

- Match the idioms on the left with the correct definitions on the right.
- 1 a black sheep
  - 2 a very important or joyful occasion in your life (e.g. your wedding anniversary)
  - 3 grey matter
  - 4 something that has cost a lot of money but has no useful purpose
  - 5 a green belt
  - 6 intelligence
  - 7 a red herring
  - 8 an unimportant lie, usually told so as not to hurt someone's feelings
  - 9 a red-letter day
  - 10 something that takes people's attention away from the main subject being talked or written about
  - 11 red tape
  - 12 an area of fields and woodland around a town or city
  - 13 a white elephant
  - 14 a member of the family who is bad in the eyes of the rest of the family
  - 15 a white lie
  - 16 official rules which do not seem necessary and which make things happen very slowly; unnecessary bureaucracy

Write your answers here:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
g							

Test 44 Colour idioms

- |           |        |       |       |
|-----------|--------|-------|-------|
| black ... | blue   | pink  | blue  |
| green     | green  | red   | green |
| yellow    | yellow | red   | black |
| red       | red    | green | black |

- |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| p | q | r | s | t | u | v | w | x | y | z |
| a | b | c | d | e | f | g | h | i | j | k |
| l | m | n | o | p | q | r | s | t | u | v |
| w | x | y | z | A | B | C | D | E | F | G |

Complete the idioms in the following sentences with a suitable colour. Choose from black, blue, green, pink, red, white and yellow. You can use the same colour more than once.

After several weeks of discussion, the group were given the green light, and could finally go ahead with the new project. (They were given permission to go ahead.)

There's no point in asking my boss for a day off next week. I'm in her black books. (I'm not very popular with her at the moment.)

Bernardine has always had green fingers. That's why her garden looks so good. (She has always been good at gardening.)

You can argue with her until you're red in the face. But once she's made up her mind, that's it! (It doesn't matter what you say to her, she won't listen to you.)

After a neighbour raised the alarm, the burglar was caught red-handed by the police. (He was caught as he was committing the crime.)

If there was a war, I don't think I'd fight for my country. I've got too much of a white streak. I'd be afraid of getting killed. (I'm too much of a coward.)

Her husband always saw red when the neighbours played loud music. (He became very angry.)

By the way, Maurice, my wife was tickled pink at your asking her to judge the Flower Show. (She was very amused and pleased.)

I'm not going to play rugby again! I was black and blue and all over after the last match. (Covered with bruises.)

All the girls were green with envy when Natasha told her that Viktor Borowitz had asked her out. (They were very envious.)