

MATERIALS FOR LANGUAGE TEACHING
AT RUDOLF STEINER (WALDORF) SCHOOLS

Proverbs and Sayings

Proverbs and Sayings

MATERIALS FOR LANGUAGE TEACHING

MATERIALS FOR LANGUAGE TEACHING
AT RUDOLF STEINER (WALDORF) SCHOOLS
– Privately Printed –

Proverbs and Sayings

Edited by

Christoph Jaffke

in co-operation with the
Pädagogische Forschungsstelle beim Bund der Freien Waldorfschulen
Stuttgart

PREFACE

For the teaching of foreign languages *Rudolf Steiner*, among other things, recommended that “from the fifth grade on the teacher should acquaint the students with a language’s wealth of proverbs and sayings. For a given situation in life, for which a German proverb could be used, the children should learn the foreign equivalent, expressed perhaps in a totally different way” (Conference with Teachers, 2 June 1924). — Proverbs and sayings reveal to us something of another language’s inner nature and of the character of the people who speak it. Therefore they should be dealt with again and again in the Middle and Upper School.

Out of the numerous proverbs and sayings in common use in the English-speaking world, our colleague *Helga Lauten* of the Waldorf School in Essen has selected those which are particularly suitable for our purposes.

The occasion of reprinting the first edition was used to add a number of proverbs and sayings.

C.J.

A

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

Besser ein Spatz in der Hand als eine Taube auf dem Dach.

A burnt child dreads the fire.

Gebranntes Kind scheut das Feuer.

A change is as good as a rest.

A drowning man will catch a straw.

A fool may sometimes give a wise man counsel.

Ein blindes Huhn findet auch einmal ein Korn.

A friend in need is a friend indeed.

Freunde in der Not gehen tausend auf ein Lot.

A gift in time is a double gift.

A good soldier never looks behind.

A kind deed is its own reward.

A little too late, much too late.

A new broom sweeps clean.

Neue Besen kehren gut.

A nod is as good as a wink to a blind horse.

A quiet tongue shows a wise head.

Schweigen ist der beste Witz.

A rolling stone gathers no moss.

A stitch in time saves nine.

Actions speak louder than words.

After storm comes calm.

All cats are grey in the dark.

In der Nacht sind alle Katzen grau.

All is not lost that is delayed.

Aufgeschoben ist nicht aufgehoben.

All is well that ends well.

Ende gut, alles gut.

All that glitters is not gold.

Es ist nicht alles Gold, was glänzt.

All that you do, do with your might; things done by halves are never done right.

Any port will do in a storm.

In der Not frisst der Teufel Fliegen.

Any work is better than none.

As is the workman, so is the work.

As the tree so the fruit.

Der Apfel fällt nicht weit vom Baum.

A

As the twig is bent, so grows the tree.

Früh krümmt sich, was ein Häkchen werden will.

As well be hanged for a sheep as a lamb.

As you make your bed, so you must lie.

Wie man sich bettet, so liegt man.

B

Bad workmen complain of their tools.

Barking dogs seldom bite.

Beggars can't be choosers.

Better late than never.

Birds of a feather flock together.

By experience we grow wise.

Hunde, die viel bellen, beißen nicht.

Besser spät als nie.

Gleich und gleich gesellt sich gern.

Erfahrung ist ein langer Weg.

C

"Can't" never did anything.

Charity begins at home.

Childhood shows the man, as morning shows the day.

Children and fools speak the truth.

Clothes make the man, manners the gentleman.

Jeder ist sich selbst der Nächste.

Kinder und Narren sprechen die Wahrheit.

D

Deliberating is not delaying.

Aufgeschoben ist nicht aufgehoben.

Denying a fault doubles it.

Diet cures more than doctors.

Kopf kalt, Füße warm,
macht den besten Doktor arm.

Distance lends enchantment to the view.

Do as you would be done to.

Was du nicht willst, daß man dir tu,
das füg auch keinem andern zu.

In Rome do as the Romans do.

Do not all you can; spend not all you have;
believe not all you hear; and tell not all
you know.

Do not halloo till you are out of the wood.

Man soll den Tag nicht vor dem Abend loben.

Don't be tied to your mother's apron strings.

Häng deiner Mutter nicht am Schürzenbündel.

Don't beat about the bush.

Geh nicht wie die Katze um den heißen Brei
herum.

Don't beat your head against a stone wall.

Geh nicht mit dem Kopf durch die Wand.

Don't buy a pig in a poke.

Kauf keine Katze im Sack.

Don't carry coal to Newcastle.

Trag keine Eulen nach Athen.

Don't cast pearls before the swine.

Wirf keine Perlen vor die Sonne.

Don't count your chickens before
they are hatched.

Rede nicht über ungelegte Eier.
(Aus ungelegten Eiern schlüpfen keine Hühner)

Don't hide your light under a bushel.

Stell dein Licht nicht unter den Scheffel.

Don't make a mountain out of a molehill.

Mach nicht aus einer Mücke einen Elefanten.

E

Early to bed and early to rise makes a man
healthy and wealthy and wise.

East, West, home is best.

Eat to live, do not live to eat.

Empty vessels make the most sound.

Evening red and morning grey
Are the signs of a bonny day.
Evening grey and morning red
Bring down rain on the farmer's head.

Evening red and morning grey,
Send the traveller on his way;
But evening grey and morning red,
Will bring the rain upon his head.

Every beginning is difficult.

Every cloud has a silver lining.

Every man is the architect of his own fortune.

Every miller draws water to his own mill.

Everybody's friend is nobody's friend.

Morgenstund hat Gold im Mund.

Norden, Süden, Osten, Westen,
in der Heimat ist's am besten.

Leere Töpfe machen den meisten Lärm.

Aller Anfang ist schwer.

Jede Wolke hat einen silbernen Saum.

Jeder ist seines eigenen Glückes Schmied.

Selber essen macht fett.

Jedermanns Freund ist niemandes Freund.

F

Fair words break no bones.

Far from eye, far from heart.

Fine feathers make fine birds.

First come, first served.

First creep and then go.

Follow the river and you'll get to the sea.

Fortune favours fools.

Fortune favours the brave.

Four eyes see more than two.

From a little acorn —
Grows the mighty oak.

Aus den Augen, aus dem Sinn.

Kleider machen Leute.

Wer zuerst kommt, mahlt zuerst.

Tue nicht den zweiten Schritt vor dem ersten.

Die dümmsten Bauern haben die dicksten
Kartoffeln.

Das Glück ist dem Tapferen hold.

Vier Augen sehen mehr als zwei.

G

Give him an inch, and he'll take a yard.

Reiche ihm den kleinen Finger,
und er nimmt die ganze Hand.

Go to bed with the lamb, and rise
with the lark.

God helps those who help themselves.

Hilf dir selbst, so hilft dir Gott.

God's mill grinds slowly but surely.

Gottes Mühlen mahlen langsam.

Good masters make good servants.

Great barkers are no biters.

Hunde, die bellen, beißen nicht.

Great winds blow upon high hills.

H

Half a loaf is better than no bread.

Ein halber Laib Brot ist besser als keiner.

Handsome is that handsome does.

Hard words break no bones.

Haste makes waste.

Vom Eilen ist noch nie nix Gutes kommen.

Hasten slowly.

Eile mit Weile.
(Wer's eilig hat, gehe langsam)

Hasty climbers have sudden falls.

Steig immer auf, doch denk daran, daß auch
der Höchste fallen kann.

Have not thy cloak to make when it begins
to rain.

He cannot speak well that cannot hold
his tongue.

He is not laughed at that laughs at
himself first.

He who laughs last laughs longest.

Wer zuletzt lacht, lacht am besten.

He that blows in the dust fills his eyes
with it.

Wer ins Feuer bläst, dem stieben die Funken
in die Augen.

He that comes first to the hill may sit
where he will.

Wer zuerst kommt, mahlt zuerst.

He that handles thorns shall prick his
fingers.

Wer glühende Kohlen anfaßt verbrennt sich.

He that has no head needs no hat.

He that hath done ill once will do it again.

Wer einmal lügt, dem glaubt man nicht.

He that praises himself, spatters himself.

Eigenlob stinkt.

He that travels far knows much.

He that will not when he may,
when he would he shall have nay.

He who commences many things finishes
but few.

He who lies down with dogs will rise with
fleas.

Wer Pech angreift, besudelt sich.

H

He who lies late will never be wise.

He who pays the piper calls the tune.

Honesty is the best policy.

Honour to him to whom honour is due.

Hope for the best and prepare for the worst.

Hunger is the best sauce.

Ehrlichkeit währt am längsten.

Ehre dem, dem sie gebührt.

Hunger ist der beste Koch.

I

I would not touch him with a pair of tongs.

Ich würde ihn nicht mit der Zange anfassen.

Idle brains are the devil's workshop.

Idleness is the root of all evil.

Müßiggang ist aller Laster Anfang.

If bees stay at home,
Rain will soon come;
If they fly away,
Fine will be the day.

If the oak's before the ash,
Then you'll only get a splash;
If the ash precedes the oak,
Then you may expect a soak.

If wishes were horses, beggars would ride.

If you are seen with the crows
you'll be shot with the crows.

Mitgegangen, mitgefangen, mitgehangen.

If you love yourself, nobody else will
love you.

If you run after two hares,
you will catch neither.

If you want a thing well done,
do it yourself.

In for a penny, in for a pound.

Wer A sagt, muß auch B sagen.

It is no use crying over spilt milk.

It is not good to have all your eggs in one basket.

It never rains but it pours.

Ein Unglück kommt selten allein.

K

Keep good men company and you shall
be of the number.

Sage mir, mit wem du umgehst, und ich sage
dir, wer du bist.

Kindle not a fire that you cannot extinguish.

Knowledge is power.

Wissen ist Macht.

L

Least said soonest mended.

Leave off while the play is good.

Let sleeping dogs lie.

Lightly come lightly gone.

Like a bull in a china shop.

Like a red rag to a bull.

Like herrings in a barrel.

Like master, like man.

Listeners hear no good of themselves.

Little strokes fell great oaks.

Little things please little minds.

Long absent, soon forgotten.

Look before you leap.

Lose an hour in the morning and
you'll be all day hunting for it.

Love is blind.

Love your neighbour, yet pull not
down your hedge.

Wenn das Spiel am schönsten ist, soll man
aufhören.

Man soll schlafende Hunde nicht wecken.

Leicht gewonnen, schnell zerronnen.

Wie ein Elefant im Porzellanladen.

Wie ein rotes Tuch.

Wie die Heringe im Salzfaß.

Wie der Herr, so's Gescherr.

Der Lauscher an der Wand hört seine eigne
Schand.

Steter Tropfen höhlt den Stein.

Aus den Augen, aus dem Sinn.

Liebe macht blind.

Liebe deinen Nachbarn,
aber reiße den Zaun nicht ein.

M

Make a virtue of necessity.

Make hay while the sun shines.

Cut your coat according to your cloth.

Man is the measure of all things.

Man proposes, God disposes.

Manners make the man.

Many hands make light work.

Many men, many minds.

March winds and April showers
Bring forth May flowers.

Marriages are made in heaven.

May bees don't fly this month.

Men make houses, women make homes.

Mind your own business.

Misfortunes never come singly.

Monday for wealth,
Tuesday for health,
Wednesday the best day of all:
Thursday for crosses,
Friday for losses,
Saturday no luck at all.
(Concerning days for marrying)

Monday's child is fair of face,
Tuesday's child is full of grace,
Wednesday's child is full of woe,
Thursday's child has far to go,
Friday's child is loving and giving,
Saturday's child works hard for its living;
But the child who is born on the Sabbath day
Is lucky and happy and good and gay.

Money lent is money spent.

My home is my castle.

Aus der Not eine Tugend machen.

Mach Heu, wenn der Himmel lacht.

Der Mensch ist das Maß aller Dinge.

Der Mensch denkt, und Gott lenkt.

Viele Hände bereiten ein schnelles Ende.

April naß und kalt,
gibt Roggen wie einen Wald.
Wenn im März viel Winde wehn,
wird's im Maien warm und schön.

Ehen werden im Himmel geschlossen.

Wenn das Wörtchen ‚Wenn‘ nicht wär‘. . .

Kümmere dich um deinen eigenen Kram.

Ein Unglück kommt selten allein.

N

Near is my coat, but nearer is my shirt.

Necessity knows no law.

Never leave till tomorrow what you can do today.

Never look a gift horse in the mouth.

Never too old to learn.

Never trust to another what you can do yourself.

New lords, new laws.

No fool's like an old fool.

No gains without pains.

No man is born wise.

No man can serve two masters.

No sweet without sweat.

Nothing is impossible to a willing heart.

Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

Mir ist das Hemd näher als der Rock.

Not kennt kein Gebot.

Was du heute kannst besorgen,
das verschiebe nicht auf morgen.

Einem geschenkten Gaul
schaut man nicht ins Maul.

Alter schützt vor Torheit nicht.

Ohne Fleiß kein Preis.

Es ist noch kein Meister vom Himmel
gefallen.

Niemand kann zween Herren dienen.

Kein Preis ohne Fleiß.

Wer nicht wagt, der nicht gewinnt.

O

Oaks may fall when reeds stand the storm.

Of evil grain no good seed can come.

Of two evils choose the least.

One good turn deserves another.

One man's meat is another man's poison.

One flower makes no garland.

One swallow does not make a summer.

One thing at a time, and that done well,
Is a very good rule, as many can tell.

Opportunity makes the thief.

Out of sight, out of mind.

Out of the frying-pan into the fire.

Von zwei Übeln wähle das kleinste.

Wat dem eenen sin Uhl,
is dem andern sin Nachtigall.

Eine Schwalbe macht noch keinen Sommer.

Gelegenheit macht Diebe.

Aus den Augen, aus dem Sinn.

Vom Regen in die Traufe.

P

Pale moon does rain, red moon does blow,
White moon does neither rain nor snow.

Patience is a flower that grows not in
every garden.

Penny wise, pound foolish.

People who live in glass houses
should never throw stones.

Wer selbst im Glashaus sitzt,
soll nicht mit Steinen werfen.

Plough deep while others sleep.

Pour not water on a drowned mouse.

Poverty is no vice.

R

Rain before seven sun at eleven.

Red sky at night,
Shepherd's delight;
Red sky in the morning,
Shepherd's warning.

Rome was not built in a day.

Rom wurde nicht an einem Tag erbaut.

S

Salt and bread make your cheeks red.

Trocken Brot (oder: Salz und Brot)
macht Wangen rot.

See a pin and let it lie,
You'll want a pin before you die.
See a pin and pick it up,
All the day you'll have good luck.

Self-praise is no recommendation.

Eigenlob stinkt.

Set a thief to catch a thief.

Auf einen Schelm anderthalb.

Seven may be company but nine are
confusion.

Silence is golden.

Reden ist Silber, Schweigen ist Gold.

Silks and satins put out the kitchen
fire.

Slow at meat, slow at work.

Wer schnell ißt, arbeitet auch schnell.

Sneeze on a Monday, you sneeze for danger;
Sneeze on a Tuesday, you kiss a stranger;
Sneeze on a Wednesday, you sneeze for a letter;
Sneeze on a Thursday, for something better;
Sneeze on a Friday, you sneeze for sorrow;
Sneeze on a Saturday, see your sweetheart
to-morrow;
Sneeze on a Sunday, your safety seek,
The Devil will have you the whole of the week.

So many countries, so many customs.

Andere Länder, andere Sitten.

Soon got, soon spent.

Wie gewonnen, so zerronnen.

Standing pools gather filth.

Still waters run deep.

Stille Wasser gründen tief.

Strike while the iron is hot.

Schmiede das Eisen, solange es heiß ist.

Sweep before your own door.

Kehre vor deiner eigenen Tür.

T

Talk of the devil, and he is sure to appear.

Tell me with whom thou goest and
I'll tell thee what thou doest.

The cow knows not what her tail is worth
till she hath lost it.

The cuckoo comes in April,
Sings a song in May;
Then in June another tune,
and then she flies away.

The day has eyes and the night has ears.

The early bird catches the worm.

The end justifies the means.

The eye is bigger than the belly.

The face is the index of the heart.

The higher the plum tree, the riper the plum;
The richer the cobbler, the blacker his thumb.

The higher up, the greater the fall.

The lion is not so fierce as he is painted.

The mice desert the sinking ship.

The pitcher goes so often to the well that
it is broken at last.

The proof of the pudding is in the eating.

The south wind brings wet weather,
the north wind wet and cold together;
the west wind always brings us rain,
the east wind blows it back again.

The sun shines upon all alike.

The thread breaks where it is weakest.

The way to hell is paved with good
intentions.

Spricht man vom Teufel, so kommt er.

Sage mir, mit wem du umgehst,
und ich sage dir, wer du bist.

Hat die Kuh den Schwanz verloren,
so merkt sie erst, wozu er gut gewesen.

Morgenstund' hat Gold im Mund.

Der Zweck heiligt die Mittel.

Die Augen sind größer als der Mund.

Die Augen sind der Spiegel der Seele.

Je höher hinaus, desto tiefer der Fall.

Es wird nichts so heiß gegessen, wie es gekocht
wird.

Der Krug geht so lange zum Brunnen,
bis der Henkel bricht.

Die Sonne scheint über Gute und Böse.

Der Weg zur Hölle ist mit guten Vorsätzen
gepflastert.

T

The wish is father to the thought.

There is no fool like an old fool.

Too many cooks spoil the broth.

Two dogs fight for a bone,
and a third runs away with it.

Der Wunsch ist der Vater des Gedankens.

Alter schützt vor Torheit nicht.

Viele Köche verderben den Brei.

Wenn zwei sich streiten, freut sich der dritte.

W

Wake not a sleeping lion.

Man soll schlafende Hunde nicht wecken.

Well begun is half done.

Frisch begonnen, halb gewonnen.

Well done is better than well said.

What can't be cured must be endured.

What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander.

Was dem einen recht ist, ist dem anderen billig.

What man has done, man can do.

What the eye doesn't see the heart doesn't grieve over.

Was ich nicht weiß, macht mich nicht heiß.

When you go to Rome do as Rome does.

When need is highest, help is nighest.

Wo die Not am größten ist, ist Gott am nächsten.

When one has not what one wants, one must want what one has.

When poverty comes in at the door, love flies out at the window.

When the cat is away the mice will play.

Wenn die Katze aus dem Haus ist, dann tanzen die Mäuse.

When the dew is on the grass,
Rain will never come to pass.

When the mist comes from the hill,
Then good weather it doth spill;
When the mist comes from the sea,
Then good weather it will be.

When the wind is in the east
It's good for neither man nor beast.
When the wind is in the north
The skilful fisher goes not forth.
When the wind is in the south
It blows the bait in the fish's mouth.
When the wind is in the west
The weather is at its very best.

Where there is whispering, there is lying.

Wer flüstert, der lügt.

Where there's a will there's a way.

Wo ein Wille ist, ist auch ein Weg.

Who cannot save a penny, cannot save a pound.

Wer den Pfennig nicht ehrt, ist des Talers nicht wert.

W

Who keeps company with the wolf will learn to howl.

Who will not keep a penny never shall have many.

Winter's thunder makes summer's wonder.

Wise men make proverbs and fools repeat them.

Work while you work, and play while you play!
That is the best way to be happy and gay.

Wer den Pfennig nicht ehrt, ist des Talers nicht wert.

Y

Years know more than books.

You cannot eat your cake and have it.

You cannot make an omelet without breaking eggs.

You cannot see the city for the houses.

You cannot see the wood for the trees.

You may take a horse to the water,
but you can't make him drink.

You never miss the water, till the well runs
dry.

Wo gehobelt wird, da fliegen Späne.

Man sieht den Wald vor lauter Bäumen nicht.

Man sieht den Wald vor lauter Bäumen nicht.

APPENDIX: MORE PROVERBS AND SAYINGS

A chain is as strong as its weakest link.

A change is as good as a rest.

A fly in the ointment.

A little bird told me.

April weather — rain and sunshine both together.

A promise made is a debt unpaid.

A rolling stone gathers no moss.

As many fogs in February, so many frosts in May.

A storm in a teacup.

A swarm of bees in May is worth a load of hay,
A swarm of bees in June is worth a silver spoon,
A swarm of bees in July is not worth a fly.

Be it ever so humble there's no place like home.

Better safe than sorry.

By the first of March the crows begin to search,
By the first of April they are sitting still,
By the first of May they are flown away,
Creeping, greedy, back again with October wind and rain.

Call a spade a spade.

Cross the bridge when you come to it.

Don't bark up the wrong tree.

Don't bite off more than you can chew.

Don't bite the hand that feeds you.

Don't burn the candle at both ends.

Don't burn your boats behind you.

Don't change horses in midstream.

Don't kill the goose that lays the golden eggs.

Don't make a mountain out of a molehill.

Don't put the cart before the horse.

Don't try to run before you've learned to walk.

Fair on September first, fair for the month.

Give a dog a bad name and kill him.

He can't hold a candle to him.

He can't see the wood for the trees.

He will never set the Thames on fire.

His bark is worse than his bite.

If a thing is worth doing then it's worth doing well.

If Candlemas Day be fair and bright, *(2 February)*
Winter will have another flight.
But if Candlemas Day be clouds and rain,
Winter is gone and will not come again.

If February bring no rain, 'tis neither good for grass nor grain.

If St. Bartholmew's Day be fair and clear, *(24 August)*
Then a prosperous autumn comes that year.

If the grass grows in Janiveer,
It grows the worst for it all the year.

In February, if thou hearest thunder,
Thou shalt see a summer wonder.

In October dung your field
And your land its wealth shall yield.

It makes my mouth water.

It's all Greek to me.

It's dead and buried.

It's enough to make a cat laugh.

It's only a drop in the ocean.

It's on the tip of my tongue.

It's raining cats and dogs.

It's six of one and half a dozen of the other.

June damp and warm does the farmer no harm.

Like a bolt from the blue.

Like a cat on hot bricks.

Like a dog in a manger.

Like the cat that's got the cream.

Like water off a duck's back.

Mist in May and heat in June, bring all things into tune.

Never say die.

Necessity is the mother of invention.

No news is good news.

No rose without a thorn.

Not to hurt a fly.

November take flail, let no ships sail.

Once bitten, twice shy.

Once in a blue moon.

One hour's sleep before midnight is worth more than two after.

Packed together like sardines.

Practice makes perfect.

Pride comes before a fall.

Put first things first.

See no evil, hear no evil, speak no evil.

Seeing is believing.

September blows soft, till the fruit's in the loft.

September dries up wells or breaks down bridges.

Shear your sheep in May and shear them all away.

St. Barnabas — mow your first grass. *(11 June)*

St. Bartholomew brings the cold dew.

St. Swithin's Day, if thou dost rain, *(15 July)*
For forty days it will remain;
St. Swithin's Day, if thou be fair,
For forty days' twill rain na mair.

That's a different kettle of fish.

That's not my cup of tea.

That's right up my street.

That's the last straw.

That's the pot calling the kettle black.

That's where the shoe pinches.

The more you have the more you want.

There's a time and place for everything.

There is no smoke without fire.

To add fuel to the flames.

To be Jack of all trades and master of none.

To be all at sea.

To be as dead as a door-nail.

To be as drunk as a lord.

To be as fit as a fiddle again *(after an illness)*.

To be as sober as a judge.

To be at one's wits end.

To be between the devil and the deep blue sea.

To be born with a silver spoon in one's mouth.

To be hand in glove with someone.

To be in a tight corner.

To be in someone's good books.

To be in the same boat.

To be on firm ground.

To be without rhyme or reason.

To blow one's top.

To build castles in the air.

To catch someone red-handed.

To dance to someone's tune.
To err is human, to forgive divine.
To fall between two stools.
To feather one's own nest.
To fit like a glove.
To get into hot water.
To get out of bed at the wrong side.
To go down the drain.
To hang by a thread.
To have a face as long as a fiddle.
To have a skeleton in the cupboard.
To have forty winks.
To hit the nail on the head.
To keep something under one's hat.
To keep one's nose to the grindstone.
To kick over the traces.
To kill two birds with one stone.
To know something like the back of one's hand.
To laugh up one's sleeve.
To lead someone up the garden-path.
To leave no stone unturned.
To look as fresh as a daisy.
To look as though butter would not melt in one's mouth.
To look for a needle in a haystack.
To look spick and span.
To move Heaven and earth.
To play with fire.
To pull the wool over someone's face.
To put one's head in the lion's mouth.
To put the cat among the pigeons.
To put one's cards on the table.

To put one's shoulder to the wheel.
To save for a rainy day.
To see how the land lies.
To set a fox to keep the geese.
To shout something from the roof-tops.
To shut the stable door after the horse has bolted.
To sleep like a log.
To take the bull by the horns.
To throw the baby out with the bathwater.
To tighten one's belt.
To upset someone's apple-cart.
To walk on air.
Two wrongs don't make one right.

Variety is the spice of life.

Waste not, want not.

When April blows his horn 'tis good for both hay and corn.

Who doffs his coat on a winter's day will gladly put it on in May.

You can judge a man by the company he keeps.

You can't always judge by appearances.

You can't have your bread buttered on both sides.

You can't teach your grandmother to suck eggs.