

## 22 French Idioms About Life

### 1. Vouloir, c'est pouvoir

Translation: To want is to be able to

Meaning: If there's a will, there is a way

### 2. Qui court deux lievres a la fois, n'en prend aucun

Translation: Who runs after two hares at the same time, catches none

Meaning: You need to concentrate on one thing at a time

### 3. C'est simple comme bonjour!

Translation: It's as simple as hello!

Meaning: It's easy

### 4. Ce n'est pas la mer à boire

Translation: It's not as if you have to drink the sea

Meaning: It's not that hard

### 5. Petit a petit, l'oiseau fait son nid

Translation: Little by little, the bird makes its nest

Meaning: Work steadily and persevere

### 6. Il ne faut rien laisser au hasard

Translation: Nothing should be left to chance

Meaning: Plan ahead

### 7. Mieux vaut prévenir que guérir

Translation: It is better to prevent than to heal

Meaning: Take precautions

### 8. Chacun voit midi à sa porte.

Translation: Everyone sees noon at his door

Meaning: Use your own judgement

### 9. Appeler un chat un chat

Translation: Calling a cat a cat

Meaning: See things as they are

### 10. Bien faire et laisser dire

Translation: Do well and let speak

Meaning: Don't let the opinions of other get to you

### 11. Être bien dans sa peau

Translation: To be good in one's skin

Meaning: To be confident

### 12. Battre le fer pendant qu'il est chaud

Translation: Strike the iron while it is hot

Meaning: Act quickly when a good opportunity arises

### 13. Mieux vaut être seul que mal accompagné

Translation: Better alone than in bad company

Meaning: Take care in choosing your friends

**14. À jeune chasseur, il faut un vieux chien**

Translation: For the young hunter, an old dog is needed

Meaning: Find someone older and wiser to show you how it is done

**15. La nuit porte conseil**

Translation: The night brings advice

Meaning: Take your time to come to a decision

**16. Ne mets pas tous tes œufs dans le même panierne mets pas tous tes œufs dans le même panier**

Translation: Don't put all your eggs in one basket

Meaning: Don't count on just one thing

**17. Ce n'est pas la vache qui crie le plus fort qui fait le plus de lait**

Translation: It's not the cow that moos the loudest who gives the most milk

Meaning: All talk and no action

**18. Les actes valent mieux que les mots**

Translation: Actions are worth more than words

Meaning: What you do is what is important

**19. Bien mal acquis ne profite jamais**

Meaning: A badly acquired good never benefits

Meaning: Bad behavior will get found out

**20. Après la pluie, le beau temps**

Translation: After the rain, good weather

Meaning: Things get better

**21. Mangez bien, reiz souvent, aimez beaucoup**

Translation: Eat well, laugh often, love a lot

Meaning: Enjoy life

**22. La vie est trop courte pour boire du mauvais vin**

Translation: Life is too short to drink bad wine

Meaning: Don't bother with things you don't like