

Test Your Vocabulary Skills

100 Great English Oxymorons –
Phrases that Contradict Themselves!

absolutely unsure	lower inflation
accurate estimate	minor disaster
active retirement	minor miracle
act naturally	modern history
advanced beginner	never again
all alone	new tradition
almost always	non-alcoholic beer
awfully nice	non-working mother
bad health	nothing much
bad luck	numbing sensation
boxing ring	open secret
calculated risk	one hundred and ten percent
civil disobedience	one size fits all
civil war	only choice
classic rock & roll	organized chaos
clean toilet	original copy
clear as mud	partially completed
cold sweat	passive aggressive
common courtesy	peacekeeping force
completely destroyed	perfectly normal
conservative liberal	permanent substitute
consistently inconsistent	personal computer
controlled chaos	practice test
criminal justice	pretty ugly
crisis management	pure 100% orange juice from concentrate
critical acclaim	real polyester
deafening silence	recent history
definite maybe	relative stranger
eloquent silence	required donation
essential luxury	resident alien
fatally injured	retired worker
foreign national	safe bet
free credit	safety hazard
friendly fire	same difference
genuine imitation	school holiday
graduate student	science fiction
great depression	second best
group of individuals	seriously funny
half full	short distance
home office	single copy
homework	social outcast
humanitarian invasion	student teacher
ill health	think out loud
incomplete cure	toll free
incredibly dull	tough love
initial conclusion	unbiased opinion
intense apathy	unfunny joke
last initial	virtual reality
limited freedom	working party
liquid gas	young adult

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