

Worksheet 1: Body Language Body Related Idioms

Let's talk about eyes. For centuries, they've been called 'the windows to the soul' - because they reveal what's going on inside.

Idioms (or idiomatic expressions) are informal sayings used by particular social and cultural groups. Idioms are not meant to be taken literally and have meanings that aren't readily apparent. In the *Body Language* excerpt above, 'windows to the soul' is an idiom used to describe the eyes. Unless you were familiar with this phrase, it would be very difficult to work out what the words are actually describing.

Task 1: Choose body parts from the table below to complete each idiom.

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|-----------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| <i>feet</i> | <i>stomach</i> | <i>knee</i> | <i>wrist</i> | <i>blood</i> |
| <i>head</i> | <i>hand</i> | <i>heels</i> | <i>tongue</i> | <i>ears</i> |
| <i>fingers</i> | <i>chin</i> | <i>eye</i> | <i>face</i> | <i>leg</i> |
| <i>shoulder</i> | <i>heart</i> | <i>arm</i> | <i>mouth</i> | <i>tooth</i> |

1. A chip on your _____ : being upset over past events.
2. A slap on the _____ : a very mild punishment.
3. A slap in the _____ : insulting on every level.
4. It cost an _____ and a _____ : very expensive.
5. Apple of my _____ : adored above all others.
6. Bite your _____ : stop talking.
7. _____ is thicker than water: a family bond is the closest bond of all.
8. Break a _____ : good luck.
9. Cast iron _____ : being able to eat anything.
10. Cross your _____ : to hope something happens.
11. Finding your _____ : becoming more comfortable with something.
12. Flesh and _____ : family members.
13. Foaming at the _____ : being enraged about something.
14. Don't lose your _____ : try to stay calm.
15. _____ over _____ : in love.
16. In your _____ : disturbingly confronting.
17. Keep an _____ on him: watch him carefully.
18. Keep your _____ up: be brave in a tough situation.
19. _____ jerk reaction: a quick response without thinking.
20. Lend me your _____ : asking for someone to listen carefully.
21. Long in the _____ : old.
22. To bite the _____ that feeds you: taking advantage of a good situation.
23. To pull someone's _____ : play a trick on someone.
24. To wear your _____ on your sleeve: openly and freely expressing emotion.

Extension Activities:

- Study how *clothing* can be a form of non-verbal communication. How do some cultures use clothing to communicate beliefs and values? How does clothing reflect authority? How does clothing represent belonging to certain groups?