CHAPTER - IV

NARAYAN: THE WRITER OF MASS

In 1930s emerged the first major figures in the field of English literature in the shape of the "Big Three" of Indian fiction: Mulk Raj Anand, Raja Rao and R. K. Narayan. Mulk Raj Anand is the most westernized of the trio; Rao, while writing in English and using the genre of novels has his roots in Sanskrit culture. R.K.Narayan’s work occupies a middle ground between the approaches of his two illustrious contemporaries. Rao is considered as the writer of class and Narayan the writer of mass.

Narayan has used language in such a way that most of the idioms he used in his novels are found both in English Dictionaries of idioms and Kannada Dictionaries of Idioms. That is why readers both Indian and alien feel the language used by Narayan familiar. A list of such idioms from his novels is furnished here.

In analysis of idioms, focus is on meaning of the idiom, Kannada and Tamil parallels of the idiom, classification of idioms, etymology of the idiom and repetition of idioms. While classifying idioms on the basis of parts of speech, the prominent part of speech and the context are taken into account. For example, in 'breathe my last' and 'wanted to try my hand' some process is going on and here verb is prominent. So these are verb idioms. Being ‘slave to wife’, ‘poor boy, poor boy’ both indicate person’s nature. So here noun is prominent and so these are noun idioms. In ‘clear-headed’, ‘look absent minded’ verb is explained as ‘absent minded’. So it is adverb idiom. in ‘tongue-tied’ noun tongue is explained with the word ‘tied’. So it is adjective idiom.
It is easy for us to understand the meaning of an idiom provided we know its source.

A linguistically fascinating fact about idioms is that some of them (though not all of them) can undergo the ordinary syntactic processes of the language. For example, 'let the cat out of the bag' can appear in sentences like 'the cat has been well and truly let out of the bag; in which the idiom has been broken up and its parts scattered about the sentence and yet the idiomatic sense is still present. Such findings pose interesting problems both of syntax and of psycholinguistics.  

4.1 Analysis of Idioms

1. 'Breathe my last' (p52 A Tiger for Malgudi)

(1) is found both in Oxford (39) and Avali Pademudi Kosha (99).


It means 'to die'.

(3) Breathe + my + last = verb + pronoun + adj. (verb idiom)

(4) (i) Expire 1419, from M. Fr. expirer, from L. expirare "breathe out, breathe one's last, die." from ex- "out" + spirare "to breathe". "Dye" is the older sense in Eng.; that of "breathe out" is first attested 1590. Of laws, patents, treaties, etc., c.1477.

(ii) breathe 'breð\ vb breathed ; breathing [ME brothen, fr. breth] vi (14c) 1 a: to draw air into and expel it from the lungs: RESPIRE; broadly : to take in oxygen and

give out carbon dioxide through natural process b: to inhale and exhale freely
(p141. Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth Edition)

(5) 1 time.

2. 'wanted to try my hand at' (p94:39 The Man Eater of Malgudi)

(1) is in oxford (418) and Avali Padendudi Kosha (95).

(2) Kai nodu = shaktiyannu pareekshisu. Usage: naanoo ondu kai nodiyeyi bidutteine.

(3) (Want+ed)+to+try+my+hand = (verb+past tense) +preposition+verb+pronoun+noun (Verb idiom)

(4) (i) Hand O.E. hond, from P.Gmc. *khanduz (cf. O.S., O.Fris., Du., Ger. hand, O.N. hönd, Goth. handus). The original O.E. plural handa was superseded in M.E. by handen, later hands. Meaning "person who does something with his hands" is from 1590, hence "hired workman" (1655) and "sailor in a ship's crew" (1669). Clock and watch sense is from 1575. Meaning "round of applause" is from 1838. The linear measure of 4 inches (originally 3) is from 1561, now used only in giving the height of horses. The meaning "playing cards held in one player's hand" is from 1630; that of "a round at a card game" is from 1622. The verb is from 1642. First hand, second hand, etc. (1439) are from the notion of something being passed down from hand to hand. Out of hand (1597) is opposite of in hand "under control" (c.1200). Hand over fist (1825) is suggestive of sailors and fishermen hauling in nets. Hands-on (adj.) is first recorded 1969; hands-off (adj.) is from 1902. Hand-jive is from 1958. Hand job is 1940s; hand-me-down as a modifier is first recorded 1874. To win something hands down (1867) is from horse racing, from a jockey's gesture of letting the reins go loose in an easy victory. To hand it to (someone) "acknowledge someone's ability" is slang
from c.1906. **Handy** is from c.1310; **handful** was in O.E. Phrase **on the one hand ... on the other hand** is recorded from 1638, a fig. use of the physical sense of **hand** in reference to position on one side or the other side of the body (as in **lefthand side**), which goes back to O.E. **Hands up!** as a command from a policeman, robber, etc., is from 1873. **Hand-to-mouth** is from 1509.

(ii) **hand** 

(p526. Merriam Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth edition)

(5) 1 time.

3. *I had the committee in my pocket* (97 The Man Eater of Malgudi)

(1) is in Oxford and Avali Padenudi Kosha(79).

(2) In Kannada it is "kisege haakikollu".

Kisege haakikollu = vashavartiyaagi maadikollu. Usage: kortininda jafti warrantu horatodane warrantannu jaari maaduva ameenarannoo goudaru tamma kisege haakikolluttiddaru.( “Panajaravalliya Panju” Kadidaala Manjappa p47) (p79 Avali Padenudi Kosha)

(3) I + had +the +committee +in +my+ pocket =pronoun +auxiliary verb +article +group noun+preposition +pronoun + noun  

(verb idiom)

(4) **pocket** 

[pā-kot\(\)] n [ME pocke, fr. ONF pokete, dim. Of poke bag, of Gmc origin; akin to OE pocca bag] (15c) 7: the concave area at the base of the finger sections of a baseball glove or mitt in which the ball is normally caught -pocketful \(-\, ful\(\) n ---in one’s pocket: in one’s control or possession. (p897. Merriam Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth edition)
4. .....a complete 'slave to his wife'. (p143 The Man Eater of Malgudi)

(1) -The Oxford Idioms Dictionary explains the idiom 'be a slave to/of sth'.

(2) In Kannada people use the idiom 'hendatiya gulaama' in day today language. G. P. Rajaratnam says in his poem 'hendatiyobbalu maneyolagiddare naamu obba sipayi'. Here he expresses his love and dedication to his wife.

But this idiom in Kannada always doesn't mean the same. Some time it is the pitiable state of husband.

(3) Slave +to +his +wife =noun +preposition +pronoun +noun (noun idiom)

(4)(i) Slave (v.) c.1600, "to enslave," from slave (n.). The meaning "work like a slave" is first recorded 1719.

(ii) Slave Indian tribe of northwestern Canada, 1789, from slave, translating Cree (Algonquian) awahkan "captive, slave."

(iii) Slave (n.) c.1290, "person who is the property of another," from O.Fr. esclave, from M.L. Sclavus "slave" (cf. It. schiavo, Fr. esclave, Sp. esclavo), originally "Slav", so called because of the many Slavs sold into slavery by conquering peoples.

"This sense development arose in the consequence of the wars waged by Otto the Great and his successors against the Slavs, a great number of whom they took captive and sold into slavery." [Klein]

O.E. Wealh "Briton" also began to be used in the sense of "serf, slave" c.850; and Skt. dasa-, which can mean "slave," is apparently connected to dasyu- "pre-Aryan inhabitant of India." More common O.E. words for slave were peow (related to
peowian "to serve") and ľrěl. The Slavic words for "slave" (Rus. rab, Serbo-Croatian rob, O.C.S. rabu) are from O.Slav. *orbu, from the PIE base *orbh- (also source of orphan) the ground sense of which seems to be "thing that changes allegiance" (in the case of the slave, from himself to his master). The Slavic word is also the source of robot. Applied to devices from 1904, especially those which are controlled by others (cf. slave jib in sailing, similarly of locomotives, flash bulbs, amplifiers). Slavery is from 1551; slavish is attested from 1565; in the sense of "servilely imitative" it is from 1753. slave-driver is attested from 1807. In U.S. history, slavocracy "the political dominance of slave-owners" is attested from 1840.

(5) 1 time.

5. ..... 'a game of hide and seek' (p153 The Man Eater of Malgudi)

Playing hide and seek with his feet (p93:24 The Guide)

(1) is not in Oxford Idioms Dictionary, but it is used in daily language as an idiom.

(2) The Kannada idiom meaning the same, 'kanna muchchaale aata' is there in Avali Padenudi Kosha (51). ‘Kanna muchchaale aata’ =gottilladante natisuvudu. Usage: ei kanna muchchaale aata nanna hattira nadeyodilla (habit). (p51 Avali Padenudi Kosha)

(3) A + game + of + hide -and -seek =article +noun +preposition +noun (noun idiom)

(4) (i) Hide (v.) O.E. hydan, from W.Gmc. *khuthjanan, from PIE *keudh- (cf. Gk. keuthein "to hide, conceal"), from base *(s)keu- "to cover, conceal"
Past participle hidden is a M.E. formation (O.E. had gehydd "hidden") on the model of ride/ridden, etc. Hide and seek (1672) replaced earlier all hid (1588); while hide-out "a hiding place" is Amer.Eng., first attested 1885.

(ii) hide-and-seek \hɪ-dən-ˈsɛk\ n (ca. 1727): a children's game in which one player does not look while others hide and then goes to find them. (p546. Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth edition)

6. If anyone had 'breathed a word'(p173 The Man Eater Of Malgudi).

(1) In Oxford Idioms Dictionary (390) the idiom is 'not breathe a word,(about/of sth) (to sb)'.

(2) In Janapada Padenudi Kosha (44) 'usiru bidadiru' and in Avali Padenudi Kosha (26) 'usiru bigihidi'.

(3) Breathe +ed +a +word = (verb +past tense) +article +non (verb idiom)

(4) Word O.E. word "speech, talk, utterance, word," from P.Gmc. *wurdan (cf. O.S., O.Fris. word, Du. woord, O.H.G., Ger. wort, O.N. orð, Goth. waurd), from PIE *were- "speak, say". The meaning "promise" was in O.E., as was the theological sense. In the plural, the meaning "verbal altercation" (as in to have words with someone) dates from 1462. Wordy is O.E. wordig "verbose." Wording "choice of words" apparently was coined by Milton (in "Eikonoklastes," 1649). Word processor first recorded 1970. A word to the wise is from L. phrase verbum sapienti satis est "a word to the wise is enough." Word of mouth is recorded from c.1553.

(5) 1 time.
7. ....the third was 'out of ear shot' (p175 the Man Eater of Malgudi).

He was now out of earshot (p71:33 Swam and Friends)

As if to be out of earshot (p146:33, 34 The Guide)

(1)'out of ear shot (of sb/sth) idiom is in Oxford Idioms Dictionary (p970).

(2) In Avali Padenudi Kosha (79) the idiom is 'kiviyalate'. We also use it in daily language as 'koogalate'.

(3)Out +of +ear +shot=adverb +preposition +noun + noun (noun idiom)

(4)(i) Earshot c.1600, from ear (1) + shot.

(ii) ear-shot Yir-,shat\n(16071: the range within which the unaided voice may be heard (p363. Merriam Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth edition)

(5) 3 times.

8. 'nose-led by his wife' (p18 The English Teacher)

(1)-In Oxford Idioms Dictionary (p203)- 'lead sb by the nose' make sb do everything you want; control sb completely.

(2) In Janapada Padenudi Kosha (p401), 'moogudaara haaku'-niyantrisu, tahabandige taru. Istaralle avanige moogodaara haakteeni, neenu summaniru. In Avali Padenudi Kosha (p289) 'moogudaara haaku- hatotiyallirisu; maduve maadisu: ei beedi basavananna daarige tarabekadare modalu moogudaara haakabeku'.(usage).

(3)(Nose + led)+ by + his + wife. = verb +preposition +pronoun +noun (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.
9. 'thrilled beyond words (p29 the English Teacher). 

(1) 'be beyond something' be impossible to imagine (p44 sterling). If we refer the meaning for 'be beyond something' in sterling dictionary 'beyond words means-impossible to express in words.

(2) In Kannada we say 'shabdaateeta'. This idiom is not found in Avali Padenudi Kosha, Janapada Nudigattagala Kosha, Oxford and Cambridge dictionaries of idioms. But we use it in our speech.

Shabdaateeta =

(3) (Thrill +ed) + beyond +words = verb +preposition+ noun (noun idiom)

(4) 1 time.

10. 'Evil Eye had fallen on her' (p83 and p98 The English Teacher).

(1) 'give one the evil eye'=supposed power to harm people by a look or glance. (156 Sterling).

Give sb the evil eye=to look at someone in an angry or unpleasant way (p118 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms).

'she touched the child's cheeks and cracked her fingers on her temple as an antidote for Evil eye'. Here in this context the dictionary meaning is not applicable.

(2) The idiom has its roots in Indian culture. It is most used idiom in Kannada.

In Kannada it is 'ketta drusti beelu' and 'maari kannu'.

Drushti tagalu=kannenjalaagu; ketta kannu tagalu (p177 Avali Padenudi Kosha) 

Drushti taagu, drushti badi, drudhti beelu (ibid).
Maari kannu=ketta drushti; kroora drushti: Hegadeya maari kannu nanna meile biddide. (Devara hendathi. sooryanarayan chadaga)(p271 Avali Padenuday Kosha).

(3) Evil + eye +had+ (fall+en) + on+her =adj+noun+modal verb+ (verb+en) +preposition +pronoun. (Verb idiom)

(4) (i) Bad c.1200, a mystery word with no apparent relatives in other languages.*
Possibly from O.E. derogatory term bæddel and its dim. bædling "effeminate man, hermaphrodite, pederast," probably related to bædan "to defile." Originally "defective, inferior," sense of "evil, morally depraved" is first recorded c.1300. A rare word before 1400, and evil was more common in this sense until c.1700. Comparable words in the other I.E. languages tend to have grown from descriptions of specific qualities, such as "ugly," "defective," "weak," "faithless," "impudent," "crooked," "filthy" (e.g. Gk. kakos, probably from the word for "excrement;" Rus. plochoj, related to O.C.S. plachu "wavering, timid;" Pers. gast, O.Pers. gasta-, related to gand "stench;" Ger. schlecht, originally "level, straight, smooth," whence "simple, ordinary," then "bad"). Comparative and superlative forms badder, baddest were common 14c.-18c. and used as recently as Defoe (but not by Shakespeare), but yielded to comp. worse and superl. worst (which had belonged to evil and ill). In U.S. place names, sometimes translating native terms meaning "supernaturally dangerous." Ironic use as a word of approval is said to be at least since 1890s orally, originally in Black Eng., emerging in print 1928 in a jazz context. It might have emerged from the ambivalence of expressions like bad nigger, used as a term of reproach by whites, but among blacks sometimes representing one who stood up to injustice, but in the U.S. West bad man also had a certain ambivalence:

"These are the men who do most of the killing in frontier communities, yet it is a noteworthy fact that the men who are killed generally deserve their fate." [Farmer & Henley]
*Farsi has bad in more or less the same sense as the English word, but this is regarded by linguists as a coincidence. The forms of the words diverge as they are traced back in time (Farsi bad comes from M.Pers. vat), and such accidental convergences exist across many languages, given the vast number of words in each and the limited range of sounds humans can make to signify them. Among other coincidental matches with English are Korean mani "many," Chinese pet "pay," Nahuatl (Aztecan) huel "well," Maya hol "hole."

(ii) evil eye n (bef. 12c) : an eye or glance held capable of inflicting harm; also: a person believed to have such an eye or glance. (p402. Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth edition)

11. 'to keep an eye on' (p92 The English Teacher)

'keeping an eye on' (p4 The Dark Room)

'keep an eye on' (p10 ibid)  
keep an eye on (p76 ibid)

To keep an eye on (p134 ibid)  
he could keep an eye on (11 The Vendor of Sweets)  
keeping an eye on him (152:25 ibid)  
and keep an eye on all (p46:9 The Financial Expert)
he kept an eye on all (p109 :6 ibid)

To keep an eye on (p148 ibid)

keep an eye on this house (p161:34 ibid)

the railway police to keep an eye on you (p173:26 ibid)

I set eyes on him (p9:31 The Guide)
He kept an eye on (p23:23 ibid)

Keep an eye on those (…p36(ibid)…. Ibid)

to keep an eye on the boy (p103:3 ibid)

were keeping an eye on me (p104:23 ibid)

to keep an eye on me (p155:25 ibid)

have to keep an eye on him, (p152:3 Swami and Friends)

(1) 'keep an/your eye on sb/sth- take responsibility for sb/sth; make sure that sb/sth is safe(p106 Oxford).

(2) 'Kannidu' =echcharavahisu; niga idu: heigaadaroo aagali, avana meile ondu kannittiru (habitual) (p52).

Druhti idu = kannidu; gamanisu; niga vahisu. kelavaru aalugala kelasada meile drushti iduttare. (mumbai. kaannada fourth book. vidya ilaakhe. 5-293).

(3) Keep + an + eye + on = verb + article + noun + preposition.

(Keep+ing) + an + eye + on = verb + gerund ? or ing+ article + noun + preposition.(verb idiom)

(4) eye n [ME, fr. OE āge; akin to OHG ouga eye, L oculus, Gk ὀπς eye, face, Skt aksi eye.] (bef.12c) e (1): an attentive look <kept an ~ on his valuables> (2): ATTENTION, NOTICE <caught his ~> (p414. Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth edition)

(5) 19 times.

12. 'Held my breath' (p113 and p152 The English Teacher)

He held his breath (p28:29 The Guide)

He held his breath (p31:35 Swami and Friends)
He held his breath (p165:36 ibid)

(1) hold your breath-

1) stop breathing for a short time, for example because you are afraid of or very anxious about something.

2) be anxious while you are waiting for something that you are worried about. (p171 Oxford).

'hold one's breath' in Sterling Dictionary (61) means stop breathing. The example of usage given is - 'she held her breath as he performed the amazing feat'.

(2) Exactly same idiom is in Kannada.

'usiru bigi hididu maataadu' is an idiom which we use in Kannada, but it's not in Janapada Nudigattugala Kosha.

'usiru bigidu hididukollu = maataaadalu hedaru: avara munde nintare saaku, nanage usiru bigidu hididukolluttade. (habit) (p26 Avali Padenudi Kosha).

(3) Held+ his+ breath=verb+pronoun+noun (verb idiom)

(4) 4 times.

13. She had made up her mind to (p175 The English Teacher)

My mind is made up (p180 ibid)

Make up my mind in (p180 ibid)

Make up your mind (p9 Mr Sampath, the Printer Of Malgudi. )

To make up his mind (75:26 The Vendor of Sweets)

I have made up my mind (91:16 ibid)

You make up your mind (99:26, 27 ibid)
**Make up your mind** (117:8 ibid)

**Made up his mind to** (p167: 16 ibid)

**Unable to make up his mind** (p37:7 The Financial Expert)

**Have to make up his mind** (p84:14 ibid)

**He had hardly made up his mind** (p128:27, 28 ibid)

**Had made up his mind** (p185:23 ibid)

**With his mind made up** (p30:26 The Guide)

**Made up my mind** (p131:32 ibid)

**To have made up his mind** (p50:4 Swami and Friends)

(1) Make up one's mind = come to a decision (p304 Sterling)

Make up your mind = decide sth (p238 Oxford)

Make up your mind = 1) to decide what to choose (often + question word) 2) to become very certain that you want to do something (often + to do sth) (255 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms)

(2) Manassu maadu = nirdharisu; neenu manassu maadidare ondei dinadalli nanna kelasavaguttade(habit) (p264 Avali Padenudi Kosha).

(3) Made+ up+ mind = verb+ preposition+ noun (verb idiom)

(4) (i) **Make-up** also **makeup**, "manner in which something is put together," 1821, from **make** (v.) + up. Cosmetics sense is from 1886; verbal phrase make up "to apply cosmetics" is from 1808.

(ii) **Make up** "end a quarrel, reconcile," 1660s, from **make** + up.

(iii) **Mind** (n.) O.E. gemynđ "memory, thinking, intention," P.Gmc. *ga-menthijan (cf. Goth. muns "thought," munan "to think;" O.N. minni "mind;" Ger. minne, originally "memory, loving memory"), from PIE base *men- "think, remember, have
one's mind aroused" (cf. Skt. matih "thought," munih "sage, seer;" Gk. memona "I
yearn," mania "madness," mantis "one who divines, prophet, seer;" L. mens "mind,
understanding, reason," memini "I remember," mentio "remembrance;" Lith. mintis
"thought, idea," O.C.S. mineti "to believe, think," Rus. pamjat "memory"). "Memory"
is one of the oldest senses, now almost obsolete except in old expressions such as
bear in mind, call to mind. Phrase time out of mind is attested from early 15c. To pay
no mind "disregard" is recorded from 1916, Amer.Eng. dialect. To have half a mind to
"to have one's mind half made up to (do something)" is recorded from 1726. Mind-
reading is from 1882.

(4) to make up one's mind = teermanittal (p349. Dictionary of Idioms and Phrases
with Tamil Translation)

(5) 16 times.

14. 'Restless rat' (p20 The Dark Room)

(1) aaturageidi.

Not found in any dictionary. But much used idiom in both English and Kannada.

(2) (Rest+less) +rat = adj +noun (noun idiom)

(3) Rat O.E. ræt. Similar words in Celtic (Gael. radan), Romance (It. ratto, Sp. rata, 
Fr. rât) and Gmc. (M.L.G. rotte, Ger. ratte) languages, but connection is uncertain
and origin unknown. Perhaps from V.L. *rattus, but Weekley thinks this is of Gmc.
origin, "the animal having come from the East with the race-migrations" and the word
passing thence to the Romanic languages. American Heritage and Tucker connect
O.E. ræt to L. rodere and thus PIE *red- "to scrape, scratch, gnaw," source of rodent
(q.v.). Klein says there is no connection and suggests a possible cognate in Gk. rhine
"file, rasp." Weekley connects them with a question mark and Barnhart writes, "the

81
relationship to each other of the Germanic, Romance, and Celtic words for *rat* is uncertain." OED says "probable" the *rat* word spread from Germanic to Romance, but takes no position on ultimate origin. M.E. common form was *ratton*, from augmented O.Fr. form *raton*. Sense of "one who abandons his associates" (1629) is from belief that rats leave a ship about to sink or a house about to fall and led to meaning "traitor, informant" (1902; verb 1910). Interjection *rats* is Amer.Eng., 1886. To *smell a rat* is c.1550. *Rat-race* "competitive struggle" is 1939. *Ratsbane* (1523) is arsenic. *Rat fink* is teen slang from 1963. *Rathole* in fig. sense of "nasty, messy place" first attested 1812. ____-rat, "person who frequents ____" (in earliest ref. dock-rat) is from 1864. *Rat-pack* "juvenile gang" is from 1951.

15. **He sent a word** *(p92 The Dark Room)*

I will *send word* to them *(p119:14 The Financial Expert)*

If I persist, he *sends word* that he will *(p72:24, 25 Swami and Friends)*

(1) Sending massge.

(2) *Send +word+to =verb +noun +preposition (verb idiom)*

(3) 3 times.

16. **Tried to kill the question** *(p92 The Dark Room)*

(1) to avoid the question.

(2) *kill+the+question =verb+article+noun (verb idiom)*

(3) 1 time.
17. **Dying to return home** (pp94, 95 the Dark Room)

(1) The word “dying” literally doesn’t mean dying. It means ‘eager to’.

(2) In Kannada ‘saayuvudu’, ‘badidukolluvudu’.

(3) Dying+to= verb+preposition (*verb idiom*)

(4) die \died; dying \dying\ [ME *dien*, fr. or akin t ON *deyja* to die; akin to OHG *touwen* to die] (12c) 3 b : to long keenly or desperately <dying to go> c : to be overwhelmed by emotion <of embarrassment> (p322. Merriam Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth edition)

(5) 1 time.

18. Couldn’t get a word with him (p99:18 The Dark Room)

I might have a word with you (p164 The Dark Room)

He might have a word with her (128:18, 19 The Vendor of Sweets)

**Having a word with her** (p192:7 The Guide)

**Had a good word to say about it** (p35:8 Swami and Friends)

(1) Have a word (with somebody) = speak (to somebody), especially privately. (512 Sterling)


(3) **Have+a+ word =modal verb+article(det)+ noun (**verb idiom**)

(4) 5 times.
19. Savitri broke down (p101 The Dark Room)

How people broke down on hearing of (56:17 The Vendor of Sweets)

He might break down (92:9, 10 ibid)

She might break down (134:6 ibid)

Her voice trailed off and she broke down again (p155:10 The Financial Expert)

If you break down and lose all (p160:14 ibid)

Your mother broke down completely (p174:8, 9 ibid)

Wife nearly broke down (p191:4 ibid)

I broke down and cried (p132:25 ibid)

She would breakdown (p193:5 The Guide)

She often broke down (p193:5, 6 ibid)

It'll just break down (p198:3 ibid)

She broke down (p207:7 ibid)

Swaminathan broke down and sobbed (p184:11 Swami and Friends)

(1) To break down (to fail) (53 Bright)

Broken down (down and out; disappointed) (55 Improve your Idioms and Phrases, J. S. Bright Goodwill Publishing House)

Break down = to destroy; to collapse; to fail completely (145 Dictionary of Idioms and Phrases with Tamil Translation)

(2)'kusidu biddalu', 'kusidu beelu'.

(3)Broke+down = verb +preposition (verb idiom)

(4)(i) Break (v.) O.E. brecan (class IV strong verb; past tense bræc, pp. brocen), from P.Gmc. *brekan (cf. O.Fris. breka, Du. breken, O.H.G. brehkan, Ger. brechen, Goth. brikan), from PIE base *bhreg- "to break" . Most modern senses were in O.E.
Meaning "to disclose" is from 1450. Noun sense of "short interval between spells of work (originally between lessons at school) is from 1861. Break the ice is 1602, in ref. to the "coldness" of encounters of strangers. Break wind first attested 1552. Ironic theatrical good luck formula break a leg has parallels in Ger. Hals und Bein brechen "break your neck and leg," and It. in bocca al lupo.

(ii) Breakdown (n.) "a collapse," 1832, from break + down. The verbal phrase is attested from 1382. The noun, specifically of machinery, is from 1838; meaning "an analysis in detail" is from 1936. Nervous breakdown is from 1905.

(5) 14 times.

20. Stole another look at herself (p106 The Dark Room)

Stole a glance now and then at Margayya (p26:7 The Financial Expert)

He stole a glance across (p92:29 The Guide)

(1) Steal a glance/look (at sb/sth) (written) = look quickly at sb/sth, so that nobody notices you looking: He stole a glance at her out of the corner of his eye. (p374 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2)'akhinya churaana'

(3) Stole+ another+ look+ at+ verb+determiner and pronoun+verb+preposition (verb idiom)

Stole+ a+ glance+ now +and+ then =$v+det+v+adv+conj+adv (verb idiom)

Stole+ a+ glance =$verb+article(det)+ noun (verb idiom)

(4) (i) Steal O.E. stelan "to commit a theft" (class IV strong verb; past tense stole, pp. stolen), from P.Gmc. *stelanan (cf. O.S. stelan, O.N., O.Fris. stela, Du. stelen,
O.H.G. *stelan, Ger. *stehlen, Goth. *stilan), of unknown origin. Most IE words for steal have roots in notions of "hide," "carry off," or "collect, heap up." Attested as a verb of stealthy motion from c.1300 (e.g. to steal away, c.1369); of glances, sighs, etc., from 1586. The noun meaning "a bargain" is Amer.Eng. colloquial attested by 1942; baseball sense of "a stolen base" is from 1867. To steal (someone) blind first recorded 1974.

(ii) Glance \( \text{glan(t)s} \) vb glanced; glancing [ME glencen, glenchen] vi (15c) (p494. Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth edition)

(5) 3 times.

21. even if it is going to cost me my life (p108 The Dark Room)

(1) Not found in referred dictionaries.

(2) 'jeeva hodon sari. 'praana vatte ittaadaru sari'.

(3) Even+ if+ it+ is+ going+ to+ cost+ life=adverb+conjunction +pronoun+verb+verb- ing+ preposition +verb+ noun (verb idiom)

(4)(i) Cost c.1200, from O.Fr. coster, from V.L. *costare, from L. constare "to stand at" (or with), from com- "with" + stare "to stand," from PIE base *sta- "to stand" The idiom is the same one we use in Mod.E. when we say something "stands at X dollars" to mean it sells for X dollars. Cost effective (also cost effective) attested from 1967.

(ii) life O.E. *life (dat. *lif), from P.Gmc. *liba- (cf. O.N. lif "life, body," Du. *lijf "body," O.H.G. *lib "life," Ger. Leib "body"), properly "continuance, perseverance," from PIE *lip- "to remain, persevere, continue, live". Much of the modern range of meaning was present in O.E. Extended 1703 to "term of duration (of inanimate objects)." Life cycle is attested from 1873. Life-and-death "vitally important" is from
1822. *Life of Riley* is from 1919, perhaps from 1880s song about a man named *O'Reilly* and how he got rich and lived at ease. *Lifer* "prisoner serving a life sentence" is slang from 1830.

(iii) **Rate (n.)** "estimated value or worth," 1425, from M.Fr. *rate* "price, value," from M.L. *rata* (pars) "fixed (amount)," from L. *rata* "fixed, settled," fem. pp. of *reri* "to reckon, think"). Meaning "degree of speed" (prop. ratio between distance and time) is attested from 1652. Currency exchange sense first recorded 1727. The verb "to estimate the worth or value of" is from 1599. *First-rate, second-rate,* etc. are 1649, from British Navy division of ships into six classes based on size and strength. Phrase *at any rate* originally (1619) meant "at any cost," weakened sense of "at least" is attested by 1760.

(5) 1 time.

22. **to come to your senses (p109 The Dark Room)**

(1) bring sb to his senses; come to one's senses= a)stop one from behaving foolishly.
   b) wake one up from unconscious. (P409 Sterling).

(2) 'arivige baa', prajne baru'.

(3) To+ come+ to+ your+ senses=preposition +verb+ preposition+pronoun+noun
   (verb idiom 1

(4) (i) **Sense (n.)** c.1400, "faculty of perception," also "meaning or interpretation"
   (esp. of Holy Scripture), from O.Fr. *sens*, from L. *sensus* "perception, feeling,
   undertaking, meaning," from *sentire* "perceive, feel, know," prob. a fig. use of a lit.
   meaning "to find one's way," from PIE base *sent-* "to go" (cf. O.H.G. *sinnan* "to go,
   travel, strive after, have in mind, perceive," Ger. *Sinn* "sense, mind," O.E. *sid* "way,
journey," O.Ir. set, Welsh hynt "way"). Application to any one of the external or outward senses (touch, sight, hearing, etc.) first recorded 1526.

"Hornkostel cites a Negro tribe that has a separate word for seeing, but employs a common term for hearing, tasting, smelling, and touching." [A.G. Engstrom, "Philological Quarterly," XXV, 1946]

The verb meaning "to perceive by the senses" is recorded from 1598. Senses "mental faculties, sanity" is attested from 1568.

(ii) **come** O.E. cuman "come" (class IV strong verb; past tense cuom, com, pp. cumen), from P.Gmc. *kwem-*, from PIE base *gwem-"to go, come" (cf. Skt. gamati "he goes," Avestan jamaiti "goes," Tocharian kakmu "come," Lith. gemu "to be born," Gk. bainein "to go, walk, step," L. venire "to come"). Substitution of -o- for -u- is scribal change before minims, cf. monk, some, worm, orig. munuc, sum, wyrm. Past tense form is probably from O.N. kvam, replacing O.E. cuom. Amazingly productive with prepositions (NTC's "Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs" lists 198 combinations); consider the varied senses in come to "regain consciousness," come over "possess" (as an emotion), come at "attack," and come off "occur." For slang sexual senses,

(5) 1 time.

23. trying to nose -lead him (p111 The Dark Room)

(1)In Oxford dictionary the idiom is like –

'lead somebody by the nose'= make sb do everything you want; control sb completely: Unfortunately, she's allowed herself to be led by the nose for years, so it doesn't surprise me that she isn't happy. (P203 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)
(2) The Kannada idiom with similar meaning is, 'Moogina neirakke maataanaadu' = 
tanna anukoolakke takkante maataanaadu; taanu heiliddei sari ennuvante maataanaadu:
ninna moogina neirakke maataanaadabeikaadare hengasarannu helavarannu 
p94) (p287 Avali Padenudi Kosha).

(3) to+nose-lead=preposition+n+v (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

24. All the same (p124 The Dark Room)

(1) All/just the same = in spite of this; nevertheless. (P332 Oxford)

(2) 'ella onde' 'Ashtei allade', 'adarante' in Kannada.

(3) all/just+the+same = adv/adv+det+adj (adjective idiom)

(4) (i) same pron (14c) 1: something identical with or similar to another 2 : something or someone previously mentioned or described — often used with the or a demonstrative (as that, those) in both senses — all the same or just the same : despite everything : NEVERTHELESS (P1034. Merriam Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth edition)

(ii) same \s\ám\ adj [ME., fr. ON samr; akin to OHG sama same, L simulis like, simul together, at the same time, similis like sem-one, Gk homos same, hama together, hen-, heis one] (13c) (P1034. Merriam Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth edition)

(5) 1 time.

25. Your days are nearly over (p125 The Dark Room)

(1) Sb's/sth's days are numbered = if someone's or something's days are numbered, 
they will not exist for much longer (p95 Cambridge)
Your, its, etc, days are numbered= sb has not long left to live; sth will not last much longer. (P79 Oxford)

(2) 'dina enisu' = saavina nireeksheyalliru. Usage: saayuva kaala hattira bandide, dina enisutiddane ashte. (P262 Janapada Nudigattugala Kosha)

dina tumbu= marana kaala praaptavaagu

Usage: dina tumbida meile gaadi bidibeiku. yaake andre yaava kaala tappidaru saava kaala tappidaru. (P262 Janapada Nudigattugala Kosha)

(3) days+are+nearly+over =noun(plural)+verb(2nd person singular and 1st, 2nd and 3rd person plural of the present tense of BE)+adv+adv (verb idiom)

(4) Literally taken 'inneinu ninna dina mugidvu bidu'. (habit)

Meaning 'you will not live long: or ' your power will not long more'. = it may be a new contribution to the dictionary.

(5) 1 time.

26. Let bygones be bygones (p172 The Dark Room)

(1) Let bygones be bygones = decide to forget about disagreements that happened in the past. (P207 Oxford)

Let bygones be bygones= something that you say in order to tell someone to forget about unpleasant things that have happened in the past. (P236 Cambridge)

(2) The idiom is not in Janapada Nudigattugala Kosha, Avali Padenudi Kosha.

But we use it as 'aadaddu aaytu' in local language.

(3) let+bygones+be+bygones = v+adj+v+adj. (verb idioms)
(4) by-gone \ˈbī,ɡən\ also -gān\ adj (15c) : gone by : PAST; esp : OUT-MODED —
bygone n (p157. Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth edition)

(5) 1 time.

27. Measure a person at a glance (p173 The Dark Room)

(1)'at a (single) glance = immediate with only a quick look: He could tell at a glance what was wrong. . (P141 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2)'ondēi notadalli’

(3) at+a+glance=preposition+det+noun (noun idiom)

(4) Glance \ˈgland(t)s\ vb glanced; glancing [ME glencen, glenchen] vi (15c) (p494. Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth edition)

(5) 1 time.

28. Measure a person at a glance (p173 The Dark Room)

And measure him up (149:10, 11 The Vendor of Sweets)

(1) have the measure of sb/sth= to understand what someone or something is like and to know how to deal with them. (P263 Cambridge).

Get/take the measure of sb/sth. (ibid)

(2) ‘aleyuvudu” alate maadu’

(3) measure +a+person =v+det+noun (verb idiom)

Measure+ him+up = v+pronoun+adv (verb idiom)

(4) measure \ˈme-zhər, ˈmā\ n [ME measure, fr. OF, fr. L mensura, fr. mensus, pp. of metiri to measure; akin to OE mǣth measure, Gk metron ] (13c) 1 a (1) : an
adequate or due portion (2) : a moderate degree; also : MODERATION, TEMERANCE (3) : a fixed or suitable limit : BOUNDS <rich beyond=> b : the dimensions, capacity, or amount of something ascertained by measuring c : an estimate of what is to be expected (as of a person or situation) (p720. Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth edition)

(5) 2 times.

29. Has a name to maintain (p181 The Dark Room)

(1) Make a name for yourself; make your name=become successful and well known because of your skill in doing sth very well (p49 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

Make a name for yourself/make your name= to become famous or respected by a lot of people. (P279 Cambridge).

(2) 'hesarulisu' = keertiyannu kaapadu; takkavanenisu: maganu saha daana maaduvudaralli tandeya hesarulisiddaane. (habit), (p370 Avali Padenudi Kosha).


(3) has+a+name +to+maintain =v+det+n+prep+v (verb idiom)

(4) maintain \nähn-ˈtän, män-\ vt [ME mainteinen, fr. OF maintenir, fr. ML manutenère, fr. L manu tenère to hold in the hand] (14c) 1 : to keep in an existing state (as of repair, efficiency, or validity) : preserve from failure or decline <~machinery> 2 : to sustain against opposition or danger : uphold and defend <~a position> (p702. Merriam Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth edition)

(5) 1 time.
30. He tip toed away. (17:30 The Vendors Sweets)

**Tried to tip toe away** (143; 30 ibid)

(1) On tiptoe/tiptoes = standing or walking on the front part of your foot, with your heels off the ground, in order to make yourself taller or to move quietly or lightly. (409 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) tudigaalalli nade

(3) to+tip+toe+away = preposition+n+v+adv (**verb idiom**)

(4) tiptoe vi tip-toed; tip-toe-ing (ca. 1661) 1 : to stand or raise oneself on tiptoe 2 : to walk or proceed quietly or cautiously on or as if on tiptoe. (p1237. Merriam Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth edition)

(5) 2 times.

31. Poor boy, poor boy, let him be. (17:31 The Vendors Sweets)

(1) Poor old sb/sth= used to express sympathy. (294 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘badapaayi’, ‘bada huduga’,

(3) poor+boy+poor+boy= adj+n+adj+n (**noun idiom**)

(4) poor \ˈpər, ˈpôr\ adj [ME poure, fr. OF povere, fr. L pauper; akin to L paucus little and to L parere to give birth to, produce --more at FEW, PARE] (13c) 1 a: lacking material possessions b: of, relating to, or characterized by poverty 2 a: less than adequate : MEAGER b: small in worth 3 : exciting pity <you~ thing> 4 a: inferior in quality or value b: HUMBLE, UNPRETENTIOUS c: MEAN, PETTY. (P906. Merriam Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary. Tenth edition)

(5) 1 time.
32. Driven nearly mad (37:1 The Vendors Sweets)

(1) Drive sb insane = make sb more and more angry or irritated, especially over a long
deriod of time. (93 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) 'hucchu hidisu' = tabbibbaaguvanthe maadu; einu tochadante maadu. : Ellaru
ondondu maatu helutta aa vishayada bagge hucchu hidisuttiddaru (habit) (357 Avali
Padenudi Kosha).

(3) Driven+nearly +mad =v+adv+adj (verb idiom)

(4) mad \madv\ adj mad-der; mad-dest [ME medd, madd, fr. OE gemād, pp. of
(assumed) gemādan to madden, fr. gemād silly, mad; akin to OHG gimeit foolish ,
crazy] (bef.12c) 1 : disordered in mind : INSANE 2 a : completely unrestrained by
reason and judgement <driven ~by the pain> (p698. Merriam Webster’s Collegiate
Dictionary. Tenth edition)

(5) 1 time.

33. Could not help putting in a word (37:9 The Vendors Sweets)

(1) Put in a (good) word (for sb) = say sth good about sb to sb else in order to help
them. (450 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

'ondei shabdaddali hidididu'

(2) 'ondei shabdaddali hidididuvudaadare”

(3) (put+ing)+in+a+word =(v+gerund)+preposition+det+noun) (verb idiom)

(4) word \word\ n [ME, fr. OE; akin to OHG wort word, L verbum, Gk eirein to say, 
speak, Hitt weriya- to call, name] (bef. 12c) 1 a : something that is said  b pl (1) :
34. That's all beside the point (44:33 The Vendors Sweets)

(1) be beside the point = to be in no way connected to the subject that is being discussed. (Cambridge Idioms Dictionary)

(2) 'vishayaantar

(3) beside+the+point = preposition + art + noun (noun idiom)

(4) **Point** (n.) 12c., a merger of two words, both ultimately from L. *pungere* "prick, pierce". The neut. pp. *punctum* was used as a noun, meaning "small hole made by pricking," subsequently extended to anything that looked like one, hence, "dot, particle," etc., which was its meaning as O.Fr. *point*, borrowed in M.E. by c.1300. The fem. pp. of *pungere* was *puncta*, which was used in M.L. to mean "sharp tip," and became O.Fr. *pointe*, which also passed into English, early 14c. The sense have merged in English, but remain distinct in French. Extended senses are from the notion of "minute, single, or separate items in an extended whole," which is the earliest attested sense in English (early 13c.). Meaning "distinguishing feature" is recorded from late 15c. Meaning "a unit of score in a game" is first recorded 1746. As a typeface unit, it went into use in U.S. 1883. As a measure of weight for precious stones (one one-hundredth of a carat) it is recorded from 1931. *The point* "the matter being discussed" is attested from late 14c.; meaning "sense, purpose, advantage" (usually in the negative, e.g. *what's the point?*) is first recorded 1903. Phrase *possession is nine (or eleven) points of the law* (1690s) is out of a supposed 10 (or 12). *Point of honor* (1610s) translates Fr. *point d'honneur*. *Point of no return* (1941) is
originally aviators' term for the point in a flight "before which any engine failure requires an immediate turn around and return to the point of departure, and beyond which such return is no longer practical."

(5) 1 time.

35. he **caught his breath** as (45:13 The Vendors Sweets)

(1) *catch your breath* = stop breathing for a moment. (because of surprise, fear, shock, etc.) (51 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

*catch your breath* = 1) to stop breathing for a moment because something surprises or frightens you. 2) to rest for a moment after doing physical exercise and wait until you can breathe regularly again (50 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms)

(2) 'Usiru hidi', 'usiru silukiko'.

(3) he+caught+his+breath = pronun+v+ det and pronoun + noun (verb idiom)

(4) (i) **catch** (v.) c.1200, from Anglo-Fr. *cachier* "catch, capture" (animals), from V.L. *capiare* "try to seize, chase," freq. of L. *capere* "to take, hold" Sense shifted from original meaning of "chase, hunt." Past tense form *caught* is rare instance of Eng. strong verb with Fr. origin, probably infl. by *latch*, the cognate native verb, which this word replaced. Noun meaning "that which is caught or worth catching" (especially of spouses) is from 1590s. To **catch on** "apprehend" is 1884, Amer.Eng. colloquial. To **catch (someone's) eye** is first attested 1813, in Jane Austen. **Catch as catch can** first attested late 14c.

(ii) **Breathe** c.1300, not in O.E., but it retains the original O.E. vowel of its source word, **breath**.

(5) 1 time.
36. **Dying to return home** (pp94, 95 The Dark Room)

Was **dying to know** (60:7 The Vendor of Sweets)

(1) Be dying of sth (informal) = have a very strong feeling of sth, for example hunger or boredom (95 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) 'saayuvudu'. Usage: yaake saayteeya, nillu. Meaning: eager to.

(3) dying+to =v+preposition. (verb idiom)

(4) Dying mid-15c., verbal noun from *die*.

(5) 2 time.

37. They are **playing with fire** (70:10 The Vendor of Sweets)

(1) Play with fire = to be involved in an activity that could be dangerous (137 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms)

Play with fire = take unnecessary and dangerous risks (290 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) 'benkiyodane aata'. such a famous and most used idiom is not entered in Avali Padenudi Kosha and Janapada Nudigattugala Kosha.

(3) (play+ing)+with+fire = (v+gerund)+preposition +noun (verb idiom)

(4) (i) **play (n.)** O.E. *plega* (W.Saxon), *plaga* (Anglian) "recreation, exercise, any brisk activity" (the latter sense preserved in swordplay, etc.), from *play* (v.). Meaning "dramatic performance" is attested from early 14c. Meaning "free or unimpeded movement" is from 1650s. Sporting sense first attested 1868. Playwright first recorded 1680s; play-bill is from 1670s. Player is from late 14c. in general sense; pimps' word for themselves from 1974. Play-by-play is attested from 1927.
(ii) **Play (v.)** O.E. *plegian* "to exercise, frolic, perform music," from W.Gmc. *plegan* (cf. M.Du. *pleyen* "to rejoice, be glad"), of uncertain origin. Opposed to *work (v.*) since late 14c. *Playground* is attested from 1780. *Playmate* is from 1640s in the innocent sense, from 1954 in the sexual sense; *playboy* "wealthy bon vivant" is from 1829; fem. equivalent *playgirl* is first recorded 1934. *Plaything* is from 1675. To *play up* "emphasize" is from 1909; to *play down* "minimize" is from 1930. To *play with oneself* "masturbate" is from 1896; *play for keeps* is from 1861, originally of marbles or other children's games with tokens. To *play the (something) card* is attested from 1886; to *play fair* is from c.1440. *Play-dough* is first recorded 1959. To *play (something) safe* is from 1911; to *play favorites* is attested from 1902.

(5) 1 time.

38. The noise of school **breaking up** next door (72:24 The Vendor of Sweets)

(1) **break up** =to disperse. Usage= the police broke up the public meeting. (53 J. S. Bright)

(2) (break+ing)+up =(v+gerund)+adv. (verb idiom)

(3) **Breakup (v.)** 1483, from *break + up*. Originally of groups, assemblies, etc. ("Break it up" as a command to stop a fight, etc., is recorded from 1936). Of things, "to disintegrate," from 1752. The noun is recorded from 1795.

(4) 1 time.

39. Trying to look **absent-minded** (88:1 The Vendor of Sweets)

he was **absent-minded** (p63:3 The Guide)

in an **absent-minded**, casual manner (p101:4,5 ibid)
(1) absence of mind = failure to think about what one is doing; absent-minded. (5 Sterling).

(2) absent-minded = adv (adverbial idiom)

(3) 3 times.

40. The reputation of this shop is going to shoot sky-high (90:18, 19 The Vendor of Sweets)

(1) Blow sth sky-high = to make something that someone is trying to achieve fail completely, often by telling people something which should have been a secret (355 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms)

Blow sb/sth sky-high = destroy sb/sth completely in an explosion (32 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) In the dictionaries there is no idiom like 'shoot sky-high'. And to the context the meaning given to 'blow sky-high' is not suitable. So the kannada idiom 'aakaashadettarakke chimmu' or 'aakaasha muttu' may be the source to R K Narayan's use of this idiom.

(3) to + shoot + sky- high = preposition + v + adv (verb idiom)

(4) 1 times.

41. But he held his tongue (120 The Vendor of Sweets)

Can’t hold their tongues (p53:26 The Financial Expert)

And hold your tongue, (p82:14 Swami and Friends)

Why can’t you hold your tongue?' (p95:21 ibid)
(1) Hold your tongue = to stop talking (often an order) (397 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms)

Hold your peace/tongue = say nothing; remain silent although you would like to give your opinion. (172 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

To hold one's tongue = (to be silent) please talk sensibly or hold your tongue. (p265 J. S. Bright)

Hold one's tongue (peace) Be quiet. (p146 Sura's -Sadasiva)

(2) 'nalige bigihidi'

(3) held+his+tongue = v+pronoun+n (verb idiom)

(4) to hold one's tongue = mouna magha iruttal (p508. Dictionary of Idioms and Phrases with Tamil Translation)

(5) 4 times.

42. Mali added the final touch (125:32 The Vendor of Sweets)

(1) The finishing touch (es) = the final detail(s) that complete(s) sth. (122 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) 'kone kai''

(3) added + the+ final+ touch = v+det+adj+noun. Just 'final touch' can also be an idiom. (noun idiom)

(4) 1 times.

43. Explained the situation in a round about way (128:18, 19 The Vendor of Sweets)

(1) Round about = 1) in the area near a place 2) approximately (326 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) In Kannada - 'sutti balasi daari'.

(3) in+a+round+about+way= preposition+det+adj+adv+n (noun idiom)

(4) 1 time.
44. Found himself **tongue-tied** (134:21, 22 The Vendor of Sweets)

He felt **tongue tied** (p167:14 ibid)

**absolutely tongue-tied** (p109:17 The Guide)

found myself **tongue tied** (p109:17 ibid)

(2)'naalage sattu hogu' =1) ruchi baaradiru; jaddu gattu 2) maatu baaradiru; maatu nintu hogu: yaakei naalage sattu hoytaa? maataadu. (habit).

'naalage seidu hogu' = mookanaagu; maatu baaradantaagu. (191 Avali Padenudi Kosha).

(3) tongue-tied =adj (**adjective idiom**)

Tongue +tied =noun +adj (**noun idiom**)

(4) 4 times.

45. If you **give the word** (135:30, 31 The Vendor of Sweets)

(1) give sb your word (that...); have (got) sb's word (that...) (450 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2)'maatu kodu' =vaagdaana maadu: aachaaryarige nnanei tamma paravaagi maatu kottu bandiruvenu ('Daana Chintaamani 'G. Brahmappa.168 ) (270 Avali Padenudi Kosha).

(3) give+the+word =v+article+n (**verb idiom**)

(4) 1 time.
46. He had been fooled by the young (138:28 The Vendor of Sweets)

**Make a fool of** yourself so soon (162:19 ibid)

Either **make a fool of** myself or win the heavens (p64:13, 14 The Guide)

For fooling **them** (p97:27 ibid)

(1) **Make a fool of sb/yourself** = make sb/yourself appear stupid or ridiculous. (129 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

**Make a fool of yourself** = to do something which makes you seem stupid (144 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms)

**Make a fool of oneself/somebody** = behave foolishly or trick one to act so. (184 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

(2) 'moorkhanananaagisu'. 'manga maadu'. 'huchchanna maadu'.

(3) fooled +by =v+ preposition (verb idiom)

Make+a+fool+of+yourself =v+ det +n +preposition +pronoun (verb idiom)

(fool +ing) +them =(v+gerund)+pronoun (verb idiom)

(4) 4 times.

47. I have **half a mind** to tell them to go (138:32 The Vendor of Sweets)

I **had half a mind** to accost them (143:14, 15 The Vendor of Sweets)

(1) Have half a mind to do something =intend to do something (302 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

Have half a mind (to do sth) = 1) something that you say to a child who you are threatening with punishment. 2) if you have half a mind to tell someone something
unpleasant, you are very seriously thinking about telling them (170 Cambridge international Dictionary of Idioms.)

(2) 'are manassu'.

(3) half +a+mind +to =n+det+n+preposition (noun idiom)

(4) 2 times.

48. Cousin threw up his arms in horror (139:9 The Vendor of Sweets)

(1) Throw in your hand = to stop doing something because you know you cannot succeed or win (174 Cambridge international Dictionary of Idioms.)

Throw one's hand in = abandon something in which one is engaged (213 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)


Kai chelli kooru = nishkriyanaagi koodu. Usage baduko maarga taptu anta niraasheyinda kai chelli koodabaardu. (128 Janapada Nudigattugala Kosha.)

(3) threw+up+his+arms =v+adv+pronoun+n (verb idioms)

(4) 1 time.

49. Gave a clear-headed statement (139:15 The Vendor of Sweets)

(1) Have/keep a clear head =be able to think clearly, especially because you have not had any alcohol, drugs,etc. (58 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) 'swatcchha manasina’

(3) a+clear-headed =det+adj (adjective idiom)

(4) 1 time.
50. I'll wring her neck (141:19, 20 The Vendor of Sweets)

I'm going to wring his neck (p143:29 The Guide)

To wring his neck and break his back (p8:17 Swami and Friends)

I will wring your neck'. (p74:32 ibid)

(1) Wring sb's neck = used as an expression of anger or as a threat. Usage: If I find the person who did this, I'll wring his neck! (p455 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

I'll wring your neck = something that you say when you are very angry with someone. (267 Cambridge international Dictionary of Idioms.)

Wring somebody's neck = strangle somebody (expression of anger or as threat) (517 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

(2) 'taleyanne tegeyutteine' ‘kutgeine kdiyutteine’.

(3) wring +her+neck = v+pronoun+n (verb idiom)

(4) 4 time.

51. I had half a mind to accost them then and there (143:14, 15 The Vendor of Sweets)

'half a mind' is repeated.

(1) (do sth) there and then; (do sth) then and there (do sth) at that time and place; immediately: I took one look at the car and offered to buy it then and there. (397 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘allindalle’

(3) then +and +there = adv +conj +adv (adverbial idiom)

(4) 1 time.
52. On the spot enquiry (170:23 The Vendor of Sweets)

(1) On the spot= 1) immediately. 2) in the place where something is happening or has just happened. (P366 Cambridge international Dictionary of Idioms.)

On the spot = 1) at the place where sth is happening. 2) immediately; without any delay. (P370 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘nintalle’, ‘sthadalle’.

(3) On +the+ spot= preposition +deerminer+noun (noun idiom)

(4) 1 time.

53. Long-sight (p4:33 The Financial Expert)

‘Sight’ means view. So...

(1) Take the long view (of sth) think about the possible future effects of sth rather than its immediate affects (p219 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

Take the long view =to think about the effects that something will have in the future instead of in the present. (p236 Cambridge international Dictionary of Idioms.)

(2) In Kannada ‘doora drushti’.

(3) long-sight =adjective (adjective idiom)

(4) 1 time.

54. At arm’s length (p4:36 The Financial Expert)

(1) Keep at arm’s length =keep at distance so as not to encourage familiarity. (p19 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

Keep sb at arm’s length =avoid becoming too friendly with sb (p9 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)
Hold/keep sb at arm’s length = to not allow someone to become too friendly with you.  
(P10 Cambridge international Dictionary of Idioms.)

(2) In Kannada I don’t find exact idiom. ‘kai alateyalle’ is literally same, but has different meaning.

(3) at+ arm’s +length = preposition +noun + noun (noun idiom)

(4) At arm’s length = tolaivill niruttudal (p59. Dictionary of Idioms and Phrases with Tamil Translation)

(5) 1 time.

55. No use shutting our eyes to it (p6:26 The Financial Expert)

(1) Close/shut your eyes to sth = to pretend that something bad does not exist because you do not want to deal with it. (p121 Cambridge international Dictionary of Idioms.)

Shut/close your eyes to sth = pretend that you have not noticed sth so that you do not have to deal with it. (p108 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘kanmuuchikollu’

(3) (shut+ing) + our + eye(s)+ to = (v+ gerund) + det + n + preposition (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

56. Looked fixedly at Mallanna (p7:14 The Financial Expert)

(1) Fixedly = intently. Usage: I stared fixedly at him till he answered (p178 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

(2) In Kannada ‘netta drushti indalei nodu’, ‘drushti nedu’.

(3) looked + fixedly = v+ adv (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.
57. He himself passed for a man of means (p14:17, 18 The Financial Expert)

(1) A man/woman of means = someone who has a lot of money. (p249 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

(2) In Kannada the idiom is 'iddullava'.

(3) a+man+of+means = det+n+preposition+n (noun idiom)

(4) 1 time.

58. It's written all over him (p18:22 The Financial Expert)

(1) Be written all over sb's face (of an emotion) be clearly seen on sb's face: you could see he was guilty; it was written all over his face. (p456 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

Be written all over one's face = very obvious from the expression on one's face. (p518 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

Be written all over sb's face = if an emotion is written all over someone's face, it is clearly shown in their face. (p434 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

(2) In Kannada we say 'ella naukhada meilei baredide'.

(3) written + all + over + him = adj+det+preposition+pronoun (adjective idiom)

(4) 1 time.

59. His wife bit her lip (p21:2 The Financial Expert)

(1) Bite your lip = force yourself not to express the negative emotions that you are feeling: you could tell she thought the criticism was unfair but she bit her lip and said nothing. (p28 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)
Bite one’s lip = control one’s emotion by biting one’s lip. Usage: when she read the sad news she bit her lips. (p47 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)


(3) bit + her + lip = v + pronoun + n (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

60. Why we get on each others nerves and quarrel? (p21:19, 20 The Financial Expert)

Voice was beginning to get on his nerves (p2:24, 25 Swami and Friends)

Got on his nerves (p29:9 Swami and Friends)

(1) Get on sb’s nerves (informal) = annoy sb a lot. Usage: it really gets on my nerves the way he only ever talks about his job and his car. (p252 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

To get on one’s nerves (to irritate) = children often get on their mother’s nerves. (p198 J. S. Bright.)

(2) ‘tale tinnuvudu’

(3) get + on + each + others + nerves = v + preposition + pronoun + pronoun + n (verb idiom)

(4) 3 times.
61. **He will have to come to me on his knees** (p22 The Financial Expert)

Could **bring** his brother **to his knees** (p70:32, 33 The Financial Expert)

(1) Bring sb to their knees = show sb that they are weak; defeat sb, especially in a war. (p195 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

Bring somebody to his knees = force somebody to submit. Usage: The company was almost brought to its knees by the crashing prices. (p256 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

Bring sb/sth to their knees = to destroy or defeat someone or something. Usage: Sanctions were imposed in an attempt to bring the country to its knees. (p215 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

(2) 'monakaalmele', 'mandeyoorabeku'.

(3) come+on +his +knees = v +preposition +pronoun +noun (verb idiom)

(4) 2 times.

62. **Have you the heart** (p24:15, 16 The Financial Expert)

They **have no heart,** (p95 28 Swami and Friends)

(1) Have a heart! (Humorous) = something that you say in order to ask someone to be kinder to you. Usage: have a heart! I can't walk another step! (p185 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

Have a heart (spoken) = used for asking sb to be sympathetic or kind: 'we'll work until midnight'. ‘Have a heart, Joe. Can't we stop earlier than that?' (p163 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)
(2) In Kannada it is...


(3) have +the+ heart = verb + art + noun (verb idiom)

(4) 2 times.

63. Stole a glance now and then at Margayya (p26:7 The Financial Expert)

(1) Now and again/then = at irregular intervals; occasionally. Usage: She comes to my house now and then. (p323 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

(Every) now and again/then = occasionally: we see each other every now and again. Usage: She sat by the window, looking out now and then to see if they were coming. (p259 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘aagaagge’

(3) now + and + then = adv + conj + adv (adverbial idiom)

(4) 1 time.

64. Margayya’s blood boiled as he watched (p41:25,26 The Financial Expert)

Blood boiled (p4:14 Swami and Friends)

The mention of the police had sent his blood boiling (p100:16, 17 ibid)

(1) Make sb’s blood boil = to make someone very angry.

Sb’s blood boils: his blood boiled when he thought about how unfairly he’d been treated. (p39 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)
Make one’s blood boil = make one very angry: it makes my blood boil to hear his derogatory remarks about me. (p50 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)


(3) blood +boiled = n +v (verb idiom)

sent+his+blood+boiling =verb+determiner and pronoun+noun+verb (verb idiom)

(4) 3 times.

65. So much the better (p58:21 The Financial Expert)

So much the better (p148:34 ibid)

(1) So much the better = that is even better. Usage: We think we will lose, but if we win, so much the better. (p43 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

So much the better/worse (for sb/sth) = it is better/worse for that reason. (p25 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘eshtu aadashtu olleyadu’, ‘adinnuu olleyadu;

(3) so +much +the +better =adv +det and pronoun +art +adj (adverbial idiom)

(4) 2 times.

66. Difficult to while away the time (p74:7 The Financial Expert)

(1) While away the time, etc. (doing sth) = pass the time (doing sth), usually because you are waiting for sth or have nothing better to do. (p443 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

While away = pass the time in a leisurely way (p399 Sura’s)

(3) to +while +away +the +time = preposition +n +adv +det +n (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.
67. You cannot back out of it (p88: 33, 34 The Financial Expert)

(1) Back out = withdraw from. Usage: the dealer backed out of the agreement. (p23 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

(2) back + out + of = v + adv + preposition (verb idiom)

(3) 1 time.

68. You can speak your mind freely (p99:28 The Financial Expert)

(1) Speak one’s mind = express one’s views directly and frankly. (p434 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

Speak your mind= say exactly what you think, in a very direct way. Usage: I like a man who speaks his mind. (p367 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) speak + your + mind = v + det + n (verb idiom)

(3) Pull A Long Face = tote inri manattal Pattatai (p501. Dictionary of Idioms and Phrases with Tamil Translation)

(4) 1 time.

69. To have the word (p99:36, 37 The Financial Expert)

(1) Have the last word = make the final point in a discussion or argument. Usage: always likes to have the last word in any argument. (p200 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

have, etc. the last word = make the final contribution to an argument. Usage: I’m not going to reconsider the matter and that’s my last word on the matter. (p264 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

(2) ‘kone maatu’

(3) the + last + word = article + adjective + noun (noun idiom)

(4) 1 time.
70. He **pulled a long face** (p101:21 The Financial Expert)

*Velan pulled a long face* (p80:25 The Guide)

(1) *(pull, wear, etc.) a long face = (have) a sad or disappointed expression. Usage: I asked him if he wanted to come out but he pulled a long face and said no. (p218 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)*

make/pull faces at = **grimace**. Usage: the child made a face at the sight of carrots. (p161 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

Make/pull a face = to show that you do not like something or someone by making an unpleasant expression. (p123 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

A long face= if you have a long face, you look sad. (p235 ibid.)

To pull a long face- (to look disappointed). When a man is not paid properly for his work, he puts on a long face (p105 J.S.Bright)

(2) ‘maari moora kade maadu’.

(3) pulled +a +long +face =verb +determiner +adjective +noun (**verb idiom**)


(5) 2 times.

71. I must **keep my eyes open** (p103:38 The Financial Expert)

(1) Keep your eyes open/peeled/skinned (for sb/sth) = watch carefully (for sb/sth). Usage: keep your eyes peeled, and if you see anything suspicious, call the police immediately (p108 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)
Keep an eye open/out for somebody/something = watch for somebody/something.

Keep one's eyes peeled/skinned = watch carefully; be observant. (p159 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

Keep your eyes peeled/skinned (informal) = to watch very carefully for something. (p122 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

(2) 'kannu terediru'

(3) keep +my +eyes +open = verb +pronoun +noun +adjective (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

72. You must have your heart in it. (p112:22, 23 The Financial Expert)

(1) Sb's heart isn't in sth = if someone's heart is not in something that they are doing, they are not very interested in it. (p184 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)


(3) have +your +heart +in = verb +determiner +noun +preposition (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

73. See him getting out of hand (p115:28 The Financial Expert)

(1) Get out of hand = become difficult or impossible to control: How can we stop price increases getting out of hand? Usage: the student teacher saw that the class was getting completely out of hand, so he asked for help. (p153 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) kai meeri hogu',

(3) (get+ing) +out +of +hand = (v+gerund)+adv +preposition +noun (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.
74. Don’t want all this tomfoolery (p117:24 The Financial Expert)

All such tomfoolery (p161:4,5 The Guide)

(1) ‘makkalaata.’ ‘huchcharaata’.
(2) tomfoolery = noun (noun Idiom)
(3) 2 times.

75. Broken-hearted at this turn of events (p120:32 The Financial Expert)

Broken-hearted by the fact (p175:16 Swami and Friends)

(1) Break one’s heart = cause sorrow. Usage: if you leave him, it’ll break his heart.
(p223 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)
(2) ‘odeda manasu’, ‘manasu muridavanaagu’,
(3) broken-hearted = adjective (adjective Idiom)
(4) 2 times.

76. I can quite see what is at the back of your mind (p125:28, 29 The Financial Expert)

At/in the back of your mind = in your thoughts, but not your main interest or concern. Usage: I think your father knew at the back of his mind that he was being deceived. (p236 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

At the back of one’s mind = in one’s thoughts but not of immediate concern. Usage: at the back of my mind I had a vague idea that I had heard that tune before. (p22 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

(2) manasina olage, manaina hinde.
(3) at+the+back +of+your+mind = preposition + article + noun + preposition + determiner + noun (noun Idiom)
(4) 1 time.
77. You gave an easy time to your father (p127:16 The Financial Expert)

(1) Have an easy time of it (BrE, informal) be in a very favourable situation. Usage: She has a very easy time of it in her job—she only works about 20 hours a week. (p98 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) 'Vyale saral aiti', 'time saral ittu'.

(3) gave+an+easy+time+to =verb+article+adjective+noun+preposition (adjective idiom)

(4) 1 time.

78. To go in a round-about manner (p131:7, 8 The Financial Expert)

(1) Round about (especially BrE) (AmE usually around about) 1) in the area near a place. Usage: in Oxford and the villages round about. 2) Approximately. Usage: 1) we’re leaving around about ten. 2) A new roof will cost round about £3000. (p326 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) 'suttu balasi'

(3) a+round-about =article+adjective (adjective idiom)

(4) 1 time.

79. His heart sank within him (p134:33 The Financial Expert)

And his heart sank (p71:1 Swami and Friends)

(1) Sb’s heart sinks = if someone’s heart sinks, they start to feel sad or worried. Usage: He looked at the huge pile of work on his desk and his heart sank. (p184 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

Your heart sinks = used to say that you suddenly feel sad or depressed about sth. Usage: My heart sank when I realized I would have to walk home in the rain. (p163 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)
One’s heart sinks = one feels disappointed. Usage: My heart sank when I saw so many visitors outside the door. (p223 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

(2) ‘manassu kuggu’.

(3) heart + sank = noun + verb (verb idiom)

(4) 2 times.

80. And unloosened his tongue (p139:29 The Financial Expert)

(1) Loosen your tongue = if alcohol loosens your tongue, it makes you talk a lot without thinking carefully about what you are saying. Usage: Her tongue loosened by drink, she began to say things that she would later regret. (p397 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

Loosen somebody’s tongue = make somebody talk freely. Usage: Money soon loosened his tongue. (p285 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

Loosen sb’s tongue = make sb talk more freely than usual. Usage: A bottle of wine had loosened Harry’s tongue. (p221 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘naalige hari bidu’, ‘naalage chaachu’.

Naalage chaachu = madhye baayi haaku, anyara vishayadalli moogu toorisu. Usage: ninage sambandha padada vishayadalli yaake naalage chaachti? (p284 Janapada Nudigattugala Kosha)

(3) unloosened + his + tongue = verb + determiner and pronoun + tongue (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

81. Wife was somewhat taken aback (p24:9 The Financial Expert)

Margayya was taken aback (p155:35 ibid)
The boy was **taken aback** (p173:9 ibid)

The astrologer was **taken aback** (p185:20, 21 ibid)

**Rather taken aback to hear** (p124:12 The Guide)

Was **taken aback** by my own temerity. (p153:17 ibid)

I was **taken aback** (p180:24 ibid)

(1) **Be taken aback (by sb/sth)** = be shocked or surprised by sb/sth: She was completely taken aback by his anger. (p1 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

Take something **aback** = shock or surprise. Usage: I was taken aback by his appearance. (p5 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

(2) In Kannada it is 'hinjarike'.

(3) **taken +aback** = verb+adverb (**verb idiom**)

(4) 7 times.

**82. Have you no heart?** (p158:7 The Financial Expert)

**Essentially a man of heart.** (p144:27 The Guide)

(1) **Have a heart** = be merciful, sympathetic or kind. Usage: Have a heart, don’t punish him. (p222 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

Have a heart! (humorous) something that you say in order to ask someone to be kinder to you. (p185 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

**have a heart** (spoken) used for asking sb to be sympathetic or kind. (p163 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘Hridaya illave?’, ‘hrudayavanta’, ‘hrudayheena’.

(3) **have +you+no+heart =verb +pronoun+determiner +noun** (**verb idiom**)

(4) 2 times.
83. Opening his eyes wide (p164:34 The Financial Expert)

(1) Open sb’s eyes to sth = to make someone understand something for the first time and know how difficult or unpleasant it is. Usage: Having children of my eyes to the hurt I had caused my parents. (p122 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

Keep an eye open/out for somebody/something. = Watch for somebody/something. (p159 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

Open your/sb’s eyes (to sth) realize or make sb realize the truth about sth. The trip to China really opened the Minister’s eyes. (p267 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘kanntere’

(3) opening+his+eyes+wide = verb+determiner and pronoun+noun+adjective (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

84. He surrendered without a word (p73 The Financial Expert)

(1) Without a word = silently. Usage: She sat down without a word. (p513 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

(2) ‘ondoo maatillade’,

(3) without+a+word = preposition and adverb + article + noun (noun idiom)

(4) 1 time.

85. Go and lick their feet for love of (p177:3, 4 The Financial Expert)

(1) Lick somebody’s boots = be servile towards somebody. Usage: The humble servant was made to lick his master’s boots. (p273 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)
Lick sb's boots (informal) (BrE also lick sb's arse =slang) (AmE lick sb's ass =slang) show too much respect for sb in authority because you want to please them. Usage: It makes me very angry when I see Andrew licking Mr Smith's boots all the time. (p210 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) 'kaalu nekku'.

(3) lick+their+feet =verb+determiner+noun (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

86. It was a matter of life and death to a customer (p193:5 The Financial Expert)

(1) (a matter of) life and/or death (informal) used to describe a situation that is very important or serious. Usage: We need that business deal, it's a matter of life or death to the company. (p211 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) 'saavu badukina prashne'

(3) matter+of+life+and+death =noun+preposition+noun+conjunction+noun (noun idiom)

(4) 1 time.

87. To have things clear-cut (p204:15, 16 The Financial Expert)

(1) Clear-cut = clear and certain, so that there is no doubt about something. Usage: She has clear-cut evidence that the company cheated her. (p71 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

(2) 'neira'

(3) clear-cut =adjective (adjective idiom) (one word idiom)

(4) 1 time.
88. The fault is not mine if it falls in my lap (p208:37, 38 The Financial Expert)

(1) Drop/fall into your lap = if something good falls into your lap, you get it without making any effort. Usage: you can’t expect the ideal job to just fall into your lap— you’ve got to go out there and look for it. (p219 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

Drop/fall into sb’s lap (informal) be obtained without any effort.

Usage: A job’s not going to just fall in your lap, you know. You’ll have to go out and find one! (p200 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘udiyalli beelu’

(3) fault+in+my+lap = verb+preposition+determiner+noun (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

89. Brooded over it darkly (p210:37 The Financial Expert)

(1) Keep sth dark = to keep sth secret. If he did know that Anna was leaving, he certainly kept it dark. (p89 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

(2) brooded +over+it+darkly= verb+preposition+preposition+adverb (adverb idiom)

(3) 1 time.

90. The railways got into my blood very early in life (p10:4 The Guide)

(1) In the/sb’s blood/genes = part of sb’s nature and shared by other members of their family. (p31 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) Raktagatavaagu = bahala kaaladindiru; vamshaanugatavaagiru. Usage: ei samskaara avalantha hennige raktagatavaadaddu. (Hosa kshitija. Ed. G.B. Joshi) (p204 Avali Padenudi Kosha)

(3) got+into+my+blood= verb+preposition+determiner+noun (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.
91. **Hoping to catch his eye** (p.18:18 The Guide)

(1) Catch sb’s eye = attract sb’s attention (p.51 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘gamana sele’

(3) to+catch+his+eye = preposition+verb+determiner+noun (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

92. **The passage through it gave me a cold sweat** (p.18:33, 34 The Guide)

(1) Be in a sweat= 2) (also be in a cold sweat) be very frightened or worried about sth. Usage: I woke up during the night in a cold sweat worrying about the exam. (p.387 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘chali jwara hidisu’

(3) be+in+a+cold+sweat = verb+preposition+article+adjective+noun (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

93. **The time is ripe for it** (p.19:32 The Guide)

(1) The time is ripe (for sb) (to do sth); the time is ripe for sth/doing sth (literary) = it is the right time to do sth. Usage: I think the time’s ripe for him to leave home if he wants to. (p.408 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘kaala pakwavagide’

(3) the+time+is+ripe+for+it = article+noun+auxiliary verb+adjective+preposition+pronoun (adjective idiom)

(4) 1 time.
94. I looked him up and down (p60:3 The Guide)

He looked me up and down (p117:1 ibid)

(1) All over sth; everywhere in a place. Usage: people up and down the country are giving money to the earthquake appeal. (p425 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘meile kelage nodu’ Melinda kelaginavarege nodu’

(3) looked+up+and+down = verb+preposition+conjunction+preposition (verb idiom)

(4) 2 times.

95. A loquacious nose-poking taxi-driver (p62: 17, 18 The Guide)

(1) Poke/stick your nose in/into sth = interfere in the affairs or business of other people. Usage: She’s always sticking her nose into other people’s affairs. It’s really annoying. (p257 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘moogu toorisuva’

(3) nose+poking = noun+verb (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

96. To regain my breath (p73:19 The Guide)

(1) Get your breath back = be able to breathe again properly after running, etc. usage: She stopped at the top of the stairs to get her breath back. (p39 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘usirumarali baru’

(3) regain +my+breath = verb+determiner+noun (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.
(1) Behind sb’s back = without sb knowing, especially because they would not like it.
Usage: I feel guilty about going behind his back and complaining to the boss. (p13 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)
(2) 'benna hinde aadiko'.
(3) behind +my+back = preposition +determiner +noun (noun idiom)
(4) 1 time.

98. To make a clean breast of it all (p109:19 The Guide)
(1) Make a clean breast of sth = admit fully sth that you have done wrong.
Usage: He decided to make a clean breast of it and tell the police. (p58 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)
(2) 'ede bhaara ilisiko' 'ede hagura maadiko'.
(3) to+make+a+clean+breast+of = preposition +verb +determiner +adjective +noun +preposition (verb idiom)
(4) 1 time.

The sense to swallow back my words (p120:19 ibid)
She swallowed her own words (p198:29 ibid)
(1) Have to eat your words = to be forced to admit that something you said before was wrong.
Usage: She told me I'd never be able to give up smoking, but she had to eat her words. (p431 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)
(2) 'maatu nungu', 'shabda nungu'.
(3) Swallow+words = verb + noun (verb idiom)
(4) 3 times.
100. It was a breath-taking sight (p118:24, 25 The Guide)

(1) Take your breath away = if something takes your breath away, you feel surprise and admiration because it is very beautiful, good, or exciting. Usage: The beauty of the Taj Mahal took my breath away. (p50 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

Take one’s breath away = startle or surprise one. Usage: Her beauty took my breath away. (p62 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

(2) 'usirugattisuva drushya'

(3) a+breathtaking+sight =determiner+adjective+noun (noun idiom)

(4) 1 time.

101. You have her in your pocket (p127:25, 26 The Guide)

(1) Have someone in one’s pocket = have someone under control. Usage: He has the boss in his pocket and so everything he says is implemented. (p357 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

(2) Kisege haakikollu = vashavrtiyaagi maadikollu. Usage korti ninda jafti warantu horatodane warantannu jaari maaduva ameenarannoo goudaru tamma kisege haakikollutiddaru. (p79 Avali Padenudi Kosha (panjaravalliya panju’ kadidaal manjappa p47)).

(3) have+her+in +your+pocket = auxiliary verb+pronoun and determiner +preposition+determiner+noun (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.
102. I was slipping into a fool’s paradise (p143:6 The Guide)

(1) Live in a fool’s paradise = to be happy because you do not know or will not accept how bad a situation really is. Usage: James is living in a fool’s paradise if he thinks things are always going to be this good. (p144 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

(2) ‘moorkhara sante’.

(3) a+fool’s paradise = determiner + noun (noun idiom)

(4) 1 time.

103. It made my heart heavy (p139:23 The Guide)

(1) With a heavy/sinking heart = with a feeling of sadness or fear. Usage: It was with a heavy heart that he left the school for the last time. (p164 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘ede bhaara’, ‘hridaya bhaara’ = nanage ede bhaara ilidantaaytu. Lavalavikeyinda manege bande. (pxxxv Janapada Nudigattugala Kosha)

(3) made+my+heart+heavy = verb+determiner+noun+adjective (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

104. She stood stock-still (pp158, 159:35, 1 The Guide)

(1) be, stay, stand, etc, stock-still = be stay etc, still without moving at all. Usage: When I heard footsteps on the stairs, I stood stock-still and held my breath. (P378 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘sthambheebhootanaagu’

(3) stood+stock-still = verb + adverb (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.
105. Must not lose touch with my womanly duties (p164:28,29 The Guide)

(1) lose your touch = lose the skill or ability to do sth which you used to do very well.
Usage: I don’t know what’s happened to her playing. She seems to have lost her touch. (p222 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) Roodhi tappu,

(3) lose+touch +with =verb +noun +preposition (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

106. I felt touched by her solicitude (p166:1, 2 The Guide)

(1) Manahtattu’, ‘mana muttu’, ‘mana kalaku’.

(2) felt+touched+by =verb+verb+preposition (verb idiom)

(3) 1 time.

107. his idea was beginning to take root in my mind (p168:20, 21 The Guide)

(1) Take root = become firmly established. Usage: His ideas on education never really took root; they were just too extreme. (p325 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) Beirooru
Beiru bittukollu = shaktiyutavaagu; prabalavaagu. Usage: paandavaru innoo beiru bittukolluvudakke munheyei avarannu paraakramadinda adumidabeiku. (p247 Avali Padunudi Kosha (‘vachana bhaarata’ 63 A. R. Krishanashaastri)

(3) to+take+root =preposition+verb+noun (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.
108. **Just to keep his word** (p177:4 The Guide)

(1) Keep/break your word = fail to do what you have promised. Usage: Do you think she'll break her word and tell everyone? (p450 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) 'maal potDest kodu', maatinante nade'.

(3) to+keep+his+word = preposition+verb+determiner and pronoun + noun (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

109. **I could hang them** (p187:10, 11 The Guide)

(1) Hang sth = used to say that you are not going to worry about sth. Usage: Oh, let's get two boxes and hang the expense! (p156 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) 'saal piy bidu'

(3) hang + them = verb + pronoun (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

110. **No wonder the country was going to the dogs** (p187:19 The Guide)

(1) Go to the dogs (AmE also go to hell in a handbasket) (informal)= (often used of a company, organization, country, etc.) become less powerful, efficient, etc. than before. Usage: Many people think this country's going to the dogs. (p88 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) (i)'nayi paadu' = bahala heenavaada sthiti. Usage: avana paadu nayipaadaayitu. (habit). (188 Avali Padenudi Kosha)

(ii) 'haalagi hogu'.

(3) going+to+the+dogs = verb+preposition+determiner+ noun (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.
111. You **take my word for it** (p198 The Guide)

(1) Take sb’s word for it = to believe that something is true because someone tells you it is, without making sure that it really is true. (often in future tenses). Usage: If you say you’ve checked the money I’ll take your word for it. (p430 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

(2) 'naanna maatu togo',

(3) take+my+word+for +it =verb+determiner+noun+preposition+pronoun (**verb idiom**)  

(4) 1 time.

112. Grammar was **child’s play** to him (p7:14 Swami and Friends)

(1) Child’s play = a very easy job or task. Usage: Mending the lamp was child’s play for an experienced electrician like him. (p55 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)


(3) child’s play = noun (**noun idiom**)  

(4) 1 time.

113. **A milk-toothed coward** like you’. (p13:18 Swami and Friends)

(1) ‘haalu hallina hedi’

(2) a+milk-toothed+coward = determiner+adjective+noun (**noun idiom**)  

(3) 1 time.
114. It was to be a **hand-to-hand fight**. (p17:29 Swami and Friends)

(1) Hand to hand (of fighting) involving physical contact with one’s opponent. Usage:
They were involved in a **hand to hand combat**. (p212 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

Not found in Oxford and Cambridge dictionaries.

(2) *Kai kai milaayisu = jagalakke beelu, hodedaatakkili.* Usage: *naanu adda hogadidre kai kai milaayisuttiddaru anãodu khaatri.* (p127 Janapada Nudigattugala Kosha)

*Kai kai milaayisu =jagalavaau.* (p92 Avali Padenudi Kosha)

The idiom seems to have more influence of local language.

(3) a+hand+to+hand+fight =determiner+noun +preposition +noun+verb (**verb idiom**)  

(4) 1 time.

115. He did it in a **tenth of the time** that others took (p20:26, 27 Swami and Friends)

(1) Not found in any dictionary.

(2) ‘are kshanadalli’, ‘khanaardadalli’.

(3) *in +a+tenth+of+the+time = preposition+ determiner+ adjective +preposition+noun (**noun idiom**)  

(4) 1 time.

116. He was more or less the **uncle of the class** (p6:15 Swami and Friends)

(1) ‘ellara appa’

(2) the +uncle +of +the+class =determiner +noun+ preposition+ determiner+ noun (**noun idiom**)  

(3) 1 time.
117. **Changed his mind** (p29:18 Swami and Friends)

(1) 'manassubadalaayisu'

(2) changed+his+mind=verb+determiner+noun (**verb idiom**)  

(3) 1 time.

118. **With a troubled heart** (p30:30 Swami and Friends)

(1) 'nonda manasu'

(2) with+a +troubled+heart =preposition+determiner+verb+noun (**noun idiom**)  

(3) 1 time.

119. **Had a good word to say about** it (p35:8 Swami and Friends)

(1) Not/never have a good word to say for/about sb/sth (informal) = not/never have anything positive to say about sb/sth. Usage: She rarely has a good word to say about her neighbors. (p450 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(not) have a good word to say for somebody/something = (not) say anything at all favourable about somebody/something. Usage: She seldom has a good word, even though we slog so much. (p512 Swami and Friends)

(2) 'olleya shabda'

(3) a+good+word+to+say+about  

=determiner+adjective+noun+preposition+verb+preposition (**noun idiom**)  

(4) 1 time.

120. **They lost their heads** (p40:36 Swami and Friends)

(1) Lose your head = become unable to act in a calm or sensible way. Usage: It’s a very frightening situation, but we mustn’t lose our heads. (p221 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘tale kaleduko’

(3) lost+their+heads =verb+determiner+noun (**verb idiom**)  

(4) 1 time.
121. **Cocked-up ears** and busy pencils. (p48:34 Swami and Friends)

Waited with **cocked up ears** for the splintering (p99:17 ibid)

(1) Cock an ear/eye at sth/sb = look at or listen to sb/sth carefully and with a lot of attention. (p61 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)


(2) **cocked+ up+ears** = adjective + preposition + noun (**noun idiom**) 

(3) 2 times.

122. He had found it hard **to kill time** (p62:2 Swami and friends)

(1) **Kill time** = waste time, be idle. Usage: These days she's out of work and does nothing but kill time. (p254 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

(2) 'kaala harana'

(3) to+kill+time = preposition + verb + noun (**verb idiom**) 

(4) 1 time.

123. Could not set his eyes on a (p67:7, 8. Swami and friends)

(1) Clap/lay/set eyes on somebody/something = see somebody/something. Usage: We loved the house as soon as we set eyes on it. (p158 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

(2) 'kannidu'

(3) set+his+eyes+on = verb + determiner + noun + preposition (**verb idiom**) 

(4) 1 time.
124. Making **half-hearted** attempts (p76:14 Swami and Friends)

(1) 'are manassinava”

(2) half-hearted =adjective (adjective idiom)

(3) 1 time.

125. That came to my head **on the spot** (p80:2, 3 Swami and Friends)

(1) On the spot = (1) at the place where sth is happening. Usage: Our man on the spot is Geoff Davies. He’s going to tell us exactly what’s happening in Cairo. (2) immediately: without any delay. Usage: The police officer asked me for my driving license and I gave it to him on the spot. (p370 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) 'sthadalallei’

(3) on+the+spot=preposition+determiner+noun (noun idiom)

(4) 1 time.

126. ‘**Mind your business** and hold your tongue, (p82:14 Swami and Friends)

(1) Mind your own business =think about your own affairs and not ask questions about or try to get involved in other people’s lives. Usage: (1) ‘Who was the girl I saw with last night?’ ‘Mind your business!’

(2) I was sitting in a café minding my own business when a man came up to me and hit me in the face. (p238 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘ninna kelas neenu nodiko’

(3) mind+your+business=verb+determiner+noun (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.
127. His mouth began to water at the thought of (p86:34 Swami and Friends)

(1) Make sb's mouth water = make sb feel hungry; make sb want to do or have sth very much. Usage: (1) The smell of your cooking is making my mouth water. (2) The sight of all that money made his mouth water. (p245 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) 'baayalli neerooru'

(3) mouth+began+to+water = noun+verb+preposition+verb (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

128. If only he could get more light on this point! (p88:7 Swami and Friends)

(1) Shed/throw light on sth = to help people understand a situation. Usage: Thank you for shedding some light on what is really a very complicated subject. (p229 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)

Come to light = be revealed. Usage: Other signs of robbery have come to light. (p276 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

Cast/shed/throw light on something = make something clearer. Usage: Her evidence has shed new light on the case. (p276 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

(2) 'heechina belaku beeru', 'belaku chellu'.

(3) get+more+light+on = verb+adverb+noun+preposition (verb idiom)

(4) 1 time.

129. At the tail-end of Market Road (p99:26 Swami and friends)

(1) The tail end of sth = the last part of something. Usage: I just caught the tail end of the news. (2) Despite being at the tail of an exhausting tour, she delivered a sparkling performance. (p381 The Sterling dictionary of Idioms. Vijaya Kumar)

(2) 'tutta tudiya', 'katta kadeya',

(3) the+tail-end+of = determiner+noun+preposition (noun idiom)

(4) 1 time.
130. They brought back to his mind (p104:7 Swami and friends)

(1) Bring/call sb/sth to mind = remind you of sb/sth. Usage: Her paintings bring to mind hot summer days in Provence. (p237 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)
(2) 'talege baru'
(3) brought+back+to+his+mind = verb+adverb+preposition+determiner+noun (verb idiom)
(4) 1 time.

131. And a hard-hearted villain (p127:34, 35 Swami and friends)

(1) Harden your heart against sb/sth = no longer be emotionally affected by sb/sth because you feel angry, bitter, etc., towards them/it. Usage: Doctors have to harden their hearts against the suffering they see every day. (p158 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)
(2) 'kallu hrudayada', 'oratu manasina'.
(3) a+hard-hearted = determiner+adjective (adjective idiom)
(4) 1 time.

132. Nip this tendency in the bud (p155:29, 30 Swami and Friends)

(1) Nip sth in the bud = to prevent a small problem from getting worse by stopping it soon after it starts. Usage; The strike was nipped in the bud by some clever negotiation. (p52 Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms.)
(2) ‘moggallei chivutu’
(3) nip+in+the+bud = verb+preposition+determiner+noun (verb idiom)
(4) 1 time.
133. He could reach home **blindfold** (p161:2 Swami and Friends)

(1) ‘Kannu kattikondu’

(2) **blindfold**=adverb (**adverb idiom**)

(3) **blind-fold** VT [alter. Of ME blindfellen, blindfelden to strike blind, blindfold, fr. blind+fellen to fell] (1599) 1: to cover the eyes of with or as if with a bandage 2: to hinder from seeing; esp: to keep from comprehension — **blindfold** ADJ

(4) 1 time.

134. ‘probably a slip of the tongue’. (p170:9 Swami and Friends)

(1) A slip of the tongue/pen = a small mistake when speaking or writing. Usage: Did I say North Street? Sorry, that was a slip of the tongue—I meant South Street. (p359 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘naalige tappu’,

(3) **a+slip+of+the+language** = **determiner+verb+preposition+article+noun** (**verb idiom**)

(4) **slip** \(\text{\`slip}\) VB slipped; **slipping** [ME slippen, fr. MD or MLG; akin to MHG slipfen to slide, OHG slipan to smooth, and perh. To Gk olibross slippery] VI (14c). **slip** N (15c). 3 a: a mistake in judgement, policy, or procedure b: an unintentional and trivial mistake or fault: LAPSE <a ~ of the tongue>.

(5) 1 time.

135. If you had **kept your head cool** and (p176:10 Swami and Friends)

(1) ‘tale tannagittuko’

(2) **kept+your+head+cool** = **verb+determiner+noun +adjective** (**verb idiom**)

(3) 1 time.
136. Why did you seal your mouth? (p176:25 Swami and Friends)

(1) ‘bayige holige haaku’ meaning ‘stop talking’ or ‘keep quiet’.

(2) seal+your+mouth = verb + determiner + noun (verb idiom)

(3) 1 time.

137. On second thoughts he put it back, (p181: 14, 15 Swami and Friends)

(1) On second thoughts (BrE) (AmE on second thought) = used when you want to change what you have said or decided. Usage: On second thoughts, I won’t have a beer, I’ll have a whisky. (P338 Oxford Idioms dictionary of learners of English)

(2) ‘maru yochane’

(3) on+second+thoughts = preposition + adjective + noun (noun idiom)

(4) 1 time
4.2.3 Findings

The above diagram shows that Narayan has used maximum number of verbal idioms with the percentage of 64.49 and minimum number of adverbial idioms with the percentage of 04.34. Noun idioms are moderate in number, which is, 22.46%. Adjective idioms are also used less in number, i.e., 08.71%.

Writer of mass:

As idioms listed in this chapter are found both in Kannada and English languages, the writer could reach local as well as alien readers equally.

Most used idioms in this chapter are ‘keep an eye on’ or ‘set eyes on’ (19 times); ‘make up one’s mind’ (16 times). ‘keep an eye on’ is used four times in The Dark Room, five times in The Finanacial Expert, six times in The Guide, just twice in Vendor of Sweets, once in The English Teacher and Swami and Friends. ‘make up one’s mind’ is used five times in The Vendor of Sweets, four times in The Financial Expert, twice in The Guide, thrice in The English Teacher and once in Mr Sampath and Swami and Friends.
"If I had not written in English, I would not have written at all."

-- Joseph Conrad, a Polish writer