

# A to Z English

**Episode:** A to Z Idioms 18: Idioms in Nature 2

**Website:** <http://atozenglishpodcast.com>

In this episode, Xochitl and Jack stick with the nature theme looking at two new idioms:

to be down to earth 🌍

Many moons ago 🌙

Website: <https://atozenglishpodcast.com/idioms-18/>

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If you could take a minute and complete a short survey about the podcast, we would be very appreciative. You can find the survey here: <https://forms.gle/HHNnngU6U8W3DodK8>

We would love to hear your feedback and suggestions for future episodes.

Intro/Outro Music: Eaters, song Dig Your Own Soul  
(eatersmusic2000) <https://freemusicarchive.org/music/eaters/an-evening-with-tuck-pendleton/dig-your-own-soul/>

## Full Transcript

uh welcome to another episode of the A to Z English podcast today we're doing idioms so our idioms for today are many moons ago and down to earth Jack why don't you kick us off telling us what many moons ago means to you okay well um I'm wondering if you asked me because I'm so old and I have many moons there are many moons that I have lived through um many moons ago just means I mean this is just a kind of poetic way to say a long time ago you know um so one Moon would be yesterday Two Moons would be two days ago but many many moons or many moons would just mean oh many days ago or many years ago or even decades ago it just means a long time ago um socho can you give

me an example of when you might use this idiom I think this idiom I often see used as a um sorry let me start again I think I often see this idiom used in literary English versus spoken English you might see this sometimes in conversation as like a setup for a joke or something but more commonly I've seen it used in literary English so if I was reading something like a fable or something about mythology uh the author might say many moons ago when the Earth was still young so this just references so so many years hundreds of years ago um but it can be used to to um denote a time period that is less than that however I don't think it it would really be used for like a time frame of months it's usually something that happened years and years ago I agree with you 100 I mean I would go so far as to say this is almost an Antiquated idiom like it's uh something that we wouldn't even use today and if you were at a party and you see an old friend from high school and you say to your old friend from high school I haven't seen you in many moons your print friend would probably look at you like you're crazy you know because you would you would never say that you know you would say hey social I haven't seen you in a long time or I haven't seen you forever or for ages you know yeah Beyonds or something yeah eons or ages or forever but we would never say I haven't seen you in many moons um yeah yeah but if you're reading a novel by an author who died a hundred years ago or 200 years ago um you will see this idiom in really old literature uh like you mentioned and so it just means a long time ago and so yeah I think you made a good point Jack that this might be a holdover when we had more of a lunar calendar base um because we since we've switched to the Ryan calendar in the west at least um yeah this was probably more relevant win or a holdover from a time when we were focused on a lunar calendar potentially oh exactly right and what and what you mean by lunar calendar is we we used to count uh days based on the changes in the Moon and now we we uh a Gregorian calendar is a gregarion or Gregorian I forget it Gregorian right I'm thinking of gregarious you know sorry um yeah a gregarious Gregorian calendar um it's uh you know when you when you uh just use the sun it's just the sun goes up the sun goes down that's a day and then another day and another day and the moon tends to change and it's a little bit more complicated um you know I could give you an example because I live in Korea and and social used to live in Korea and if you ask your Korean friend when's your birthday and they say uh August 5th and then uh you forget and you ask them the next year Hey when's your birthday uh September 14th and you're like uh what you said October August 5th it's because if you follow the lunar calendar your birthday changes based on the lunar calendar whereas you know if you're from the United States or Canada if you were born on August 5th uh every August 5th is your birthday so uh that's the that's what we're talking about when we say Gregorian or lunar calendar but uh anyway um awesome so uh social do we have another uh another idiom yes down to earth is our second idiom so how would you define down to earth okay down to earth well have you ever met someone who's not down to earth yes that's a loaded question yeah on multiple occasions I'm afraid I I may actually be one of those people but I'm not sure what no oh because see there are two kind of definitions on idioms which is why um on this for this idiom which is why who called it the Multiverse the English part of the English language who said that about idioms um I can't remember was it Kevin did he say something about that yeah Kevin um the this is we're just gonna cut this part out right but that guy the other guy that that gave us the tip about starting the podcast oh Robin oh everybody knows Robin yeah we can keep this in yeah Robin of course yeah yeah yeah no I just mean the part where I was asking about who anyway Robin um Robin said English idioms are like the Multiverse because this one down to earth has two meanings so for you I think it means something different than what I'm used to it so we'll kick off with your meaning and I'll tell you what I mean yeah so again uh I'm uh you know I just might be a little slightly older than social is uh slightly

um no I'm uh I'm I'm quite a bit older than uh than social so for uh in my generation down to earth means like a person who is very grounded in reality like both their feet are on the ground they're not um you know they're they're not AirHeads or as my wife sometimes uh will refer to me as a bubble

head you know I'm kind of floating uh my mind is kind of floating up in the air and I'm not attached to the ground into reality and so um I think like being down to earth means being realistic uh that's the way I kind of interpret it is just being realistic it's not you're not a dreamer you're you're very grounded in reality so what what about you what does it mean to you to be down to earth down to earth means a person that's humble um so kind of like give this a lot if someone meets a celebrity and says that that person is down to earth it means that they're not um haughty or they're not like full of themselves they're somebody who's kind of stayed humble and there is kind of a common link where they've kind of kept both feet on the ground and are you know based in in reality or realism more than I guess this heightened sense of self-importance but at the same time um yeah it has a slightly different meaning than what you were saying so one example for me is I have this professor in college named Dean bakopolis and he was really cool guy and I had no idea what a big deal he was while I was taking his class until I told someone another class that I was in his class and he was like oh my God you're taking creative Fiction with Dean bakopolis and I was like yeah why and he's like oh my gosh he's like famous essentially like he he sold his novel or something like the rights to his novel and they made some kind of adaptation and I guess he's a big deal um but I just didn't really realize what a big deal he was until that moment because he was very down to earth it wasn't like the type to talk about his work or what a big deal he was or all the people he knew and the further you got into the class the more uh you realized he was a big deal just because he would have to like be away sometimes he's working on certain projects or things like that or working with certain people different famous people and stuff and he was a brilliant guy but he wasn't he wasn't like bragging about it he wasn't impossible you know yeah yeah he wasn't boasting exactly and you wouldn't even know really like until it just kind of casually came up but he wasn't like the type to name drop or um yeah brag or be both full or make a big fuss about what a big deal he was so he was very down to earth yeah which makes him like 10 times cooler you know what I mean yeah for sure yeah I really really liked him he's really cool actually you know now that you have explained your definition of Down to Earth I think yours is actually even more uh accurate than mine um I I mean I have heard both but I think your idea of like just down to earth means your ego your you know is not out of control you know you're down to earth you know because you know some people they get a little bit of Fame a little bit of Fortune and it's almost like they start floating up in the sky above everybody else and someone who is down to earth may have the same level of success but like you said you would never you would never know it because they never throw it in your face they make you feel like a real uh you know like a like a peer they they don't feel like they're they don't act like they're better than you and so that's that's very much down to Earth yeah so definitely a good quality in a person I would say for sure yeah definitely highly prized at least in the west yeah yeah absolutely absolutely well um that's awesome so so thank you so much for uh you know for explaining uh you know kind of uh explaining down to earth a little bit better than I was able to explain it I appreciate that and uh we for our listeners out there uh definitely listen to social uh first and then uh listen to mine uh second okay this time um but uh this brings us to the end of our idioms episode for today and uh we are going to continue to bring you more idioms and we're gonna bring you episodes every single day of the week so um just get ready to look in your feed because there will be a uh an A to Z English podcast episode that will pop up there every single day give it a listen go to the WhatsApp group share your thoughts and comments um right now um I don't know if social I don't know if you agree with me or not but the WhatsApp group is really active lately um yeah I've noticed that too um yeah I've been like man I need to really get in there but yeah I haven't answered people it's been really active it's been really fun um we have a lot of people who are frequent participators who keep things alive which is really nice yeah um a little shout out to Unita and Layla off the top of my head yeah I'm not sure faithful members always known

yeah and um yeah so check us out on on Instagram as well the A to Z English podcast Instagram and uh let us know who you know who's down to earth and um maybe another example of using many moons ago

is our what's our our handle for the Instagram it's just a to z English podcast I think it's a to z okay let me check right now it's not it's not a to z English podcast 22 is it is it uh uh it could be let me let me look I should really know this since I'm our social media manager but yeah well that's why we we chose you because you're we call you our social media that's uh yeah

um yes it is a to z English 22. okay A to Z English 22 okay yeah jump on there and uh leave a comment uh can you comment on on uh Instagram I'm not actually sure okay yeah uh you are showing your your age yeah you can yes you can comment on Instagram um under any posts you can also send us a a message shoot us a message on Instagram as well um I know we have we have a Twitter but uh that may not uh be much longer so uh oh I didn't even know we had a Twitter and that's hilarious because that's going to be very short-lived thanks to Elon right right right maybe maybe our next one is uh Tick Tock is that I heard that's what all the kids are into these days yes

I need to check to see if you can make multiple Tick Tock counts on the same device that way Tick Tock I'm gonna make a I'm gonna make a promise to our listeners out there if we hit a thousand downloads a month a week um I'm gonna floss on uh Tick Tock yeah so uh if you want to see a uh an old man floss on Tick Tock uh please help us hit a thousand downloads and I don't even know what that means I just said something I don't know what any of those words mean but uh

there are tutorials nowadays okay okay I'll watch the tutorial and then uh yeah anyway okay I'll stop talking about things I know nothing about but uh thanks everybody we will catch you next time on the A to Z English podcast take care and bye bye bye bye [Music] gonna dig it [Music]