

---

# BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

## English Expressions

### Clean up your act

---



#### Tejali

Hello all, welcome to English expressions. असा शो जिथे आपण शिकतो इंग्रजीतले नवनवीन वाक्प्रचार. आजचं आपलं English Expression आहे clean up your act. याचा अर्थ जाणून घ्यायला. रॉब आणि फिफीचं बोलण ऐकू. फिफी काय करतीये? तिच्या बॉसने तिला काय करायला सांगितलं होतं?

#### Rob

Err Feifei, what are you doing?

#### Feifei

Cleaning... this place is so dirty... in fact Rob, have you got any soap I could borrow?

#### Rob

Feifei, this isn't like you. You don't normally take cleaning so seriously.

#### Tejali

फिफी स्टुडियो साफ करत आहे. का बरं? चला ऐकू.

#### Feifei

Well, I'm cleaning up because my boss told me to. He said I've got to 'clean up my act'.

#### Rob

Oh Feifei, you can put down that cloth – he didn't literally mean do the cleaning. He wants you to improve your behaviour or your performance. Have you not been working very hard?

#### Feifei

Who me? I always work hard... although I have had a lot of things to do at home... and I did make a few mistakes last week... and when I get stressed I start to shout at people.

#### Rob

Oh yes, I did hear you. Well I'm sure I can help you clean up your act – if you're sure you know what that means?

#### Feifei

Yes. Apparently I need to improve my behaviour!

## Tejali

जेव्हा तिला बॉस म्हणाला की तिला गरज आहे clean up her act, याचा अर्थ असा नव्हता की तिला खरोखरच साफसफाई करायची गरज होती. Clean up म्हणजे स्वच्छता करणे, your act म्हणजे तुम्ही केलेलं काम. जेव्हा आपल्याला कोणाला, त्याने त्याचं काम नीट, ठरलेल्या रितीने, शिस्तबद्ध पद्धतीने करावं असं सांगायचं असतं; तेव्हा हा वाक्प्रचार वापरतात. यात सांगणारी व्यक्ती पालक, अधिकारी किंवा वरिष्ठ पदावरील, लक्ष ठेवणारी असते. आणि हे सांगणं बरेचदा व्यक्तीच्या चुकीच्या, न सुधारणाऱ्या वागण्याचं फलित असतं. संदर्भानुसार clean up her act', 'clean up your act', असं वापरता येतं. काही उदाहरणं ऐकू.

## Examples

I used to drink a lot of alcohol but when I got ill, I decided to clean up my act and now I only drink cola!

He turned up late for work every day looking a real mess, so they told him to clean up his act or face losing his job.

You're going to have to clean up your act if you're serious about keeping your position on this team.

## Feifei

Cleaning up my act means I have to work harder... so it's got nothing to do with cleaning or acting Rob?

## Rob

No – acting here means behaviour – although your acting on this programme is excellent! So come on then, when are you going to start cleaning up your act?

## Feifei

Right now. I've decided to clean up my act and start work earlier and always get you to check my work so there are no mistakes! Rob, would you mind checking this script?

## Rob

Sure. Let's have a look at this... perfect! You can tell the boss you've started with a clean slate.

## Feifei

A clean slate - what does *that* mean?

## Rob

I'll tell you another time. Oh dear, I've knocked over my coffee.

## Feifei

Oh dear Rob. It looks like you've got to clean up the studio. Do you need this cloth?

## Tejali

आता फिफिला clean up your act'चा अर्थ समजलाय, आणि तिने तिचं वागणं बदलायला सुरवात केली आहे. तिच्या कामात आता सुधारणा होऊन ती पुन्हा जोमाने काम करायला लागेल अशी आपण अपेक्षा करू. पण तुमच्या बाबतीत असं कधी घडलं होत का? तुम्हाला कधी कोणी clean up your act' असं सांगितलेलं? आमच्या फेसबुक ग्रुपवर आम्हाला नक्की सांगा. आज इतकंच, पुन्हा भेटूया English expressionsच्या पुढच्या भागात. Bye.