# 10 Advanced Phrases in English

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## 1. At the hands of

Done or caused by

# People are suffering at the hands of injustice in society.

### 2. At heart

What someone is really like

#### Surrounded by people 24/7, but lonely at heart.

## 3. Lie at the heart of

Be the most important part of something

Justice lies at the heart of society. Education lies at the heart of progress.

#### 4. Basket case

An insane person
To become insane due to work or stress

My friends think I am a basket case
At the end of the day I become a basket case.

## 5. Bit by bit

Gradually

#### She told me the whole story bit by bit.

## 6. Before you know it

Very soon

#### I will be there before you know it.

### 7. At a first glance

When first looking

#### At first glance, I thought she was Sarah.

#### 8. Grief stricken

Very sad

# The old woman is grief-stricken at the death of her son.

#### 9. Puzzle over

Try to understand something

I am puzzled over her comment and don't know what she meant. I am puzzled over this riddle.

## 10. Grain of salt

Not sure about something accurate or not

I take his promises with a grain of salt. Scientists take these theories with a grain of salt.



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