

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Halloween and Figurative Language

Briefly explain each idiom listed below.

1. web of lies

2. ghost of a chance

3. Dead men tell no tales.

4. whistling past the graveyard

5. bats in the belfry



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Briefly explain each idiom listed below.

**Student's answers will vary; Examples of correct answers:**

1. web of lies

**A spider's webs is made with an intricate weaving of silk. A web of lies implies many lies that make up a complicated pattern.**

2. ghost of a chance

**Ghosts have no substance or solid form. A ghost of a chance means there is no solid chance or very little chance of something happening.**

3. Dead men tell no tales.

**Since dead men cannot talk, they cannot tell "tales," or give information.**

4. whistling past the graveyard

**Whistling is a cheerful action; it might also give the whistler some pleasure. If someone whistled as he passed a graveyard, he would either not understand it was a scary place, or he might be trying to be brave.**

5. bats in the belfry

**A belfry is at the top of a church just as the human brain is at the top of the body. Bats were often thought to carry rabies; therefore to have "bats in the belfry" means one is insane or acts oddly.**

