

## Fun with idioms – Glossary

**authority** noun [uncountable]  
the power to make decisions or tell people what to do  
*Parents have legal authority over their children.*

**chairman** noun [countable]  
the person in charge of a large organization or corporation. Many people prefer to say *chair* or *chairperson*, because the word *chairman* suggests that the person in this position is always a man.

**chew** verb [intransitive/transitive]  
to use your teeth to bite food in your mouth into small pieces so that you can swallow it  
*High-fiber foods take longer to chew.*

**crisis** noun [countable/uncountable]  
an urgent, difficult, or dangerous situation

**elbow** noun [countable]  
the part in the middle of your arm, where it bends  
*She sat with her elbows on the table.*

**flash** noun [countable]  
a bright light that appears for a very short time  
*The bomb exploded with a blinding flash.*

**footage** noun [uncountable]  
film of a particular subject or event  
*video footage for a number of documentary projects*

**grab** verb [transitive]  
to take hold of something in a rough or rude way  
*He grabbed the knife before I could get to it.*

**intern** noun [countable]  
a student, or someone who has recently obtained a degree, who works in a job in order to get experience

**lawn** noun [countable/uncountable]  
an area of grass that is cut short, especially in someone's yard  
*The lawn needs mowing again.*

**promote** verb [transitive, usually passive]  
to move someone to a job at a higher level  
*A college course can help you find work or get promoted.*

**promotion** noun [countable/uncountable]  
a move to a higher level in a company, institution, or sport  
*We try to fill our executive positions by promotion from within.*

**spit** verb [intransitive]  
to force some of the clear liquid called saliva out from your mouth  
*Dino leaned over and spat on the ground.*

**swallow** verb [intransitive/transitive]  
to make food or drink go from your mouth down through your throat and into your stomach  
*She quickly swallowed the rest of her coffee.*