

1.

Every cloud has a silver lining.

*No matter how bad a situation might seem, there is always has some good aspect to it.*

Every dog has its day.

*Everyone will have good luck or success at some point in their lives.*

One good turn deserves another.

*If someone does you a favour, you should take the chance to repay it.*

A little knowledge is a dangerous thing.

*A small amount of knowledge can mislead people into thinking that they are more expert than they really are, which can lead to mistakes being made.*

An apple a day keeps the doctor away.

*[What it says on the tin]*

2.

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

*It's better to have the certainty of a small benefit than the possibility of something greater which may come to nothing.*

The early bird catches the worm.

*The person who takes the earliest opportunity to do something will gain the advantage over others.*

A rolling stone gathers no moss.

*Someone who does not settle in one place rarely prospers.*

A bad workman always blames his tools.

*A person who has done something badly will seek to lay the blame on their equipment rather than admit their own lack of skill.*

He who laughs last laughs longest.

*Don't rejoice too soon, in case your delight at your own good fortune is premature.*

3.

Flogging (Beating) a dead horse.

*Wasting effort on something when there is no chance of succeeding.*

It ain't over till the fat lady sings.

*Nothing is irreversible until the final act is played out.*

Tomorrow is another day.

*Scarlett O'Hara's closing words: "Tara. Home. I'll go home, and I'll think of some way to get him back. After all, tomorrow is another day" -- Margaret Mitchells, Gone With The Wind, 1936*

Truth is stranger than fiction.

*Attributed to, and almost certainly coined by, Lord Byron, in the satirical poem Don Juan, 1823: " 'Tis strange - but true; for truth is always strange;/ Stranger than fiction; if it could be told,/ How much would novels gain by the exchange!"*

It's no use crying over spilt milk.

*It's no use being upset over something that has already happened and cannot be changed.*

4.

The road to hell is paved with good intentions.

*Promises and plans must be put into action, otherwise they are useless.*

The course of true love never did run smooth.

*There'll always be problems in a romantic relationship. Lysander to Hermia, in Act 1 Scene 1 of A Midsummer Night's Dream.*

The pen is mightier than the sword.

*Thinking and writing have more influence on people and events than the use of force or violence.*

The wish is the father to the thought.

*People are more inclined to believe that which they wish or hope to be true. E.g. Shakespeare's 2 Henry IV: 'Thy wish was father, Harry, to that thought'.*

Necessity is the mother of invention.

*Difficult situations inspire ingenious solutions.*

Procrastination is the thief of time.

*If you delay doing something, it will take longer to do later on.*

(Cf. A stitch in time saves nine.)

5.

Any port in a storm.

*In adverse circumstances one welcomes any source of relief or escape.*

Red sky in the morning, sailors take warning. Red sky in the evening, sailors' delight.

All's fair in love and war.

*In certain highly charged situations, any method of achieving your objective is justifiable*

All's well that ends well.

*If the outcome of a situation is happy, this compensates for any previous difficulty or unpleasantness.*

It never rains but it pours.

*Misfortunes or difficult situations tend to follow each other in rapid succession or to arrive all at the same time.*

(Cf. "It's like waiting for a bus. You'll be waiting so long for one, then two will come at once.")