

Idioms

Name: _____
Grade: _____

Date: _____

Literature

The Novel – The Skin I’m In Chapters 7-9

Understanding Language

Instructions: In this text Sharon Flake uses a number of phrases in figurative, non-literal ways to express a deeper meaning of the character’s words, thoughts and actions. For each of the following sentences, explain the meaning of the figure of speech highlighted in italics. Each question is worth two (2) points.

1. The principal, Miss Saunders and Momma *got their heads together* and came up with a way to punish me good.

2. The school needed a better way to keep up with me so I don’t *fall through the cracks*.

3. Miss Saunders is just a big mouth, bossy broad who likes to *throw her weight around*.

4.And treat everybody like *they are some broken pot she’s got to patch up*.

5. Keeping her *under the principal’s nose* may be just the way to get her back in line.

6. Things don’t happen at the *snap of a finger or the drop of a pen*.

7. I’m trying to figure out how I can *cut this gig loose*.

8. “This is Miss Saunders’s **bright idea**.”
