

Wise
Old
Sayings.

OLD ENGLISH SAYINGS

Every culture has a collection of wise sayings that offer advice about how to live your life. These sayings are called "proverbs". We can say that proverbs are short and pithy sayings that express some traditionally held truth. They are usually metaphorical and often, for the sake of memorability, alliterative. And, as so many proverbs offer advice and uplift, many of them are religious in origin.

It's good to know the really common proverbs because you hear them come up in conversation all the time. Proverbs can also give you good **example sentences** which you can memorize and use as models for building your own sentences.

A group of students from 1^o Bach are collecting some wise old English saying so that they can help you better understand the way people in English speaking cultures think about the world. Although we must not forget that the meanings of some of these phrases have shifted over the years, so a proverb might have originally had a different meaning than the one I explain.

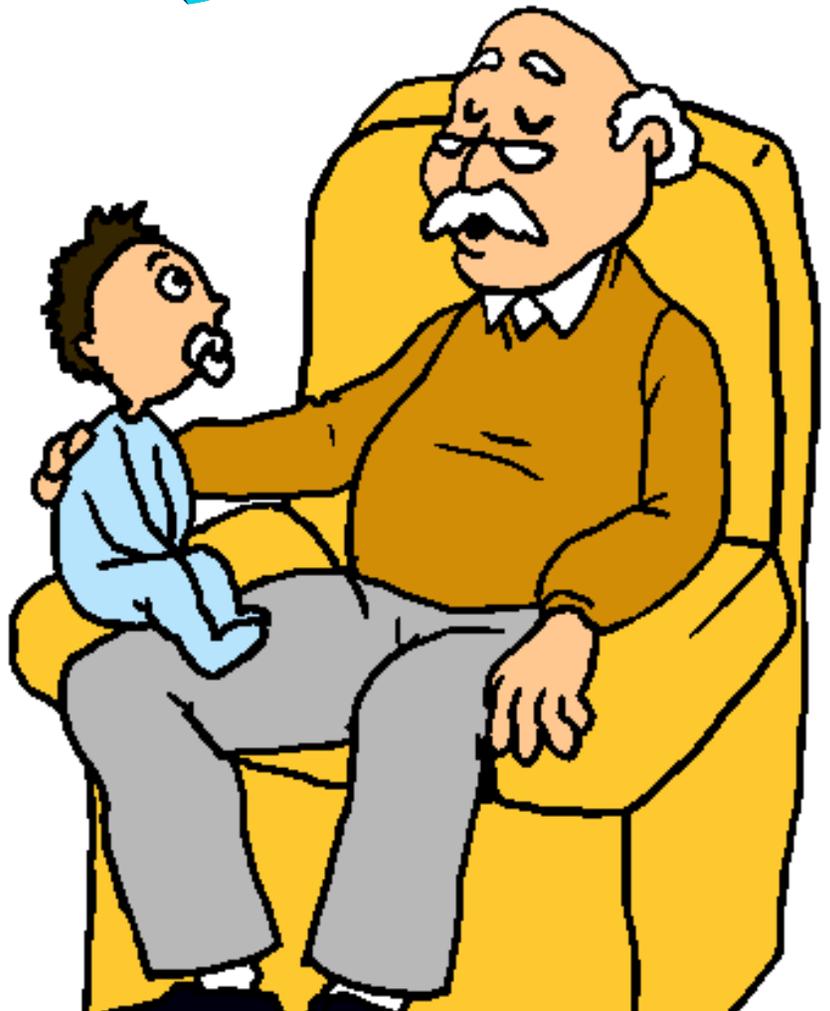
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Old sayings

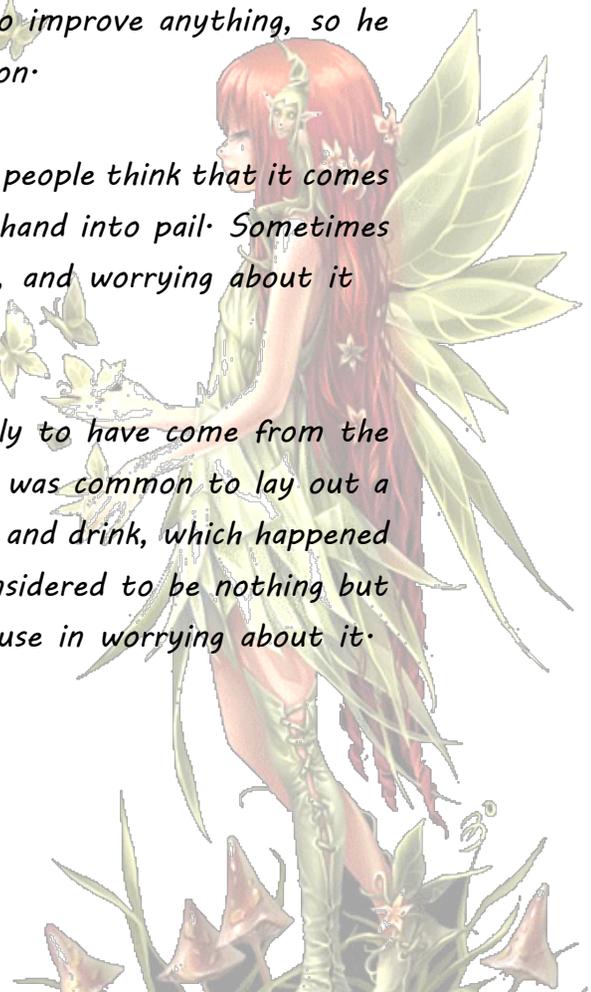


No use crying over spilt milk.

It literally means that when the milk gets spilt, worrying or crying about it won't unspill it, meaning it's no use in worrying about past events which cannot be changed. It's used to point out to someone that has had a disappointment that complaining or crying about it is not going to improve anything, so he should do something practical to solve the situation.

The origin of this saying is not exactly known. Many people think that it comes from the time when dairy animals were milked by hand into pail. Sometimes when the pail was tipped over, the milk got spilt, and worrying about it wouldn't take the milk back into the pail again.

There are people who think that this idiom is likely to have come from the fairy lore, when people strongly believed in fairies it was common to lay out a shrine for them, consisting of their favourite food and drink, which happened to be milk. Whenever the milk got spilt it was considered to be nothing but an extra offering to the fairies, so there was no use in worrying about it.



DON'T PUT ALL YOUR EGGS

IN ONE BASKET



NO TE LO JUEGUES TODO A UNA SOLA CARTA

Meaning

This is a kind of advice to say that one should not concentrate all efforts and resources in only one thing as one could lose everything.

Where does it come from?

This phrase was used for the first time in the novel “Don Quixote”, where it was written:

“It is the part of a wise man to keep himself to day for tomorrow, and not venture all his eggs in one basket.”