

E, e

each

to each *their* own

it is obviously right for someone else, although you cannot understand why ♦ *Some people who work at home continue to dress in office clothes – well, to each his own, but I'd never do that.*

ear

bend *sb's* ear

to talk to someone for a long time ♦ *She spent the day at a conference bending the ears of some high school teachers.*

grin from ear to ear, also smile from ear to ear

to give a very big smile ♦ *He was grinning from ear to ear, as if he had just won the lottery.*

have an ear for *sth*

to be especially good at hearing and repeating sounds ♦ *The author has a good ear for ordinary speech and writes realistic dialog.* **USAGE:** said especially of speech or music ♦ Related vocabulary **have an eye for *sth*** at EYE

have the ear of *sb*

to be able to share your opinions with someone important or powerful ♦ *With a Latino as secretary of commerce, the Hispanic community finally had the ear of the president.*

have *your* ear to the ground, also keep *your* ear to the ground

to watch and listen carefully to what is happening around you ♦ *We've had our ear to the ground, but we haven't learned anything about the company's plans.*

in one ear and out the other

heard but not remembered ♦ *I'd remind him about something and he'd let it go in one ear and out the other.*

keep an ear out for *sb/sth*

to be prepared to hear someone or something ♦ *We are working on some*

new songs, so keep an ear out for those. ♦ Related vocabulary **keep an eye out (for *sb/sth*)** at EYE

lend an ear to *sb/sth*

to listen carefully and with understanding to someone or something ♦ *Bush lent an ear to a group of oil executives who came to the White House.* ♦ *Aunt Rosalie lent a sympathetic ear to my troubles.*

play *sth* by ear, also play (it) by ear

1 to play a piece of music after hearing it and without written music ♦ *My brother can play anything on the piano by ear.*

2 to deal with a situation as it develops and without a plan ♦ *I'm not sure if I can go bowling or not, I'll just have to play it by ear.* **USAGE:** sometimes used with other verbs: *I write by ear, and rarely with any exact notion of how I want it to come out.*

turn a deaf ear to *sth*

to ignore what someone is saying ♦ *The Supreme Court said there was a need for action, but Congress has turned a deaf ear to the Court.* ♦ *Meiling's father turned a deaf ear to any criticism of how he had taught his daughter.*

turn *sth* on its ear, also set *sth* on its ear

to change a type of activity in a surprising and exciting way ♦ *He's turned the diving world on its ear – natural talent like his comes along only once in a lifetime.*

earful

get an earful

to have a lot to listen to ♦ *His fans got quite an earful – several well-known pieces spiced up with new arrangements.* **USAGE:** often said about criticism or unwanted suggestions: *I got a very unpleasant*

earful from a truck driver who thought I was in his way.

early

early on

shortly after the beginning ♦ *He decided early on that this was the perfect school for him.*

it's early days (yet)

it is too soon to make a judgment about something ♦ *It looks like we will earn a profit, but it's early days yet and we can't be sure.*

earnest

in earnest

with full effort and attention ♦ *Peace talks began in earnest after four days of bloody fighting in September.* **USAGE:** usually used to emphasize a change from a period of less effort or attention: *The presidential campaign began in earnest on Labor Day.*

ears

all ears esp. spoken

very eager to listen to what someone is going to say ♦ *I'm all ears, waiting to hear your latest excuse for not getting this job done!*

not believe your ears

to be very surprised by something that someone tells you ♦ *We couldn't believe our ears when we heard that our tickets weren't waiting for us at the airport ticket counter.*

have *sth* coming out (of) your ears esp. spoken

to have a lot of something ♦ *Ask him for a loan, he's got money coming out his ears.*

sth falls on deaf ears

a statement, opinion, or suggestion is ignored ♦ *Jennifer suggested that Harold should get a job, but of course her advice fell on deaf ears.*

prick your ears up, also prick up your ears

to listen carefully ♦ *If you hear my name mentioned, prick up your ears – I want to know what you find out.*

wet behind the ears

young and not experienced ♦ *The job put a lot of responsibility on someone who was still wet behind the ears, but he learned fast.*

music to *sb's* ears

See at **MUSIC**

earth

back to earth

returning to a more usual condition ♦ *I was excited to get the job, but I came back to earth pretty quickly when I realized that I would have to move.* **USAGE:** used with verbs like **bring**, **come**, and **drop**

on earth

in any conditions; = **in the world** ♦ *What on earth makes you say that?* ♦ *Why on earth would she ask you to join them?* ♦ *How on earth did you survive the heat?* ♦ *Who on earth would want to collect rocks?* ♦ *Where on earth could Casey have learned such behavior?* **USAGE:** used to express great surprise that something could happen or exist

off the face of the earth

See at **FACE**

go to the ends of the earth

See at **ENDS**

heaven on earth

See at **HEAVEN**

hell on earth

See at **HELL**

move heaven and earth (to do *sth*)

See at **HEAVEN**

the four corners of the earth

See at **CORNERS**

the salt of the earth

See at **SALT**

ease

at ease

relaxed and comfortable ♦ *The girl behind the bar was completely at ease, chatting with her customers as she mixed their drinks.* **USAGE:** often used in the form **put someone at ease** (= make someone comfortable): *We were greeted by a young woman who immediately put us at ease.* ♦ **Opposite** ill at ease

ill at ease

worried and uncomfortable ♦ *The old gentleman obviously felt ill at*

ease while he waited to have his hair cut. ♦ Opposite at **ease**

eat

eat you alive

1 to cause you to suffer ♦ *Without my own lawyer, the defendants' lawyers would have eaten me alive in court.* ♦ *The state income tax is just eating me alive, so I think I may move.*

2 to bite you repeatedly ♦ *The only bad thing about camping by the river was the mosquitoes that ate us alive.* **USAGE:** used only of insects, as in the example

eat away at sth

to reduce something by a little at a time ♦ *These bank fees eat away at my savings every month.*

eat you up esp. spoken

to spoil your life ♦ *The danger of a busy professional life is that it will eat you up.*

ORIGIN: based on the literal meaning of **eat something up** (= to use something so there is little or nothing left)

eat it up, also eat sth up

to enjoy something completely ♦ *She has the kind of cheery voice that adults might dislike but little kids just eat it up.* ♦ Related vocabulary **lap up sth** 1 at **LAP**

ORIGIN: based on the literal meaning of **eat something up** (= to finish the food you have)

a bite to eat See at **BITE**

eat sb/sth for breakfast See at **BREAKFAST**

eat crow See at **CROW**

eat your heart out See at **HEART**

eat like a horse See at **HORSE**

eat sb out of house and home See at **HOUSE**

eat your words See at **WORDS**

have your cake and eat it too See at **CAKE**

the proof of the pudding (is in the eating) See at **PROOF**

eating

what's eating you esp. spoken what is making you angry ♦ *What's eating him today – pressure from work or problems at home?*

ebb

the ebb and flow of sth

the continually changing character of something ♦ *There is a normal ebb and flow in nature, for example, when there is just the right amount of rain and when there is not enough.* **USAGE:** often said about something that regularly gets larger and smaller: *There's a constant ebb and flow of traffic on the highway.* ♦ Related vocabulary **ups and downs** at **UPS**

at (a) low ebb

slightly formal, also at **its lowest ebb**

below the usual condition or standard ♦ *The divorce comes at a time when Jackson's career is at a low ebb.* ♦ *Support for the arts has reached its lowest ebb and we hope it won't go any lower.* ♦ Related vocabulary **up to par** at **PAR**

eclipse

in eclipse

slightly formal

thought of as less important or as having less value ♦ *By the time he died, the novelist and his work were in eclipse.*

edge

keep you on the edge of your seat, also keep you on the edge of your chair

to make you very excited or nervous because of uncertainty ♦ *It was one of those movies that was so suspenseful, it kept you on the edge of your seat right through to the end.*

(live) on the edge

1 to be in an uncertain situation or one that could cause harm ♦ *I do not believe a person has to live on the edge in order to be a creative artist.* ♦ Related vocabulary **live dangerously** at **LIVE**, **on the bubble** at **BUBBLE**

2 to be very poor ♦ *Too many children live on the edge, without proper food or medical care.*

lose your edge

to no longer have the determination or skills that made you successful in the past ♦ *Long ago, Foster figured out you could act like a gentleman and still not lose your edge.*

on edge

nervous or worried ♦ *You're always on edge waiting for an important call, because you don't really know when that phone will ring.* **USAGE:** often used in the forms **set you on edge** or **put you on edge**: *The accident set us on edge for several days.* ♦ Related vocabulary **set your teeth on edge** at **TEETH**

on the cutting edge (of *sth*), also at the cutting edge (of *sth*)

in front of others with what is new ♦ *Some people on the cutting edge of fashion have one strip of hair dyed one color and the rest another color.* ♦ *University Hospital is at the cutting edge of medical technology.* **USAGE:** also used in the form **on the edge**: *This band used to be on the edge, but it's much less exciting these days.*

over the edge

into a condition of extreme emotional or mental suffering ♦ *I worry that someone as upset as she is could easily be pushed over the edge and cause herself great harm.*

take the edge off *sth*

to reduce the effect of something, esp. something unpleasant ♦ *Ceiling fans can take the edge off summer heat.* ♦ *The memorial service didn't bring my husband back to life, but it took the edge off my sorrow.*

effort

spare no effort to *do sth*

to work as hard as possible to achieve something ♦ *Emergency services have spared no effort to help people whose homes were destroyed by the tornadoes.* ♦ Related vocabulary **spare no expense** at **EXPENSE**

egg

have egg on your face

to be embarrassed ♦ *If the computer problems continue, then the software giant will have egg on its face.*

USAGE: also used in the form **with egg on your face**: *People who supported him came away with egg on their faces.* ♦ Related vocabulary **blow up in your face** at **FACE**

eggs

put all your eggs in one basket

to risk your money or your reputation in support of one idea or plan ♦ *I didn't want to put all my eggs in one basket, so I played five different lottery games, but lost all of them.*

ORIGIN: based on the idea that if all the eggs you got from your chickens are in one basket (= container) and you drop it, you will lose all your eggs

eggshells

walk on eggshells

to try very hard not to upset someone or something ♦ *Everyone at the company was walking on eggshells until we heard that no one would be fired.*

ORIGIN: based on the idea that **eggshells** are easily broken

eight ball

behind the eight ball

in a difficult situation ♦ *Simpson's thoughtless remarks put him behind the eight ball, and many people thought he should resign.*

ORIGIN: from the game of pool (= a game played on a special table with sticks and numbered balls), in which you do not want to have any ball positioned behind the black ball marked with a number 8

elbow

at sb's elbow

very near and convenient ♦ *My kitchen is small and efficient with*

everything right at my elbow. ♦ *Does the president have enough advisors at his elbow?*

elbows

rub elbows with sb

to meet or be with someone socially; = **rub shoulders with sb** ♦ *As Ms Quasebarth's personal assistant, Celia has rubbed elbows with singers and DJ's and even presidents.*

element

in your element

doing something you like very much and are comfortable with ♦ *Paul is in his element when he's working in the office, but when he's making sales calls, he's miserable.*
USAGE: the opposite meaning is expressed by **out of your element** (= doing something that makes you very uncomfortable or unhappy): *Grant was a great general, but as president, he was out of his element.*

else

if all else fails

if nothing succeeds ♦ *Miki spoke a little English, I used a lot of hand signals, and if all else failed, we would look in a phrase book.*

or else

or ♦ *We need to be there by eight or else we'll find it hard to park the car.*
USAGE: when spoken after a demand, **or else** can be a mild threat: *Turn down that radio or else I'll take it away from you!* ♦ *You better remember to bring the wine, or else!*

embarrassment

an embarrassment of riches

slightly formal
 more of something good or pleasant than you need ♦ *The Internet presents us with an embarrassment of riches when you want information, but how much of it is accurate?*

empty

running on empty

lacking energy or enthusiasm ♦

He's been running on empty for months now – a vacation will do him good. ♦ *The program to build low-cost housing has not attracted much support and is running on empty.* ♦ Related vocabulary on **automatic pilot** at AUTOMATIC PILOT

ORIGIN: based on the literal meaning of **running on empty** (= operating a car with almost no fuel)

end

an end in itself slightly formal
 satisfying no other purpose than the enjoyment of doing it ♦ *Memorizing facts can become an end in itself and not a way of understanding something.*

at the end of the day, also by the end of the day

finally; = **in the end** ♦ *We interviewed many people for the job, but at the end of the day, we didn't think any of them could handle it.* ♦ Related vocabulary in the **final analysis** at ANALYSIS, **when all is said and done** at SAID

at your wit's end

so upset that you do not know what to do ♦ *I have a problem that has me at wit's end, and I'm hoping you can help.*

end it all

to kill yourself ♦ *Overcome with grief, he ended it all.*

end of story esp. spoken

all that can be said or reported about something ♦ *That's right, your contract will not be renewed, end of story.*

end up

to reach a final place or position; = **wind up** ♦ *I began work as an accountant and ended up writing advertising.* ♦ *We ended up the evening drinking and dancing at a club downtown.*

get the short end (of the stick)

to feel that you are being treated particularly badly in comparison with other people ♦ *When the mayor*

cut our budget almost in half, I felt like we were getting the short end of the stick. ♦ I always feel like I'm getting the short end, that I'm being cheated out of something.

go off the deep end

to become so angry or upset that you cannot control your emotions ♦ Tom will go off the deep end if Jerry can't pay him the money he owes.

in the end

finally; = **at the end of the day** ♦ Despite all the problems of putting on the play, it was a grand success, and that was all that mattered in the end. ♦ Related vocabulary in the **final analysis** at ANALYSIS, **when all is said and done** at SAID

never hear the end of it

to have to listen for a long time to talk about something embarrassing or annoying ♦ If you don't send your aunt a thank-you letter, you'll never hear the end of it from your mother!

no end esp. spoken

very much ♦ I just didn't like the color of the carpet at all, and it just upset me no end. ♦ That kid loves soccer no end!

no end in sight (to sth)

lacking the possibility of any change ♦ There seems to be no end in sight to quicker and better computers.

no end of sth

a lot of something ♦ The twins were no end of trouble.

not the end of the world

not the worst thing that could happen ♦ If I don't get the job, it won't be the end of the world.

on end

continuously; = **at a stretch** ♦ She practices the violin for hours on end. **USAGE:** **on end** is used with **hours, days, weeks,** and other units of time: He's often away for weeks on end.

on the receiving end, also at the receiving end

feeling the unpleasant effects of

something ♦ She'd been on the receiving end of his temper a few times and knew how nasty it could be.

put an end to sth

to stop something; = **put a stop to sth** ♦ The lights went out, and that put an end to our game of cards.

the end of the line, also the end of the road

the last part of something ♦ He knew he had reached the end of the line when performing started to be more tiring than satisfying. ♦ Our friendship reached the end of the road with a nasty fight.

to the bitter end

See **stick it out** at STICK

endow

endowed with sth

born with a particular quality ♦ He was endowed with an exceedingly quick mind.

ends

at loose ends

not knowing what to do esp. because of some upsetting change ♦ He was at loose ends when their long-term relationship broke up.

ORIGIN: based on the idea of a string or rope with ends that are not neatly tied together

follow you to the ends of the earth

as far as possible ♦ You cannot leave me because I will follow you to the ends of the earth.

go to the ends of the earth

to do as much as possible ♦ Most people would go to the ends of the earth to make sure their child had the best possible doctor.

make ends meet

to have enough money to pay for your basic expenses ♦ To make ends meet, she runs a day-care center out of her home.

enemy

your own worst enemy

doing things yourself that prevent

you from being liked or successful ♦ *As a young player, Michael was his own worst enemy, arguing with the coach and other players and generally being unpleasant.* **USAGE:** sometimes used in the form **its own worst enemy**, referring to something: *The company has made a number of bad decisions that have made it its own worst enemy.*

enough

(say) enough is enough

this must stop ♦ *The movie was so boring that I decided enough is enough and got up and left.* ♦ *I am tired of being treated badly, and I say enough is enough.* **USAGE:** usually said of something that is not interesting or pleasant

envelope

push (the edge of) the envelope to move beyond the limit of what has usually been done or was the accepted standard ♦ *TV shows are really pushing the envelope by showing so much sex and violence.*

envy

green with envy

wishing very much that you had

what someone else has ♦ *Sharon's going off to the south of France for three weeks and we're all green with envy.*

equals

first among equals slightly formal the best or most important of a similar group ♦ *The solo violin was first among equals in the midst of all the stringed instruments.* ♦ *Because she is the chairman of the committee, she is, of course, first among equals.*

errand

run an errand, also run errands to make a short trip for a particular purpose ♦ *I've got to run a few errands and then stop by my mother's house.* **USAGE:** usually to buy or deliver something

error

see the error of your/its ways slightly formal to accept that you have been wrong about something ♦ *What can we do to make Tim see the error of his ways?* ♦ *The industry needs to see the error of its ways and adopt these new safety standards.*

green with envy



Josie's victory made me green with envy.

escape

it escapes me

1 I do not notice something ♦ *If there was something important in that package, it certainly escaped me.*

2 I do not remember something ♦ *I knew his name a minute ago, but now it escapes me.*

essence

of the essence

most important ♦ *When someone has a heart attack, time is of the essence – you need to begin treatment immediately.*

even

even if only

just ♦ *I still like to keep in touch with friends, even if only occasionally.* ♦ *If you are angry and disappointed, you might as well admit it, even if only to yourself.*

even so

despite everything; = **for all that** ♦ *This place fills up with tourists in the summer, but even so, there are plenty of places for them to stay.* ♦ Related vocabulary **be that as it may** at BE

event

in any event, also slightly formal at all events

whatever happens; = **in any case** ♦ *I hope to meet her this afternoon, but in any event I have to return home tomorrow.* **USAGE:** the same meaning can also be expressed by **at (the very) least, come hell or high water, come what may, and either way** ♦ Related vocabulary **one way or the other** 2 at WAY

in the event of sth, also in the event that sth happens

if something should happen ♦ *In the event of war, we have to be prepared to send in troops.* ♦ *Travel insurance protects you in the event that you have to cancel your trip.* **USAGE:** sometimes used in the form **in the unlikely event** (= if something

should happen that you do not expect to happen): *In the unlikely event of a fire, alarms will sound and you should exit immediately.* ♦ Related vocabulary **in case of sth** at CASE

every

every last

each ♦ *Every last bit of the meal was delicious.* **USAGE:** used for emphasis: *The lawyer explained every last detail of the contract.*

every other sth

omitting the next but including the one after that, as a series or repetition of something ♦ *Our discussion group meets every other Friday at eight o'clock.* ♦ *It seems like every other shop in the village is a cafe.*

every so often

sometimes; = **(every) once in a while** ♦ *We still get together for lunch every so often.* ♦ Related vocabulary **(every) now and then** at NOW

evidence

in evidence

obvious ♦ *Police and ambulance crews were in evidence all over town after the storm.* **USAGE:** sometimes used with **much** or **very much** for emphasis: *Good sportsmanship is always very much in evidence in these competitions.*

example

make an example of sb

to punish someone for doing something so that other people will not do the same thing ♦ *They want to make an example of him by keeping him in prison under very difficult conditions.*

excuse

excuse me esp. spoken

1 I am sorry to interrupt you ♦ *Oh, excuse me, I didn't know you were busy.*

2 that was not what I intended to say or do ♦ *As a kid growing up, my*

family grew strawberries, excuse me, grew tomatoes.

3 I did not hear you ♦ *Which office do you work in? Excuse me?* ♦ Related vocabulary **pardon me** at PARDON

expense

at the expense of *sth*

with the loss of something ♦ *Time is spent preparing students for state tests at the expense of other, important instruction.*

at *your* expense

1 causing embarrassment ♦ *They had a joke at her expense.*

2 with you paying for something ♦ *I can have the ROM on my computer expanded at my expense.*

spare no expense

to not consider the cost of something ♦ *The team spared no expense in hiring players last year.* ♦ Related vocabulary **spare no effort to do sth** at EFFORT

explain

explain away *sth*, also explain *sth* away

to invent reasons why something is unimportant ♦ *You will find it hard to explain away all these mistakes.* ♦ *Rather than face the truth, we try to explain it away.*

eye

a bird's eye view

the appearance of something seen from above ♦ *The large painting offers a bird's eye view that shows the layout of the ancient city.* **USAGE:** sometimes used to show how an animal's view is different: *A basement window gives you a dog's eye view of the world – all you see is the bottom of the fire hydrant and passing feet on the sidewalk.*

catch *sb's* eye, also catch the eye of *sb*

to attract someone's attention ♦ *Out of all the beautiful things in the garden, the fountain was what really*

caught my eye. ♦ *It's a good car, but it doesn't catch the customers' eye.*

have an eye for *sth*

to be able to understand and appreciate something ♦ *She certainly had an eye for art, which explains, of course, why she was a successful art dealer.* **USAGE:** also used in the form **with an eye for something:** *I think I was born with an eye for beauty.* ♦ Related vocabulary **have an ear for sth** at EAR

have *your* eye on *sb*

to watch someone carefully ♦ *I've had my eye on her for some time, and I believe she is the best person for the job.*

have *your* eye on *sth*

to admire and want to have something ♦ *The museum had its eye on the painting for many years, hoping its owner would sell it some day.*

in the public eye

known and talked about by many people ♦ *The former senator remained in the public eye even after retirement.* ♦ *We need to keep education in the public eye if we want support for improvements in our schools.* **USAGE:** the opposite meaning is expressed by **out of the public eye:** *Illness kept the actor out of the public eye for eighteen months.*

keep an eye on *sb/sth*, also keep *your* eye on *sb/sth*

to watch or give your attention to someone or something ♦ *The mother sat on the edge of the sandbox, keeping an eye on her sons as they played.* **USAGE:** sometimes used with an adjective: *The woman kept a close eye on her purse.*

keep an eye out (for *sb/sth*), also keep *your* eye out (for *sb/sth*)

to watch carefully for someone or something; = **keep your eyes peeled (for sth)** ♦ *Three aircraft kept an eye out for the submarine while waiting for help to arrive.* ♦ *I always kept my eye out for strangers.*

♦ Related vocabulary **keep an ear out for sb/sth** at EAR, **keep (a) close watch on sb/sth** at WATCH

keep your eye on the ball esp. spoken

to give your complete attention to what you are doing or want to achieve ♦ *We need to keep our eye on the ball and continue to encourage our students.* ♦ Related vocabulary **on the ball** at BALL

keep one eye on sb/sth, also have one eye on sb/sth

to give part of your attention to one person or thing ♦ *Jim continued to talk to me, but he kept one eye on the clock to be sure he wouldn't be late.* **USAGE:** sometimes used in the form **with one eye on someone or something:** *She read her newspaper with one eye on arrivals board to see if his train had come in.*

more (to sb/sth) than meets the eye

more interesting or complicated than someone or something appears at first ♦ *There is more to her death than meets the eye – she was probably murdered.* ♦ *There must be more to him than meets the eye, or else why would she be interested in him?* **USAGE:** also used in the form **less than meets the eye** (= not as interesting or complicated as it appears): *Unfortunately, with her boyfriend, there is less than meets the eye.*

not a dry eye (in the house)

everyone is crying or feels strong emotion ♦ *When he sang the beautiful old Austrian folksong, there wasn't a dry eye in the house.*

ORIGIN: based on a special meaning of **the house** (= the people attending a performance in a theater)

not bat an eye, also not bat an eyelid

to not show any reaction ♦ *Mom didn't bat an eye when I told her I*

was getting married. **USAGE:** also used in the form **without batting an eye** with the same meaning: *She can give a formal dinner for thirty without batting an eye.*

see eye to eye

to agree with someone ♦ *My father and I see eye to eye on most things.* **USAGE:** often used in the form **not see eye to eye:** *We don't see eye to eye on a lot of things.*

the eye of the storm

the center of a disagreement ♦ *The man in the eye of the storm is accused of selling secrets to the enemy.*

ORIGIN: based on the literal meaning of **the eye of the storm** (= the middle of a mass of severe weather)

turn a blind eye (to sth)

to ignore something; = **close your/its eyes to sth** ♦ *Sometimes a store might sell stolen goods because the owner has turned a blind eye to where they come from.*

with an eye to sth

for the purpose of something ♦ *All college applications that we receive are read with an eye to finding the most promising students.* ♦ *This new factory was designed with an eye to providing a better work environment.*

from the corner of your eye See at CORNER

eyebrows

raise (some) eyebrows, also raise a few eyebrows

to cause disapproval or worry ♦ *The styles now favored by many teenagers have raised a few eyebrows among parents.*

eyeful

get an eyeful

to see as much as or more than you want to see ♦ *Visitors to Halifax are getting an eyeful of whales this summer.* ♦ *When he pulled his pants down, we got quite an eyeful.*

eyelid

not bat an eyelid See **not bat an eye** at EYE

eyes

all eyes

with a lot of interest in something or someone you see ♦ *The kids were all eyes, taking in every detail of the new house.*

all eyes are on sb/sth

everyone is watching someone or something ♦ *All eyes are on the top three tennis players.*

close your/its eyes to sth, also shut your/its eyes to sth

to ignore something; = **turn a blind eye (to sth)** ♦ *As a cop, I can't close my eyes to illegal drugs, even when I'm not working.* ♦ *The church cannot close its eyes to suffering.*

cry your eyes out

to be extremely unhappy and cry a lot ♦ *A friend told me my house was destroyed in the fire, and I cried my eyes out.* USAGE: sometimes used in the form **cry your heart out**

your eyes pop out of your head

esp. spoken

to show surprise ♦ *My sister showed me the ring Jim gave her, and my eyes popped out of my head, it was so beautiful.*

feast your eyes on sb/sth

to look at someone or something with pleasure ♦ *We spent one whole day feasting our eyes on paintings I never thought I'd have the chance to see.* USAGE: sometimes used in the form **a feast for the eyes** (= someone or something that is pleasing to look at): *Potter's film is a feast for the eyes.*

hit you (right) between the eyes

to be very easy to notice ♦ *The song's catchy lyrics and bright melody hit him right between the eyes.* ♦ *I think the quality of our product is going to hit people right between the eyes.*

in the eyes of sb, also in your eyes in another person's opinion ♦ *Young kids admire this ballplayer, want to be like him, and in the eyes of most of them, he can't do anything wrong.* ♦ *My mother was always a true hero in my eyes.*

in the eyes of the law

legally ♦ *Our legal system is based on the idea that all people are equal in the eyes of the law.* ♦ *In the eyes of the law, you are responsible for what happened.*

keep your eyes peeled (for sth)

to watch carefully for someone or something; = **keep an eye out (for sb/sth)** ♦ *Keep your eyes peeled for a taxi.*

lay eyes on sb/sth, also set eyes on sb/sth

to see someone or something ♦ *She did not want to lay eyes on this man ever again.* ♦ *My mother had fallen in love with my father when she first set eyes on him.*

not believe your (own) eyes

to think that something you see is not likely to be real ♦ *She looked so different in a uniform, I couldn't believe my eyes.* USAGE: sometimes **scarcely** or **hardly** are used instead of **not**: *When he found the ring in the grass, he could scarcely believe his eyes.*

only have eyes for sb/sth, also have eyes only for sb/sth

to be interested in just one person or thing ♦ *They only had eyes for each other.* ♦ *A hunter has eyes only for the animal being hunted.*

open your eyes (to sth)

to cause you to understand or be interested in something ♦ *Working with disabled children opened my eyes to how hard they work to do things most of us do so easily.*

do sth with your eyes closed, also do sth with your eyes shut

to do something very easily; = **do sth with one hand tied behind your back** ♦ *I've filled in this form*

so many times, I can do it with my eyes closed.

with *your* eyes (wide) open

understanding the true character of someone or something ♦ *I knew Bill for a long time, and I went into this relationship with my eyes wide open.*

eyeteeth

give *your* eyeteeth for *sth* esp. spoken

to want to have or do something very much ♦ *Right now I'd give my eyeteeth for a chocolate ice cream soda!*