

Identifying Meanings



Match each figurative language expression below with its meaning. Write the letter of the meaning in the blank in front of the expression.

- | | |
|--|--|
| _____ 1. all thumbs | a. arrange things so that you have an advantage |
| _____ 2. pull the wool over their eyes | b. clumsy |
| _____ 3. a feather in your cap | c. a person of excellent character |
| _____ 4. leave no stone unturned | d. cowardly; not brave |
| _____ 5. stack the deck | e. losing your temper |
| _____ 6. a word to the wise | f. fool or trick someone |
| _____ 7. fly off the handle | g. try everything to get something done |
| _____ 8. the salt of the earth | h. giving advice |
| _____ 9. acting yellow | i. accept something negative without fighting back |
| _____ 10. take it lying down | j. a great deed or accomplishment |

Choose two expressions from the list above and write a sentence using each.

1. _____

2. _____

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|---------------------------------------|---|
| _____ 1. pass the buck | a. no evidence or law to back you up |
| _____ 2. don't have a leg to stand on | b. try not to laugh |
| _____ 3. the lion's share | c. saying the same thing over and over again |
| _____ 4. keep a straight face | d. get married |
| _____ 5. put your foot in your mouth | e. let someone else take the responsibility for something |
| _____ 6. tie the knot | f. say something inappropriate |
| _____ 7. give them the cold shoulder | g. just in time |
| _____ 8. sound off | h. ignoring someone |
| _____ 9. under the wire | i. the largest portion |
| _____ 10. like a broken record | j. express your opinion or complain |

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1. _____

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| _____ 1. turn over a new leaf | a. when there are no apparent problems or dangers |
| _____ 2. judging a book by its cover | b. work hard on something |
| _____ 3. show someone the ropes | c. something annoying or bothersome |
| _____ 4. use some elbow grease | d. to fail at something |
| _____ 5. the cream of the crop | e. demonstrate how to do a job to someone |
| _____ 6. throw the book at him | f. judge someone very harshly |
| _____ 7. the coast is clear | g. worrying before you need to |
| _____ 8. fall flat on your face | h. to make a fresh start |
| _____ 9. crossing a bridge before you come to it | i. something that is the best |
| _____ 10. a thorn in your side | j. making decisions about people based only on looks |

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1. _____

2. _____
