

Learning Vocabulary - Phrases with first

Ten phrases with first

Here are 10 phrases. Read the phrases and the descriptions and then fill in the gaps in the sentences at the bottom of the page.

first - discourse markers

First off - firstly - first and foremost - at first - first thing's first

discourse markers to introduce or say what you are going to do first

first floor

Floors are used to describe levels of buildings. In the UK, you have to go up to the first floor of a building, then the second floor and the third floor and so on.

firsthand

This is usually used to describe things that you experience or information that you got yourself and didn't hear through someone else.

love at first sight

It basically means to fall in love with someone the first time you see them.

first class

If something is first class, it's of the highest standard and quality. In the UK, you get first class and second class stamps for letters and parcels.

First class is also used for travel on trains and planes.



a first (class degree)

A first is the best mark or award you can receive at a UK university. The best is a first or a first class degree then a two-one then a two-two and then a third or a third class degree.

first language

Your first language is your native language or your mother tongue. The one you spoke first.

first aid

First aid is basic medical treatment.

Someone in a school or at work is usually trained in first aid.

to get out of first gear

A car usually has five gears. The expression is normally used in the negative and it means not to have got going or not to be very active.

first come first served

The expression is quite literal, it basically means the first people to arrive somewhere will be the first people to get what is offered.

Fill in the gaps with the correct word or phrase.

- If there's an accident at work, I have to help because I know _____.
- My bedroom is on the _____ so I have to go upstairs to bed.
- I am trying to learn French but I'm struggling. I can't seem to _____.
- Rob's bringing pizza tomorrow, but you have to get there early as it's _____.
- My sister studied French at university and got a _____.
- The whistleblower has _____ knowledge of the criminal activity.
- My wife's _____ isn't English, but she speaks so fluently, you wouldn't know it.
- _____, we need to do the most important thing.
- When Jamie first met becky, it was _____.
- I went to London on the train. I got a _____ ticket because I wanted to have more space and a comfortable journey.