



American Expression E0344 Go for broke

IOTS Publishing Team  
International Online Teachers Society  
Since 2011

The phrase "go for broke" is an idiomatic expression that means to take a daring and all-out approach to achieve a goal or pursue an opportunity, regardless of the potential risks or consequences. It implies a willingness to invest all of one's resources, effort, and energy into a particular endeavor, leaving no room for hesitation or reservation.

The origin of the phrase can be traced back to the game of gambling, particularly the dice game of craps. In this game, players have the option to bet all of their remaining chips on a single roll, taking a high-risk, high-reward approach. The phrase "go for broke" was coined during World War II when the 442nd Infantry Regiment, a segregated Japanese-American unit, adopted it as their motto to symbolize their commitment and willingness to give their all in battle.

To "go for broke" is to embrace a mindset of boldness, courage, and determination. It signifies a refusal to settle for mediocrity or play it safe. It suggests a belief in one's abilities, a hunger for success, and a desire to leave nothing on the table.

Going for broke can manifest in various aspects of life, such as personal goals, career aspirations, entrepreneurial ventures, creative pursuits, or athletic endeavors. It encourages individuals to take calculated risks, push beyond their comfort zones, and pursue their dreams with unwavering commitment.

The phrase emphasizes the importance of seizing opportunities, even when success is uncertain. It recognizes that great achievements often require a willingness to step into the unknown and embrace the possibility of failure. Going for broke signifies a belief that the potential rewards outweigh the potential losses, and the journey itself is as valuable as the destination.

However, it is important to note that going for broke does not imply recklessness or disregarding consequences altogether. It involves strategic planning, calculated decision-making, and a realistic assessment of the potential risks and rewards. Going for broke is about taking intelligent risks and being fully committed to achieving success, while also being prepared to adapt and adjust strategies as necessary.

The phrase "go for broke" carries a sense of determination, resilience, and a refusal to accept defeat. It acknowledges that setbacks and failures may occur along the way, but these experiences are seen as valuable lessons that contribute to personal growth and development. It embodies a spirit of perseverance and the belief that failure is not the end, but rather a stepping stone on the path to success.

In conclusion, "go for broke" is an idiomatic expression that encourages individuals to pursue their goals and aspirations with unwavering commitment, taking calculated risks and investing all of their resources and energy. It embodies a mindset of boldness, determination, and resilience. Going for broke emphasizes the importance of embracing challenges, pushing beyond comfort zones, and seizing opportunities for personal and professional growth. By adopting this mindset, individuals can maximize their potential, achieve remarkable success, and create a life filled with purpose and fulfillment.

#### Questions for Discussion

1. Have you ever experienced a situation where you decided to "go for broke" and take a bold, all-out approach to achieve a goal? What factors influenced your decision, and what were the outcomes or lessons learned from that experience?
  2. What are some potential benefits and risks associated with the mindset of "going for broke"? How can individuals strike a balance between taking calculated risks and maintaining a realistic perspective on the potential rewards and consequences?
  3. Can you think of any examples from history or popular culture where individuals or organizations adopted a "go for broke" mentality and achieved remarkable success? What qualities or strategies contributed to their achievements, and what lessons can be applied to our own pursuits?
  4. How can fear of failure or uncertainty impact individuals' willingness to "go for broke"? What strategies or mindset shifts can help individuals overcome these fears and embrace a mindset of courage and determination?
  5. Are there any areas of life or situations where it is particularly important or advantageous to adopt a "go for broke" mindset? How can individuals identify those opportunities and leverage their strengths and resources to pursue them with full commitment and determination?
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