Cambridge University Press 978-0-521-60126-9 - Vocabulary in Practice 6 Liz Driscoll Excerpt2 <u>More information</u>

37 Idioms and metaphors: colour

A Complete the idioms and metaphors with the words in the box.

black blue green grey red white

- 1 If you get *a* ______ *mark*, people think that something you have done is bad and they will remember it in future.
- 2 If you are *as ______ as a sheet*, you are very pale, usually because you are frightened or ill.
- **3** If a subject or problem is *a area*, people do not know how to deal with it because there are no clear rules.
- 4 If something happens *out of the* ______, it happens suddenly and you are not expecting it.
- **5** If you are *______ with envy*, you wish very much that you had something that another person has.
- **6** If a statement or an action is *like a ______ rag to a bull*, it makes someone very angry.

B Complete the idioms and metaphors with five of the colours from A.

- 1 If you *have _________ fingers*, you are good at keeping plants healthy and making them grow.
- 2 If you say something *until you're ______ in the face*, you keep saying the same thing again and again but no one listens to you.
- **3** If you *catch someone ______-handed*, you discover them doing something illegal or wrong.
- 4 If you feel, you feel sad.
- 5 If something is given the ______ light, it is officially allowed to happen.
- **6** If you think facts and situations are ______ *and* _____, you have a simple and very certain opinion about them.

C Complete the sentences with idioms and metaphors from A and B.

- 1 I hadn't spoken to Alice for ages. Then she phoned me _____.
- **3** If you don't hand in your homework, that will be ______ against your name.
- 4 I was when a friend of mine won a trip to Australia.
- **5** Sarah gets very angry about inequality in the workplace. When her boss said that she should make the tea every morning, it was ______ .
- 6 I don't know who's responsible for looking after the money. It's a bit of

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