

ALL BUT

In other words: nearly

Grammatical function: adverbial

Type of expression: fixed combination

Definition: **used to describe a process that has almost come to its end, but is not quite complete**

Examples:

- Her small-voiced reply was **all but** lost in the wind.
- Summer was **all but** gone and we were already back at school.
- The tram and the trolleybus have **all but** disappeared from British streets.

BY NO MEANS

Grammatical function: adverbial

How to use this word: In a negative statement, positioned in the same place as the word 'not'.

Type of expression: idiom

Definition: **not in any way; definitely not**

Examples:

- Although this is an extreme case, it is **by no means** unique.
- The example I have given is **by no means** the only one that exists.
- Video or slide presentations undoubtedly have their place, but they have **by no means** replaced the need for high quality print publications.

COME TO TERMS WITH [Also: comes to terms with, coming to terms with, came to terms with]

In other words: accept

Grammatical function: verbal

How to use this word: Always followed by a noun or noun substitute.

Type of expression: idiom

Definition: **to be able to live with something new or different without letting it disturb you**

Examples:

- He finally **came to terms with** the fact that he was different from other men.
- While teenagers **are coming to terms with** adulthood, roles change and parents have to adjust.
- The only way in which a society can **come to terms with** its conflicting values is to prefer one value in some circumstances and another in different conditions.

GIVE RISE TO [Also: gives rise to, giving rise to, gave rise to, given rise to]

In other words: to produce; to bring about

Type of expression: phrasal idiom

Definition: **to be the cause of something that happens or exists**

Examples:

- The Industrial Revolution **gave rise to** the growth of cities.
- Factory smoke and exhaust gases from cars **are giving rise to** higher temperatures.
- Psychology explains how events in a person's life **give rise to** certain types of behaviour.

GO BACK [Also: goes back, going back, went back, gone back]

In other words: to turn back

Type of expression: two-word verb

Definition: **to repeat a previous action**

Examples:

- What's done is done. There's no **going back**.
- She read his letter quickly then **went back** and read it again.
- He worked for a while as an ambulance driver but has now **gone back** to driving buses.