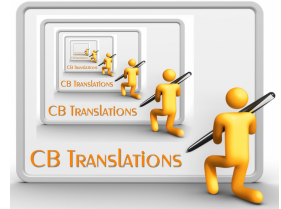


Vocabulary list SPANISH IDIOMS



The first line *lit.* is the literal translation and the second line is the corresponding idiom in English.

cortar el bacalao	<i>lit.</i> to cut the codfish to rule the roost
caerse de su burro	<i>lit.</i> to fall from your donkey to admit one's mistake
hay cuatro gatos	<i>lit.</i> there are four cats there's hardly a soul
acostarse con las gallinas	<i>lit.</i> to go to bed with the hens to go to bed early
estar como boca de lobo	<i>lit.</i> to be like a wolf's mouth to be pitch dark
no oír ni el vuelo de una mosca	<i>lit.</i> to not even hear the flight of a fly you could have heard a pin drop
cuando las ranas críen pelo	<i>lit.</i> when frogs grow hair when pigs fly
tomarle el pelo a uno	<i>lit.</i> to pull someone's hair to pull someone's leg
buscarle pelos al huevo	<i>lit.</i> to look for hair on the egg to nitpick, to find fault with everything
andar pisando huevos	<i>lit.</i> to walk stepping on eggs to tread on thin ice
poner toda la carne en el asador	<i>lit.</i> to put all the meat on the spit to put all your eggs in one basket
llamar al pan pan y al vino vino	<i>lit.</i> to call bread bread and wine wine to call a spade a spade
hacer buenas migas con alguien	<i>lit.</i> to make good crumbs with someone to get along well with someone; to hit it off

ir al grano	lit: to go to the seed to get to the point
caer chuzos de punto	lit: to rain sharp-pointed spears to rain cats and dogs
tener mal templada la guitarra	lit: to have one's guitar badly tuned to be in a bad mood
cortarle un traje a uno	lit: to tailor a suit for someone to put someone down
estar entre la espada y la pared	lit: to be between the sword and the wall to be caught between a rock and a hard place
empezar la casa por el tejado	lit: to start building the house at the roof to put the cart before the horse
el mundo es un pañuelo	lit: the world is a handkerchief it's a small world
estar en las nubes	lit: to be in the clouds to be daydreaming
como pez en el agua	lit: like a fish in the sea to be in one's element
estar entre dos aguas	lit: to be between two waters to be undecided
tener el santo de espaldas	lit: to have the saint with his back turned to be unlucky
costar un ojo de la cara	lit: to cost an eye of the face to cost an arm and a leg
perder los estribos	lit: to lose the stirrups to lose one's temper, to fly off the handle
faltarle a uno un tornillo	lit: to have a screw missing to be nuts/crazy