

## Valentine's Day Idioms

**Text 1: Underline & define all the **heart** idioms. The answer key is on the next page.**

I'll never forget meeting my wife. We started off the relationship halfheartedly as friends who enjoyed having a heart-to-heart talk from time to time. I had a soft spot in my heart for Italy, so naturally my wife (who's from Italy) made my heart skip a beat. I can remember one time I was learning a difficult piece of modern music by heart. She had a heart of gold and spent hours encouraging me not to lose heart. I think her heart went out to me because the piece was so difficult! She knew I had my heart set on performing the piece well, so she let me practice the text to my heart's content while she provided helpful hints that got right to the heart of the matter. She had a heart of gold, and before long I knew the piece by heart!

Adapted from <http://www.englishcafe.com>



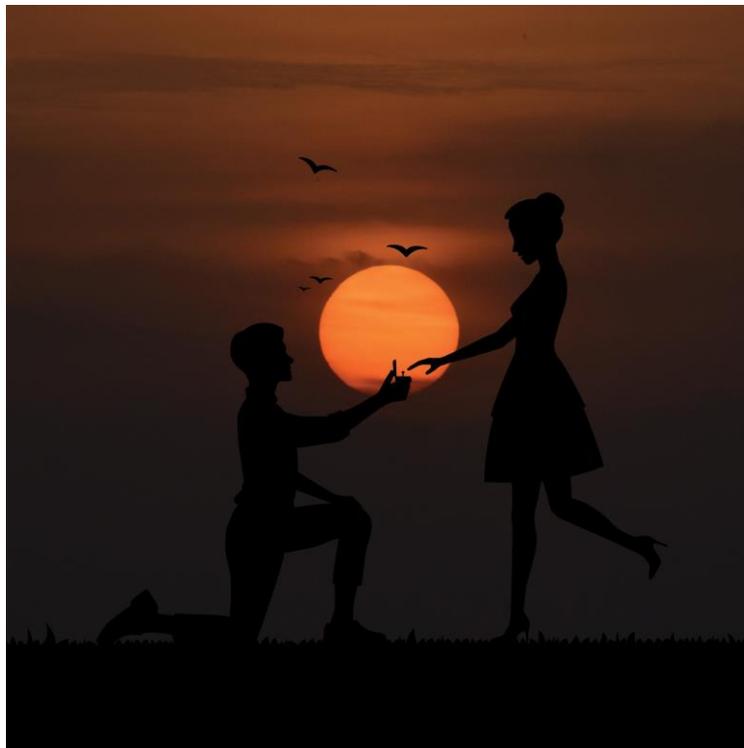
## Text 1 Idiom Definitions:

- ♥ **to do something halfheartedly** = to not be completely serious about something
  - *It's best not to study halfheartedly if you want a good grade.*
- ♥ **to have a heart-to-heart talk** = have a serious, open and honest discussion
  - *I think we need to have a heart-to-heart talk about your grades at school.*
- ♥ **to have a soft spot in your heart for something or someone** = to especially enjoy or appreciate something and tend to love anything connected to that topic or person
  - *She has a soft spot in her heart for George.*
- ♥ **to make someone's heart skip a beat** = to affect someone strongly in a romantic sense
  - *Seeing Helen made his heart skip a beat.*
- ♥ **to learn something by heart** = to learn by memory
  - *I'm learning Beethoven's Violin Concerto by heart.*
- ♥ **to know something by heart** = to know from memory
  - *I know all the lines in the play by heart.*
- ♥ **to have a heart of gold** = be very generous
  - *Tim has a heart of gold. He always helps anyone in need.*
- ♥ **to lose heart** = to give up, want to quit
  - *Don't lose heart. You'll succeed if you keep working at it.*
- ♥ **to have one's heart go out to someone** = to feel empathy for someone
  - *My heart goes out to the homeless children in our city.*
- ♥ **to have your heart set on something** = to want to do something very much
  - *Jane has her heart set on a new doll.*
- ♥ **to do something to your heart's content** = to do something as often as you want
  - *You can play this game to your heart's content. I'm going to study.*
- ♥ **to get to the heart of the matter** = to discuss the most important aspects about a situation
  - *Let's get to the heart of the matter and decide what we need to do.*

**Text 2: Underline & define all the **heart** idioms. The answer key is on the next page.**

Emotional people are sometimes said to wear their hearts on their sleeves. It's difficult to see something that breaks someone's heart, but it's certainly better to have one's heart in the right place rather than have a heart of stone. I guess I enjoy pouring my heart out to someone who speaks from the heart. It's true that emotional people might get their hearts broken more easily, but then again it's better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all... I have a soft spot in my heart for my friend Jack. He always follows his heart, even if, sometimes, he takes things too much to heart. All in all, he might have a heavy heart from time to time, but he's not one to have a change of heart about what he truly believes.

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## Text 2 Idiom Definitions:

- ♥ **to wear your heart on your sleeve** = to be very open and obvious about how you feel
  - *Jane wears her heart on her sleeve. You can always tell what she's thinking.*
- ♥ **to break someone's heart** = to hurt someone very much, in a romantic sense, but also in a general sense
  - *Don't break David's heart!*
- ♥ **to have your heart in the right place** = to be do something honestly and with integrity. Often used to express that someone is trying hard, but having difficulties.
  - *Bob has his heart in the right place, but he is having difficulty succeeding.*
- ♥ **to have a heart of stone** = to be cold and indifferent
  - *She poured her heart out to her boyfriend a heart of stone.*
- ♥ **to pour your heart out to someone** = to tell someone everything
  - *She poured her heart out to her boyfriend and then felt better.*
- ♥ **to speak from the heart** = to be very honest
  - *You can trust Jack. He speaks from the heart.*
- ♥ **to get your heart broken** = to be disappointed in a romantic sense
  - *I'm afraid he got his heart broken by Susan.*
- ♥ **to have a soft spot in your heart for something or someone** = to especially enjoy or appreciate something and tend to love anything connected to that topic or person
  - *I have a soft spot in my heart for ice-cream.*
- ♥ **to follow your heart** = to do what you feel is right
  - *Follow your heart when deciding on a career.*
- ♥ **to take something to heart** = to be hurt emotionally by something
  - *I wouldn't take what he said to heart.*
- ♥ **to have a heavy heart** = to be sad
  - *Peter seems like he has a heavy heart these days.*
- ♥ **to have a change of heart** = to change your mind about something or someone
  - *Alice had a change of heart and decided to go to Greece instead of Italy.*