FRACTIONAL PHRASES

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The phrase HAND OVER 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 OVER THE WORST = 32/128
3/4  YOU'RE OVERWROUGHT = 84/112
5/8  THREE UNDER PAR = 35/56
2/5  FOG OVER FRISCO (1934 film) = 28/70
3/5  CHEESE ON TOAST = 45/75
7/10 MAN OVERBOARD = 28/40
8/15 BLOOD ON THE MOON (1948 film) = 48/90

1/2  SELL OVER THE COUNTER = 48/96
3/4  SNOWED UNDER WITH = 60/80
15/16 MUCH OVERRATED = 45/48
3/5  COME ACROSS WITH = 36/60
4/5  LIFE ON BOARD = 32/40
1/15 BE ON TOP OF THE WORLD = 7/105
14/15 SOFT UNDERBELLY = 56/60

2/3  I'M OVERAWED = 22/33
5/6  CAUGHT ON THE HOP = 60/72
5/7  CARRY ON CONSTABLE (1960 film) = 65/91
7/9  SEND OVER THE EDGE = 42/54
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 OVER 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 TO LAY UPON THE TABLE = 73/73
3 BAGS UNDER THE EYES = 87/29

1 CORN ON THE COB = 37/37
1 TO HIT BELOW THE BELT = 72/72
4 TAKE A CHANCE ON ME = 72/18