

Three golden dolls by Hebin Zhang, China

The Teacher

In ancient Asia, three golden dolls were sent to a king with price tags. The third doll was extremely more expensive than the others even though they all looked the same. The king was confused and he tried really hard to see the difference. Weights... SAME! Sizes....SAME! Appearances SAME!!!

The king was going to faint.

‘What the hell is the difference? I will marry my daughter to anyone who can sort it out.’

Here came the cleverest young man in the country with 3 straws. He put one straw into the first golden doll’s ear hole and the straw came out from the other ear hole!

‘Oh, that is interesting! **Go in one ear and out the other!**’

In English if everything you heard **goes in one ear and out the other** means you forget quickly.

Everything my parents tell me to do just **goes in one ear and out the other.**

I do believe my ears are very clean as they are rinsed by my parents’ words everyday!

Anyway let's look at the second golden doll. Oh, the straw went into the ear hole and came out from the mouth! That was a **big mouth!**

In English if you say somebody has a **big mouth** it means he talks a lot and can't keep secret!

You can't tell anything private to The Teacher as he really has a **big mouth!** Can't you see it? Look at his picture!

Now let's come to the third golden doll to see where the straw will come out? What? The straw didn't come out but went into the head and be kept in mind!

In English if you **keep something or somebody in mind** means you remember, don't forget.

I hope you can **keep my idioms in mind** and practise them from time to time.

The king: 'Great! Now I know why the third golden doll is more expensive. I will marry my daughter to you, young man. Off you go.'

The couple went away happily. The king was smirking and murmuring: 'young man, you won't be happy again after you find out everything you tell my daughter **goes in one ear and out the other** and she does have a **big mouth.**'