

GERMAN IDIOMS

“Das ist mir Wurst.”

Literal translation: “This is sausage to me.”

English equivalent: “It’s all the same to me.”

Meaning: ‘You are indifferent or don’t care about something.’

“Nur Bahnhof verstehen.”

Literal translation: “To only understand train station.”

English equivalent: “It’s all Greek to me.”

Meaning: ‘To have no idea what someone is talking about.’

“Fix und fertig sein.”

Literal translation: “To be fixed and finished.”

English equivalent: “I’m knackered, or wiped out.”

Meaning: ‘To be exhausted.’

“Ich glaub mein Schwein pfeift.”

Literal translation: “I think my pig whistles.”

English equivalent: “I can’t believe it!”

Meaning: ‘To be really surprised.’

“Alles hat ein Ende, nur die Wurst hat zwei.”

Literal translation: “Everything has an end, only the sausage has two.”

English equivalent: “All good things must come to an end.”

Meaning: ‘Nothing lasts forever.’

“Jemandem die Daumen drücken.”

Literal translation: “To press your thumbs for someone.”

English equivalent: “To keep your fingers crossed.”

Meaning: ‘To wish someone good luck.’

“Ich glaub’ ich spinne.”

Literal translation: “I believe I spider.”

English equivalent: “I think I’m going crazy.”

Meaning: ‘To be surprised to the point you don’t believe something to be true.’

“Um den heißen Brei herumreden.”

Literal translation: “Stop talking around the hot mash.”

English equivalent: “Don’t beat around the bush.”

Meaning: ‘Don’t go off-topic, or stall or waste time.’

