FRACTIONAL PHRASES

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The phrase HAND <u>OVER</u> FIST could be interpreted as an instruction to place the word HAND over the word FIST. When the letters of HAND and FIST are assigned their alphabetical values (a = 1, b = 2 etc.), HAND (8+1+14+4) = 27 and FIST (6+9+19+20) = 54. So HAND over FIST = 27/54 which can be reduced to 1/2. Hence, HAND OVER FIST is a fractional phrase equal to one half.

Other words can instruct the placement of one word(s) over another word(s) in this way: ON, UPON, ABOVE, ON TOP OF and ACROSS. Similarly, certain words instruct a word(s) to be placed under another word(s): UNDER, BELOW and BENEATH.

Here is a selection of Fractional Phrases:

1/4	HE'S \underline{OVER} THE WORST = 32/128	1/2	SELL <u>OVER</u> THE COUNTER = 48/96
3/4	YOU'RE OVER WROUGHT = 84/112	3/4	SNOWED <u>UNDER</u> WITH = $60/80$
5/8	THREE <u>UNDER</u> PAR = $35/56$	15/16	MUCH OVER RATED = $45/48$
2/5	FOG <u>OVER</u> FRISCO (1934 film) = $28/70$	3/5	COME ACROSS WITH = $36/60$
3/5	CHEESE $ON TOAST = 45/75$	4/5	LIFE $ON BOARD = 32/40$
7/10	$MAN \underline{OVER}BOARD = 28/40$	1/15	BE <u>ON TOP OF</u> THE WORLD = $7/105$
8/15	BLOOD <u>ON</u> THE MOON (1948 Film) = 48/90	14/15	SOFT <u>UNDER</u> BELLY = $56/60$
1/3	NOT ON YOUR NELLY = 49/147	2/3	$I'M \underline{OVER} A WED = 22/33$
1/6	HEAD $ON COLLISION = 18/108$	5/6	CAUGHT ON THE HOP = $60/72$
1/7	HEAD <u>OVER</u> HEELS IN LOVE = $18/126$	5/7	CARRY ON CONSTABLE (1960 film)=65/91
5/14	ALL <u>OVER</u> THE PLACE = $25/70$	7/9	SEND OVER THE EDGE = $42/54$
6/11	PATCH OVER THE CRACKS = 48/88	7/11	PAPER OVER THE CRACKS = $56/88$

A few phrases of this genre make fractions whose numerator and denominator are **numerical reversals**. Imagine the fraction line to be horizontal and each forms a kind of **vertical numerical palindrome**:

51/15 SHE'S <u>OVER</u> FED

16/61 LIFE ON THE OCEAN WAVE

Some phrases make fractions which reduce to a **whole number**. When the whole number is 1, and the fraction line is horizontal, the fractions could be regarded as **vertical numerical tautonyms**.

- 1 WHAT ON EARTH = 52/52
- 1 CORN ON THE COB = 37/37
- 1 TO LAY UPON THE TABLE = 73/73
- 1 TO HIT BELOW THE BELT = 72/72
- 3 BAGS UNDER THE EYES = 87/29
- 4 TAKE A CHANCE ON ME = 72/18