

Our Favorite Expressions

Serie 3 ©

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Contraction of the second seco

1. Monday

"Age before beauty"

The literal definition of this expression is that older people should be given precedence over younger and, by implication, more beautiful people.

However, it is usually used jocularly. For example, if a friend of yours is only slightly older than you, you can suggest they walk into the bar before you by saying age before beauty.

2. Tuesday

"Six of one, half a dozen of the other"

This term is used when the result of a choice one has to make is the same either way, given that a dozen is twelve, hence half of a dozen is equal to 6.

A friend might say: "Shall we go to the exhibition by metro or bus? Both journeys take 20 minutes", to which you might reply: "It's six of one, half a dozen of the other"

3. Wednesday

"It's a game of two halves"

This comes from the world of English football. It is used at half time, to warn against calling the result until the end. This expression can be used in any context where one shouldn't assume the result until the end, and is swappable with the expressions "It's not over till the fat lady sings" and "don't count your chickens until they hatch"

4. Thursday

"A 2-pot screamer"

This expression is used to describe someone who gets drunk very quickly, specifically after two drinks (or pots as they were called in the old days) and the person would display their drunkenness by shouting loudly.

You could say: "Did you see Jane sing at the Christmas party? She's a 2-pot screamer!"

5. Friday

"A shoulder to cry on"

This term is used when a person is sad or depressed and needs to talk to someone. It is likely that the sufferer will cry whilst talking about their problems, and those tears will fall upon the shoulder of the comforter.

You might say to a friend, about a common friend who is depressed: "I think Lucy just needs a shoulder to cry on".