



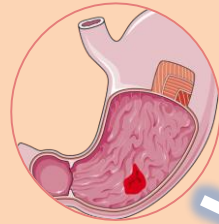
Topic

Conversation
for Idioms

Lesson 34
Emotions (2)

Lead-in

Guess the words based on the pictures.



in one's



in your



to

out



(don't) have a

1. Drew gets **butterflies in his stomach** whenever he speaks on stage in front of so many people.

Q Which is **true** about the statement?

- a. Drew gets anxious when he's on stage.
- b. Drew likes to talk about butterflies on stage.



2. I had **ants in my pants** when I accidentally broke my brother's smartphone.

Q What does the idiom mean?

- a. to be eager to break things due to great anger
- b. unable to sit still or remain calm out of nervousness or excitement

Origin

It originated in the USA, where “underwear” is known as “pants”. In spite of the fact that no logical explanation has ever been found, it is easy to imagine a person who starts fidgeting and wiggling when ants invade those hidden areas.



3. I was going to go rock climbing, but I **chickened out** at the last minute.



Give two situations where you would chicken out.

- _____
- _____



Origin

This phrasal verb dates back to the late 17th century, when it was used to describe someone who is afraid and a coward.



4. Okay, don't **have a cow**. I lost your laptop, but I got you a new one.

Q What would you do if one of your friends had a cow because of a mistake you made?



Did you know?

The idiom gained popularity when “Don’t have a cow, man!” became Bart Simpson’s trademark phrase on the television show “The Simpsons.”

Quick Review

**butterflies in
one's stomach**



to be nervous or anxious
about something

to chicken out

to decide not to do
something because
of fear



Emotion

ants in your pants

unable to sit still
or remain calm



**(don't) have
a cow**



to be very upset or
angry about something

Practice

Match the beginning of each idiom to its correct ending.

Whenever I speak in public,...

they must have ants in their pants.

Don't have a cow!

but I chickened out afterwards.

I am going to ask her on a date,...

I said I'd take care of this problem.


Students are jumping on their seats.

I get butterflies in my stomach.

Practice

Choose the correct idiom to complete the sentence.

- 1 She has **(ants in her pants, spiders in her pants)** because she'll give a presentation tomorrow.
- 2 I only borrowed your pen, so **(don't have a cow, don't have a dog.)**
- 3 My classmates asked me to jump into the river, but I **(chickened out, don't have a cow)** and decided to sit down.
- 4 Lina always gets **(butterflies in her stomach, chickens out)** before she takes the test.

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1. Share a moment when you **chickened out**.
 2. How can we avoid having **butterflies in our stomach?**