***Metaphor***

***This bowl is a metaphor for me because although we appear unalike, there are a number of qualities that this bowl and I have in common. The first quality of this bowl that’s important is that it’s not soft but hard plastic, so it’s quite inflexible. Similarly, I have a tendency to be inflexible in my thinking at times. I sometimes catch myself not being as openminded to change as I should be. Because this bowl shares a quality with me that I’m not particularly proud of, it’s one reason why it’s a good metaphor for me. More importantly, this plastic bowl is actually also a mixing bowl and, as anyone knows, a mixing bowl is used to thoroughly blend many different ingredients together to result in some final product, like a cake batter. And if a baker doesn’t combine them just right, then the final product can be disastrous. In a similar way, I am combination of different ingredients—the roles that I play—in my life. Each day, I have to multitask the role of a husband, a father to three daughters, a teacher, a CAS coordinator, Key Club Advisor, Student Voice Committee advisor, senior class sponsor, a friend to others, and a son to my mother and stepfather. Just like a mixing bowl, without a proper balance of these ingredients carefully combined, the end result would be equally disastrous. Most importantly, unlike a glass bowl, this plastic mixing bowl is unbreakable if I accidentally drop it from a kitchen counter. Likewise, I feel that I’m unbreakable because I’m able to withstand cracking under the pressure of playing the roles I do because I have learned to handle my stress and responsibilities quite well. For all these reasons, this mixing bowl is clearly a great metaphor for me because of the unique qualities we share.***

***Red = assertions/reassertions***

***Orange = Examples***

***Blue = Explanations***

***Highlighted = Ambiguous denotations that transcend physical (A) of metaphor and abstract (B) of me***