

Sketch – An abbreviation for the slang word “sketchy.” Sketchy means that something or someone doesn’t look completely safe or honest. **Example:** Those guys walking in the street look pretty sketch to me.

Playing ‘possum – A figure of speech that means a person is pretending to be asleep, ignoring something, or not paying attention. It’s from the animal the opossum, that will pretend to be dead to fool a predator. **Example:** I was afraid to tell my brother that I broke his computer, so I played possum when he asked me about it. I didn’t want to go to work today, so I played possum and stayed home.

Fix my face – A slang way to say that a woman wants to put on make-up. **Example:** I’ll be ready to go as soon as I fix my face. Also – “powder my nose”

When pigs fly – A figure of speech that indicates that something will never happen. It’s impossible. **Example:** My favorite soccer team is really bad. They will win the championship when pigs fly!

Close, but no cigar - A figure of speech that means a person almost achieved something, but barely didn’t complete it. **Example:** I needed 90 points to get an A grade, and I got an 89. Close, but no cigar!

Fish to Fry – A figure of speech that means a person has many things to do. **Example:** I go on vacation next week, but I have a lot of fish to fry before then.

A knuckle sandwich – A slang term for a punch. **Example:** My boss makes me so mad. I’d like to give him a knuckle sandwich!

Skeletons in the closet – A figure of speech that refers to the bad things in a person’s past history. **Example:** Nobody is perfect, so everybody has skeletons in their closet. The politician lost support when his skeletons in the closet got exposed.

About time! – A slang abbreviation for “you finally did it!” It means a person is happy that another person finally did or accomplished something. Can also be just **‘bout time!** **Example:** It’s about time you finished that project! It’s about time you got here! Or just say ‘bout time!”

Keep your nose clean – An idiom that means having good behavior and staying out of trouble. **Example:** If you want to get a good scholarship for college, you have to keep your nose clean and make good grades.

Having a nose for it – A figure of speech when a person has a very effortless ability for something. **Example:** It’s fun to watch John play the piano. He has such a nose for music!

Keep your nose out of it! A figure of speech that means you should mind your own business. **Example:** Jane wanted to get information from me about the new product, but I told her to keep her nose out of it.

It’s as plain as the nose on my face! An idiom meaning something is very obvious. **Example:** The team’s problem is as plain as the nose on my face. It’s the coach!!