

Speed idioms

When it was his turn to pay, he disappeared *in the _____ of an eye*.

There were only 100 tickets for sale, but I was *quick off the _____* and managed to get hold of a couple.

They were a long way behind the leader. However, *slowly but _____*, they began to catch up, and they finally overtook the yacht with only a few miles to go.

We need to find another way to do this, at the moment we're *getting _____ fast*.

Work has been continuing *at a _____'s pace* and the airport is not expected to open before 2020.

mark snail move surely nowhere

A. Do you have any similar idioms in your own language?

B. Rearrange the sentences

1. lost the money in blink of an all I eye my
2. off need the quick be mark You to
3. surely Slowly make progress began but to I
4. fast getting with essay this nowhere I'm writing
5. is a traffic moving pace snail's Downtown at

C. Replace the underlined part of the sentence with a suitable idiom

1. My husband moves very slowly before he's had his first coffee.
2. I'm learning the language not quickly, but steadily.
3. We are making no progress with trying to persuade the council to install speed cameras outside the school.
4. I was very fast, and managed to grab one of the limited edition models.
5. Time passes so fast. It seems like my daughter grew up in a very short time.

D. Discussion questions

Can you think of a time when being quick off the mark was to your advantage.

How quickly do you think that you are improving your English?

Do you find that time seems to go faster or slower in some situations?

