

## 2.

1. Beat about the bush
2. Make the best of something
3. Asking for a trouble
4. Be busy as a bee
5. Like a bat out of hell
6. Be on ears
7. Once in a blue moon
8. Every now and again
9. Apples and oranges
10. Go bananas
11. Be afraid of your own shadow
12. At your fingertips
13. Break a leg
14. Birds of a feather flock together

## 3.

1. Relationships always involve some degree of dependence. *It's in the nature of the beast.*

2. *Against all odds* she gave birth to her first child at the age of 56.
3. The donation *has no strings attached*, so the charity is free to use it for whatever purpose it chooses.
4. Of course the government have made all sorts of promises but as we all know, *actions speak louder than words*
5. Surgeons are aware that every operation carries some risk, and they sometimes decide *leave well enough alone*.
6. The product has been a great success, and we hope this advertising campaign will increase its popularity and it will *go over with bang*.
7. I've tried reading the manual, but *it's all greek to me*
8. Country and western music is *American as apple pie*.
9. She tells me she's planned out her whole career; but as far as I can see it's all just *castles in the air*
10. This film has an all-star cast, but *All that glitters is not gold*. It fails because of its weak story.
11. Our political views are *poles apart*.
12. What's the matter with you? Are you *got out of bed on the wrong side* or something?
13. For some people it's an exciting, big city – for others it's *the armpit of the universe*
14. Drinking and driving is just *asking for a trouble*

15. Alan volunteered to be chairman and now he regrets it. *Fools rush in,*  
is all I can say.
16. These people are appealing to our government to help them. We can't  
just ignore their demands.
17. Senior staff are more likely to be *given the axe* because the company  
can't afford their high salaries. My research project was the first thing  
to be cancelled when the new boss took over.
18. Why don't we take a walk before dinner? – I was just going to say the  
same thing. – Ah, *great minds think alike*
19. She looked around the bar to see if there was *knight in shining armor*  
who might come and save her from this awful man.
20. I do have some information you might be interested in, but what can  
you offer me in return? *I'll scratch your back if you scratch mine*
21. A karaoke machine? That should help your party *go with a bang*
22. They say *blood is thicker than water*; so how come so many families  
hate each other?
23. I know Mike can be difficult to work with sometimes, but *better the  
devil you know*