

The Point of One-Liners (Proverbs & Quotes)

Some *sentence captions* under pictures are *one-liners*. This means they come to the point in few words. Many *proverbs* and *quotations* (quotes) are one-liners too.

Proverbs are old sayings. These pieces of “folk wisdom” from the past are short, usually only one phrase or sentence. For this reason, people remember them. They repeat the sayings. They use them in their own speech and writing. Proverbs become part of the culture.

Quotations are more recent pieces of wisdom. Sometimes famous people say or write something very interesting, funny, or memorable. Others remember their words. Some people repeat these one-liners or put them into print. Then the words become well-known. They become “famous quotations.” Famous quotes become modern *proverbs*, *sayings*, *aphorisms*, *maxims*, *mottos*, *adages*, *witticisms*, *metaphors*, *slogans*, *maxims*, *idioms*, etc.

If they have the necessary cultural information, listeners and readers will get the point of one-liners right away. For this reason, short captions and proverbs and quotes are useful reading material. Even with few words, they give people valuable information and ideas or thoughts.

Here are some well-known words with pictures. Which are old “folk wisdom,” *proverbs*, *aphorisms*, or other kinds of “general truths?” Which are more recent quotes? How do you know? What do you think these famous words mean?



Don't count your chickens before they're hatched.



PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS.

