАВИТЬ ПО- ЗАДИ СЕБЯ obsolete [subj and obj; usu. human or collect, occas. a noun denoting the result of s.o.’s endeavours, creative efforts etc] to outdo, excel s.o. or sth.: X оставил за собой Y-a = X left Y far behind; X left Y in the dust; X surpassed (outdistanced, outstripped, bested) Y. 2. ~ что [subj: human] to retain sth. for o.s.: X оставил Y за собой = X kept Y (for himself); X reserved (saved) Y for himself; X set Y aside for himself.

“…Скажите, что я, по обстоятельствам, не могу оставить квартиры за собой…» (Гончаров 1). “…Tell him that because of changed circumstances I cannot keep the flat…” (1a).

O-138 • (кому) НИЧЕГО (ДРУГОГО) НЕ ОСТАЕТСЯ/НЕ ОСТАНЕТСЯ (~, как...) [VPsubj/gen; impers; if past, usu. impfv; if fut, usu. pfv; fixed WO (var. without другого)] there is only one possible course of action (left) for s.o. to take: X у ничего не остаётся, как… ≃ X has no (other) choice (alternative) but…; there is nothing (left) for X (to do) but…

Ей читали их [письма] только по разу, а то и совсем не читали, в двух-трёх словах передавали то, что в них было, и всё, и стараже ничего не оставалось, как обходить этой малостью (Распутин 3). These [letters] were read to her once only, if that. Often she got no more than a summary of the contents in two or three words, and she [the old lady] had no choice but to make do with this (3a).

O-139 • НЕ ОСТАНАВЛИВАТЬСЯ/НЕ ОСТАНОВИТЬСЯ ПЕРЕД ЧЕМ [VP; subj: human or collect; neg only; often foll. by tem, that-clause] not to vacillate about committing some act—often reprehensible, extreme, or criminal in nature—in pursuit of one’s goals: X не остановился перед Y-ом (перед тем, чтобы сделать Y) ≃ X did not stop at (doing) Y; X did not hesitate to do Y; X had no qualms (compunctions, second thoughts) about doing Y; X was (fully) prepared to do Y; X didn’t let Y stop him; [lim.] X was not above doing Y; || X ни перед чем не остановится ≃ X will stop at nothing.

“…Раз уж не остановилась перед тем, чтобы собак убить, раз уж решилась пренебречь бабьей жабой, да и в самом деле чуть старушку в могилу не свела, — значит, и впрямь влюбилась без всяких предвкушений…” (Акунин 6). “If she was prepared to kill the dogs, if she could decide to end her grandmother’s life just like that—and she really did almost send the old woman to her grave—that means she really had fallen in love, and her love had no bounds…” (6a).

O-140 • ОСТАНОВКА ЗА КЕМ-ЧЕМ [NP; Invar; the resulting phrase is VPsubj with быть,] there is a delay because of s.o. or sth. (because s.o. or sth. is missing, unavailable etc): остановка за Y-ом ≃ the only (the one) thing stopping us (them etc) is X; the only thing holding us (them etc) up is X; the only difficulty (problem, snag, hitch) is X.

[Ольга] — Только растёт и крепнет одна мечта… [Ирина:] Уехать в Москву… Только вот остановка за бедной Машей. [Ольга:] Маша будет приезжать в Москву на всё лето, каждый год (Чехов 5). [О:] …Just one dream grows stronger and stronger…. [1:] To go to Moscow… The one thing that stops us is poor Masha. [O:] Masha will be coming to Moscow for the whole summer every year (5c).

O-141 • БЕЗ ОСТАТКА [PrepP; Invar; modif or adv; often after весь, целиком, полностью etc] entirely: fully; completely; || отдаваясь чему — ~ hold nothing back; withhold nothing (not the slightest bit etc); || нечезнуть — ~ vanish (disappear) without a trace.

Я был весь, без остатка, поглощён рассматриванием слепого красного цветка… (Кацавей 3). I became entirely absorbed in examining the ripe red flower… (3a). ♦ Он жил убеждённостью в необходимости своей работы, которой отдавался целиком, весь без остатка (Еропеев 3). He lived by the conviction of the necessity of his work, to which he gave himself completely, withholding not the slightest bit (3a).

O-142 • С ОСТЕРЕВЕНИЕМ работать, спорить, драться и т.п. [PrepP; Invar; adv] (to work, argue, fight, do sth.) in a wildly excited fashion, in a state of uncontrolled frenzy; frantically; furiously; frenziedly; ferociously; like crazy (mad); like a madman (a madwoman, a maniac).

Особенно сильно чесалось тело ночью. Даренский просыпался и с остервенением долго драл ногтями кожу на груди (Гроссман 2). It was worst of all at night. He would wake up and scratch furiously at his chest (2a).
O-143 • ЗАДАВАТЬ/ЗАДАТЬ (ДАВАТЬ/ДАТЬ) ОСТРАСТ-КУ кому obs, coll [VP; subj: human; usu. pfv] to frighten s.o. severely through harsh reprimands, threats, punishment etc with the goal of preventing him from acting in a reprehensible, undesirable etc manner; X задал Y-e острость = X put the fear of God into Y; X gave Y a good scare; X instilled fear into Y; X read Y the riot act.

[Хлестаков:] О! Я шутить не люблю. Я им [чиновникам] всем задал острость. Меня сам государственный совет боится (Гоголь 4). [Kh.: Oh! I’m not one to play games! I put the fear of God into every last one of them [the officials]! Even the cabinet is scared stiff of me (4f)].

O-144 • ХОДИТЬ ПО ОСТРИЮ (ПО ЛЁЗВИЮ) НОЖА [VP; subj: human; the verb may take the final position, otherwise fixed WO] to take a great risk, do sth. that might have dangerous consequences for o.s.; X ходит по острюю ножа = X is walking a tightrope; X is living (sitting) on a razor’s edge; X is (skating) on thin ice.

Работая одновременно на две разведки, он ходил по острюю ножа: каждую минуту боялся разоблачения. Working simultaneously for two intelligence agencies, he was walking a tightrope: he lived in constant fear of exposure.

O-145 • ХОТЬ ОТБАВЛЯЙ кого-чего (у кого) coll [хоть + VP; Invar; quantit subj-comp with быть, (subj/gen: any common noun), more often pres; fixed WO] a large or excessive number or amount of (people, some type of person, things, some substance etc): X-ов (у Y-а) хоть отбавляй = there are (Y has) more than enough Xs; there are (Y has) plenty of Xs; there is (Y has) an abundance of Xs; there are (Y has) Xs galore; Y has enough and to spare of Xs; there is no end of Xs; there are Xs everywhere.

Добилися… он [Митька] офицерского чина, да не так, как Григорий Мелеков, рискну головой и бесшабашно героюствовал. Чтобы выслужиться в карательном отряде, от человека требовались иные качества... А качества этих у Митьки было хоть отбавляй… (Шолохов 5). […Mitka] had acquired officer’s rank, and not like Grigory Melekhov, by risking his neck in reckless exploits. Meritorious service in a punitive detachment required other qualities… And Mitka had enough and to spare of such qualities (5a).

O-146 • СДЕЛАТЬ ОТБИВНУЮ из кого; СДЕЛАТЬ (ОТБИВНУЮ) КОТЕЛЮ; ФАРИШ СДЕЛАТЬ all highly coll [VP; subj: human] to beat s.o. severely: X сделает из Y-а отбивную = X will turn Y into mincemeat; X will make mincemeat out of Y; X will beat Y black and blue (to a pulp).

Дедушка был один на один с десятком рассвирепевших ломовых извозчиков, которые готовы были своими ломами сделать из него котелю (Рыбаков 1). Grandfather was alone against ten infuriated wagon-drivers who intended to use their crowbars to turn him into mincemeat (1a).

O-147 • БЫТЬ/ЗАБИТЬ (ДАВАТЬ/ДАТЬ) ОТБОЙ coll [VP; subj: human] to relinquish a previous decision, plan, opinion etc; X бьёт отбой ≃ X beats a retreat; X backs down (out); X changes his tune; X backpedals; [lim.] X pulls (draws) in his horns.

Они [Ахсёны] пришли мне смягченное письмо, в котором… были отбой насчёт приезда Васи… Хотя за последние два года он донимал их своим своевольным поведением и они сами требовали, чтобы я взял его к себе, но теперь, когда дело перешло в практическую плоскость, им стало страшно отпустить его в такой дальней путь (Гинзбург 2). They [the Akessonovs] sent me an embarrassed letter in which they… changed their tune on the subject of Vasya. Although over the past two years he had almost worn them down with his wayward behavior and they themselves had demanded that I take him off their hands, now that it had become a practical possibility they were afraid to send him on such a long journey (2a).

O-148 • ДАВАТЬ/ДАТЬ ОТБОЙ [VP; subj: human] 1. to hang up the telephone receiver: X дал отбой ≃ X hung up (the phone); X rang off. 2. See O-147 БЫТЬ/ЗАБИТЬ ОТБОЙ.

O-149 • ОТБОЙ (-у) НЕТ (у кого) от кого coll [VP; imper] there are more than enough or too many of a certain type or category of people: (у Y-a) от Y-о́й отбоя нет = X has no end of Ys; there is no end to the Ys; [lim.] X has to beat (the) Ys off with a stick; X can’t fight off the Ys; there is no coping with the Ys.

…[Дедушка был] красавец, много разъезжал, привык к хозяйственной жизни и, понимает, к какой хозяйственной, от женщин у него отбоя не было… (Рыбаков 1). …He [grandfather] was a very handsome man, who had travelled a lot and become accustomed to the bachelor life, and what a bachelor life! He’d had no end of women… (1a).

O-150 • ДО ОТВАЛА (-у) есть, наедаться, кормить коло́ с food; X will turn Y into mincemeat; X will make mincemeat out of Y; X will beat Y black and blue (to a pulp).

Рассказывая по роскошным паркам, чуть тронутым августовской жарой, госпожа де Кальвимон жаловалась на то, что в замке нет никаких развлечений. Принц в ответ сказал всё, что полагается говорить в таких случаях, то есть что желания госпожи являются для него законом… (Булгаков 5). Strolling through the magnificent parks, barely touched by the yellow of August, Madame de Calvimont complained to the Prince about the absence of any entertainments in the chateau. In reply, the Prince said everything that is commonly said on such occasions, namely that to him the lady’s wishes were law (5a).

O-151 • В ОТВЕТ [PrepP; Invar 1. [adv] (to say, write, or do sth.) in one’s turn, as an answer or reaction to another’s words, a rejoinder to a remark etc: in reply; in response; in return; in (for) answer; [lim.] one’s answer is (to do sth.).

Рассказывая по роскошным паркам, чуть тронутым августовской жарой, госпожа де Кальвимон жаловалась на то, что в замке нет никаких развлечений. Принц в ответ сказал всё, что полагается говорить в таких случаях, то есть что желания госпожи являются для него законом… (Булгаков 5). Strolling through the magnificent parks, barely touched by the yellow of August, Madame de Calvimont complained to the Prince about the absence of any entertainments in the chateau. In reply, the Prince said everything that is commonly said on such occasions, namely that to him the lady’s wishes were law (5a).

2. [predic] (s.o.) answers: (s.o. says sth., s.o.’s voice is heard etc) in reply; (s.o.) replies.

Но это оказалось вовсе не Тальберг. Три двери прогремели, и глухо на лестнице прозвучал Николки удивлённый голос. Голос в ответ. За голосами по лестнице стали переваливаться кованные сапоги и прискал (Булгаков 3). But it wasn’t Talberg at all. Three doors rattled, and Nikolka’s astonished voice was heard on the stairs. A voice in reply. Studded soles and a ring of feet. Variation of a tone behind the voices (3b).

3. ~ на что [PrepP] reacting to sth. (verbally, by a gesture, or by an action): in reply (response, answer) to; [lim.] replying (responding, reacting) to.

Допустим малодушне — пошевелив палец, прокуратор оставил его и забегал по балкону… На одном из поворотов он круто остановился и свистнул. В ответ на этот свист в сумерках загремел низкий лай, и из сада выскочил на балкон гигантский острощёкий пёс серой шерсти, в ошейнике с золочёными бляшками (Булгаков 9). Letting faintheartedness get the best of him, and
shifting the cloak, the procurator left it lying there and began pacing around the balcony… On one of his turns about the balcony he stopped abruptly and whistled. In reply to his whistle a low growl sounded in the shadows, and a gigantic gray dog with pointed ears and a gold-studded collar bounded onto the balcony from the garden (9c).

О-152 • ДЕРЖАТЬ ОТВЕТ (перед кем, за что): ДАВАТЬ ОТВЕТ кому [VP; subj: human; usu. fut or infin (with придётся, умей etc)] to be accountable to s.o. for sth., (to be required or choose to) bear responsibility for sth. etc: X будет держать ответ (перед Y-ом за Z) = X will have to answer (to Y) for Z; X will be held responsible (to Y) for Z.

Возможно, ещё придётся держать ответ в какой-нибудь инстанции за «срыв мероприятия». Это, впрочем, меньше всего меня пугало (Грецкова 1). Perhaps I’ll be held responsible to some higher-up or other for “undermining an organized activity.” That was the least of my worries (1b).

О-153 • НИ ОТВЕТА НИ ПРИВЕТА от кому coll [NP gen; Invar; used as subj/gen with не бытьт и, fixed WO] no news, information, response has been received from s.o. (usu. s.o. who was expected to have kept in touch, answered an inquiry etc): от X-а ни ответа ни привета = there’s been no word from X; person Y hasn’t heard a word (a thing) from X.

Он обещал писать, но пока ни ответа ни привета. He promised to write, but so far there hasn’t been a word from him.

О-154 • В ОТВЕТЕ (за кого-что) [PrepP; Invar; subj-compl with бытьт и (subj: human or collect)] one bears responsibility for s.o. or sth.: X в ответе за Y-a = X is responsible (accountable) for Y; X has to answer for Y; X is answerable for Y.

«…Я знаю ничего не знаю… Ты и Загрёбный были свидетелями, вы и в ответе!» (Гончаров 1). “…I know nothing about it…. You and Zatyzorty were the witnesses, you’re responsible” (1b).

О-155 • ПРИЗЫВАТЬ/ПРИЗВАТЬ К ОТВЕТУ кого-что [VP; subj and obj: human or collect; often pfv fut or pfv infin with нужно, следует, предложить, требовать etc or in a чтобы-clause] to hold a person or organization responsible for sth.: X призывает Y-a к ответу = X will call (hold) Y to account; X will hold Y accountable (for sth.); X will make Y answer (for sth.); X will hold (make) Y answerable (for sth.); X will bring Y to book (concerning sth.).

«…Сами они уже не уважаемые члены общества, но вориши, коих суд и полиция в любой миг могут призвать к ответу» (Аксёнов 6). “…They themselves are not respectable members of society but petty thieves who can be called to account at any moment by the courts and the police” (6a).

О-156 • ДЛЯ ОТВОДА ГЛАЗ coll [PrepP; Invar; adv or subj-compl with бытьт и (subj: usu. conc or abstr); fixed WO] in order to distract attention from sth., mislead s.o.: as a diversionary move (tactic, maneuver); as a smoke screen (in order) to divert attention from sth.; [lim.] (using sth.) as a front; just to fool s.o.; X был для отвода глаз = X was a diversionary move (tactic, maneuver); X was a smoke screen; [lim.] X was a front.

В сетку для отвода глаз бросаете кусок мыла «Кармен»… но в секции детских игрушек берёте огромную резиновую рыбку, выпускаете из неё воздух, затычку прикрываете за щеку, а плоскую рыбу — себе под свитер (Аксёнов 6). As a diversionary move you throw into your basket a piece of Carmen brand soap… but in the children’s toy section you pick up an enormous rubber fish, let the air out of it, then hide the plug in your mouth and the flattened fish under your sweater (6a).

О-157 • С ПОЛНОЙ ОТДАЧЕЙ (СИЛ) работать, трудиться и т. п. [PrepP; these forms only; adv] (to work, do sth.) putting forth every effort possible: (work etc) with total dedication; wholeheartedly; zealously; || X работает (играет и т. п.) с полной отдачей = X is giving it his all (his best shot); X is going all out.

With no other explanation than that old man… forced him to work with total dedication (1a).

О-158 • БЕЗ ОТДАЧИ брать, занимать, давать что coll [PrepP; Invar; adv] (to take, borrow sth.) without planning to return it, (to give sth. to s.o.) without asking him to return it: [in refer. to taking, borrowing sth.] never returning it (them); never intending to return it (them); with no intention of returning it (them); [in refer. to giving sth.] for good; for keeps.

Он был убеждён, что… он сотворён богом так, что должен жить в тридцать тысяч дохода и занимать всегда высшее положение в обществе. Он так твёрдо верил в это, что, глядя на него, и другие были убеждены в этом и не отказывали ему ни в высшем положении в свете, ни в деньгах, которые он, очевидно без отказа, занимал у встречного и поперечного (Толстой 5). He believed that… God had created him to spend thirty thousand a year and always to occupy a prominent position in society. He was so firmly convinced of this that looking at him others were persuaded of it too, and refused him neither a leading place in society nor the money he borrowed right and left, obviously with no notion of repaying it (5a).

О-159 • ДЕШЕВО (ЛЕГКО, СЧАСТЛИВО) ОТДЕЛЯТЬСЯ coll [VP; subj: human; more often past; fixed WO] to avoid or extricate o.s. from a disagreeable or dangerous situation without incurring significant trouble, losses, repercussions etc: X дешево отделялся = X got off (pretty so etc) easy (easily); X got off lightly (cheaply); [lim.] X had a lucky escape.

Только не думайте, что вы дешево отделялись. Я ещё сердца, «Сейчас же убьём со стола!» — крикнул я… (Грецкова 1). But you’re not getting off that easy. I’m still mad. “Clear the table this minute!” I shouted. (1b). • Он [дядя Сандро] ехал на грузовике вместе со своими земляками на какие-то большие похороны в селе Атары. Навстречу им мчался грузовик, возвращавшийся целым; с ним — похоронные… Машину столкнули. К счастью, никого не убило, но было много раненых. Дядя Сандро сравнительно легко отделялся, он вывинул ногу и потеряла один зуб (Искандер 3). He [Uncle Sandro] was riding in a truck with friends from home, on the way to a big funeral in the village of Atary. A truck bringing people back from the same funeral came hurtling toward them… The truck collided. Luckily no one was killed, but many people were hurt. Uncle Sandro got off comparatively lightly: he dislocated his foot and lost one tooth (3a). • Крикнули протянув через
стол заготовленный ультиматум Военно-революционного комитета, но Каледин, отстраняя бумагу движением белой ладони, твёрдо сказал: «Нет смысла терять время на ознакомление каждого члена правительства в отдельности с этим документом. Потрудитесь прочитать вслух ваш ультиматум» (Шолохов 3). Кривошлыков выделил подготовленный текст воинствующей комиссией ультиматума, но Каледин отменил за ним с небольшой вспышкой и сказал, что не даст в Спасскому и валяционно: с ним не будет времени. Каледин приказал начать работу, несмотря на его протест.

O-161 • НЕ ДАВАТЬ НИ ОТДЫХА (у) НИ СРОКА (у) кому оз. coll [VP; subj: usu. human; the verb may take the final position, otherwise fixed WO] not to give s.o. any time or opportunity at all to rest, relax etc (by forcing him to work nonstop, pestering him continually etc). X не давал Y-u ни отдыха ни срока ≈ X didn’t give Y a moment’s peace (a moment’s rest).

O-162 • НА ЗАСЛУЖЕННОМ ОТДЫХЕ быть, находиться; НА ЗАСЛУЖЕННЫЙ ОТДЫХ уйти, отправиться и т.п. [PrepP; these forms only; subj-comp1 with copula (subj: human)] (to be) retired from work, take the step of retiring from work (usu. upon reaching the appropriate age): (be in (enjoy)(a (one’s) well-deserved (well-earned) retirement); (go (step)) into (a (one’s) well-deserved (well-earned) retirement); (take) a well-deserved (well-earned) retirement.

O-163 • НЕ ОТКАЖИ́ТЬ(ТЕ) что сделать [formula phrase; these forms only (used as part of a polite request)] please agree (to do sth.): (please) be so kind (good) as to…

O-164 • НЕ ОТКАЖУ́СЬ; НЕ ОТКАЗА́ЛСЯ БЫ coll [VP; 1st pers fut or subjunctive only; often foll. by infin] (usu. used as a response to an invitation or offer to participate in sth., to help o.s. to sth. etc) I am (or we are) not adverse to and would even quite enjoy (doing sth.): I (we) wouldn’t mind…; don’t mind if I (we) do; I (we) won’t (can’t) say no (to that); how can I (we) say no (refuse, pass that up)?. I (we) won’t turn that down (pass that up).

“Что хочешь?” — «Спасибо, не отказываю». “Would you like some tea?” — “Thanks, don’t mind if I do.”

O-165 • БЕЗ ОТКАЗА действовать, работать [PrepP; Invar; adv] (of a machine, mechanism etc) (to work, run etc) very well, without problems: (run) smoothly; (work (run)) perfectly (fine etc).

Хотя эти часы и старые, а работают без отказа. This watch may be old, but it runs perfectly.

O-166 • ДО ОТКАЗА coll [PrepP; Invar; adv] to the limit: набить (забить, заполнить что, быть, набитым и т.п.) ≈ fill sth. (be filled, pack sth., be packed etc) to capacity; fill sth. (be filled etc) to overflowing (to bursting, to the bursting point, to the brim); pack sth. (be packed etc) tight (as tight as it will go); cram sth. (be crammed); [in refer. to a room, dwelling etc only] pack sth. (be packed etc) to the rafters; [нажать (на) что, открыть, закрыть что] ≈ (push (press) sth. down etc) all the way; (push (press) sth. down etc) as far as it will (can) go; (turn sth.) on full blast; (turn sth.) all the way on (off).

Вокзал был полон, перрон забит людьми до отказа (Рыбаков 2). The station was crowded and the platform was packed to capacity (2a). ◆ ◆ ◆...[Галя] открытия до отказа все крашены. В рёве воды раздалась и встала перед зеркалом (Аксёнов 7). ◆...[Таня] turned on the taps full blast. To the roar of the water she pulled off her clothes and picked herself up in front of the full-length mirror (7a).

O-167 • НЕЛЬЗЯ ОТКАЗА́ТЬ кому в чём coll; НЕЛЬЗЯ ОТНИТЬ у кого что от чьего oбс; НЕ ОТКАЖЕШЬ кому в чём coll; НЕ ОТНИМЕШЬ что от кого у кого coll [impers predic with быть, pres or past (variants with нельзя), or neg pfv fut, gener. 2nd pers sing (variants with не)] one cannot help but recognize, admit that s.o. has a certain quality: X у нельзя отказать Y в е- ≈ one cannot deny X Y; there’s no denying that X has Y (is [Adj]); you can’t take that away from X; you can’t say X is not [Adj].

Ему нельзя было отказывать в недюжинной эрудиции, которую… могла покорить собеседника… (Ерофеев 3). One couldn’t deny him the remarkable erudition with which he was able to overwhelm anyone he talked to… (3a). ◆ ◆ ◆ «Что ты, не знаешь своей жены? Хозяйственная баба. Этого у неё не отнимешь. И уж если на то пошло, так с лесозаготовками у неё не хуже было, чем у других. А даже лучше» (Абрамов 1). “Don’t you know your own wife? She’s an efficient woman: that you can’t take away from her. And while we’re on the subject, her timber production was no worse than anyone else’s. Better even” (1a).

O-168 • НИ В ЧЁМ СЕБЕ́ НЕ ОТКÁЗЫВА́ТЬ [VP; subj: human] not to limit o.s. in anything, to live in grand style: X ни в чём себе не отказывает ≈ X denies himself nothing; X does not refuse himself anything; X spares no expense to gratify his fancies (desires etc); [lim.] X doesn’t have to deny (to refuse) himself anything.

Там у неё [Одицковой] был великолепный, отлично убран- ный дом, прекрасный сад с оранжерейкой: покойный Одицов ни в чём себе не отказывал (Тургенев 2). There she [Mme Odintsova] was mistress of a magnificent, excellently appointed house with a beautiful garden and conservatories: the late Odintsov had denied himself nothing (2e). There she [Mme Odintsova] had a magnificent, splendidly furnished house and a beautiful garden, with conservatories; her late husband had spared no expense to gratify his fancies (2b).

O-169 • ОТКÁЗЫВА́ТЬ СЕБЕ́ в чём [VP; subj: human] to limit o.s. in sth.: X отказывает себе в Y-e ≈ X denies himself Y.

Их сердца наполнились гордостью. Вот она, их страна, удивительная бригада мирового пролетариата… Да, они живут по картонам, отказывают себе во всём, зато они строят новый мир (Рыбаков 2). Their hearts swelled with pride. This was their country, the shock brigade of the world proletariat…. True, they had ration cards and denied themselves everything, but they were building a new world (2a).

O-170 • НЕ ОТКЛÁДЫВАЙ НА ЗÀВТРА ТО, ЧТО МОЖНО (МОЖЕШЬ) СДЕЛАТЬ СЕГОДНЯ [sayimg] (usu. said as advice to s.o. to overcome his laziness or reluctance to do sth.) do what you have to do right away: don’t put off till tomorrow what you can do today.

O-171 • КАТИТЬСЯ/ПОКАТИ́ТЬСЯ ПОД ОТКÓС [VP] 1. Also: ИДТИ/ПОЙТИ ПОД ОТКÓС [subj: usu. abstr, often dela, всё] to deteriorate sharply, collapse; X катится под откос ≈ X is on the road to ruin; X is falling apart; X is going to pot (to ruin); [of plans, s.o.’s career etc] X пошёл под откос ≈ X got derailed.
3. держаться ≈ [adv] (of a person) (to remain) separate, isolated from others, not (to associate) with others: X держался на отлете ≈ X kept his distance (maintained a distance); X kept to himself; X kept (held himself) aloof.

Он всегда держался на отлете — не знаю, от застенчивости это или от самомнения. Не всегда кивает алооф—я не донную если ооут ооут ооут ооут шиинс или конскуит.

O-176 • В ОТЛИЧИЕ ОТ что-нибудь [PrepP; Invar; Prep; the resulting PrepP is adv] as distinct from: unlike; in contrast to; as opposed to; [lim.] as compared to.

…[Щупов] не берёт взять или берёт не со всех, в отличие от старого директора, который на том и погорел, что брал без разбору (Войнович 6). …[Shchupov] didn’t take bribes, or at least he didn’t take them indiscriminately—Unlike the old director, whose downfall, indeed, had been that he took bribes from everyone (6a).

O-177 • ДАВАТЬ/ДАТЬ ОТЛУП кому высоко coll, often humor [VP; subj: human or collect] to reject outright s.o.’s request, claim, marriage proposal etc (usu. used in refer. to an employment situation or love relationship): X дал Y отлуп ≈ X sent Y packing (about Y’s business); X gave the brush-off; X turned thumbs down on Y (gave thumbs down to Y); Y got a flat rejection from X; X gave Y the (old) heave-ho (the ax, the boot); [in refer. to breaking off one’s relationship with one’s lover, spouse etc] X told Y to hit the road.

Он сейчас уже не хочет увольнять, но еще не решает, кому бы хотел отлупить; он очень держится на отлете, не хочет показывать, на кого он смотрит. He não wants to fire anyone, but is still thinking about whom he will fire; he is very aloof, does not want to show whom he is looking at.

O-178 • ПОЛУЧАТЬ/ПОЛУЧИТЬ ОТЛУП высоко coll, often humor [VP; subj: human or collect] to be rejected outright after making a request, claim, marriage proposal etc (usu. used in ref. to an employment situation or love relationship): X получил отлуп ≈ X was sent packing (about his business); X got the brush-off; X got (was given) the thumbs down; X got a flat rejection; X got the (old) heave-ho (the ax, the boot); [in refer. to being rejected by one’s lover, spouse etc] X was told to hit the road.

С пьым упорством я противоречил Надеину в отмстку за его слова о русских (Коротков 1). Я ничего Надеин с сщенок обыностностию по патьем за его слова о русских (Коротков 1a).

O-180 • В НЕКОТОРОМ ОТНОШЕНИИ; В НЕКОТОРЫХ ОТНОШЕНИЯХ [PrepP; these forms only; usu. sent adv; fixed WO] to a certain extent, from a certain point of view: in certain (some) respects (ways); in a way; in a (certain) sense.

В некоторых отношениях и судьба их была одинакова: оба женились по любви, оба скоро овдовели, у обоих осталось по ребёнку (Пушкин 1). In certain respects, even fate had treated them similarly: both had married for love and soon lost their wives; and each was left with a child (1a). In some respects their fates had been similar: both had married for love, both had soon been widowed and each had been left with a single child (1c).
О-182 • ВЫЯСНИТЬ/ВЫЯСНИТЬ ОТНОШЕНИЯ (с кем) coll [VP; subj: human] to discuss and resolve the problem spots in an interpersonal relationship, air and get over mutual resentments: X и Y выясняют отношения ≈ X and Y are sorting out (clarifying) their relationship; | X и Y-и недалеко выяснить отношения ≈ X and Y need to clean out the air; X and Y need to have it out.

«Семья тем и отличается от канцелярий, что в ней не ведутся протоколы и акты происшествий. Кроме того, выяснять отношения сейчас, а тем более прошлые отношения — поздно» (Залынин 1). “The difference between a family and an office is that in a family you don’t keep minutes and detailed records. Besides, it’s too late now for us to sort out our relationship, let alone our past relationship” (1a).

О-183 • ВСЕ ВОЗМОЖНЫЕ ОТНОШЕНИЯ [PrepP; Invar; usu. modif; fixed WO] in all aspects: in every respect (way); in all respects.

“Кажется, что такое здесь пустынные души,” — сказала она, привыкая во всех отношениях… (Гоголь 3). “Very well, then, listen to what sort of thing these dead souls are,” said the lady who was agreeable in all respects… (3b).

О-184 • ВО МНОГИХ ОТНОШЕНИЯХ [PrepP; Invar; modif, adv, or sent adv] with regard to many characteristics or particulars: in many respects; in many ways; [lim.] on many points; | ~ легко (лучше, проще и т. п.) ≈ in many ways easier (better, simpler etc); easier (better, simpler) в many respects (ways).

…Во многих отношениях цирк был совершенно таким же, как прочие советские учреждения… (Улицкая 1). …In many respects the circus was exactly the same as other Soviet institutions… (1a).

О-185 • ОТРЫВАЙИ/ОТРЫВАЙ ОТ СЕБЯ (что) coll [VP; subj: human; usu. impfv] to sacrifice sth getState to repulse s.o.’s attack: X-и отрывали от Y-а ≈ X drove (beat) back Ys; X repelled Ys; X sent Ys on their way.

“Бог милостив: сознайте нас довольно, пороюсь много, пущу вас вычистить. Ад в самом дидже Пугачёву” (Пугачев 2). “The Lord is merciful: we have enough soldiers and plenty of powder, and I’ve cleaned out the cannon. With a little luck we’ll drive back Pugachov” (2a). “God is merciful. We have enough soldiers, plenty of powder, and I’ve cleaned out the cannon. Maybe we’ll be able to send Pugachov on his way” (2c).

2. to offer resistance to s.o.’s actions or words: X дал Y-у ≈ X fought back; X repulsed (rebuffed) Y.

…Жена его всем своим обликом выразила готовность дать отпор явно приближающемуся, но еще недостаточно приближавшемуся оксороению её роду (Искандер 5). …His wife’s whole attitude expressed preparedness to repulse the obviously nearing, but as yet insufficiently near, insult to her clan (5a).

О-188 • ОТРЫВАЙТЬ/ОТРЫВАТЬ ОТ СЕБЯ (что) coll [VP; subj: human; usu. impfv] to sacrifice sth; to get rid of s.o.; to do away with; to repulse the obviously nearing, but as yet insufficiently near, insult to her clan (5a).

О-189 • НЕ ОТРЫВАЙСЯ [Verbal Adv; Invar; adv] 1. ~ смотреть, глядеть на кого-что, следить за кем-чем (to look at s.o. or sth.) intently, constantly, without looking away: X не отрываясь смотрел на Y-a ≈ X kept (was) staring at Y; X fixed his eyes (had his eyes fixed) on Y; X did not take his eyes off Y; X gazed fixedly at Y; X watched Y (stared at Y) intently.

…Борисов хлопнул [тыльный бистр] Сталина по голове и затрепел руку от боли, но тут же выражение боли на его лице сменилось выражением смертельного страха… Он раскрыл рот и смотрел на Голубева не отрываясь, словно загипнотизированный. А тот и сам до смерти перепугался (Войнович 2). …Borisov whacked the [back of the brush] Stalin on the head, then shook his hand in pain. Instantly, the expression of pain on his face changed into one of mortal fear… He opened his mouth and stared at Golubev as if hypnotized. Golubev, meanwhile, was scared to death himself (2a).

2. работать, читать, играть, пить и т.п. ~ (to work, read, play an instrument, drink alcohol etc) continuously, without interruption: nonstop; without stopping (ceasing, cease, pause, a break); [lim.] without (a) letup; [of reading only] (read through) without putting it (the book) down; | выпить не отрываясь ≈ drink in (at) one go; drink (drain) in one draft; drink straight down.

Книга оказалась увлекательной, и я читал её три часа не отрываясь, пока не закончил. The book proved to be quite engrossing, and I read it without putting it down for three hours until I finished it. Он взял стакан, пальцы дрожали, и осушил его не отрываясь (Домбровский 2). He took the glass, fingers trembling, and drained it in one draught (2a).

О-190 • В ОТРЫВЕ от чегото [PrepP; Invar; the resulting PrepP is adv] separately (from sth.): in isolation from; [lim.] ignoring.

Нельзя анализировать эту работу в отрыве от основных философских течений того времени. One can’t analyze this work ignoring the basic philosophical movements of the time.
O-192 • ПОДАВА́ТЬ/ПОДА́ТЬ В ОТСТА́ВКУ [VP; subj: human; usu. this WO] to submit a written notification about leaving one’s position or retiring from one’s job: X подал в отставку = X submitted (filed, sent, turned in) his resignation (papers; letter); X filed (tendered) his resignation; [in refer. to retirement] X filed for retirement; X submitted (filed, turned in, put in) his retirement papers; [in military contexts] X sent in his papers.

Nосачевский подал в отставку по собственной воле и уехал из К. навсегда, ибо оставаться не было никакой возможности (Акунин 2). Nosachevsky voluntarily submitted his resignation and left K., for it was quite impossible for him to stay there (2a).

O-193 • ПОЛУЧА́ТЬ/ПОЛУЧИ́ТЬ ОТСТА́ВКУ coll [VP; subj: human] to be rejected by one’s sweetheart or lover: X получил отставку = X got jilted (dumped); X got the ax (the boot, the heave-ho, the air, the gate); X was told to hit the road.

O-194 • ЛИРИЧЕСКОЕ ОСТУПЛЁНИЕ lit, occas. humor [NP; fixed WO] a divergence from the theme of a lecture, speech, story etc. that allows the speaker or narrator to express some emotion: lyrical digression.

O-195 • ОСТУПСТВИЕ ВСЯКОГО ПРИСУ́ТСТВИЯ often humor [NP; fixed WO] the state of being mentally absent from what is going on around one: (s.o. is) out of it; (s.o. is) out to lunch; (s.o. is) off in space; there’s nobody home.

O-196 • БЛИСТА́ТЬ (СВОЙМ) ОСТУПСТВИЕМ lit, iron [VP; subj: human, abstr, or concr] to be noticeably absent from somewhere, draw attention to o.s. or itself by being absent: X блестал своим отсутствием = X was conspicuous by his absence; X was conspicuously absent.

“Я для пущей вражды нанес на конверте „Его высокоблагородию статскому советнику Брилингу… либо, за отсутствием онного, его высокопреосвященству господину обер-полицмейстеру“” (Акунин 8). “In order to emphasize its importance I wrote on the envelope: To be delivered to His Honor State Counselor Brilling… or in his absence to His Excellency the Chief of Police”” (8a).

2. ~ всём-чему in connection with the unavailability, complete absence of a person or thing: for lack (want) of; in the absence of.

За отсутствием пристойной обуви я носила нелевые казанские сапожки с киевской ярмарки (Мандельштам 2). …For want of proper shoes, I was wearing a grotesque pair of Kazan boots which I had bought at the Kiev fair… (2a).

O-197 • ЗА ОСТУПСТВИЕМ [PrepP; Invar; the resulting PrepP is adv] 1. ~ како в connection with a person’s temporary absence from a given place at a given time: in the absence of.

Она вот ни разу не выдала, чтобы пьяный приставал к миллиционеру, значит, прекрасно отдаёт себя отчёта в том, что ему… можно и выгодно, а что — нет! (Залыгин 1). She’d never seen a drunkard pestering a policeman: that meant they knew perfectly well what they could do, what was worth trying, and what wasn’t (1a). & Письмо писала молодая сиделка. Руки ей дрожали, она не отдавала себе отчёта в том, что делает… (Федин 1). A young nurse was writing a letter. Her hands were trembling and she was not aware of what she was doing… (1a).

O-198 • ОТДАВА́ТЬ/ОТДА́ТЬ (ДАВА́ТЬ/ДАТЬ) СЕБЕ ОТЧЁТ в чём [VP; subj: human; more often impv; often foll. by in the tom, that; fixed WO] to comprehend, apprehend sth.; X отдаёт себе отчёта в том, что… = X realizes (understands, knows, is aware) that… || Neg X не отдаёт себе отчёта в том, что… = X has no idea…

Она взглянула в глаза и вспомнила, как свой пристав к миллиционеру, значит, прекрасно отдаёт себе отчёта в том, что ему… можно и выгодно, а что — нет! (Залыгин 1). She’d never seen a drunkard pestering a policeman: that meant they knew perfectly well what they could do, what was worth trying, and what wasn’t (1a). & Письмо писала молодая сиделка. Руки ей дрожали, она не отдавала себе отчёта в том, что делает… (Федин 1). A young nurse was writing a letter. Her hands were trembling and she was not aware of what she was doing… (1a).

O-199 • НА ОТШИБКИ coll [PrepP; Invar] 1. (чего) [adv, sub-comp], with copula (subj: concr), or nonagreeing post-modif; may be foll. by the name of a place (rare) set apart, quite a distance away (from some place): at a distance from; in an out-of-the-way place (part of town etc); far off; far away (from); way over (out) there; in a secluded (remote) spot (place); [usu. after another adverbial] out on its own; [lim.] an isolated [NP].

Дом престарелых. Не обжитое, не больничное. Прочий забор из железобетонных плит, стальные ворота. Дом расположен на отшибе города (Гальего 1). The old folks’ home. Not a boarding house or a hospital. A sturdy wall of reinforced concrete slabs and a steel gate. Located in an out-of-the-way part of town (1a). & Жил он [Камгу] немного на отшибе, поблизости от леса (Искандер 5). Kamug lived in a rather secluded spot, near the forest (5a). & Пройдя часть пути берегом Тёны, поднялся он к стоявшим на отшибе амбарам… (Войнович 4). Going part of the way along the banks of the Tyopa, he then climbed up to a spot where a few isolated barns stood (4a).

2. держаться, чувствовать себя и т.п. ~ (от чего) [adv or subj-compl with bytъ, subj: human] to be, choose to be etc) isolated, separate from others, (to feel) estranged: X (держится) на отшибе (от Y-ов) = X keeps aloof (apart) from Ys; X keeps his distance (maintains a distance); X keeps to himself; X feels alienated (cut off).

O-200 • В ОХА́ПКУ схватить кого-что, грызеть кого и т.п.; в ОХА́ПКЕ держать, нести кого-что и т.п. both coll [PrepP; these forms only; adv] (to take hold of, grab, hold, carry etc s.o. or sth.) with both arms around him or it: (throw) one’s arms around s.o. (sth.); (grab) hold, carry etc s.o. (sth.) with both one’s arms wrapped around him (it etc).

Наконец, Зинаида схватила его в охапку и больше не выпустала (Григорьев 4). Finally Zinaida threw her arms around him and wouldn’t let him go (4a).

O-201 • ÔХИ ДА (И) ВЗДОХИ coll [NP; pl only; fixed WO] complaints, lamentations: moans and groans; moaning and groaning.

Он вздыхал, проклинал себя, ворчал с боку на бок, извивался, и не находил. Они и вздохи его достигли даже до ушей Захара (Гончаров 1). He sighed, cursed himself, turned from side to side, looked for someone to blame and could not find anyone. His moans and groans even reached Zakhar’s ears (1a).

O-202 • ÔХОТА ПУ́ЩЕ НЕВО́ЛИ [saying] when one does sth. willingly and for one’s own pleasure it does not seem difficult, burdensome etc (said when a person undertakes
st. that others might consider unpleasant, too labor-intensive etc): = when you do something by choice (for fun) it doesn’t seem hard; work you enjoy never feels too hard; [lim.] a willing horse needs no spur.

O-203 • В ОХОТКУ subst [PrepP; Invar] 1. [adv] (to do sth.) willingly, enthusiastically: gladly; with pleasure; (be) keen on (doing sth.); || Neg в не в охотку = (be) none too eager (anxious) (to do sth.); [lim.] have to be begged.

[Firsc:] Прежде у нас на балах танцевали генералы, бароны, адмиралы, а теперь посылаем за почтовым чиновником и начальником станции, да и те в охотку идут (Чехов 2). [Firsc:] In the old days there were generals, barons, admirals dancing at our parties, and now we send for the post-office clerk and the stationmaster, and even they are none too anxious to come (2d). [Firsc:] Time was we had generals and barons and admirals at our parties, and now who do we get? The postmaster, the stationmaster. And even they have to be begged (2b).

2. ~ комя [usu. subj-compl with быть (subj: concn, abstr, or infin)] sth. (or doing sth.) gives s.o. pleasure, a feeling of satisfaction: X Y-u в охотку = Y likes (enjoys, fancies) (doing) X; Y gets a kick out of (doing) X.

«Думают, дай даже грибы (грибы), может, кому в охотку придутся. Кушайте, если нравятся» (Распутин 3). “So I thought I’d get them [the mushrooms] out, in case anybody fancied them. Help yourselves if you like them” (3a).

O-204 • В ОХОТУ highly coll [PrepP; Invar] 1. (to do sth.) with enjoyment: with pleasure; willingly; with a willing heart.

«А Марья Афанасьевна была супруга поистине золотая. В своё время из светских чаровницы враз перестроилась в матиондриарш, а после и в помещицы. И всё её притворство, от души и в охоту» (Акунин 6). “And Marya Afanasievna was an absolute treasure as a wife. She had made the change from high-society charmer to mother and commander’s wife and later to lady of the manor in stride. All with absolute sincerity and with a willing heart” (6a).

2. ~ комя [subj-compl with быть (subj: infin)] doing sth. is pleasant for s.o.: X у делат Y в охоту = X likes doing Y; X does Y willingly.

«…Я разобрала сегодня ваши чулки, — сказала она… — У вас некому разбирать, а мне в охоту» (Гончаров 1). “I’ve just been sorting your stockings,” she said… “it’s not as if you had someone to sort them for you, and anyway, I like doing it” (1c).

O-205 • ОТБИВАТЬ/ОТБИТЬ ОХОТУ у кого к чему от чем делать coll [VP; subj: abstr or human; more often pfl] to cause s.o. to lose the desire to do sth.; X отбив Y-u охоту делать Z = X killed (squelched) Y’s desire (cured Y of the desire) to do Z; X made Y lose interest in doing Z; X made Y lose Y’s taste for doing Z; X discouraged Y’s inclination to do Z.

…знакомство с русской историей могло бы давно отбить охоту искать какую-то руку справедливости, какой-то высший всенародный смысл в цепи русских дел… (Солженицын 2). An acquaintance with Russian history might long ago have discouraged any inclination to look for the hand of justice, or for some higher cosmic meaning, in the tale of Russia’s woes… (2a).

O-206 • ОХУЛКИ (ПОХУЛЫ) НА РУКУ НЕ КЛАСТЬ (НЕ ПОЛОЖИТЬ) obs [VP; subj: human; the verb may take the initial position, otherwise, fixed WO] not to overlook one’s own interests, not to fail to exploit an opportunity from which one might gain sth.; X охулки на рукав не кладёт = X doesn’t let an opportunity pass him by; X doesn’t pass up (miss out on) an opportunity; X doesn’t lose sight of his own interests.

O-207 • НАТЯГИВАТЬ/НАТИНУТЬ ОЦЕНКУ (ОТ-МЕТКУ) комя [VP; subj: human] to give a student a higher grade than deserved: X натянул Y-у оценку = X gave Y an undeserved (undeserved, unmerited, unearned) high grade (mark); X inflated (was generous with) Y’s grade; X gave Y an undeserved (unmerited, unearned, inflated) A (B etc.) grade; X adjusted Y’s grade upwards; [when giving a passing grade to a failing student] X gave Y a (questionable) passing (pass) grade (mark).

Поскольку он был спортивной гордостью школы, то преподаватели, скрывшишься, ставили ему сильно натянутые тройки без особых пререканий (Улицкая 1). Since he was the sports star of the school his teachers usually bit the bullet and awarded him highly questionable pass marks without too much trouble (1a).

O-208 • СО ВСЕЙ (С ПОЛНОЙ) ОЧЕВИДНОСТЬЮ свидетельствует, показывает, вытекает, следует и т.п. [PrepP; these forms only; adv] completely, without leaving any doubt: (most) convincingly; beyond the shadow of a doubt; perfectly; totally; fully; || из этого со всей очевидностью следует… (это свидетельствует… и т.п.) = it (this) makes it perfectly obvious that…; || почувствовать (понять и т.п.) со всей очевидностью = feel (realize etc) full force.

«Видите, господа! У него маленькие руки. Он просто не смог бы достаточно крепко ухватить этот увесистый статуэт, чтобы нанести удар такой мощи. Отсюда со всей очевидностью следует, что Аркадий Сергеевич Поггице убил не он» (Акунин 6). “You see, gentlemen? He has small hands. He simply could not have had a strong enough grip on this weighty tripod to strike a blow of such great force. From which it is perfectly obvious that he did not kill Arkadii Sergeevich Poggiio” (6a). • “Товарищи!” — повторил он и почувствовал, что не может сказать дальше ни слова. Только сейчас до него дошло со всей очевидностью, что именно произошло, какое горе свалилось на всех и на него в том числе (Войнович 2). “Comrades!” he repeated, feeling he could not say another word, for it was only at that moment that he was struck full force by everything that had occurred, the grief that had come down on them all, himself included (2a).

O-209 • НА ОЧЕРЕДИ [PrepP; Invar; subj-compl with быть] 1. [subj: human] (to be) first in order of succession: X on очередь = X’s turn is next; X is next (in line on the list etc).

Двое из нашего отдела уже уволили, я на очереди. Two people from our department have already been fired, and I’m next on the list.

2. Also: СТОЯТЬ НА ОЧЕРЕДИ [VP; subj: human] to be included on a list (to receive sth.): X стоит на очереди = X is on a (the) waiting list.

«Когда вам поставят телефон?» — «Кто знает? Мы уже год стоим на очереди». “When will you be getting a telephone?” “Who knows? We’ve been on the waiting list for a year now.”

3. Also: СТОЯТЬ НА ОЧЕРЕДИ [VP; subj: abstr] (of a question, problem) (to be) urgent, demanding a quick resolution: на очереди стоит X = X is first on the agenda; X is (has) top priority; X demands immediate action; X is s.o.’s first priority (most pressing concern).

O-210 • ПО ОЧЕРЕДИ [PrepP; Invar; adv] 1. in succession: in turn; one after another (the other).

Он по очереди обозёл всех обывателей, и хотя молча, но благосклонно принял от них всё, что следует (Салтыков-
О-211 • В ПЕРВУЮ ОЧЕРЕДЬ (ГОЛОВУ coll) [PrepP; these forms only; adv or sent adv (often parenth); fixed WO] 1. before (doing) anything else: first of all; in the first place; first (off); the first thing (one does is…); (be) the first to…; (do sth.) first; (s.o.)’s first job (assignment etc).
«Уж коли ты такой большой начальник, то председателя-то в первую очередь менять надо…» — «Да, не мешало бы», — с ухмылкой протянул Михаил (Абрамов 1). “If you’re such a big shot, then the Chairman should be the first to go…” “Yes, it wouldn’t hurt.” Mikhail smirked (1a).
2. mainly: most of all; above all.
«Во-первых, ты уже начинай этот разговор, правда же? Много раз начинал. А во-вторых, это нужно всем нам, и в первую очередь твоей маме» (Трифонов 4). “In the first place, you began this conversation already didn’t you? You started it many times. Secondly, this is necessary for all of us, most of all for your mama” (4a).

О-212 • В СВОЙЮ ОЧЕРЕДЬ (В СВОЙ ЧЕРЁД obs) [PrepP; these forms only; sent adv (parenth); fixed WO] used to show that the action in question follows another action in series and is similar to that action in nature or effect: in one’s (its) turn; in turn; [lim.] for one’s part.
…Имел он в виду вот что: замолви у меня словечко, а я в свою очередь прикушу язык, что ты сюда приехал с военной тайной (Искандер 3). What he had in mind was this: Put in a word for me with the Mensheviks, and I in turn will hold my tongue about your coming here with a military secret (3a).

О-213 • НЕ В ПОСЛЁДНЮЮ ОЧЕРЕДЬ [PrepP; Invar; usu. sent adv, occas. parenth] to a substantial degree: in no small measure; to no small extent; not least of all.
«У меня есть основания подозревать каждого из присутствующих, и не в последнюю очередь вас» (Ахунов 7). “I have grounds to suspect everyone person here, and not least of all you” (7a).

О-214 • СТАВИТЬ/ПОСТАВИТЬ НА ОЧЕРЕДЬ юго [VP; subj: human; usu. 3rd pers pl with indef. refer.] to include s.o. on a list (to receive sth.): X-а поставили на очередь = X (X’s name) was put on a (the) waiting list.
Нас поставили на очередь на квартирную. We were put on the waiting list for an apartment.

О-215 • СТАНОВИТЬСЯ/СТАТЬ (ВСТАВИТЬ/ВСТАТЬ) НА ОЧЕРЕДЬ [VP] 1. ~ (на что) [subj: human] to include one’s name on a list (to receive sth.): X стал на очередь = X put himself (his name) (down) on a (the) waiting list; X added his name to a (the) waiting list.
Мы подумываем о покупке машины, уже стали на очередь. We’re thinking about buying a car and have already put our name on the waiting list.
2. [subj: abstr] (of a question, problem) to become urgent, demanding a quick resolution: на очередь стал X = X became first on the agenda; X became top priority; X came to demand immediate action; X became s.o.’s first priority (most pressing concern); [lim.] s.o.’s next concern was...

Когда почва была достаточно взрыхлена утрами обращением и народ отдохнул от просвещения, тогда, сама собой, стала на очередь потребность в законодательстве (Салтыков-Щедрин 1). When the ground had been sufficiently broken by courteous treatment, and when the people had had some respite from enlightenment, naturally, the next concern was for legislation (1b).

O-216 • СМЕЖИТЬ ОЧИ obs, elev; СМЕЖИТЬ ГЛАЗА obs [VP; subj: human] 1. to fall asleep: X смежил глаза = X nodded (drifted) off; X slipped off to dreamland (the land of dreams, the land of Nod).
2. to die: X смежил очи = X closed his eyes for the last time; X took his last sleep; X breathed his last.

O-217 • ДЛЯ ОЧИСТИКИ СОВЕСТИ [PrepP; Invar; adv; fixed WO] in order to avoid or eliminate feelings of remorse, guilt: (in order) to clear (appease) one’s conscience; for the sake of one’s (own) conscience.
Конечно, что Лена заставила его пообещать, что он завтра же с работы позвонит (тёще) Бере Лазаревне и мягко, деликатно… пригласит в Павлиново. Они, конечно, не приспело, потому что люди очень гордые. Но позвонить нужно. Для очистки совести (Трифонов 4). It ended with Lena making him promise that he’d call [his mother-in-law] Vera Lazarevna from work the next day, and gently, delicately… invite them to Pavlino. Of course, they wouldn’t come, because they were very proud people. But he should call. To clear his conscience (4a).

O-218 • ВТРАТАТЬ/ВТЕРЕТЬ ОЧКИ кому coll [VP; subj: human; usu. impfv pres, past, or neg imper; if pfv, usu. infin with пытается, хочет, может etc] to try to mislead s.o. by presenting sth. in a false way that serves one’s interests: X втряет Y-у очки = X (tries) to pull the wool over Y’s eyes; X puts (tries to put) something (things) over Y; X tricks (hoodwinks) Y; X throws dust in Y’s eyes; X fools (tries to fool) Y.
Что уж говорить о тех, кто не имеет нашего опыта! Как легко, наверно, втрять им очки… (Гнездбург 2). And what of those who didn’t have my experience? How easy it must be to pull the wool over their eyes… (2a).

O-219 • СМОТРЕТЬ СКВОЗЬ РОЗОВЫЕ ОЧКИ на кому-что [VP; subj: human; usu. pres or past; the verb may take the final position, otherwise fixed WO] to idealize s.o. or sth., not notice his or its shortcomings: X смотрит на Y-а сквозь розовые очки = X sees (looks at) Y through rose-colored glasses.

O-220 • ДАВАТЬ/ДАТЬ СТО (ДЕСЯТЬ, ДВАДЦАТЬ и т.п.) ОЧКОВ ВПЕРЕД кому coll [VP; subj: human; often pfv fut; the verb may take the final position, otherwise fixed WO] to surpass s.o. in sth. significantly: X Y-у даст сто очков впред = X will beat (out) Y hands down (by a mile); X will leave Y in the dust.
«Это [стихи Влада] настоящее, это надолго! Он нашему Казимиру сто очков вперед даст!» (Максимов 2). “This [Vlad’s verse] is the real thing, it’s classic stuff! He beats out Kazimir hands down!” (2a).

O-221 • КАК ОЧУМЕЛЫЙ БЕЖИТ, НЕСЕТСЯ, МЕЧЕТСЯ и т.п. высоко orally [coll + AdjP; nom only; adv] (one runs, races, rushes about etc) in a crazed way, as if one has lost his mind: like mad (crazy); like a madman (a madwoman); like one possessed.
…Этот эстатичный негр и все его родственники, как очумелые, скакали по просечным дорогам на этой «Волге»… (Ис-
2. [adv] (to search for sth.) with one’s hands, without relying on sight: grope (fumble, feel) for; найти (обнаружить и т.п.) ~ = locate (discover, find etc) by touch; || распознать (опознать и т.п.) ~ know (identify etc) by (the) feel; be able to tell… by (the) feel; [when counting people or objects] by touching.

Фили, не удивляясь, не оберываясь, представлял руку назад, открывал настенный шкафчик, на ощупь брал коробочку, из неё вынимал пакетик, протягивал страдальцу, говорил: «Водой за пей…» (Булгаков 12). Quite unmoved, Phil stretched his hand out behind him without turning around, opened a wall cabinet, groped for a box, took a little packet from it, handed it to the sufferer and said, “Drink that with some water…” (12a). ♦ Тёмные фигуры в намокших фуфайках стояли перед Свинцовым, он пересчитал их на ощупь (Войнович 4). Dark figures in sopping-wet sweaters stood in front of Svintsov. He counted them by touching each one (4a).

3. идти, искать дорогу, искать решение ~ и т.п. [adv] (to look for the road; try to find a solution etc) uncertainly, not knowing how to proceed, applying guesswork: grope (feel, fumble) one’s way (forward (ahead)); grope (fumble) for (the road (a solution etc)); grope (fumble) in the dark; grope (fumble) along.

Механизм психического шока ещё слишком мало изучен, приходится идти на ощупь» (Акунин 2). “The mechanism of psychological shock has been too little studied as yet— I have to grope my way forward” (2a).
Praise for

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“I own many dictionaries of many kinds, but there is none I enjoy using more than Sophia Lubensky’s. It is organised impeccably. The explanations are crystal clear. And the illustrative examples are entertaining and often memorable. I am delighted that it is being republished in an expanded version.” —Robert Chandler, translator of Vasily Grossman’s *Life and Fate*

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them is. And if not, they certainly give a clear enough idea so that I can use my own preferred phrase. Third, and somewhat intimidating, this book has astonished me with how many idiomatic Russian expressions I was not familiar with.”—Steven Shabad, ATA-certified translator

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— Timothy D. Sergay, University at Albany