

Come Clean: 4 Idioms About Truth

English learning resource · ES

Key words & expressions · English + Spanish

4 learning entries

Study task: Listen again and notice the expressions you studied.

1

come clean

confesar la verdad

DEF

To admit the truth about something you have hidden.

Informal; usually implies a mistake or secret. Use come clean about something; it is more specific than simply being honest.

ES

Admitir la verdad sobre algo que has ocultado.

Informal; suele implicar un error o secreto y se construye con about; no equivale simplemente a ser sincero.

I came clean about the wrong time on the poster.

I came clean about the wrong time on the poster. → Confesé mi error con la hora del cartel.

She finally came clean about losing the keys.

She finally came clean about losing the keys. → Por fin confesó que había perdido las llaves.

2

take something at face value

aceptar sin cuestionar

DEF

To accept something as it appears without investigating or looking for a hidden meaning.

This is about accepting the surface explanation, not merely reading words literally. The past tense is took.

ES

Aceptar algo tal como se presenta, sin investigar ni buscar un significado oculto.

Alude a aceptar la explicación aparente, no solo a interpretar palabras literalmente; el pasado es took.

I took your explanation at face value.

I took your explanation at face value. → Acepté tu explicación sin cuestionarla.

Do not take every online promise at face value.

Do not take every online promise at face value. → No te creas sin más todas las promesas de internet.

3

get your facts straight

comprobar bien los hechos

DEF

To check that your information is correct before explaining or claiming something.

The direct command can sound sharp or accusatory. The phrase "Let us check the details" is often a softer alternative.

ES

Comprobar que la información es correcta antes de explicar o afirmar algo.

La orden directa puede sonar brusca o acusatoria; la frase «Let us check the details» («comprobemos los detalles») suele ser una alternativa más suave.

Let us get our facts straight before we order new posters.

Let us get our facts straight before we order new posters. → Comprobemos bien los hechos antes de encargar nuevos carteles.

I need to get my facts straight before I explain what happened.

I need to get my facts straight before I explain what happened. → Necesito comprobar bien los hechos antes de explicar lo ocurrido.



4

pull the wool over someone's eyes*engañar deliberadamente a alguien***DEF**

To deliberately deceive someone so that they do not see the truth.

Informal and critical. It suggests intentional deception, not an innocent misunderstanding; change the possessive to match the person deceived.

ES

Engañar a alguien a propósito para impedir que vea la verdad.

Informal y crítico; implica intención, no un malentendido inocente, y el posesivo cambia según la persona engañada.

The seller tried to pull the wool over our eyes about the damaged phone.

The seller tried to pull the wool over our eyes about the damaged phone. → El vendedor intentó engañarnos sobre el teléfono dañado.

He blamed the printer to pull the wool over her eyes.

He blamed the printer to pull the wool over her eyes. → Culpó a la imprenta para engañarla.

