

# GLOBAL TALK

Serving James English  
School and our clients  
since 2005

Issue 74 Volume 3

September 15, 2011

INSIDE THIS ISSUE Topic of this month: Gambling

“A Trip to Las Vegas” by JC

ギャンブルにまつわるイディオム



世界で最も華やかな大都市の一つラスベガス。大人のディズニーワールドと評され、世界中の旅行者達を惹きつけます。今回は天童校のJC先生が休暇でラスベガスを旅した経験をご紹介します。

**T**here are so many unique and beautiful cities in the United States. New York, Los Angeles, Miami...and every one of them has something special about it. However, if there's only one city you can visit, you should definitely go to Las Vegas.

Last month, I took my first vacation to Las Vegas with my parents and sister. Las Vegas is most famous for its enormous casinos. I don't really like to gamble, so I wasn't sure it would be **my cup of tea**. However, there is so much more to Las Vegas than gambling!

There's a lot of history in Las Vegas, as there are buildings that have stood since 1931. Thousands of singers and bands visit Las Vegas **annually**, so there's always a show to see! The food is delicious and cheap: if you want to try a lot of different US foods at once, the buffets are everywhere and can be as cheap as five dollars a person. Since Las Vegas attracts people from all parts of the world, the hotels, shops and restaurants are ready to help in nearly any language. And if you are looking to gamble, you have come to the capital of the world for casinos!

One of the most beautiful places I saw was a casino called Luxor. Based on a city in Egypt, Luxor is a combination of casino in hotel (like most casinos in Las Vegas) and the main building is a **gigantic** pyramid.

Everything indoors looks like **ancient** Egypt, even the hotel rooms, and all the staff are dressed in historic Egyptian clothing. Many great casinos in Las Vegas follow a theme, from pirates to New York City. It feels like you're visiting all these different world locations, but you never have to leave the Las Vegas Strip!

If you decide to visit, prepare to stay awake for a long time. Las Vegas is completely different in the day and the night. Once the sun goes down, Las Vegas turns into a beautiful, bright city, with amazing lights everywhere you look. It's actually livelier at night, since the daytime is so hot and the sun is so strong. You'll instantly see why so many people travel thousands of miles to visit for just a couple days, and you'll have a tough time going home.

My time in Las Vegas was a ton of fun, and I can't wait to go again in the future. Did I gamble? I tried it a little, and, while I didn't win, I definitely didn't lose. I **broke even**, and that's ok for me!

読み解きのヒント

my cup of tea---自分にとって簡単な事  
annually ----毎年  
gigantic---巨大な

brake even ---収支がトントン  
ancient---太古の

## A Trip To Las Vegas

# ビジネスはギャンブル？

ビジネスとギャンブルの甘い関係



September 15, 2011

ラスベガスと言えばカジノが有名ですが、意外にも英語にはギャンブルにちなんだイディオムがたくさんあります。これらのイディオムはビジネスの現場などでもよく使われるそうです。ビジネスにもギャンブルにもお金には欠かせない存在ですものね。

例えばよく使われる表現として「I bet...」がありますが、ご存知の通りbetにはお金を賭けると意味があります。それが転化して「I bet...」は「きっと」とか、「まさか」などといった意味になったと思われまます。I bet he's not coming. (彼はきっと来ないよ)。また、You betには「きっと」、「もちろん」、「そのとおり」、「どういたしまして」などの意味があり、“Are you going to Tom's party?”---”You bet!”「トムのパーティ行く？」---「もちろんさ！」のような使われ方をします。

他にもこんな表現があります。

\$ poker face---日本語でもよく使われますね、あの「ポーカーフェイスです」

I can never tell what Tom is thinking because he has such a **poker face**. 「あんなポーカーフェイスじゃトムの考えてる事なんかわかりっこないね。」

\$ call a spade a spade---率直に、正直に話をする事

I am sorry if my honest opinion of your work hurts your feelings, but I always **call a spade a spade**.

「もし私の君の仕事に対する正直な意見が君の感情を害したならすまないと思う。でも私はいつも率直なんだよ。」

\$ play your cards right----仕事などを上手にこなす事

If you **play your cards right**, we may be able to convince them to choose our company for the contract.

「もし君がうまくやれば、彼らに我社と契約を結ぶ事を納得させられるかもしれない。」

\$ put your cards on the table----隠し事が無い事

I am going to **put my cards on the table** here, because I know I can trust you to keep a secret.

「君に隠し事なんかしないさ、だって君が秘密を守るやつだと信じているからね。」

\$ play the trump card----何か特別なものを使って勝つ事、日本語なら「伝家の宝刀」？

Jim waited for the best moment during the debate to **play his trump card** and convince the judges that his argument was the strongest.

「ジムは討論の間彼の伝家の宝刀を持ち出す最良の瞬間を待った、そして裁判官たちに彼の主張が一番だと納得させた。」



## ビジネスはギャンブル？

ビジネスとギャンブルの甘い関係

September 15, 2011



**\$ above board**----隠し事や虚が無い事。トランプではテーブルの下に手を入れないというルールがあることに由来。

The company's accountant was confident about the audit, because the company always acted **above board** in all of its business dealings.

「社の会計士は監査に対して自信があった、なぜなら社は全ての商取り引きにおいてオープンだったからだ。」

**\$ take a chance**----一か八かやってみる。

The company was willing to **take a chance** and hire an unknown designer for its new product, which ended up being their best selling item.

「その会社は新しい製品のために一か八か無名のデザイナーを雇ってみる事に乗り気だった、そしてそれは最終的にベストセラーとなった。」

**\$ knuckle down**----一生懸命はたらく。ビー玉を使ったゲームが語源らしい。プレーするときこぶしを下に向けて床やテーブルに置いた状態からビー玉を飛ばしたことから。

Bill **knuckled down** and worked overtime all month to create the best possible advertising campaign for his new client.

「ビルは新しい顧客のために最高の宣伝を作り上げるため、一か月間毎日残業をして一生懸命働いた。」



**\$ give a fair shake**----公平に扱う。サイコロを使った賭けごとから。

The manager **gave everyone a fair shake** and listened to all of the suggestions before making a decision.

「そのマネージャーはみんなを公平に扱い、決断の前には全ての提案を聞いた。」

**\$ under the table**----周囲に何かを隠す事、ひっそりと、違法に。

Mr. Collins was arrested for failing to pay income tax after he was caught working **under the table**.

「コリンズ氏は違法に仕事をして取られられた後、所得税を脱税した罪で逮捕状が出された。」

