

Expressions with *right* and *left*

- 1** Choose the best explanation for the expressions with *right* in a–g below.
- a I thought that film we saw last night was really violent.
Too right – not my kind of film at all.
(I completely agree/I think you're being unfair)
 - b John's just popped out to get a paper but he'll **be right back**.
(return eventually/return soon)
 - c *By rights*, the children should be in bed by now.
(according to what is proper/only if necessary)
 - d The company started distributing advertisements for their products *left, right and centre*. (in three locations/everywhere)
 - e My colleagues in my new job were so friendly that I felt at home *right away*. (completely/immediately)
 - f Apparently our new manager is very friendly – if you manage to **get on the right side** of him!
(get him to realise you exist/get him to like you)
 - g Paul didn't need to apologise because he knew he *was in the right*.
(got answers right/had justice on his side)
- 2** Match the expressions with *left* with the most suitable sentence in 1–4 and discuss their meaning.
- a The *left-luggage office* is on platform three.
 - b David's *got two left feet*!
 - c There were a lot of *leftovers* from our meal.
 - d Sam *doesn't know his left from his right*.
- 1 So I don't need to cook anything new tonight.
 - 2 He's the worst dancer I've ever seen.
 - 3 We can leave our suitcases there.
 - 4 That's why he's no good at giving directions.
- 3** Look up *left* and *right* in a dictionary. Which one has more idioms? How many new words can you find that derive from each one?



