

Idioms about doing business

1. Join the idioms with their meaning

up in the air

is something with very little chance of success.

cut corners

a practical way of doing or measuring something, usually based on past experience

the red tape

to save time, money, or energy by doing a task to a lower standard

a long shot

to learn the basics or how to do a specific task or an activity

the upper hand

something that is not yet decided or uncertain

learn the ropes

is an overall view or perspective on a situation or issue

the big picture

are official rules and processes that seem unnecessary and prevent things from being done quickly and easily

a rule of thumb

to have more power than anyone else and so have control

2. Write the expressions from the first exercise

1. You should concentrate on _____ and not to be distracted by details.

2. You don't have to _____ on production costs and make the cheaper product.

3. As _____ you should cook a chicken for 20 minutes and then add some spices to it.

4. After hours of this difficult competition our team finally got _____.

5. We had to prepare lots of documents but eventually we managed to cut through _____.

6. There is nothing decided yet. Our plans to travel are still _____.

7. Maybe this plan is _____. But we still have no other choice.

8. If you want to keep this job you have to _____ in jewellery trade.