**Body Part Expressions**

Work with a partner and put the words from the table into the expressions below. When you are finished, try to guess what the expressions mean.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| fingers | hand | teeth | shoulder | cheek |
| toe | tongue | foot | leg | knee |
| eyebrows | throat | back | eye | neck |

**Your Answers**

**Head**

1. AH! What is that actor’s name? It’s on the tip of my \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Our company is hanging on by the skin of its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. We had a bird's \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ view of Toronto from the top of the CN Tower. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. I don’t think she was being serious. She said it tongue-in-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5. John's sudden marriage to Ann raised a few \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Upper Body**

6. You can’t let this opportunity slip through your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7. Come on! Put your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ into your work, we’re almost done. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

8. Can you give me a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? I need some help with this report. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

9. I would never stick my \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ out and help someone like you. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

10. It feels like I have a frog in my \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ whenever I speak in public. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

11. I thought we were friends, but now she’s giving me the cold \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Lower Body**

12. The huge coat covered the small child from head to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

13. To make a good impression we should put our best \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ forward. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

14. With one of his typical \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-jerk reactions, he said no immediately. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

15. Opening new shops should give us a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ up on the competition. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Discussion Questions**

1. Would you ever climb to the top a very high place to get a **bird’s eye view** of the surrounding area?
2. When you were at school which classes were easy for you? Were there any classes that you passed **by the skin of your teeth**?
3. Have you ever made a decision that **raised a few eyebrows** among your friends and family?
4. Do you enjoy speaking in public, or does it feel like you **have a frog in your throat**?
5. How can you **put your best foot forward** when interviewing for a job?
6. Describe the outfit you are wearing today **from head to toe**.
7. Have you ever let a great opportunity **slip through your fingers** because you were too nervous or distracted? What was the opportunity?
8. When you are dancing at a party, do you really **put your back into it**?
9. If your friend told you that they won a million dollars, what would your **knee-jerk reaction** be?
10. Do you like making **tongue-in-cheek** comments? What is something funny you have said or heard recently?

**Answer Key**

1. tongue
2. teeth
3. eye
4. cheek
5. eyebrows
6. fingers
7. back
8. hand
9. neck
10. throat
11. shoulder
12. toe
13. foot
14. knee
15. leg

**Definitions**

**tip of my tongue**: when you almost remember something, but can’t quite think of it

**skin of my teeth**: just barely managing to do something

**bird's eye view**: seeing something from high above

**tongue-in-cheek**: something said as a joke, not meant to be taken seriously

**raise a few eyebrows**: to do something that surprises or shocks people

**slip through my fingers**: to lose an opportunity

**put my back into it**: to give a task all your effort; to work extra hard

**give me a hand**: to help with something

**stick my neck out**: to take a risk by doing or saying something

**frog in my throat**: temporary difficulty in speaking because of nervousness

**give you the cold shoulder**: ignore you or treat you in an unfriendly way

**from head to toe**: covering or affecting the whole body

**put your best foot forward**: to try your best to make a good impression

**knee-jerk reaction**: a quick, automatic response without thinking carefully

**get a leg up on**: to get an advantage over someone else