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| **Tutor: Miss. ZEKRI. S Department of French****Level: 1st Year License (L 1) Mohammed Kheider, Biskra****Module: English Language (Proverbs)** |

* **What are proverbs?**

Every culture has a collection of wise sayings that offer **advice** about how to live your life. These sayings are called "proverbs".

* **How can you use proverbs to learn English?**

It's good to know the really common English proverbs because you hear them come up in conversation all the time. Sometimes people say the entire proverb to give advice to a friend. Learning proverbs can also help you to understand the way that people in English-speaking cultures think about the world. Proverbs can also give you good **example sentences,** which you can memorize and use as models for building your own sentences.

* **The most important English Proverbs**

This is a list of some of the most important and well-known English proverbs. Below each one, there is a simple explanation. The meanings of some of these phrases have shifted over the years, so a proverb might have originally had a different meaning than the one I explain.

**1/-** Honesty is the best policy.

 Telling the truth is better than lying even when it can sometimes be difficult/Don’t lie.

**2/-** Rome wasn’t built in a day.

 It takes a long time to create something complicated or impressive.

**3/-** Easy come, easy go.

 When you get money quickly, like by winning it, it’s easy to spend it or lose it quickly as well.

**4/-** Practice makes perfect.

 If you practice an activity enough, you will eventually master it.

**5/-** Barking dogs seldom bite.

 People who make threats rarely carry them out.

**6/-** Actions speaks louder than words.

 It is more effective to act directly than to speak of action.

**7/-** When in Rome, do as the Romans do.

 You should follow the conventions of the place you are visiting.

**8/-** You can’t judge a book by its cover.

 Don’t base your opinion of something on the way it looks.