

# SSC CGL 2022 Idioms and Phrases

- **In weal and woe**- in prosperity and adversity
- **A green horn**- inexperienced person
- **Bag and baggage**- with all of one's possession
- **A skeleton in the cupboard**- an embarrassing fact to be kept secret
- **Fly into a passion**- to become angry suddenly
- **Break the ice**- make people meeting first time more comfortable
- **Beat around the bush**- avoid the main point by talking in a roundabout way
- **To smell a rat**- to have a reason to suspect
- **Fair and square**- honestly
- **At an arm's length**- at a distance
- **Bear the palm**- to be a winner
- **Cut a poor figure**- to put a bad impression
- **Donkey's year**- a long time
- **In hot waters**- to be in trouble
- **Latin and Greek**- something difficult to understand, incomprehensible
- **Yellow bellies**- a coward
- **On the ball**- to be alert
- **A rolling stone gathers no moss**- a person who does not settle in one place for a long time, does not gain wealth, name and or fame
- **An olive branch**- a gesture of peace
- **Born with a silver spoon in his mouth**- born to riches and luxury
- **Cock and bull story**- wildly exaggerated or falsified story
- **In full swing**- very active
- **Let the cat out of the bag**- to allow a secret to be known
- **Take something at face value**- to accept something as it appears to be rather than studying it more closely
- **Turn over a new leaf**- to begin again
- **A fair weather friend**- a selfish friend
- **Cudgel one's brain**- to think hard
- **Play it by ear**- to do something without special preparation
- **Come in handy**- be useful

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- **On cloud nine**- very happy
- **Someone's heart is in the right place**- someone is good even if they sometimes behave in a wrong manner
- **Down the tubes**- failing completely
- **Put his foot down**- refused to yield
- **Cold feet**- to feel too frightened to do something that you had planned to do
- **Face the music**- to accept unpleasant consequences
- **Lose your marbles**- to go insane
- **Sitting on the fence**- to refuse to take sides in a dispute, unable to take decision
- **To and fro**- forward and backward
- **Take with a grain of salt**- not take too seriously
- **Eat humble pie**- to apologize humbly
- **Leaps and bounds**- swiftly, rapidly or in fast progress
- **In black and white**- in writing
- **Red tape**- official rules and bureaucracy that make it difficult to do something
- **Steer clear of**- avoid someone or something because it is dangerous for you
- **Hold water**- appear to be valid or reasonable
- **Ins and outs**- detailed description
- **Slow and steady**- make consistent progress for success
- **Went pear shaped**- went terribly wrong