
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

English In A Minute

Peep vs Peer vs Glimpse



This is not a word-for-word transcript

Saskia

Hi, everyone. Welcome back to English In A Minute.

Peep, **peer** and **glimpse** are all verbs of sight that mean 'look at something', but are used in different situations.

Let's look at some examples:

My friend peeped at my test answers.

This verb means to 'look at something quickly and secretly'.

I peered at the document trying to understand it.

Peer means 'to look at something intently or carefully in detail'.

It can also be used in another way.

I was peering at the clock in the distance.

This example means that I had difficulty reading the clock. Maybe the clock was very small or I have bad eyesight.

I glimpsed the sunlight through the trees.

Glimpse means 'to see something for a short time', or 'to only see part of something'.

We often use **glimpse** as a noun with the verb **catch**.

For example, **I caught a glimpse of Phil as he left the office.**

Bye, everyone.