



ENGLISH PROVERBS

1. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

This means there are no one objective criteria to judge whether something is beautiful - it is a personal opinion.

2. The best advice is found on the pillow.

Often a good night's sleep gives you the solution to a difficult problem.

3. The bigger, the better.

The proverb is self-explanatory: if something is bigger than it is better.

4. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

It is better to have something now even if it may not be exactly what you wanted, rather than risk waiting for it and maybe never getting anything.

5. Birds of a feather flock together.

This means that people who are similar tend to become friends, mean both in a positive and negative way.

6. Curiosity killed the cat.

You need to be careful because sometimes being interested in some things may lead you into situations which could be dangerous.

7. Don't count your chickens before they hatch.

Don't be happy about something which should happen. Wait until it really happens and then celebrate.

8. Don't cross your bridges before you get to them.

The message here is not to worry about situations until you get to them.

9. The early bird catches the worm.

When you have to do something you have a better chance of being successful if you start straight away or anyway early.

10. Good things come in small packages.

This proverb indicates that sometimes the best things come in small quantities. It is the opposite of The bigger the better!

11. The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence.

People are never happy with what they have. They are always dreaming of better things. However when they get the "better" it turns out to be the same or even worse.

12. Home is where the heart is.

It is not the house that makes home, it is your feelings about a person or a place.

13. It's no use crying over spilled milk.

This indicates it is best not to get angry about something which has already happened but went wrong. Nothing can be done to change it.



14. A kite rises against the wind.

If a person overcomes a difficult situation he becomes a better person.

15. Money doesn't grow on trees.

This means you have to work hard to make money.

16. Necessity is the mother of invention.

In most cases difficult situations force you to be creative.

17. Opposites attract.

People very often are attracted by others who do not have their same qualities - i.e. people get together with others who complement them.

18. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

It is much better to prevent a problem than have to face the much bigger difficulties later.

19. A picture is worth a thousand words.

In many cases a picture or a photo give a lot more information in an instant than words.

20. Safety lies in the middle course.

If you have a problem in many cases it is best not to take extreme action - take a middle course and you will solve the problem more easily.

21. Silence is golden.

In very complex situations, in many cases it is best not to express an opinion immediately or ever.

22. A stitch in time saves nine.

It is best to address problems immediately step by step rather than wait when they may get a lot bigger.

23. There's no place like home.

One's home is a special place which nothing can replace.

24. Time flies.

We never have time to do everything.

25. Too many cooks spoil the broth.

When you have to do something, it may be best to do it alone.

26. You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink.

It means you may get people interested in something (e.g. a project) but you can't always get them to accept your plans of action.

27. You can't judge a book by its cover.

It means the appearance of something doesn't always reflect its true quality or value.



28. You can't take it with you when you die.

It is not worth accumulating too many goods or making too much money, as you can't do anything with them when you die. It is an invitation to spend time also on spiritual matters rather than only on material goods.