PINPOINTING LETTERS

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PINPOINTING can be defined as locating, fixing or directing with extreme precision.

Below, I offer a selection of phrases, each of which pinpoints a specific letter of the alphabet A - Z.

This is accomplished by using a word which targets the required letter:

1. words which indicate that the required letter is at the beginning of a word
   HEAD FRON T BEGIN BEGINNING LEFT FIRST FORE START STARTING OPENER OPENING LEADER ENTRANCE

2. words which indicate that the required letter is at a specific position inside a word
   CENTER EYE MID MIDDLE. SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH etc.

3. words which indicate that the required letter is at the end of a word
   TAIL BACK END RIGHT LAST HIND FINISH CLOSE CLOSED CLOSING TERMINAL TERMINUS FINAL BEHIND

AN A - Z OF LETTER LOCATION

A. THE BEGINNING OF THE ALPHABET THE FIRST OF APRIL FIRST OF ALL
   THE SECOND BALL (cricket) THE END OF AIDA (the opera)

B. STARTING BLOCKS B AND LEADER LEFT BANK OPENING BAT (cricket)
   HEAD BOY THIRD RUBBER (bridge) HIS LAST JOB BACK COMB (hair)

C. CAN OPENER THE FIRST CUCKOO THE OPENING CHORUS CHEER LEADER
   COLD FRONT THE FIRST CHAPTER FIRST CLASS THE OPENING CEREMONY
   THE SECOND ACT THE THIRD OF DECEMBER THE FOURTH OF MARCH
   THE END OF THE TITANIC

D. THE OPENING DECK THE OPEN DOOR THE FIRST OF DECEMBER
   IN THE MIDDLE OF INDIA SECOND EDITION THE END OF THE WORLD
   THE LAST ROUND DEAD END RIGHT HANDED THE LAST WORD

E. THE BEGINNING OF THE END FIRST EDITION IN THE MIDDLE OF THE OCEAN / SEA
   THE FOURTH DIMENSION THE END OF THE LINE THE LAST IN LINE LAST MINUTE
   THE END OF THE VOYAGE FINAL SCORE LAST DANCE LAST CHANCE LOOSE END

F. FIRST FOOTING FIRST FLOOR FIRST FINGER MID OFF (in cricket) A SECOND OFFER
   FINISH OFF
G OPENING GAMBIT  FIRST GLIMPSE  HEAD GIRL  THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT
MIDDLE AGE  THE EYE OF THE TIGER  THIRD DEGREE  LAST LEG  RIGHT WING
FINAL FLING  THE END OF SPRING

H FIRST HAND  LEFT HANDED  SECOND CHANCE  SECOND THOUGHTS
IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE  THE END OF THE MATCH  THE CLOSING SPEECH

I IN THE FIRST INSTANCE  THE FIRST IN (to bat)  SECOND SIGHT  SECOND FIDDLE
CENTRE POINT

J JANUARY THE FIRST  A THIRD OF THE MAJORITY  THE END OF THE RAJ

K HER FIRST KISS  IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SKY  THE FOURTH TICKET
KICK BACK  LAST LOOK  THE END OF THE BOOK

L THE FIRST IN LINE  THE FRONT LINE  FIRST LIGHT  SECOND FLOOR
SECOND CLASS  MIDDLE ENGLAND  LAST OF ALL  HIS LAST MEAL

M THE FIRST OF THE MONTH  THE FIRST MEMBER  THE FIFTH COLUMN
THE FIFTH OF NOVEMBER  TRAM TERMINUS  TERM END

N THE START OF THE NEW YEAR  THE OPENING NIGHT  THE THIRD IN LINE
THE FOURTH AMENDMENT  MID MORNING  CLOSING DOWN  THE THIRD MAN

O STARTING OUT  LEFT OUT  START OVER  THE SECOND IN COMMAND
THE EYE OF THE STORM  THE MIDDLE OF THE PELOTON  GOES SOLO

P A POOR START  FIRST POST  HEAD PORTER  IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PAPER
END UP  THE LAST DROP  THE LAST STOP  THE CUP FINAL  LAST LAP
LAST GASP

Q THE HEAD OF THE QUEUE  THE QUEEN'S HEAD  THE FIRST QUESTION
THE THIRD INQUEST  THE LAST OF THE CINQ PORTS

R THE FIRST ROUND  FRONT RUNNER  THE SECOND FRONT  MIDDLE EARTH
THE MIDDLE OF THE AFTERNOON  THE END OF THE AFFAIR  LAST YEAR
THE FINAL FRONTIER  THE LAST SUPPER  THE LAST OVER (cricket)

S SEA FRONT  THE OPENING SPEECH  IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MISSISSIPPI
THE CENTRAL MASSIF (in France)  BUS TERMINUS  LANDS END  JOURNEYS END
THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS  HOWARDS END

T THE FIRST TIME  THE BEGINNING OF TERM  TIN OPENER  CENTRAL STATION
THE MIDDLE OF THE MATCH  THE LAST ACT  THE LAST POST

U START UP  OPEN UP  LET US BEGIN  INSIDE OUT  THE THIRD ROUND
MIDDLE STUMP (cricket)  THE END OF YOU

V FIRST VISIT  THE FIRST VOYAGE  SECOND OVER (cricket)  THE SECOND EVENT
FIFTH ANNIVERSARY  TV CLOSE DOWN
W  WARM FRONT  LEFT WING  CENTRE FORWARD  THE END OF THE RAINBOW  THE LAST STRAW  THE THIRD IN A ROW

X  THE BEGINNING OF XMAS  THE SECOND EXTRA (in the match)  A FINAL SIX (ended the cricket match)


Z  THE ZOO’S ENTRANCE  THE THIRD AND FOURTH PUZZLES  THE LAST WALTZ

Phrases having a choice between 2 pinpointed letters

START AT THE BEGINNING  START AT THE BEGINNING

LEFT BEHIND  LEFT BEHIND

SINGLE WORDS

In some cases a single word pinpoints a letter within itself:

A. FRONTAL  MIDDAY
B. FOREBEARS  FOREBODE
C. CONFRONT
D. ENDED
E. STARTED  DOVETAIL  BEHIND
F. OFFEND
G. WAGTAIL  MIDNIGHT
H. FOREHEAD  BACKLASH
I. FRONTICE
J. HEADJOGS - a hairdresser in Ilford, UK
K. BACK
L. HEADLINE  FORELOCK  LOGGERHEAD (turtle)
M. HEADMASTER
N. FANTAIL
Sometimes the meaning of a whole word pinpoints a letter, without ‘attaching’ a word indicating the beginning, middle or end: PENULTIMATE and ANTIPENULTIMATE are prime examples of this.