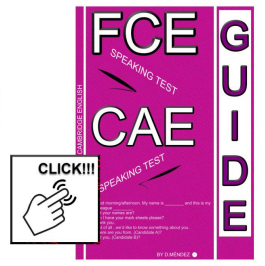


INTRODUCING REASONS

B2 - C1
SPEAKING
TEST
GUIDE



firstly... secondly... thirdly ... lastly

used to refer to the first thing in a list:

- There are two very good reasons why we can't do it. Firstly, we don't have enough money, and secondly, we don't have enough time.
- There are three factors to take into account: firstly cost, secondly time, and thirdly staff.

for one thing ... (for another/ for another thing)

used to introduce one of two or more reasons for doing something

- 'Why don't you get a car?' 'Well, for one thing, I can't drive!'
- Why didn't we visit? Well, for one thing, it was too far away. And for another, she never invited us

for starters / for a start / to start with

(informal) used to emphasize the first of a list of facts or opinions you are stating

- "Why did you decide not to buy that car? For starters, it was too expensive.
- The winners will be flown to Paris—and that's just for starters.
- This book is better than her last one. For a start, it's shorter.
- There are problems. To start with, neither of us likes housework.

in the first place ...in the second place ...

used for stating the most basic reason for something

- There were several reasons he couldn't sleep. In the first place, Peg snored.
- I don't want to go yet - in the first place I'm not ready, and in the second place it's raining.

on the one hand ... on the other (hand ...)

used for giving two different opinions about something

- On the one hand they'd love to have kids, but on the other, they don't want to give up their freedom.
- On the one hand I'd like a job that pays more, but on the other hand I enjoy the work I'm doing at the moment.