

Prepviso.com 100 Proverbs (Words of Wisdom)

Proverbs are traditional sayings that give advice about life. Use them wisely to add depth to your conclusions!

1. Actions speak louder than words.

Def: What you do matters more than what you say.

✦ He promised to help, but actions speak louder than words.

2. Every cloud has a silver lining.

Def: There is always something good in a bad situation.

✦ I lost my job, but every cloud has a silver lining – I found a better one.

3. Honesty is the best policy.

Def: Telling the truth is always the best choice.

✦ He admitted his mistake – honesty is the best policy.

4. Practice makes perfect.

Def: Regular practice leads to improvement.

✦ She practises the piano daily – practice makes perfect.

5. Better late than never.

Def: Doing something late is better than not doing it.

✦ He finally apologised – better late than never.

6. All that glitters is not gold.

Def: Not everything that looks valuable is valuable.

✦ The cheap watch looked expensive, but all that glitters is not gold.

7. The early bird catches the worm.

Def: Those who start early have an advantage.

✦ I woke up at 5 am to study – the early bird catches the worm.

8. Where there's a will, there's a way.

Def: If you are determined, you can find a solution.

✦ Don't give up – where there's a will, there's a way.

9. Too many cooks spoil the broth.

Def: Too many people trying to control something ruins it.

✦ Let me handle it – too many cooks spoil the broth.

10. A rolling stone gathers no moss.

Def: A person who keeps moving doesn't settle down.

✦ He changes jobs every year – a rolling stone gathers no moss.

11. The pen is mightier than the sword.

Def: Writing is more powerful than violence.

✦ Her article changed public opinion – the pen is mightier than the sword.

12. Necessity is the mother of invention.

Def: Difficult problems inspire creative solutions.

✦ She built a water filter from scraps – necessity is the mother of invention.

13. Don't count your chickens before they hatch.

Def: Don't assume success before it happens.

✦ He spent his lottery winnings before the draw – don't count your chickens before they hatch.

14. A stitch in time saves nine.

Def: Fix a problem early to avoid bigger trouble later.

✦ Get that crack repaired now – a stitch in time saves nine.

15. Rome wasn't built in a day.

Def: Great achievements take time.

✦ Be patient with your art – Rome wasn't built in a day.

16. When in Rome, do as the Romans do.

Def: Follow local customs when visiting a new place.

✦ In Japan, bow when greeting – when in Rome, do as the Romans do.

17. The grass is always greener on the other side.

Def: Others' situations seem better than your own.

✦ He wants to move to the city, but the grass is always greener on the other side.

18. You reap what you sow.

Def: You face the consequences of your actions.

✦ He cheated on the test and failed – you reap what you sow.

19. Don't bite the hand that feeds you.

Def: Don't hurt someone who helps you.

✦ He badmouthed his boss – don't bite the hand that feeds you.

20. People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones.

Def: Don't criticise others if you have faults too.

✦ She gossips about others, but she has flaws too – people in glass houses shouldn't throw stones.

21. Absence makes the heart grow fonder.

Def: Being apart makes you appreciate someone more.

✦ After a week apart, I missed her – absence makes the heart grow fonder.

22. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

Def: Beauty is subjective; everyone has different tastes.

✦ She loves that old painting – beauty is in the eye of the beholder.

23. Birds of a feather flock together.

Def: Similar people tend to be friends.

✦ All the artists hang out together – birds of a feather flock together.

24. Charity begins at home.

Def: Help your family before helping others.

✦ He supports his parents first – charity begins at home.

25. Don't put all your eggs in one basket.

Def: Don't risk everything on one plan.

✦ Apply to several universities – don't put all your eggs in one basket.

26. Fortune favours the bold.

Def: Brave people are more likely to succeed.

✦ She took a risk and won – fortune favours the bold.

27. Good things come to those who wait.

Def: Patience is rewarded.

✦ He waited for the right job – good things come to those who wait.

28. Haste makes waste.

Def: Rushing leads to mistakes and wasted time.

✦ She rushed her homework and failed – haste makes waste.

29. If you can't beat them, join them.

Def: If you can't resist a trend, participate in it.

✦ Everyone was using social media, so I joined – if you can't beat them, join them.

30. Ignorance is bliss.

Def: Not knowing something can be peaceful.

✦ He didn't know the bad news – ignorance is bliss.

31. It takes two to tango.

Def: Both parties are responsible for a situation.

✦ Don't blame her alone – it takes two to tango.

32. Laughter is the best medicine.

Def: Laughing makes you feel better.

✦ When she was sad, we made her laugh – laughter is the best medicine.

33. Lightning never strikes the same place twice.

Def: An extraordinary event won't happen the same way again.

✦ Don't worry about another accident – lightning never strikes the same place twice.

34. No man is an island.

Def: Everyone needs other people.

✦ He isolated himself, but no man is an island – he needed friends.

35. Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

Def: You must take risks to achieve something.

✦ She started her own business – nothing ventured, nothing gained.

36. Out of sight, out of mind.

Def: You forget about things you don't see.

✦ I forgot about the old photos – out of sight, out of mind.

37. Patience is a virtue.

Def: Being patient is a good quality.

✦ Wait for your turn – patience is a virtue.

38. Prevention is better than cure.

Def: It is better to prevent problems than fix them.

✦ Get the vaccine – prevention is better than cure.

39. The squeaky wheel gets the grease.

Def: People who complain loudly get attention.

✦ He kept complaining until they fixed it – the squeaky wheel gets the grease.

40. There's no place like home.

Def: Home is the most comfortable place.

✦ After the long trip, I relaxed – there's no place like home.

41. There's no smoke without fire.

Def: Rumours usually have some truth.

✦ Everyone is talking about it – there's no smoke without fire.

42. Time heals all wounds.

Def: Pain and grief lessen with time.

✦ She was heartbroken, but time heals all wounds.

43. To err is human; to forgive, divine.

Def: Making mistakes is human; forgiving is noble.

✦ He made a mistake – to err is human, to forgive divine.

44. Two heads are better than one.

Def: People think better together.

✦ Let's work on this together – two heads are better than one.

45. Waste not, want not.

Def: If you don't waste things, you will have enough.

✦ She saved all the leftovers – waste not, want not.

46. What goes around comes around.

Def: Karma; you get what you give.

✦ He was kind to others, and they helped him – what goes around comes around.

47. When the going gets tough, the tough get going.

Def: Strong people work harder in difficulty.

✦ We faced many challenges, but we kept going – when the going gets tough, the tough get going.

48. You can't judge a book by its cover.

Def: Don't judge by appearance.

✦ He looks scruffy, but he's brilliant – don't judge a book by its cover.

49. You can't teach an old dog new tricks.

Def: It's hard to change old habits.

✦ My grandpa refuses to use a smartphone – you can't teach an old dog new tricks.

50. You scratch my back and I'll scratch yours.

Def: Mutual favours; I help you, you help me.

✦ He covered my shift, so I covered his – you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours.

51. A friend in need is a friend indeed.

Def: True friends show up in hard times.

✦ She visited me in the hospital – a friend in need is a friend indeed.

52. A picture is worth a thousand words.

Def: Images convey more than words.

✦ I showed them a photo – a picture is worth a thousand words.

53. Don't cry over spilt milk.

Def: Don't get upset over things that can't be fixed.

✦ He broke the vase, but don't cry over spilt milk.

54. Early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise.

Def: Sleep and waking early are beneficial.

✦ He goes to bed at 9 pm and wakes at 5 am – early to bed... makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise.

55. Fools rush in where angels fear to tread.

Def: Inexperienced people often take reckless risks.

✦ He invested in a scam – fools rush in where angels fear to tread.

56. Give a man a fish for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.

Def: Teaching a skill is better than giving charity.

✦ Instead of giving food, she taught them farming – give a man a fish... teach a man to fish...

57. God helps those who help themselves.

Def: You must make an effort; don't wait passively.

✦ He studied hard and passed – God helps those who help themselves.

58. Great minds think alike.

Def: Intelligent people often have the same ideas.

✦ We both suggested the same solution – great minds think alike.

59. If the shoe fits, wear it.

Def: If a criticism is true, accept it.

✦ She called him lazy, and if the shoe fits, wear it.

60. Let sleeping dogs lie.

Def: Don't stir up old problems.

✦ We shouldn't bring up the past – let sleeping dogs lie.

61. Make hay while the sun shines.

Def: Take advantage of good opportunities.

✦ The weather is perfect – let's make hay while the sun shines.

62. Misery loves company.

Def: Unhappy people like to have others join them.

✦ He called his friend to complain – misery loves company.

63. Old habits die hard.

Def: Bad habits are difficult to break.

✦ He still bites his nails – old habits die hard.

64. Once bitten, twice shy.

Def: After a bad experience, you are extra cautious.

✦ He got scammed once, so now he's careful – once bitten, twice shy.

65. One man's trash is another man's treasure.

Def: What is worthless to one person is valuable to another.

✦ She bought an old chair at the flea market – one man's trash is another man's treasure.

66. Practice what you preach.

Def: Do what you advise others to do.

✦ He tells us to exercise, but he never does – practice what you preach.

67. Procrastination is the thief of time.

Def: Delaying tasks wastes valuable time.

✦ He kept putting off his project – procrastination is the thief of time.

68. Still waters run deep.

Def: Quiet people often have deep thoughts.

✦ She is shy but very intelligent – still waters run deep.

69. The best things in life are free.

Def: True happiness comes from non-material things.

✦ Love and friendship are free – the best things in life are free.

70. The devil is in the details.

Def: Small details can cause problems.

✦ The contract looked fine, but the devil is in the details.

71. The proof of the pudding is in the eating.

Def: You can only judge quality by trying it.

✦ The new recipe looked good – the proof of the pudding is in the eating.

72. There are plenty more fish in the sea.

Def: There are many other options (especially in dating).

✦ Don't be sad about the breakup – there are plenty more fish in the sea.

73. There's more than one way to skin a cat.

Def: There are many ways to achieve a goal.

✦ If this doesn't work, try another method – there's more than one way to skin a cat.

74. Time and tide wait for no man.

Def: Nature doesn't wait for anyone.

✦ Don't be late – time and tide wait for no man.

75. Variety is the spice of life.

Def: Trying different things makes life interesting.

✦ She travels to many places – variety is the spice of life.

76. You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink.

Def: You can give someone an opportunity, but you can't force them to take it.

✦ I offered him a job, but he refused – you can lead a horse to water...

77. You have to crack a few eggs to make an omelette.

Def: You must make sacrifices to achieve something.

✦ We had to fire some staff, but you have to crack a few eggs to make an omelette.

78. A watched pot never boils.

Def: Time seems longer when you wait impatiently.

✦ Stop staring at the clock – a watched pot never boils.

79. All's fair in love and war.

Def: Extreme situations allow for extreme actions.

✦ He lied to win her back – all's fair in love and war.

80. An apple a day keeps the doctor away.

Def: Eating healthily prevents illness.

✦ She eats fruit daily – an apple a day keeps the doctor away.

81. Blood is thicker than water.

Def: Family bonds are stronger than other relationships.

✦ He supported his brother despite the argument – blood is thicker than water.

82. Clothes make the man.

Def: People judge you by your appearance.

✦ He dressed sharply for the interview – clothes make the man.

83. Discretion is the better part of valour.

Def: It's wise to be cautious rather than reckless.

✦ He decided not to fight – discretion is the better part of valour.

84. East or West, home is best.

Def: Home is the most comfortable place.

✦ He travelled the world but returned – East or West, home is best.

85. For want of a nail, the shoe was lost...

Def: A small mistake can lead to big consequences.

✦ He ignored the tiny leak, and the whole pipe burst – for want of a nail...

86. If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.

Def: Persistence leads to success.

✦ She failed the driving test twice but passed the third – if at first you don't succeed...

87. It's the thought that counts.

Def: The intention behind a gift matters more than the gift itself.

✦ He gave me a handmade card – it's the thought that counts.

88. Jack of all trades, master of none.

Def: Knowing a little about everything is not as good as being an expert in one.

✦ He can cook and code, but he's not great at either – jack of all trades, master of none.

89. Knowledge is power.

Def: Having knowledge gives you strength and control.

✦ She read many books and became a leader – knowledge is power.

90. Life is just a bowl of cherries.

Def: Life is easy and pleasant (often used ironically