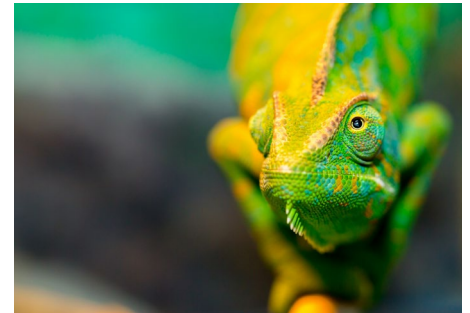


TLP Five-Minute Read Over Coffee - The rich world of idioms

In my business communication workshops I often highlight the need to be careful in your use of idioms as they can block understanding for your audience.

But - there is a big but! I think idiomatic expressions are also beautiful in the way they can help you paint a picture/scene or in the case below describe a person. They allow us to communicate with a creativity and quirkiness. Please see some of my personal favourites - many are not complimentary!



Describing human character through idioms!

- You are like a bear with a sore head. *You are grumpy in the morning before your first coffee!.*
- You are a social butterfly. *You are very sociable and outgoing.*
- You are a dark horse. *You are mysterious, or you were little known but have become unexpectedly successful.*
- You are a chameleon. *You change your opinion to please people/or be more successful.*
- You are the black sheep of the family. *You are the odd one out in the family, you have the bad reputation.*
- You have the memory of a goldfish. *You cannot remember much.*
- You have the memory of an elephant. *You can remember a lot!*
- You are as crafty/sly/cunning as a fox. *You are smart/intelligent - and use this for your personal gain.*
- You are a night owl. *You come alive at night.*
- You are an early bird. *You come alive early in the morning.*

- You are a chicken. *You are a coward/you are not brave.*
- You are like a bull in a china shop. *You are very clumsy.*
- You have ants in your pants! *You are very restless, agitated.*
- You are like a rabbit in headlights. *You are shocked.*
- You are a snake. *You are slippery, cannot be trusted, manipulative.*
- You are like a wolf in sheep's clothing. *You pretend to be nice but actually are dangerous/nasty.*

Some of these translate into French but some don't for sure! Power for the day.
