

Idioms based on "ages"

Act one's age

Meaning

To be mature and not childish.

Example:

Stop being childish and act your age.

Age before beauty

Meaning

A phrase said to allow older people to go before younger ones. Now most often used humorously or lightheartedly, and usually said by a younger person to an older friend or relative out of mock pity for being so much older and unattractive.

Example:

Please, you first. Age before beauty, you know.

Age out of something

Meaning

The phrase **age out of something** means to reach an age at which one is no longer eligible for the system of care designed to provide services, such as education or protection, for people below a certain age level.

Example:

He has aged out of the special student scholarship program.

Come of age

Meaning

The phrase **come of age** means to reach adulthood.

Example:

His son has come of age.

Coon's age

Meaning

The idiom a **coon's age** refers to a very long period of time.

A **dog's age** is another variation of this idiom.

Example:

It's been a coon's age since I last went to the theater.

Dog's age

Meaning

The idiom **dog's age** refers to a long period of time.

A **coon's age** is a variation of this idiom.

Example:

Hi Jane! It's been a dog's age since we last met.

Feel your age

Meaning

The phrase **feel your age** means to realize that you are growing old.

Example:

I really felt my age at work. All my colleagues looked very young.

Get on in years

Meaning

Old; advanced in age.

Example:

Although she's getting on in years, she still looks young.

Golden age

Meaning

Period of prosperity.

Example:

The golden age of Hollywood.

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Meaning

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In a coon's age

Meaning

The phrase **in a coon's age** means in a very long time.

The word *coon* refers to a raccoon, an omnivorous mammal, native to the Americas.

Example:

She hasn't seen him in a coon's age. She is so happy to meet him again.

In this day and age

Meaning

In the present.

Example:

In this day and age, horrible crimes are very common occurrence.

Long in the tooth

Meaning

very old.

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Example:

I think he is a bit long in the tooth to be a romantic hero in that play.

Of a certain age

Meaning

Said about people who are not young.

Example:

This shop sells clothes for women of a certain age.

Of advanced age

Meaning

The phrase **of advanced age** or **advanced years** describes someone as old.

Example:

The conference is about the effect of advanced age on fertility and pregnancy in women.

Of age

Meaning

Old enough to be considered an adult.

Example:

He's of age now, he can buy his own car.

On in years

Meaning

Old; advanced in age.

Example:

My wife is dead and I am getting on in years.

Over the hill

Meaning

too old to perform as well as before.

Example:

You say you are over the hill, but see how you run as fast as your son!

Put years on

Meaning

If something **puts years on somebody**, it makes them look or feel much older.

Example:

Hi financial problems put years on him.

Ripe old age

Meaning

Very old age.

Example:

After living to a ripe old age, she died yesterday.

Tender age

Meaning

A young age.

Example:

It's easier to learn languages at a tender age.

Under age

Meaning

The phrase **under age** means to be too young to be eligible for something.

Example:

This program is not for people under age.

Young at heart

Meaning

To be **young at heart** means to have a youthful spirit in spite of being old.

Example:

Although he is over 80, he still feels young at heart.