Your English Toolbox

VOCABULARY · EPISODE 233

Charge: One Word, Three Lives

English learning resource · EN

Key words & expressions · English

8 learning entries

Study task: Listen again and notice the expressions you studied.

1

charge a phone

DEF

Put electricity into a phone's battery.

Charge is a verb here; the person charges the device, not a customer.

Can I charge my phone here?

It takes about an hour to charge.

2

fully charged

DEF

Having a battery that has received all the electricity it can normally hold.

Charged is an adjective or participle here; fully stresses completion.

My phone is fully charged.

The battery should be fully charged by morning.

3

charger

DEF

A device used to supply electricity to a battery.

The charger is the object; charge can be the action.

Don't forget your charger.

Julia put the charger in her bag.

4

charge someone for something

DEF

Ask someone to pay money for a product or service.

A business charges a customer an amount for a service; the customer pays.

The hotel charged me ten euros for parking.

They charge guests for breakfast.

5

a charge

DEF

An amount of money requested for a service or product.

This is the noun form in the episode; charge has other senses in other contexts.

There is a small charge for the bags.

Is there a charge for parking?

6

free of charge

DEF

Available without payment.

Means free of cost, not that a battery is empty.

Parking is free of charge.

The transcript is available free of charge.

7

be in charge of

DEF

Be responsible for managing a person, thing or task.

Follow of with a noun or an -ing form when naming the responsibility.

She is in charge of the schedule.

He is in charge of buying the tickets.

8

who is in charge?

DEF

A question asking who has responsibility or authority.

Of can be omitted when the responsibility is clear from context.

Who is in charge here?

Ask who is in charge before making a change.