

IDIOMS & PHRASES (Jan 2019)

1. **On the qui vive** (phrase) - mean as "alert"; watching very carefully.;attentive,vigilant
The soldiers were on the qui vive for another assault.
2. **Lost on** (phrase) - If advice or a comment is lost on someone, they do not understand it or they pay no attention to it.
"The meaning of that was lost on me"
- 4) **Of a piece** (phrase) - similar, alike/consistent, exactly the same.
"the art and science of any culture are of a piece"
5. **Make headway** (phrase) - make progress, make strides, gain ground/progress.
He is not disappointed at the failure to make headway towards resolving their differences.
6. **Something has to give** (phrase) - used to say that someone to be flexible and stop opposing something (in a conflicting situation).
The professor said in reply "I have more emails and more work than I can handle. Something has to give.*"
7. **Paint a picture of** (phrase) - tell, describe, outline.
The board meeting painted a pretty grim picture of the company's
8. **Put a halt to** (phrase) - to (cause to) stop doing something.
I'm going to put a halt to the corruption in this department once and for all!
9. **In a fix** (phrase) - in a difficult situation.
He kept turning to me whenever he was in a fix and of course I'd help him out.
10. **At the mercy of** (phrase) - in a situation that is controlled by someone or something with the power to harm you.
Workers are entirely at the mercy of dishonest employers.
11. **Out-of-the-box thinking** (phrase)-thinking creatively /unconventionally /differently.
The team always thinks outside the box to come up with unique advertisements for all its clients.
12. **On the ground** (phrase) - in a situation/place where things are happening really/practically
We will be monitoring the situation on the ground..
13. **Pave the way for** (phrase) To create a situation in which it is easier for someone to do something or something to happen.
Pioneers like her paved the way for women to have careers in the sciences.
14. **Back-and-forth** (phrase) - If someone moves back and forth, they repeatedly move in one direction and then in the opposite direction. She swayed gently back and forth to the music
15. **Under the guise of** (phrase) - outward appearance; pretence, false show, disguise "under the guise of friendship he betrayed them".
16. **The end of one's tether** (phrase) - not knowing which way to turn, unable to cope; having no energy left with. ; At the limit of one's patience; frustrated or annoyed.
After two hours of hearing the children shout and argue, I really was at the end of my tether.
17. **Let go** (phrase) - dismiss, relinquish, give up.
She finds it hard to let go of a grudge.
18. **Hard to swallow** (phrase) - difficult to accept something; doubtful, dubious, eccentric.;difficult to believe
I found her story rather hard to swallow
19. **Be at the receiving end** (phrase) - be subjected to something.
If you are at/on the receiving end of something unpleasant that someone does, you suffer because of it: Sales assistants are often on the receiving end of verbal abuse from customers.
20. **Cast a shadow** (phrase) - spoil, diminish. to spoil a good situation with something unpleasant:
Her father's illness had cast a shadow over the birth of her baby
21. **In the light of** (phrase) - considering, taking into account, keeping in mind.
In the light of the weather forecast we've canceled the picnic
22. **Take cognizance of** (phrase) - to take notice of and consider something, especially when judging: The lawyer asked the jury to take cognizance of the defendant's generosity in giving to charity.
23. **Take exception to** (phrase) - object/oppose strongly, disagree with, protest against.;
To find something very disagreeable, untrue, or offensive
I know she takes exception to the way the newspaper represented the data from her study.
24. **Call into question** (phrase) - doubt, distrust, challenge.
to cause doubts about something: The fact that a party can be voted into power by a minority of the electorate calls into question the country's electoral system. Suspecting & questioning.
25. **Scratch one's head** (phrase) - think hard to find a solution.

26. **On the rise** (phrase)
Ascending in power, status, influence, etc. The small company has been on the rise over the last few years.
27. **Which way the wind is blowing** (phrase) - to know what is going on now /going to happen in the future.
If a person tries to discover which way the wind blows/is blowing, they try to discover information about a situation, especially other people's opinions, before they take action
I think I'll see which way the wind is blowing before I vote at the board meeting.
28. **Take its toll** (phrase) - have an adverse effect.
The stress was beginning to take its toll on their marriage.
29. **Play favourites** (phrase) - show favoritism/partiality.
The teacher is always playing favourites in class, letting the students she likes go home a little bit earlier than the rest.
30. **Bite the bullet** (phrase) - to force yourself to do something unpleasant or difficult, or to be brave in a difficult situation:
I hate going to the dentist, but I'll just have to bite the bullet.
31. **Take to the streets** (phrase) - (of a crowd) to come together in the streets to display communal harmony in either celebration or opposition.; To rampage or riot.
32. **Grind to a halt** (phrase) - a (bad) situation becomes inactive slowly and then stops completely.
There are signs that the economy is grinding to a halt.
33. **Lay siege to** (phrase) - To surround and attack a place (often a city or building) with armed troops. A "The army has laid siege to our town
34. **Not at all** (phrase) - under no circumstances, absolutely not, definitely not.
34. **Sit on the fence** (phrase) - undecided, uncertain, unsure.
You can't sit on the fence any longer, you need to make up your mind
35. **Throw one's hat in the ring** (phrase) - contend for, challenge for, struggle for.; to announce one's intentions to be a candidate or contestant.
The governor was slow to throw his hat in the ring in the senatorial race
36. **Tip the scales** (phrase) - be the deciding point/make crucial difference.
To upset the balance of a situation, such that one side or element is favored or gains advantage. The two candidates are so close in the polls that both are vying for something that will tip the scale in their favor.
37. **Time and again** (phrase) - frequently, often, repeatedly.(again and again)
I have watched this movie time and again but never get bored.
38. **Take for granted** (phrase) - relating to something which got much less appreciation due to its over familiarity.
39. **In the midst of** (phrase) - in the middle of.
40. **Far from** (phrase) - not, not at all, nowhere near. The battle is far from over
41. **Hold true** (phrase) - remain true/valid.
The same holds true for/in all similar situations.
42. **Pay heed to** (phrase) - pay attention to, take notice of, consider.
43. **In sum** (phrase) - briefly, to come to the point, in essence.
In sum, alternative policies were not considered.
44. **In the making** (phrase) - developing, burgeoning, up and coming.; nascent
The film was three years in the making.
45. **I shudder to think** (phrase) - used to say that something unpleasant/bad might occur when you are worried about something unpleasant that might happen or might have happened: I shudder to think what my parents will say when I tell them I've failed my exams. Anxious and worried.
46. **Lose no time** (phrase) - quickly, swiftly, rapidly.
Officials have lost no time in expressing their concern and grief over this incident.
47. **High and dry** (phrase) - helpless, in difficulties, without resources.
We were left high and dry without any money or credit cards`
48. **Put in place** (phrase) - In the appropriate or usual position or order: With everything in place, she started the slide show.
49. **Cut tie with** (phrase) - to end/discontinue a relationship with someone.
Most people know intuitively when it's time to cut ties
51. **In favour of** (phrase) - in support of, to the advantage of, for all approving of.
52. **In this regard** (phrase) - in connection with the aspect/consideration/point referred earlier.
53. **Put an end to** (phrase) - stop, terminate, abolish.
54. **at play** (phrase) - something active that affects/influences a result.
Several issues are at play in determining the price of gasoline.
55. **Mend (one's) fences** (phrase) - be friends again, bury the hatchet, settle differences. To rectify a damaged relationship.
After Jill heard that her father had become ill, she decided it was time for them to mend their fences before it was too late.
56. **In relation to** (phrase) - regarding, concerning, with respect to.
57. **A long way to go** (phrase) - continue to work hard to achieve/realize something (a goal/aim).

- He has a long way to go before he can present the plans to the public.
58. **In return** (phrase) - in exchange for, in consideration of, against.
The farmer offered us food in return for our work.
59. **There is no denying** (phrase) - it is undoubtedly true.
There is no denying the fact that he is a faithful husband.
60. **up one' game** (phrase) - to improve in a way so that one can perform well like others.; To improve one's performance, or the quality of one's work.
He really needs to step up his game if he wants to stay at this firm.
61. **Cliff edge** (phrase) - difficult situation.
Many of the consequences of the Brexit cliff edge are likely to come into focus well before the UK leaves the EU
62. **A far cry from** (phrase) - a very different one.
This flat is a far cry from the house they had before.
63. **In the light of** (phrase) - considering, taking into account, keeping in mind.
In light of this new evidence, we are reopening the investigation
64. **Make stride** (phrase) - make progress, advance, proceed.
We've made great strides in our commitment to getting the economy back on its feet, but we still have a long road ahead.
65. **In the offing** (phrase) - on the way, coming soon, near/imminent.
With an election in the offing, the prime minister is keen to maintain his popularity.
66. **A bolt from the blue** (phrase) - surprise, shock, bombshell.; something important or unusual that happens suddenly or unexpectedly: The resignation of the chairman came like a bolt from the blue.
67. **Reel under** (phrase) - to suffer (due to a burden). I was just reeling under the burdens of my new job.
68. **Cost** (phrase) - penalty, loss, sacrifice.
69. **Case in point** (phrase) - a specific example of what one is talking about illustration, example, occurrence.
Now, as a case in point, let's look at nineteenth-century England
70. **Have one's task cut out** (phrase) - be faced with a tough task/work.
The ground has shifted since they agreed to merge, and Vodafone Idea has its task cut out
71. **Back On the rails** (phrase) - functioning normally.
They are keen to get the negotiating process back on the rails.
72. **At play** (phrase) - something active that affects a result.
73. **On the rails** (phrase) - functioning normally.
74. **In the face of** (phrase) - when confronted/faced with.; despite
She left home in the face of strong opposition from her parents.
75. **Pave the way** (phrase) - prepare the way for, make preparations for, get ready for.; Make progress or development easier,
Her findings paved the way for developing a new vaccine .
76. **Next door to** (phrase) - beside, alongside, at the side of. The kitchen is right next door to the dining room.
77. **Come to a grinding halt** (phrase) - a (bad) situation becomes inactive slowly and then stops completely. ;
Our project will grind to a halt if the CEO pulls his approval.
78. **Going forward** (phrase) - from now on, in the future.
I previously ran the company in a very passive manner, but going forward I will take a more aggressive approach in order to prevent my employees from taking advantage of me."
79. **Lay something bare** (phrase) - reveal, disclose, divulge.; expose something
No one wants to expose themselves, lay their feelings bare.
80. **On the ground** (phrase) - in a situation/place where things are happening really/practically.
We will be monitoring the situation on the ground.
81. **In the loon** (phrase) - privy to, aware of, informed of.
82. **Ruffle feathers** (phrase) - annoy, irritate, upset/anger.
I didn't mean to ruffle his feathers
83. **Put the seal on** (phrase) - confirm, authorize, guarantee/validate.
Such a visit may set the seal on a new relationship between the two governments. They see this election as a chance to put the final seal on the defeat of communism.
84. **The way forward** (phrase) - something (a plan/action) that leads to success in the future.
A way forward lies in developing more economic links.
85. **Catch (one's) off guard** (phrase) - To engage, take advantage of, or seize upon one when one is not especially careful, vigilant, or prepared for danger or surprises
The soldiers moved in quickly, hoping to catch the enemy troops off guard
86. **Cut loose** (phrase) - distance or free oneself from a person, group, or system.
"He was a young teenager, already cutting loose from his family"
87. **Ring true** (phrase) - If a statement rings true , it seems to be true or genuine
It was a possible explanation, but it didn't quite ring true.

88. **Hold someone to account** (phrase) - to require a person to explain or to accept responsibility for his or her actions; to blame or punish someone for what has occurred.
89. **As far as** (phrase) - to the degree/extent that. "the river stretched away as far as he could see"
90. **A new lease of life** (phrase) - an improved and energetic life after making something better than before.
The project suddenly got a new lease of life when the developers agreed to provide some more funding.
91. **Take for granted** (phrase) - assume, believe, understand/conjecture.
92. **At work** (phrase) - in action.
It seems as though forces of destruction are increasingly at work throughout society.
93. **Draw one's attention** (phrase) - to make someone notice something.
94. **See the light** (phrase) - understand or realize something after prolonged thought or doubt understand, realize, find out.
It wasn't until I was in my thirties that I saw the light and started to work hard.
95. **Gone are the days** (phrase) - to mean the time in the past that we could not find/get again.
96. **In a crosshairs** (phrase) - something which is being aimed at by someone, (cross hairs - a very thin crossed wires, in the microscope or gun & etc, used to focus or aim something preciously).
As both countries seek to reaffirm their strategic partnership, India is in the crosshairs of economic nationalists in the Trump administration
97. **In the pink (of health)** (phrase) - strong, in perfect health, very healthy, very well; in extremely good health and spirits.
He recovered completely from his surgery and has been in the pink ever since..
98. **In spite of** (phrase) - despite, notwithstanding, regardless of.
99. **In the wake of** (phrase) - aftermath, as a result of, as a consequence of.
"the committee was set up in the wake of the inquiry"
100. **Set foot in** (phrase) - enter, come into, move in.
It was the first time she had set foot in the desert.
101. **Behind the scenes** (phrase) - secretly, privately, surreptitiously.
A lot of hard work has been going on behind the scenes.
102. **Take aback** (phrase) - surprise, shock, take by surprise. **on account of** (phrase) - because of, owing to/due to, by virtue of.
He was taken aback by her caustic remark
103. **Go off the radar** (phrase) - to be forgotten, to be unattended, to be ignored; to be unnoticed.
104. **On/Along the lines of** (phrase) - in the way that is mentioned in conformity with
The new system will operate along the same lines as the old one
105. **On the same page** (phrase) - in agreement. If two or more people are on the same page, they are in agreement about what they are trying to achieve. It makes life easier in our department when we know we're all on the same page.
106. **In as much as** (phrase) - in view of the fact that; seeing that; since. to the extent that; in so far as.
The outcome was important inasmuch as it showed just what human beings were capable of.
107. **Fly in the face of** (phrase) - to go against disregard, ignore, defy/disobey.
This is an argument that seems to fly in the face of common sense.
108. **Of no avail** (phrase) - in vain, without success, with no result, of no use.
All his shouting was to no avail; no one could hear him,
109. **At stake** (phrase) - at risk, at issue, in question.
110. **Scratch one's head** (phrase) - think hard to find a solution.
111. **Under a cloud** (phrase) - under suspicion, disgraced/discredited.
112. **Through the back door** (phrase) - dishonest/indirect ways to do something.
They managed to sneak the legislation in through the back door.
113. **By no means** (phrase) - not at all, in no way, certainly not.
"the outcome is by no means guaranteed"
114. **On the ground** (phrase) - in a situation/place where things are happening really/practically
While the politicians talk of peace, the situation on the ground remains tense..
115. **Romp home** (phrase) - easily win (a contest/competition) without much effort.
to win easily: She is riding the fastest horse and is certain to romp home
116. **Cut a deal** (phrase) - make a contract/agreement
The administration is hoping to cut a deal with Japan..
117. **Boots on the ground** (phrase) - ground troops in a military operation.
Boots on the ground refers to active ground troops in a military campaign, men or women who are physically present and fighting in a war zone.
"They could have gone to their allies and got more boots on the ground"
118. **Take forward** (phrase) - manage/address, tackle/deal with, take responsibility.
Take forward an agenda of sustainable development

119. **In favour of** (phrase) - giving support to, for all, approving of.
120. **Better off** (phrase) - in an advantageous position.
People in this country are far better off than they were ten years ago
121. **A shot in the arm** (phrase) - boost, fillip, stimulus.
something that has a sudden, strong, positive effect on something:
Winning this award has been a big shot in the arm for the students
122. **Do something like there is no tomorrow** (phrase) - do something very quickly and carelessly without thinking about the consequences.
She spends money like there s no tomorrow.
123. **Hands down** (phrase) - easily, effortlessly, with no trouble
If we had a race, he'd win hands down
124. **Cloud on the horizon** (phrase) - a thread/indication that something bad will happen in the future.
something that threatens to cause problems or unhappiness in the future:
The only cloud on the horizon is the physics exam in June.
125. **Reap harvest** (phrase) - benefit or suffer from the results.
You reap harvest what you sow
126. **Hold the key** (phrase) - to have control.
Because the two main parties have won almost the same number of votes, the minority group holds the key to the result.
127. **Firm hands on the wheel** (phrase) - stay focused and in "complete" control of the situation.
Two firm hands on the wheel and an attentive set of senses can go a long way to avoid catastrophe
128. **To the fore** (phrase) - most important, greatest, main.
If someone or something comes to the fore in a particular situation or group, they become important or popular
A number of low-budget independent films brought new directors and actors to the fore.
129. **At variance with** (phrase) - in conflict, contrasting, incompatible
if one thing is at variance with another, they are completely different and seem to oppose each other.
John's and Mary's answers are at variance means that their answers do not agree, or John was at variance with his in-laws means that he strongly disagreed or quarreled with them.
130. **Strike a** (conciliatory) note (phrase) - have a (pacifying) point of view.
When you are conciliatory in your actions or behaviour, you show that you are willing to end a disagreement with someone.
But he has also sought to strike a conciliatory note, gaining the respect of many.
131. **To begin with** (phrase) - at first, at the outset, at the beginning.
132. **Throw light on** (phrase) - explain, clarify, clear up.
133. **Pay a price** (phrase) - experience the bad/unpleasant result of something.
134. **Clear the air** (phrase) - reduce the tense situation; restore harmony, make peace, reconcile differences.
I had a massive argument with Sue, but at least it has cleared the air.
135. **Of sorts** (phrase) - of a somewhat unusual method, an inferior example of a kind of something
He managed to make a curtain of sorts out of an old sheet.
136. **Owing to** (phrase) - because of, as a result of, on account of.
137. **Means to an end** (phrase) - it refers to any action (the means) performed for the only purpose of achieving something else (an end).
"higher education was seen primarily as a means to an end"
138. **In tandem** (phrase) - alongside each other.
"a tight fiscal policy working in tandem with a tight foreign exchange policy"
139. **There is no telling** (phrase) - difficult to know something that will happen in the future.
"there's no telling how she will react"
140. **On the ground** (phrase) - in a situation/place where things are happening really/practically.
141. **Fall foul of** (phrase) - to violate a rule/law.
to break a rule or law, especially without intending to:
Manufacturers may fall foul of the new government guidelines.
142. **By virtue of** (phrase) - because of, on account of, as a result of.
143. **On account of** (phrase) - because of, owing to/due to, by virtue of.
144. **Other side of the ledger** (phrase) - disadvantages of a proposed solution.
On the other side of the ledger, the firm reportedly filed hundreds of faked voter registration forms in Florida this year
145. **In keeping with** (phrase) - in accordance with, in agreement with, in line with/true to.
The modern furniture was out of keeping with the old house.
146. **Life and limb** (phrase) - life and bodily well-being. life and all bodily faculties.
If someone risks life and limb, they do something very dangerous that may cause them to die
147. **Make headway** (phrase) - make progress, make strides, gain ground/progress.

148. **Come to naught** (phrase) - fail, founder, be unsuccessful.
to be unsuccessful : to not achieve what something was intended to do
All our efforts came to naught.
149. **In light of** (phrase) - in view of, considering, taking into account.
150. **Throw a curveball** (phrase) - to surprise; to introduce something unexpected or requiring a quick reaction.
They threw me a curve when they said that our department would be combined with yours.
151. **For someone's sake** (phrase) - benefit, advantage, good/gain.
152. **Catch off guard** (phrase) - To engage, take advantage of, or seize upon one when one is not especially careful, vigilant, or prepared for danger or surprises.
"Yesterday, somebody kicked a football at my head. I was completely caught off guard." ...
153. **Rank and file** (phrase) - ordinary members of a party. the ordinary members of an organization as opposed to its leaders.
"the rank and file of the Labour Party"
154. **Of sorts** (phrase) - of a somewhat unusual method.
155. **Game of chicken** (phrase) - a situation in which either of the two contesting people wants to withdraw or let other win, even though not withdrawing can be very dangerous.
The classic game of chicken takes place when two people drive cars at very high speeds directly towards each other.
156. **Better off** (phrase) - in an advantageous position.
157. **Hold someone to ransom** (phrase) - threaten, force, demand. demand concessions from a person or organization by threatening damaging action.
"the company would be powerful enough to hold governments to ransom"
158. **On account of** (phrase) - because of, owing to/due to, by virtue of.
159. **Shot in the arm** (phrase) - boost, fillip, stimulus.
160. **In its entirety** (phrase) - as a whole, completely, entirely/totally.
Something in its entirety means all of something from beginning to end:
I never read the contract in its entirety
161. **Take something lying down** (phrase) - accept (something) without protest.
to accept (something bad, such as an insult or unfair treatment) without trying to fight against
"she's laughing at me for being weak and I'm not going to take it lying down any longer"
162. **Stamp of approval** (phrase) - official statement, indication of approval, assent.
163. **Business as usual** (phrase) - routine, regularity, normal pattern.
business as usual definition: said when things are continuing as they always do, despite a difficult situation
The Queen was determined to show it was business as usual.
164. **Have a shot at** (phrase) - to attempt/try to do something.
I'll have a shot at solving the problem
165. **Do or die** (phrase) - a critical situation.
166. **Bury the hatchet** (phrase) - end a quarrel or conflict; pardon, forgive.
167. **Aside from** (phrase) - apart from, besides, other than.
168. **On paper** (phrase) - in theory, theoretically, hypothetically.
in writing.
On paper it looks like it could work, but I won't believe it until I see it in operation.
169. **Under siege** (phrase) - surrounded/ encircled, besieged/blockaded, under attack.
"the fort had been under siege by guerrillas since June"
170. **The old chestnut** (phrase) - relating to something which is boring & tiresome due to its continuous recurrence.
I wondered whether there might, after all, be some truth in the old chestnut that one's schooldays are the happiest of one's life.
171. **At the expense of** (phrase) - sacrifice, cost, loss.
172. **Make amends** (phrase) - compensate, make it up for, redress.
173. **At fault** (phrase) - to blame, blameworthy, censurable/reproachable.
174. **Beg the question** (phrase) - raise a point; invite question.
If a statement or situation begs the question, it causes you to ask a particular question:
Spending the summer travelling around India is a great idea, but it does beg the question of how we can afford it. To discuss the company's future begs the question of whether it has a future.
175. **Show the way** (phrase) - to guide someone on what needs to be done on priority.
Your leadership has always shown the way for our company.
176. **In view of** (phrase) - in the light of, owing to, considering.
177. **The time is ripe** (phrase) - an appropriate/ convenient time has come.
178. **In mothballs** (phrase) - referring to something stored in good condition for future use.
unused but kept in good condition for future use.

- "it was no use keeping aircraft in mothballs without fully trained crews to fly them"
179. **Make a mockery of** (phrase) - make something to look foolish/absurd.
"new technology is making a mockery of our outdated laws"
180. **Far from** (phrase) - not, not at all, nowhere near. tending to the opposite of what is expected.
"conditions were far from satisfactory"
181. **On the back of** (phrase) - as a result of, after/subsequent; in support soon after an earlier success, and as a result of it:
The advertising agency secured the contract on the back of its previous successful campaigns.
182. **With one eye on** (phrase) - paying attention to something.
You cannot just keep one eye on the kids.
183. **Reality check** (phrase) - something which helps us to see a situation with the real facts than ideas, concepts, hopes & etc.
184. **Keep something in check** (phrase) - restrain, keep under control, control.
185. **Scores of** (phrase) - a lot, a large number of, a host of.
"a score of men lost their lives in the battle"
186. **Stay put** (phrase) - remain somewhere without moving (from that place).
187. **On time** (phrase) - punctually, prompt, punctual.
188. **To begin with** (phrase) - at first, at the outset, at the beginning.
189. **A level playing field** (phrase) - a situation in which everyone has the equal chance of succeeding.
a situation in which everyone has a fair and equal chance of succeeding.
"they are still not providing a level playing field in terms of opportunities for women"
190. **Strike a blow for** (phrase) - do something to help/support.
to do something that supports or defends something:
The judge's ruling has struck a blow for racial equality.
191. **ways and means** (phrase) - methods and resources.
"the company is seeking ways and means of safeguarding jobs"
192. **Front and centre** (phrase) - prominently, conspicuously, mainly/importantly (to attract attention).
At the center of attention.
This is the first TV channel to put kids front and center.
193. **Out-of-touch** (phrase) - not knowing current affairs.
194. **Coming of age** (phrase) - a young person's change/transition from childhood to being an adult.
the moment when a person or thing reaches an important stage of development
- .postwar Germany's final coming-of-age as an independent sovereign state.
I think he feels it is part of his coming of age as a leader.
195. **Far off the mark** (phrase) - not accurate, not correct.
His criticisms are way off the mark
196. **Caught in a crossfire** (phrase) - get involved in an (argumentative &) unpleasant/difficult situation.
when a person has to make a decision with two different options and they don't know what to choose
Civilians were caught in crossfire during combat operations, particularly in the south
197. **Call it quits** (phrase) - be friends again, make peace, forgive and forget; agree/acknowledge.
"surely, after covering eleven wars, he could be forgiven for calling it quits?"