

B1 Preliminary Reading Part 5 - Fixed expressions

A. Discuss the questions with a partner.

1. What do you usually do when something at home stops working?
2. Would you like to learn to repair things? Why or why not?

B. Complete the sentences with the words in each pair. Use each word once.

1. **advance / time:** Book in and arrive on for your lesson.
2. **first / end:** At it was hard, but I did it in the
3. **fact / example:** I like fruit, for, pears. In, I eat one daily.
4. **course / chance:** Of I'll help! We met by in the street.
5. **purpose / accident:** I dropped it by I didn't do it on
6. **least / once:** Wait at five minutes. Don't leave at
7. **charge / trouble:** Who's in here? Am I in for being late?
8. **way / now:** We're on the home. That's enough work for

C. Read the text. For questions 1–6, choose A, B, C or D. Example 0 is done.

A second chance for your things

Before replacing a (0) item, consider a repair cafe. Linton Roots Repair Cafe in Cambridgeshire brings together people whose things need fixing and volunteers with repair skills.

It is best to book in (1) This helps volunteers prepare and may reduce your waiting time. Try to arrive on (2) for your appointment. If a part is missing, the volunteer may be unable to complete the job at (3)

At (4), you may think the problem is impossible to solve. In (5), a simple repair may be enough. Volunteers work on different items, for (6), lamps, clothes and jewellery. Of course, they cannot promise to fix everything. However, even an unsuccessful repair can help you understand the problem. In the end, you may leave with a repaired object or useful advice.

- | | | | |
|---|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0 ☒ A broken | B wrong | C weak | D poor |
| 1 A front | B future | C advance | D early |
| 2 A time | B hour | C moment | D date |
| 3 A soon | B fast | C now | D once |
| 4 A beginning | B first | C start | D opening |
| 5 A true | B real | C fact | D right |
| 6 A example | B case | C sample | D reason |

Fixed expressions - Language reference

Use these expressions in your own sentences. Notice the words that go together.

as well: also; too

Would you like a drink as well?

at first: at the beginning

At first, I didn't enjoy the game.

at home: in the place where you live

We stayed at home all evening.

at last: after a long wait

At last, the bus arrived!

at least: not less than

You need at least two tickets.

at once: immediately

Please come here at once.

at the moment: now; at the present time

She's busy at the moment.

at work: in the place where you do your job

Mum is still at work.

by accident: without intending to do it

I deleted the photo by accident.

by chance: without planning it

I met my neighbour by chance.

by hand: using your hands rather than a machine

She made the card by hand.

for a change: to do something different from usual

Let's eat outside for a change.

for example: used to introduce an example

Try a team sport, for example, hockey.

for now: until the situation changes

That's enough painting for now.

from time to time: sometimes

We meet for lunch from time to time.

in a hurry: needing to do something quickly

Sorry, I'm in a hurry.

in advance: before something happens

Please book your tickets in advance.

in charge: responsible for something

Who's in charge of the trip?

in common: shared by two or more people

We have a lot in common.

in danger: at risk of being harmed

The animals are in danger.

in fact: used to add or correct information

It's warm; in fact, it's quite hot.

in person: by being there yourself

You must collect the prize in person.

in the end: after everything has happened

In the end, we went home.

in trouble: in a difficult situation or facing punishment

I'll be in trouble if I'm late.

instead of: in place of something

Let's walk instead of taking a bus.

of course: used to say something is expected

Of course you can borrow my pen.

on holiday: away from home for a break

They're on holiday in Wales.

on purpose: because you intended to do it

He didn't break the glass on purpose.

on the way: during a journey

We bought food on the way home.

on time: at the agreed or expected time

The train arrived on time.

out of date: no longer current or suitable

This information is out of date.

out of order: not working correctly

The lift is out of order.

Answer Key

A.

Answers vary.

B.

1. advance; time
2. first; end
3. example; fact
4. course; chance
5. accident; purpose
6. least; once
7. charge; trouble
8. way; now

C.

0. A broken
1. C advance
2. A time
3. D once
4. B first
5. C fact
6. A example