



American Expression E2139 Crowning glory

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"Crowning glory" is a metaphorical expression that refers to something's most notable or outstanding feature, often used to describe a person's hair, achievements, or a significant aspect of their identity. The phrase evokes imagery of a regal crown, symbolizing excellence, distinction, and pride.

In its most common usage, "crowning glory" is often associated with hair, particularly when describing someone's locks as their most prized or distinctive feature. Whether it be long, luscious tresses, a perfectly styled mane, or a unique hair color or texture, a person's hair is often considered a key aspect of their appearance and personal identity. The phrase suggests that one's hair is their crowning achievement, enhancing their overall beauty or charisma.

Moreover, "crowning glory" can extend beyond physical attributes to encompass a person's achievements, talents, or contributions that are considered the most significant or impressive. This could include professional accomplishments, creative endeavors, academic success, or acts of kindness and generosity. In this context, the phrase highlights the pinnacle of someone's achievements or the culmination of their efforts, representing their highest point of excellence or recognition.

Furthermore, "crowning glory" can also refer to a significant event or moment in someone's life that is considered the epitome of success, happiness, or fulfillment. This could be a personal milestone, such as a wedding, graduation, or the birth of a child, or a professional achievement, such as receiving a promotion, winning an award, or reaching a long-sought goal. These moments are often viewed as the crowning glory of an individual's life, representing the culmination of their aspirations and dreams.

Additionally, "crowning glory" can be used to describe a cherished possession or prized possession that holds special significance or sentimental value to its owner. This could be an heirloom, a piece of jewelry, a work of art, or any other item that is treasured for its beauty, rarity, or personal significance. The phrase conveys the idea that this possession is the most precious or prized among all others, serving as a symbol of its owner's identity, heritage, or values.

In a broader sense, "crowning glory" can also be applied to collective achievements or accomplishments that are considered the most significant or remarkable within a group, organization, or community. This could include milestones, innovations, or successes that bring recognition, pride, and prestige to the collective as a whole.

In conclusion, "crowning glory" is a metaphorical expression that signifies the most notable or outstanding feature of something, whether it be a person's hair, achievements, personal milestones, cherished possessions, or collective accomplishments. The phrase conveys a sense of excellence, distinction, and pride, highlighting the highest point of someone's beauty, success, or fulfillment. Whether referring to individual attributes or collective achievements, "crowning glory" represents the pinnacle of excellence and recognition, serving as a symbol of pride, accomplishment, and identity.

Questions for Discussion

1. How do societal standards and cultural influences shape our perception of what constitutes someone's "crowning glory," whether it be their physical appearance, achievements, or personal milestones?
2. Can you think of a time when you or someone you know experienced a moment that could be considered their "crowning glory"? What made this moment significant, and how did it impact them?
3. In your opinion, what are some qualities or attributes that often serve as a person's "crowning glory," and why do you think these aspects hold such importance in defining someone's identity or success?
4. How do individuals navigate the pressure to uphold their "crowning glory," whether it be maintaining physical appearance standards, achieving professional success, or meeting societal expectations?
5. Have you ever encountered situations where someone's "crowning glory" was challenged or overshadowed by external factors or circumstances? How did they cope with this challenge, and what lessons can be learned from their experience?