



Name: _____

Food Idioms

Idioms are expressions that have particular meanings that are often not related to the words that make them up. The expression "make ends meet", which means to spend just as much money as you make, does not give you any clues of its true meaning if you just look at the individual words. In English, there are many idioms that use body parts, food, measurements, animals, etc. Are there many idioms in your own language?

The examples below have an idiom related to food. Can you guess the meaning of each of them from the context? Write down what you think they mean.

- ❖ I didn't want to take that cooking course, but my husband **egged me on** saying that I would be great at it.

- ❖ The mayor invited only **the cream of the crop** to his Christmas party.

- ❖ That student doesn't listen to his teachers, doesn't do his homework, and bullies his classmates. **In a nutshell**, he is trouble!

- ❖ My daughter tried to **butter me up** by helping me around the house only so I would let her go to the concert.

- ❖ I am sorry, but I won't go to the game with you. Rugby is really not **my cup of tea**!

- ❖ I know you **have a lot on your plate** right now, but I really need some help with this project!

- ❖ John took his girlfriend to Paris, but the **icing on the cake** was his surprise marriage proposal by the Eiffel Tower.

- ❖ Your cold is **small potatoes** compared to the terrible pneumonia I had last month.

- ❖ My father loves all of his grandchildren, but my little one Lucy is really the **apple of his eye**.



Now, try to match each idiom with its definition.

IDIOM	MEANING
1. to egg someone on	a. to be very busy with different things
2. the cream of the crop	b. to encourage someone to do something
3. in a nutshell	c. not big or important enough compared to other things
4. to butter someone up	d. the best of all
5. one's cup of tea	e. something that makes a situation or activity even better.
6. to have a lot on one's plate	f. someone's favorite person or thing
7. icing on the cake	g. in short
8. small potatoes	h. to flatten someone in order to get what you want.
9. apple of one's eye	i. something that you like or enjoy

Now, choose five idioms you think will be more useful to you and make one sentence with each of them.
