

APPENDIX C

Most Frequently Used Idioms in Each of Three Corpora of Spoken American English (in Order of Frequency)

Professional Corpus

<i>in terms of</i>	<i>go with</i>	<i>put up</i>
<i>deal with</i>	<i>end up</i>	<i>regardless</i>
<i>sort of</i>	<i>call for</i>	<i>give up</i>
<i>kind of</i>	<i>as (so) long as</i>	<i>in touch with</i>
<i>in fact</i>	<i>pick up</i>	<i>in someone's view</i>
<i>make sure</i>	<i>get back to</i>	<i>make a difference</i>
<i>go on</i>	<i>put out</i>	<i>no matter (wh- clause)</i>
<i>of course</i>	<i>according to</i>	<i>in charge of</i>
<i>as well</i>	<i>get on</i>	<i>once again</i>
<i>come up</i>	<i>go over</i>	<i>touch on</i>
<i>go through</i>	<i>turn out</i>	<i>go off</i>
<i>at all</i>	<i>go along (with)</i>	<i>all along</i>
<i>as well as</i>	<i>on one's own</i>	<i>in case</i>
<i>look for</i>	<i>in effect</i>	<i>for sure/certain</i>
<i>with/in respect to</i>	<i>back and forth</i>	<i>take into account</i>
<i>get into</i>	<i>in time</i>	<i>as a matter of fact</i>
<i>come up with</i>	<i>with/in regard to</i>	<i>take up</i>
<i>in other words</i>	<i>call (up)on</i>	<i>first and foremost</i>
<i>find out</i>	<i>show up</i>	<i>up front</i>
<i>first of all</i>	<i>used to (+ verb)</i>	<i>run into</i>
<i>in order to/that</i>	<i>be open to (ideas)</i>	<i>in public</i>
<i>take (the) place (of)</i>	<i>take on</i>	<i>on time</i>
<i>in a/some way</i>	<i>fill in</i>	<i>set out</i>
<i>as/so far as</i>	<i>rule out</i>	<i>do one's best</i>
<i>figure out</i>	<i>in advance</i>	<i>break down</i>
<i>be (have something) in place</i>	<i>get rid of</i>	<i>come on</i>
<i>go ahead</i>	<i>put forward</i>	<i>wind up</i>
<i>put on</i>	<i>get out of</i>	<i>as for</i>
<i>in a/any sense of/that</i>	<i>in favor of</i>	<i>stick (be stuck) with</i>
<i>have (something/nothing) to do</i>	<i>as if</i>	<i>buy into</i>
<i>with</i>	<i>be used to (+ noun phrase/gerund/present participle)</i>	<i>turn around</i>
<i>point out</i>	<i>play/have a role/part in</i>	<i>better off</i>
<i>work out</i>	<i>take out</i>	<i>get away with</i>
<i>keep/have something in mind</i>	<i>in light of</i>	<i>hold someone accountable</i>
<i>as to (wh- clause/noun phrase)</i>	<i>take steps</i>	<i>account for</i>
<i>so far</i>	<i>be up to somebody/something</i>	<i>throw out</i>
<i>to the/some extent</i>	<i>take advantage of</i>	<i>in the/a fashion (that)</i>
<i>look forward to</i>	<i>take care of</i>	<i>keep up with/doing</i>
<i>follow up on</i>	<i>get through</i>	<i>more or less</i>
<i>in general</i>	<i>down the road</i>	<i>live with (meaning to accept)</i>
<i>make sense</i>	<i>carry out</i>	<i>get around</i>
<i>bring up</i>	<i>go for</i>	<i>pass out</i>
<i>set up</i>	<i>in the (or somebody's) interest (of)</i>	<i>run out of</i>
<i>on behalf of</i>	<i>leave out</i>	<i>after all</i>
<i>put together</i>	<i>make up</i>	<i>make it</i>
<i>as soon as</i>	<i>as of</i>	<i>a fair game</i>
<i>on the other hand</i>		<i>sign off</i>
<i>by the way</i>		<i>be about to</i>
		<i>take off</i>

<i>go after</i>	<i>put something to rest</i>	<i>be over one's head</i>
<i>run through (go over)</i>	<i>in due course</i>	<i>get/have hands on</i>
<i>in the wake of</i>	<i>bring forward</i>	<i>cope with</i>
<i>break up</i>	<i>err on the side of</i>	<i>make up one's mind</i>
<i>right away</i>	<i>fall short</i>	<i>the other way around</i>
<i>all of a sudden</i>	<i>turn on</i>	<i>in order (meaning in sequence)</i>
<i>come/go into effect</i>	<i>go wrong</i>	<i>push the envelope</i>
<i>in the long/short run/term</i>	<i>have somebody/something on one's mind</i>	<i>once and for all</i>
<i>hand out</i>	<i>in detail</i>	<i>a rule of thumb</i>
<i>by and large</i>	<i>pay off</i>	<i>for the time being</i>
<i>have/get a clue</i>	<i>fall apart</i>	<i>(can't) get over something</i>
<i>keep on track</i>	<i>go for it</i>	<i>at large</i>
<i>in turn</i>	<i>up in the air</i>	<i>drop off</i>
<i>take over</i>	<i>in the event of/that</i>	<i>look up something (in)</i>
<i>ballpark (e.g., figure)</i>	<i>get something across</i>	<i>gerund/ grab hold of</i>
<i>the ball is in your court</i>	<i>take part in</i>	<i>at issue</i>
<i>hold on</i>	<i>by no means</i>	<i>all over again</i>
<i>in good faith</i>	<i>hang out (with)</i>	<i>in place of/in somebody's place</i>
<i>after the fact</i>	<i>in the wrong</i>	<i>have a say/voice in</i>
<i>to somebody's best knowledge</i>	<i>level playing field</i>	<i>be/put on hold</i>
<i>on and off</i>	<i>keep an eye on</i>	<i>leave somebody/something alone</i>
<i>stick to</i>	<i>on the whole</i>	<i>do away with</i>
<i>bring about</i>	<i>take effect</i>	<i>give rise to</i>
<i>in essence</i>	<i>bring out</i>	<i>in no way</i>
<i>for somebody's/the sake (of)</i>	<i>chances are</i>	<i>from scratch</i>
<i>at stake</i>	<i>crack down</i>	<i>take somebody/something for granted</i>
<i>the big picture</i>	<i>come to mind</i>	<i>in the works</i>
<i>by virtue of</i>	<i>in private</i>	<i>in (good/bad) shape</i>
<i>so to speak</i>	<i>call something into question</i>	<i>come across as (meaning to appear as)</i>
<i>in keeping with</i>	<i>to somebody's credit</i>	<i>bits and pieces</i>
<i>live up to</i>	<i>on the verge of</i>	<i>for good</i>
<i>draw the line</i>	<i>all out</i>	<i>for real</i>
<i>to the contrary</i>	<i>turn up</i>	<i>for that matter</i>
<i>in line with</i>	<i>by far</i>	<i>at somebody's disposal</i>
<i>off the top of my head</i>	<i>get to the point</i>	<i>hang in there</i>
<i>follow through</i>	<i>on the horizon</i>	<i>give somebody a break</i>
<i>up to date</i>	<i>quid pro quo</i>	<i>right off the bat</i>
<i>hold up (meaning to delay)</i>	<i>screw up</i>	<i>put up with</i>
<i>to date</i>	<i>come off</i>	<i>take issue with</i>
<i>come across</i>	<i>come by (meaning to visit)</i>	<i>beg the question</i>
<i>by hand</i>	<i>cut down</i>	<i>break off</i>
<i>hold up (to a test)</i>	<i>make good on something</i>	<i>come across as (meaning to appear as)</i>
<i>in common</i>	<i>throw away</i>	<i>give away</i>
<i>in somebody's/the way (of)</i>	<i>above all</i>	<i>hold on to</i>
<i>so on and so forth</i>	<i>in control</i>	<i>out of control</i>
<i>come about (happen)</i>	<i>at somebody's/the expense (of)</i>	<i>shut up</i>
<i>shed/cast light on</i>	<i>make up for</i>	<i>make fun of</i>
<i>in somebody's/the eyes (of)</i>	<i>in the pipeline</i>	<i>make/hit headlines</i>
<i>get/have a handle on something</i>	<i>in practice</i>	<i>take its toll</i>
<i>turn in</i>	<i>as usual</i>	
<i>under way</i>	<i>be in for (meaning to experience)</i>	
<i>in the fore of</i>		

From D. Liu, "The Most Frequently Used Spoken American English Idioms: A Corpus Analysis and its Implications" (2003)