

# BBC Learning English

## The Teacher

### *Tea idioms*



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In this episode, **The Teacher** introduces you to three idiomatic phrases connected with tea.

1. **It's not my cup of tea**
  2. **I wouldn't do it for all the tea in China**
  3. **It's as good as a chocolate teapot**
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Hello, I'm a very interesting and intelligent man. And today, this tea and I will teach you some idioms in English.

I bet you've never been taught by some tea before.

I love tea. Of course I do, I'm an Englishman.

What's this? It isn't my cup of tea!

In English, if there's something we don't like very much for example a sport or a type of music, we can say 'it's not my cup of tea'.

**It's not my cup of tea.**

Please turn that down. Jazz really isn't my cup of tea.

And now...

Time for a geography lesson. China is an extremely large country.

Can you imagine how much tea there is in China?

A lot.

Now, lucky you. Today I'm going to do anything at all that you ask.

So, come on...

Well, I wouldn't do that for all the tea in China.

In English, if there is something we would *never* do, we can say 'I wouldn't do it for all the tea in China'.

**I wouldn't do it for all the tea in China.**

It means there is nothing, not even something worth a great deal that could persuade you.

I can't believe you asked me to...to do that.

Tea is hot. Well, apart from iced tea.

And where do we make tea? That's right. In a teapot

So, as tea is very hot, what do you think is a good material for a teapot?

Porcelain yes, glass yes, metal ok, chocolate... NO!

A chocolate teapot would be completely useless.

In English, if something is completely useless, we can say 'it's as good as a chocolate teapot'.

**It's as good as a chocolate teapot.**

What's that you say? You say these lessons are as good as a chocolate teapot? I don't know. I work so hard for you and no-one seems to understand me. Quite sad really.