

SPANISH IDIOMS

“Dime con quién andas y te diré quién eres.”

Literal translation: “Tell me with whom you walk and I will tell you who you are.”

English equivalent: “A man is known by the company he keeps.”

Meaning: ‘We are influenced by the environment in which we live and the people we surround ourselves with.’

“Más vale pájaro en mano que cien volando.”

Literal translation: “A bird in the hand is worth more than 100 flying.”

English equivalent: “A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.”

Meaning: ‘It is better to keep what you have than to risk getting more and ending with nothing.’



“Borrón y cuenta nueva.”

Literal translation: “Smudge and new account.”

English equivalent: “A clean slate.”

Meaning: ‘A new start. In particular, a new start after clearing ones record of past mistakes.’

“Al que madruga Dios lo ayuda.”

Literal translation: “God helps the one who gets up early.”

English equivalent: “The early bird catches the worm.”

Meaning: ‘The one who arrives or starts first has the best chance for success.’

“No hay que ahogarse en un vaso de agua.”

Literal translation: “You don’t need to drown in a glass of water.”

English equivalent: “Don’t make a mountain out of a molehill.”

Meaning: ‘Don’t overreact and make a small into a much bigger one.’

“Más vale precaver que tener que lamentar.”

Literal translation: “It’s better to prevent than to have to lament.”

English equivalent: “Better safe than sorry.”

Meaning: ‘It’s better to be cautious than to be rash and do something you may later regret.’

“Del dicho al hecho hay largo trecho.”

Literal translation: “From said to done there is a long way.”

English equivalent: “It is easier said than done.”

Meaning: ‘When something seems like a good idea but would be difficult to do.’