

TOEFL Writing Success 5th Edition Glossary

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A:

Absurd: *BrE* [əb'sɜ:d] *NAmE* [əb'sɜ:rd] completely ridiculous; not logical and sensible; foolish, silly, inane, insane, unreasonable, irrational, illogical, nonsensical, pointless, senseless.

That uniform makes the guards look absurd.

It would be absurd to blame contemporary Germans for Nazi crimes.

It seems quite absurd to expect anyone to drive for 3 hours just for a 20-minute meeting.

To address: attend to, apply oneself to, tackle, see to, deal with, confront, get to grips with, get down to, turn one's hand to, take in hand, undertake, concentrate on, focus on, devote oneself to.

The minister failed to address the issue of subsidies.

Advance:

In advance (of sth): before the time that is expected; before sth happens.

A week / month / year in advance

It's cheaper if you book the tickets in advance.

People were evacuated from the coastal regions in advance of the hurricane.

Advent:

The advent of sth: the time when something first begins to be widely used.

The advent of the computer

Before the advent of computers, not many people knew how to type.

The advent of the Euro will redefine Europe.

Advocate: /'æd.və.keɪt/ *verb* [T] to publicly support or suggest an idea, development or way of doing something; support, back, favor, uphold, subscribe to, champion, campaign on behalf of, speak for, argue for.

She advocates taking a more long-term view.

He advocates the return of capital punishment.

Advocate: /'æd.və.keɪt/ *noun* [C]

He's a strong advocate of state ownership of the railways.

Aesthetic: US also **esthetic** /es'θet.ɪk/ *adjective*

1. relating to the enjoyment or study of beauty.

The new building has little aesthetic value/appeal.

2. describes an object or a work of art that shows great beauty.

Furniture which is both aesthetic and functional

Aesthetics, US also **esthetics** /es'θet.ɪks/ *noun* [U] the formal study of art, especially in relation to the idea of beauty

Aesthetically, US also **esthetically** /es'θet.ɪ.kli/ *adverb*

I like objects to be both functional and aesthetically pleasing.

Afflict: /ə'flɪkt/ *verb* [transitive often passive] formal to affect someone or something in an unpleasant way, and make them suffer; cause suffering to, beset, harass, worry, oppress; torment, plague.

Afflict with/by:

A country afflicted by famine

Aid will be sent to the afflicted areas.

Severe drought has afflicted the region.

About 40% of the country's population is afflicted with the disease.

Affliction: /ə'flɪk.ʃən/ *noun* [C or U] *formal* something that makes you suffer.
Malnutrition is one of the common afflictions of the poor.

Air: *verb* express, voice, make public, ventilate, articulate, state, declare, give expression/voice to; have one's say.
A chance to air your views

Airtight:

1. too tight for air or gas to enter or escape
2. having no flaws or weaknesses.

An airtight alibi

“All wins and no defeats make Jack a dull boy”: this is a self-made saying based on the English saying “all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy,” which means it is not healthy to spend all your time working; you need to relax too.

Alleviate: to make something less painful or difficult to deal with.

Alleviate the problem/situation/suffering etc.

A new medicine to alleviate the symptoms of flu

Measures to alleviate poverty

The drugs did nothing to alleviate her pain/suffering.

Alleviation /ə.liː.vi'eɪʃən/ *noun* [U]

The alleviation of poverty

Alliance: A connection based on kinship, marriage, or common interest; a bond or tie.

Allusion: n. the act of alluding; indirect reference.

Without naming names, the candidate criticized the national leaders by allusion.

Ameliorate: *verb* improve, make better, better, make improvements to, enhance, help, benefit, boost, amend; relieve, ease, mitigate.

Amiable: *adjective* friendly, affable, amicable, cordial; warm, warm-hearted, good-natured, nice, pleasant, agreeable, likeable, genial, good-humored, charming, easy to get on/along with, companionable, sociable, personable.

Analogous: [ə'næləgəs] *adjective* (formal) ~ **(to/with sth)** similar in some way to another thing or situation and therefore able to be compared with it.

Sleep has often been thought of as being in some way analogous to death.

The two processes are not analogous.

Anarchy: *noun* lawlessness, nihilism, mobocracy, revolution, insurrection, disorder, chaos, tumult, turmoil.

Annex: *tr.v.* to incorporate (territory) into an existing political unit such as a country, state, county, or city.

Apart from:

1. Except for = other than

I've finished apart from the last question.

2. In addition to; besides; other than

Apart from their house in London, they also have a villa in Spain.

It was a difficult time. Apart from everything else, we had financial problems.

You've got to help. Apart from anything else, you're my brother.

Aptitude: *noun* talent, gift, flair, skill, knack, ability, capability, potential, capacity, faculty, genius.

Arbitrary: *adjective*

1. *an arbitrary decision:* capricious, whimsical, random, unpredictable; casual, wanton, unmotivated, motiveless, unreasoned, unsupported, irrational, illogical, groundless, unjustified.

2. *the arbitrary power of a prince:* autocratic, dictatorial, autarchic, undemocratic, despotic, tyrannical, authoritarian; absolute, uncontrolled, unlimited, unrestrained.

Around:

The other way around/round: the opposite of what you have just mentioned.

I always thought that rugby was a rougher game than football, but in fact it's the other way round.

Students practice translating from French to English and the other way around.

As for: *prep.* With regard to.

Assert: *verb*

1. *they asserted that all aboard were safe:* declare, maintain, contend, argue, state, claim, propound, proclaim, announce, pronounce.

2. *we find it difficult to assert our rights:* insist on, stand up for, uphold, defend, contend, press/push for, stress.

Assertion: *noun*

1. *I questioned his assertion:* declaration, contention, statement, claim, opinion, proclamation, announcement, pronouncement, protestation, avowal; formal averment; rare asseveration.

2. *an assertion of the right to march:* defence, upholding; insistence on.

Associate: *noun* partner, colleague, co-worker, workmate, comrade, ally, confederate; connection, contact, acquaintance.

His business associate

Assortment: *noun* mixture, variety, array, miscellany, selection, diversity, pot-pourri.

As to: *formal* as for, about, regarding, concerning, with reference to, referring to, with regard to, with respect to, respecting, relating to, on, touching on, dealing with, relevant to, connected with, in connection with, on the subject of, in the matter of, apropos.

He was uncertain as to which road to take.

There's no decision as to when the work might start.

Attribute:

Verb:

They attributed their success to him: ascribe, assign, accredit, credit, impute, connect with, associate with.

Noun:

1. *he has all the attributes of a top player:* quality, characteristic, trait, feature, element, aspect, property, sign, hallmark, mark, distinction.

2. *the hourglass is the attribute of father time:* symbol, mark, sign, hallmark, trademark.

Austere: *adjective*

1. *an outwardly austere man:* severe, stern, strict, harsh, cold, frosty, unemotional, unfriendly; formal, stiff, reserved, aloof, forbidding; grave, solemn, serious, unsmiling, unsympathetic, unforgiving; hard, unyielding, unbending, inflexible, illiberal.
2. *an austere life:* ascetic, self-denying, self-disciplined, non-indulgent, frugal, Spartan, puritanical, abstemious, abstinent, self-sacrificing, strict, temperate, sober, simple, restrained; celibate, chaste.
3. *the buildings were austere:* plain, simple, basic, functional, modest, unadorned, unembellished, unfussy, restrained; stark, bleak, bare, clinical, Spartan, ascetic.

Axiom: /'æk.si.əm/ *noun* [C] *formal* a statement or principle which is generally accepted to be true, but is not necessarily so:

It is a widely held axiom that governments should not negotiate with terrorists.

Axiomatic: /,æk.si.ə'mæt.ɪk/ *adjective formal* obviously true and therefore not needing to be proved:

It is an axiomatic fact that governments rise and fall on the state of the economy.

It seems axiomatic that everyone would benefit from a better scientific education.

B:

Barter: *verb*

1. *They bartered grain for salt:* trade, swap, exchange, sell.
2. *You can barter for souvenirs:* haggle, bargain, negotiate, discuss terms, deal.

Noun:

An economy based on barter: trading, trade, exchange, business, commerce, buying and selling, dealing.

Bear: /beə/ US /ber/ *verb* [T] **bore, borne** or US ALSO **born** to have or continue to have something.

Their baby bears a strong resemblance/an uncanny likeness to its grandfather.

The stone plaque bearing his name was smashed to pieces.

On display were boxing gloves which bore Rocky Marciano's signature.

*Thank you for your advice, I'll bear it **in mind** (= will remember and consider it).*

Bear: *verb* [T] **bore, borne** or US ALSO **born** to give birth to young, or (of a tree or plant) to give or produce especially fruit or flowers.

She had borne six children by the time she was thirty.

[+ two objects] *When his wife bore him a child, he could not hide his delight.*

Most animals bear their young in the spring.

The pear tree they planted has never borne fruit.

Bear: *verb* [T] **bore, borne** or US ALSO **born** to accept, **tolerate** or **endure** especially something unpleasant.

The strain must have been enormous but she bore it well.

*Tell me now! I can't bear **the suspense!***

*It's your decision - you must bear **the responsibility** if things go wrong.*

[+ to infinitive] *He couldn't bear **to see** the dog in pain.*

[+ ing form of verb] *I can't bear **being** bored.*

Benevolent: *adjective* kind, kindly, kind-hearted, good-natured, good, benign, compassionate, caring, altruistic, humanitarian, philanthropic; generous, magnanimous, munificent, unselfish, open-handed, beneficent.

They believe in the existence of a benevolent God who will save mankind.

He listened politely, like some benevolent uncle.

Bestow: v [T] *formal* to give someone something of great value or importance.

Bestow sth on/upon sb:

*The Chancellorship of the University was bestowed **upon** her in 1992.*

*The George Cross is a decoration that is bestowed **on** British civilians for acts of great bravery.*

*The king had friends **on** whom he bestowed land and privileges.*

*Honors bestowed **on** him by the Queen*

Bifurcate: ['baɪ.fə.keɪt] *formal verb intransitive* (of roads, rivers, branches) to divide into two parts
A sample of water was taken from the point where the river bifurcates.

Bound:

Be bound to: to be very likely to do or feel a particular thing.

Don't lie to her. She's bound to find out about it.

It is bound to be: (= used to say that something should have been expected).

'It's hot!' 'Well, it was bound to be, I just took it out of the oven.'

*When you are dealing with so many patients, mistakes are **bound to happen**.*

Be bound up with sth: to be very closely connected with a particular problem or situation.

Mark's problems are all bound up with his mother's death when he was ten.

The people of Transkei began to realize that their future was inseparably bound up with that of South Africa.

Blessed with: endowed with (a particular quality or attribute).

A beautiful city blessed with huge sandy beaches

Blessing: boon, godsend, advantage, benefit, help, bonus, plus; stroke of luck, windfall.

It was a blessing they didn't have far to go.

It's a blessing no-one was badly hurt.

A blessing in disguise: *idiom* something that seems to be a problem at first, but that has good results in the end.

Losing that job was a blessing in disguise really, and I ended up in a much more enjoyable career.

Booming: *adjective*

1. *a booming voice:* resonant, sonorous, ringing, resounding, reverberating, carrying, thunderous; strident, stentorian, strong, powerful.

2. *booming business:* flourishing, burgeoning, thriving, prospering, prosperous, successful, strong, buoyant; profitable, fruitful, lucrative; expanding.

Boom: *noun*

1. *the boom of the waves on the rocks:* reverberation, resonance, thunder, echoing, crashing, drumming, pounding, roar, rumble.

2. *an unprecedented boom in sales:* upturn, upsurge, upswing, increase, advance, growth, boost, escalation, improvement.

Bring home: To make perfectly clear, to show clearly; emphasize; make (someone) realize; demonstrate.

A lecture that brought home several important points

The accident caused a death in his family, and it brought home to him the evil of drinking while driving.

A parent or teacher should bring home to children the value and pleasure of reading.

Bring up: [bring sb/sth ⇄ up] *phr v*

1. to mention a subject or start to talk about it = **raise**

Why did you have to bring up the subject of money?

2. to look after and influence a child until he or she is grown up = **raise**

He was brought up by his grandparents.

Bring sb up to do sth:

In my day, children were brought up to respect the law.

Be brought up (as) a Catholic/Muslim etc:

I was brought up a Catholic.

Buoyant: *adjective*

1. *a buoyant substance:* able to float, floating, floatable.

2. *a buoyant mood:* cheerful, cheery, happy, light-hearted, carefree, bright, merry, joyful, bubbly, bouncy, sunny, jolly; lively, jaunty, high-spirited, perky; optimistic, confident, positive.

3. *sales were buoyant:* booming, strong, vigorous, thriving; improving, expanding, mushrooming, snowballing.

Buttress: *noun*

safeguard, defense, protection, guard; support, prop; bulwark.

A buttress against social collapse

C:

Cardiograph: *noun* an instrument used to record the mechanical movements of the heart.

Circumspect: thinking carefully about something before doing it, in order to avoid risk, cautious, wary, careful, chary, guarded, on one's guard; watchful, alert, attentive, heedful, vigilant.

The governor was usually circumspect when dealing with the media.

Clutter up: *verb* [transitive]

1. to cover or fill a space or room with too many things, so that it looks very untidy.

Piles of books and papers cluttered his desk.

Be cluttered (up) with something:

The walls were cluttered with paintings and prints.

2. to fill your mind with a lot of different things:

The everyday tasks that clutter our lives

Try not to clutter your head with trivia.

Coalesce: *verb* merge, unite, join together, combine, fuse, mingle, blend; amalgamate, consolidate, integrate, homogenize, converge.

Commence: (*verb*) begin, start; get the ball rolling, get going, get under way, get off the ground, set about, embark on, launch into.

Commiserate: [kə'mɪz.ə.reɪt] *verb* intransitive

to express sympathy to someone about some bad luck = offer sympathy to, be sympathetic to, offer condolences to, condole with, sympathize with.

I began by commiserating with her over the defeat.

Commitment: *noun*

1. *the pressure of his commitments:* responsibility, obligation, duty, tie, liability; task; engagement, arrangement.

2. *her commitment to her students*: dedication, devotion, allegiance, loyalty, faithfulness, fidelity.
3. *he made a commitment*: vow, promise, pledge, oath; contract, pact, deal; decision, resolution.

Common ground: opinions, interests and aims that you share with sb, although you may not agree with them about other things.

Despite our disagreements, we have been able to find some common ground.

We found ourselves on common ground on the question of education.

To find common ground between the two sides

Community: *uncountable* the feeling of sharing things and belonging to a group in the place where you live.

There is a strong sense of community in this town.

Community spirit (the desire to be friendly with and help other people who live in the same community).

Comply: *verb*

Myra complied with his wishes: abide by, observe, obey, adhere to, conform to, follow, respect; agree to, assent to, go along with, yield to, submit to, defer to; satisfy, fulfill.

Compromise: *noun*

1. *they reached a compromise*: agreement, understanding, settlement, terms, deal, trade-off, bargain; middle ground, happy medium, balance.

2. *a happy marriage needs compromise*: give and take, concession, cooperation.

Concomitant: [kən'kɒm.i.t ə nt] formal *noun* [C] something that happens with something else and is connected with it.

Loss of memory is a natural concomitant of old age.

Political union is an essential concomitant of successful economic union.

Congruent /ɪkɒŋgruənt/ *adjective*

1 (geometry) having the same size and shape.

Congruent triangles

2 ~ (with sth) (*formal*) suitable for sth; appropriate in a particular situation.

The measures are congruent with the changes in management policy.

Consent: *noun*.

The consent of all members: agreement, assent, acceptance, approval, approbation; permission, authorization, sanction, leave; backing, endorsement, support; *informal* go-ahead, thumbs up, green light, ok.

OPP. dissent.

Consent: *verb*.

She consented to surgery: agree, assent, yield, give in, submit; allow, give permission for, sanction, accept, approve, go along with.

Considerate: *adjective* attentive, thoughtful, solicitous, mindful, heedful; obliging, accommodating, helpful, cooperative, patient; kind, unselfish, compassionate, sympathetic, caring, charitable, altruistic, generous; polite, sensitive, tactful.

Conspicuous: /kən'spɪkjʊəs/ *adjective* easy to see or notice; likely to attract attention; clear, visible, noticeable, discernible, perceptible, detectable; obvious, manifest, evident, apparent, marked,

pronounced, prominent, patent, crystal clear; striking, eye-catching, overt, blatant, distinct, recognizable, unmistakable, inescapable.

Mary's red hair always made her conspicuous at school.

I felt very conspicuous in my new car.

The advertisements were all posted in a conspicuous place.

The event was a conspicuous success (= a very great one).

Bay windows are a conspicuous feature of his architecture. Opposite: Inconspicuous

Conspicuously: *adverb*

Women were conspicuously absent from the planning committee.

Constraint: *noun*

1. *financial constraints:* restriction, limitation, curb, check, restraint, damper, rein, hindrance, impediment, obstruction, handicap.

2. *they were able to talk without constraint:* inhibition, uneasiness, embarrassment.

Contingent on/upon: dependent on.

Further investment is contingent upon the company's profit performance.

Contribute:

1. to give money, help, ideas etc to something that a lot of other people are also involved in.

Contribute to/towards

City employees cannot contribute to political campaigns.

Contribute sth to/towards sth

The volunteers contribute their own time to the project.

2. to help to make something happen.

Stress is a contributing factor in many illnesses.

Contribute to

Alcohol contributes to 100,000 deaths a year in the US.

Contribute substantially/significantly/greatly etc. to sth

Enya's success has contributed substantially to the current interest in Celtic music.

Controversy /'kɒn.trə.vɜː.si/ /kən'trɒv.ə-/ US /'kɑːn.trə.vɜː-/ *noun* [C or U] a lot of disagreement or argument about something, usually because it affects or is important to many people.

*There was a big controversy **surrounding/over** the use of drugs in athletics.*

*The policy has caused **fierce/heated** controversy ever since it was introduced.*

Controversial /,kɒn.trə'vɜː.ʃl/ US /,kɑːn.trə'vɜː-/ *adjective* causing disagreement or discussion.

A controversial issue/decision/speech/figure

The book was very controversial.

Cornerstone: *noun* foundation, basis, keystone, bedrock, base, backbone, key, centerpiece, core, heart, centre, crux.

Count: *verb* matter, be of consequence, be of account, be significant, signify, be important, carry weight; *informal* cut any ice.

It's your mother's feelings that count.

It's the thought that counts (= used about a small but kind action or gift).

I've always believed that happiness counts more than money.

*My opinion doesn't count **for** anything around here (= no one values my opinion).*

Culminate in/with sth: If an event or series of events culminates in something, it ends with it, having developed until it reaches this point = come to a climax, come to a head, peak, climax, reach a pinnacle; build up to, lead up to; end with, finish with, conclude with.

My arguments with the boss got worse and worse, and it all culminated in my deciding to change jobs.

Their many years of research have finally culminated in a cure for the disease.

Curtail: verb

1. *Economic policies designed to curtail spending:* reduce, cut, cut down, decrease, lessen, pare down, trim, retrench; restrict, limit, curb.

2. *His visit was curtailed:* shorten, cut short, truncate.

D:

Dawn: noun the time at the beginning of the day when light first appears.

= **daybreak**

The first boats set off at dawn.

*When **dawn broke** (=the first light of the day appeared), we were still 50 miles from Calcutta.*

*I was up **at the crack of dawn** (=very early in the morning) to get the plane.*

*We worked **from dawn to dusk** (=through the whole day while it is light).*

*The fall of the Berlin Wall marked the **dawn of a new era** in European history.*

The dawn of civilization/time etc.: the time when something began or first appeared

People have been falling in love since the dawn of time.

Decent: adjective

1. *a decent christian burial:* proper, correct, appropriate, apt, fitting, suitable; respectable, dignified, decorous, seemly; nice, tasteful; conventional, accepted, standard, traditional, orthodox.

2. (brit. *informal*) *a very decent chap:* honorable, honest, trustworthy, dependable; respectable, upright, clean-living, virtuous, good; obliging, helpful, accommodating, unselfish, generous, kind, thoughtful, considerate; neighborly, hospitable, pleasant, agreeable, amiable.

3. *a job with decent pay:* satisfactory, reasonable, fair, acceptable, adequate, sufficient, ample; not bad, all right, tolerable, passable, suitable.

Deduce: verb [T] *formal* to use the knowledge and information you have in order to understand something or form an opinion about it.

Deduce that:

From her son's age, I deduced that her husband must be at least 60.

Deduce from:

What did Darwin deduce from the presence of these species?

Deduction: /di'dʌkʃən/ noun [uncountable and countable]

1. the process of using the knowledge or information you have in order to understand something or form an opinion, or the opinion that you form.

He arrived at the solution by a simple process of deduction.

If my deductions are correct, I can tell you who the killer was.

We can examine the bones of dinosaurs and make deductions about how they lived.

2. the process of taking away an amount from a total, or the amount that is taken away.

After deductions for tax etc, your salary is about £700 a month.

Deed: [C]

1. *formal* something someone does, especially something that is very good or very bad

*It seems to me that a lot of evil deeds are **done** in the name of religion.*

*She's always helping people and **doing** other good deeds.*

After the morning's good deeds he deserved a rest.

*She tried to strangle her baby and her lover helped her finish the **evil deed**.*

A brave/charitable/evil/good deed

A tale of heroic deeds

2. *law* an official paper that is a record of an agreement, especially an agreement concerning who owns property

A mortgage deed

Defect: *noun*

He spotted a defect in my work: fault, flaw, imperfection, deficiency, weakness, weak spot, inadequacy, shortcoming, limitation, failing; kink, deformity, blemish; mistake, error; computing bug; *informal* glitch.

Despondent: *adjective* depressed, dejected, sad, disheartened, discouraged, dispirited, downhearted, downcast, crestfallen, down, low, disconsolate, despairing, wretched, melancholy, gloomy, morose, dismal.

Dilemma: *noun* quandary, predicament, catch-22, vicious circle, plight, mess, muddle; difficulty, problem, trouble, perplexity, confusion, conflict.

Delinquent: (*adjective*) lawless, lawbreaking, criminal, errant, badly behaved, troublesome, difficult, unruly, disobedient, uncontrollable.

Delinquent teenagers

Juvenile delinquents

Delinquency /di'liŋ.kw^ənt.si/ (*noun*) behavior, especially of a young person, that is illegal or unacceptable to most people:

There is a high rate of juvenile delinquency in this area.

Demerit: *noun formal* [C] a fault or disadvantage.

*We need to consider the merits and demerits **of** the plan.*

Demeanor: *noun* a way of looking and behaving, manner, air, attitude, appearance, look; bearing, carriage; behavior, conduct; *formal* comportment.

*There was nothing **in** his demeanor that suggested he was anxious.*

*She **has** the demeanor **of** a woman who is contented with her life.*

Desperate:

1. *a desperate shortage of teachers:* grave, serious, critical, acute, risky, precarious; dire, awful, terrible, dreadful; urgent, pressing, crucial, vital, drastic, extreme; *informal* chronic.

2. *they were desperate for food:* in great need of, urgently requiring, in want of; eager, longing, yearning, hungry, crying out; *informal* dying.

Delirious: *adjective*

She was delirious but had lucid intervals: irrational, incoherent, raving, mad, insane, out of one's mind.

Deviate: ['di:.vi.eit] *verb* [I]

1. to do something which is different from the usual or common way of behaving

The recent pattern of weather deviates from the norm for this time of year.

2. to go in a different direction

The path follows the river closely, occasionally deviating round a clump of trees.

Diminish: verb

1. *the pain will gradually diminish*: decrease, lessen, decline, reduce, subside, die down, abate, dwindle, fade, slacken off, moderate, let up, ebb, wane, recede, die away/out, peter out.

2. *new legislation diminished the courts' authority*: reduce, decrease, lessen, curtail, cut, cut down/back, constrict, restrict, limit, curb, check; weaken, erode, undermine, sap.

3. *she lost no opportunity to diminish him*: belittle, disparage, denigrate, defame, deprecate, run down; decry, demean, cheapen, devalue.

Discriminate: BrE [di'skrimineit] NAmE [di'skrimineit] verb

1. intransitive, transitive to recognize that there is a difference between people or things; to show a difference between people or things = **differentiate, distinguish**

~ (between A and B) *The computer program was unable to discriminate between letters and numbers.*

~ sth *When do babies learn to discriminate voices?*

~ A from B *A number of features discriminate this species from others.*

2. intransitive to treat one person or group worse/better than another in an unfair way

~ (against sb) | ~ (in favour of sb) *practices that discriminate against women and in favour of men*

~ (on the grounds of sth) *It is illegal to discriminate on grounds of race, sex or religion.*

Disguise: verb [T]

1. to change someone's appearance so that people cannot recognize them

Disguise yourself as sb/sth:

Maybe you could disguise yourself as a waiter and sneak in there.

He escaped across the border disguised as a priest.

2. to change the appearance, sound, taste etc of something so that people do not recognize it

There's no way you can disguise that southern accent.

Disguise sth as sth

A letter bomb disguised as a musical greetings card

3. to hide a fact or feeling so that people will not notice it

Try as he might, Dan couldn't disguise his feelings for Katie.

Disguise the fact (that)

There's no disguising the fact that business is bad.

The speech was seen by many as a thinly disguised attack on the president.

Disguise: noun

1. [U and C] something that you wear to change your appearance and hide who you are, or the act of wearing this

His disguise didn't fool anyone.

She wore dark glasses in an absurd attempt at disguise.

In disguise

a) wearing a disguise

The woman in the park turned out to be a police officer in disguise.

b) made to seem like something else that is better

'Tax reform' is just a tax increase in disguise.

A blessing in disguise idiom something that seems to be a problem at first, but that has good results in the end.

Losing that job was a blessing in disguise really, and I ended up in a much more enjoyable career.

Disperse: *verb* [I or T] to scatter or move away over a large area, or to make something do this.

When the rain came down the crowds started to disperse.

Police dispersed the crowd that had gathered around the building.

Dispersion: *noun uncountable* (technical) the process by which people or things are spread over a wide area.

Population dispersion

The dispersion of light

At sb's disposal: *formal* available to be used by someone

I would take you if I could, but I don't have a car at my disposal this week.

Having sold the house she had a large sum of money at her disposal (= to spend as she wanted).

Disposition: *noun*

A nervous disposition: temperament, nature, character, constitution, make-up, mentality.

His disposition to clemency: inclination, tendency, propensity, proclivity.

Disruptive: *adjective* troublesome, unruly, badly behaved, rowdy, disorderly, undisciplined, wild; unmanageable, uncontrollable, uncooperative, out of control/hand, truculent; *formal* refractory.

Docile /'dəʊ.səl/ US /'dɑː.səl/ (*adjective*) quiet and easy to influence, persuade or control.

The once docile population has finally risen up against the ruthless regime.

Docility /dəʊ'sɪl.i.ti/ US /dɑː'sɪl.ə.ti/ *noun* [U]

Doom: *verb* [T usually passive] to make someone or something certain to fail, die, be destroyed etc.

Be doomed to failure/defeat/extinction etc.

Many species are doomed to extinction.

*The plan was **doomed from the start**.*

Be doomed to do sth

We are all doomed to die in the end.

Double-dealer: A dishonest person who cheats other people.

Down: *adjective*

I'm feeling a bit down: depressed, sad, unhappy, melancholy, miserable, wretched, sorrowful, gloomy, dejected, downhearted, despondent, dispirited, low.

Dull: *adjective*

A dull novel: uninteresting, boring, tedious, monotonous, unvaried, unimaginative, uneventful; characterless, featureless, colourless, lifeless, insipid, unexciting, uninspiring, unstimulating, jejune, flat, bland, dry, stale, tired, banal, lacklustre, humdrum, mundane.

There's never a dull moment when John's around.

Dwell on / upon: To speak or write at length; expatiate.

He dwelt on the need to trim the budget.

E:

Echo: repeat, restate, reiterate, recite.

Bill echoed Rex's words.

Efficacious: *adjective (formal)* effective, effectual, successful, productive, constructive, potent; helpful, beneficial, advantageous, valuable, useful.

efficacy

Noun (formal) effectiveness, success, productiveness, potency, power; benefit, advantage, value, virtue, usefulness.

Elaborate on/upon sth: to explain or describe sth in a more detailed way.

He said he was resigning but did not elaborate on his reasons.

Elude: v [T]

1. if a fact or the answer to a problem eludes you, you cannot remember or solve it. = **escape**

The exact terminology eludes me for the moment.

2. to escape from someone or something, especially by tricking them. = **avoid**

He managed to elude his pursuers by escaping into a river.

3. if something that you want eludes you, you fail to find or achieve it

She took the exam again, but again success eluded her.

Elite: (*noun*) best, high society, jet set, aristocracy, nobility, upper class.

The domination of power by a small political elite

A struggle for power within the ruling elite

Emanate: *verb* /'em.ə.neɪt/ [t] *formal* to produce a smell, light etc, or to show a particular quality.

He emanates tranquility.

Light that emanated from a lamp

A stove that emanated a steady heat.

Emanation: *noun* [u and c]

Emanate from: [emanate from sth] *phr verb* to come from or out of something.

Wonderful smells were emanating from the kitchen.

A sense of joy emanated from him.

Embark on/upon: to start something, especially something new, difficult, or exciting.

He embarked on a new career as a teacher.

Emerge: *verb*

1. *a policeman emerged from the alley:* COME OUT, appear, come into view, become visible, surface, materialize, manifest oneself, issue, come forth.

2. *several unexpected facts emerged:* BECOME KNOWN, become apparent, be revealed, come to light, come out, turn up, transpire, unfold, turn out, prove to be the case.

Emission: *noun* discharge, release, outpouring, outflow, outrush, leak, excretion, secretion, ejection.

Emit: *Verb* discharge, release, give out/off, pour out, send forth, throw out, void, vent, issue; leak, ooze, excrete, disgorge, secrete, eject.

Empirical: *adjective* experiential, practical, heuristic, first-hand, hands-on; observed, seen.

This theory needs to be backed up with solid empirical data/evidence.

Empirical studies show that some forms of alternative medicine are extremely effective.

Emulate: /'em.jʊ.leɪt/ *verb* [T] *formal* to copy something achieved by someone else and try to do it as well as they have = imitate, copy, mirror, echo, follow, model oneself on, take a leaf out of someone's book; match, equal, parallel, be on a par with, be in the same league as, come close to; compete with, contend with, rival, surpass.

They hope to emulate the success of other software companies.

Fitzgerald is keen to emulate Martin's record of three successive world titles.

Emulation /,em.jʊ'leɪ.ʃən/ *noun* [C or U] *formal*

Enduring: *adjective* lasting, long-lasting, abiding, durable, continuing, persisting, eternal, perennial, permanent, unending, everlasting; constant, stable, steady, steadfast, fixed, firm, unwavering, unflinching, unchanging.

Endow: *verb*

1. *Henry II endowed a hospital for poor pilgrims:* finance, fund, pay for, subsidize, support financially, settle money on; establish, found, set up, institute.

2. *Nature endowed the human race with intelligence:* provide, supply, furnish, equip, invest, favor, bless, grace, gift; give, bestow; *poetic/literary* endue.

Ennui: /ɑ:n'wi:/ *noun* boredom, tedium, listlessness, lethargy, lassitude, languor, weariness, enervation; malaise, dissatisfaction, melancholy, world-weariness, depression.

The whole country seems to be affected by the ennui of winter.

Ephemeral: *adjective* transitory, transient, fleeting, passing, short-lived, momentary, brief, short; temporary, impermanent, short-term; fly-by-night.

Fame in the world of rock and pop is largely ephemeral.

Fashion is by nature ephemeral.

Enjoy sth: (*formal*) to have sth good that is an advantage to you.

People in this country enjoy a high standard of living.

He's always enjoyed good health.

Entangle: *verb* [T usually passive always + adverb/preposition]

1. to make something become twisted and caught in a rope, net etc.

Entangle in/with:

Small animals can get entangled in the net.

2. to involve someone in an argument, a relationship, or a situation that is difficult to escape from.

Entangle sb in sth:

Fears that the US could get entangled in another war

Erroneous: *adj formal* erroneous ideas or information are wrong and based on facts that are not correct.

His economic predictions are based on some erroneous assumptions.

Erroneously: *adverb*

The bank erroneously transferred the money to her account.

Exclusive: *adjective, noun*

1. only to be used by one particular person or group; only given to one particular person or group.

The hotel has exclusive access to the beach.

Exclusive rights to televise the World Cup

His mother has told 'The Times' about his death in an exclusive interview (= not given to any other newspaper).

2. (of a group, society, etc.) not very willing to allow new people to become members, especially if *They are from a lower social class*

He belongs to an exclusive club.

3. of a high quality and expensive and therefore not often bought or used by most people

An exclusive hotel

Exclusive designer clothes

Mutually exclusive: if two things are mutually exclusive, you cannot have or do both of them.

The two views are not mutually exclusive (= both can be true at the same time).

Poverty and faith are mutually exclusive.

F:

Far-fetched: *adjective* improbable, unlikely, implausible, unconvincing, dubious, doubtful, incredible, unbelievable, unthinkable; contrived, fanciful, unrealistic, ridiculous, absurd, preposterous; *informal* hard to swallow.

Feat: *noun* achievement, accomplishment, attainment, triumph; undertaking, enterprise, venture, operation, exercise, endeavor, effort, performance, exploit.

They climbed the mountain in 28 days, a remarkable feat.

The woman who performed the feat of sailing around the world alone

Fence:

Be/sit on the fence: in a position of neutrality or indecision.

Some who had been on the fence came out in favor of the plan.

Fire: *verb* stimulate, stir up, excite, awaken, arouse, rouse, inflame, animate, inspire, motivate.

The stories fired my imagination.

The talk had fired her with enthusiasm for the project.

His imagination had been fired by the film.

Flash in the pan: a thing or person whose sudden but brief success is not repeated or repeatable.

Sadly, their success was just a flash in the pan.

Beene's new novel proves he isn't just a flash in the pan.

Flatly: *adv*

Flatly refuse/deny/oppose etc sth: to say something in a direct and definite way that is not likely to change.

He flatly denied ever having met the woman.

Foil: *verb* thwart, frustrate, counter, balk, impede, obstruct, hamper, hinder, cripple, stop, block, prevent, defeat.

Customs officials foiled an attempt to smuggle the paintings out of the country.

Their escape attempt was foiled.

For: because, as

She found a new job, for her boss gave her the sack.

She remained silent, for her heart was heavy.

I was four hours late, for the storm had derailed a train.

Formidable: *adjective*

1. *a formidable curved dagger:* intimidating, forbidding, daunting, disturbing, alarming, frightening, disquieting, brooding, awesome, fearsome, ominous, foreboding, sinister, menacing, threatening, dangerous.

2. *a formidable task:* onerous, arduous, taxing, difficult, hard, heavy, laborious, burdensome, strenuous, back-breaking, herculean, monumental, colossal; demanding, tough, challenging, exacting.

Foremost: *adjective* leading, principal, premier, prime, top, top-level, greatest, best, supreme, pre-eminent, outstanding, most important, most prominent, most influential, most illustrious, most notable.

First and foremost: *idiom* more than anything else.

He does a little teaching, but first and foremost he's a writer.

G:

Galloping: *adj* [only before noun] increasing or developing very quickly.

Galloping inflation/consumption etc.

Galloping inflation of 20 to 30%

Galloping technology

Genocide *noun* mass murder, mass homicide, massacre; ethnic cleansing, holocaust.

Gregarious: [grɪ'ge.ri.əs] *adjective*

He was fun-loving and gregarious: sociable, company-loving, convivial, companionable, outgoing, friendly, affable, amiable, genial, warm.

Give rise to: to cause.

International support has given rise to a new optimism in the company.

Given: *preposition* considering, in view of, bearing in mind, in the light of; assuming.

Given his age, he's a remarkably fast runner.

Given (the fact) that *he's had six months to do this, he hasn't made much progress.*

A good few (informal) = **quite a few** = **a considerable number** (*formal*) A considerable number.

Not all of his films have been successful - there were a good few failures in the early years.

Grant:

Take for granted:

1. To consider as true, real, or forthcoming; anticipate correctly.

Mr. Harper took for granted that the invitation included his wife.

A teacher cannot take it for granted that students always do their homework.

2. To underestimate the value of.

A publisher who took the editors for granted.

George took for granted all that his parents did for him.

Take one's time/health/parents/youth/friends etc. for granted.

Grasp: to completely understand a fact or an idea, especially a complicated one

At that time, we did not fully grasp the significance of what had happened.

Some people find the idea of relativity difficult to grasp.

Ground: *Noun countable, usually plural*

Ground for sth/for doing sth: a good or true reason for saying, doing or believing sth.

*You have no grounds **for** complaint.*

*What were his grounds **for** wanting a divorce?*

*The case was dismissed **on the grounds that** there was not enough evidence.*

*He refused to answer **on the grounds that** she was unfairly dismissed.*

*He retired from the job **on health grounds**.*

*Employers cannot discriminate **on grounds of** age.*

*There are **strong grounds** for believing his statement.*

Have grounds to do sth:

*Did the police have **reasonable grounds** to arrest him?*

On moral/legal/medical etc grounds:

*The proposal was rejected **on environmental grounds**.*

Ground: [U] a general opinion or set of attitudes.

*Often parents and teenagers find they have little **common ground** (=they do not share the same attitudes etc).*

Gain ground:

1. to become more successful.

It was feared that the extreme right might be gaining considerable ground in the election campaign.

2. if an idea, belief etc. gains ground, more people start to accept it.

His theories gradually gained ground among academics.

Common ground: opinions, interests and aims that you share with sb, although you may not agree with them about other things.

Despite our disagreements, we have been able to find some common ground.

We found ourselves on common ground on the question of education.

To find common ground between the two sides

Prepare/lay the ground: to provide the situation or conditions in which something can develop successfully.

My task was to prepare the ground for the recruitment of support workers.

Be grounded in/on sth: to be based on something.

Lewis' ideas were grounded in his strong Christian faith.

Grieve: *verb*

1. *she grieved for her father:* mourn, lament, sorrow, be sorrowful; cry, sob, weep, shed tears, keen, weep and wail, beat one's breast.

2. *it grieved me to leave her:* sadden, upset, distress, pain, hurt, wound, break someone's heart, make someone's heart bleed.

H:

Hackneyed: *adjective* trite, banal, hack, clichéd, commonplace, common, ordinary, conventional, stereotyped, predictable; overused, overdone, overworked, worn out, time-worn, platitudinous, vapid, stale, tired, threadbare; unimaginative, unoriginal, uninspired, prosaic, dull, boring, pedestrian, run-of-the-mill, routine.

Hand:

In hand: the job, question, etc. in hand is the one that you are dealing with.

Please confine your comments to the topic in hand.

Handicap: *verb*

Lack of funding handicapped the research: hamper, impede, hinder, impair, hamstring; restrict, check, obstruct, block, curb, bridle, hold back, constrain, trammel, limit, encumber; *informal* stymie.

Hang out: *phrasal verb informal* to spend a lot of time in a particular place or with particular people.

Hang out with

I don't really know who she hangs out with.

Where do the youngsters hang out?

Hard-bitten: *adjective* If someone is hard-bitten, their character has been made stronger as a result of difficult experiences in the past and they control and do not show their emotions; tough-minded, realistic, practical.

This particular murder case was so horrific that it shocked even the most hard-bitten of New York police officers.

Have to do with: To be about; be on the subject of or connected with.

The book has to do with airplanes.

His job has to do with computers.

The answer to such questions has nothing to do with a lack of skill or imagination on the part of Egyptian artists and everything to do with the purposes for which they were producing their art.

Hectic: (*adjective*) very busy; full of activity

To lead a hectic life

A hectic schedule

Hectic last-minute preparations

Today was too hectic for me.

Homey: *adjective* pleasant, like home, cozy, homelike, comfortable, welcoming, warm, pleasant, cheerful; *informal* comfy.

British Equivalent: **homely**

The restaurant has a relaxed, homey atmosphere.

Hustle: /hʌsl/ *verb, noun* = **bustle**

noun [U] busy noisy activity of a lot of people in one place.

*We escaped from **the hustle and bustle of the city for the weekend.***

Hypocrisy: /hɪ'pɒ:k.rɪ.si/ (*noun*) insincerity, falseness, deceit, dishonesty, duplicity.

He condemned the hypocrisy of those politicians who do one thing and say another.

It's hypocrisy for them to pretend that they were shocked at the news.

Hypocrite: /'hɪp.ə.krɪt/ *noun* [C]

He's a hypocrite - he's always lecturing other people on the environment but he drives around in a huge great car.

Hypocritical: /,hɪp.əʊ'krɪt.i.kəl/ US /-ə'krɪt-/ *adjective*

Their accusations of corruption are hypocritical - they have been just as corrupt themselves.

I:

Ignite: *verb*

1. *he got to safety moments before the petrol ignited:* catch fire, burst into flames; be set off, explode.

2. *a cigarette ignited the fumes:* light, set fire to, set on fire, set alight, kindle.

3. *the campaign failed to ignite voter interest*: arouse, kindle, trigger, spark, instigate, excite, provoke, stimulate, stir up, whip up, incite, fuel.

Impeccable: *adjective* flawless, faultless, unblemished, spotless, stainless, perfect, exemplary; sinless, irreproachable, blameless, guiltless.

Impair: (V) to spoil or weaken something so that it is less effective.

A recurring knee injury may have impaired his chances of winning the tournament.

Impaired: *adjective*

She suffers from impaired vision/hearing.

Impairment: *noun* [U]

Physical/mental impairment

Imperative: *adjective*

1. *it is imperative that you find him*: vitally important, of vital importance, all-important, vital, crucial, critical, essential, necessary, indispensable, urgent.

2. *the imperative note in her voice*: authoritative, masterful, dictatorial, assertive, firm, insistent.

Inadequate: *adjective*

1. *inadequate water supplies*: insufficient, deficient, poor, scant, scanty, scarce, sparse, in short supply; paltry, meager, niggardly, limited.

2. *inadequate staff*: incompetent, incapable, unsatisfactory, not up to scratch, unfit, ineffective, ineffectual, inefficient, unskillful, inexpert, inept, amateurish, substandard, poor, useless, inferior.

Incognizant: *adjective* lacking knowledge or awareness; unaware.

Incognizant of the new political situation.

Inconspicuous: *adjective* not easily seen or noticed, unnoticeable, unremarkable, unspectacular, unostentatious, undistinguished, unexceptional, modest, unassuming, discreet, hidden, concealed; unseen, in the background, low-profile, unobtrusive ≠ conspicuous

An inconspicuous little restaurant

She stood by the wall, trying to look inconspicuous.

Inconspicuously: *adv*

Incontrovertible: /ɪnˌkɒn.trəˈvɜː.tɪ.bəl/ US /-ˌkɑːn.trəˈvɜː.tə-/ *adjective formal* impossible to doubt because of being obviously true:

Incontrovertible proof/evidence

Her logic is utterly incontrovertible.

CCTV provided incontrovertible evidence that he was at the scene of the crime.

Incontrovertibly: /ɪnˌkɒn.trəˈvɜː.tɪ.bli/ US /-ˌkɑːn.trəˈvɜː.tə-/ *adverb formal*

Your assertion is incontrovertibly true.

Indicate: /ˈɪn.dɪ.keɪt/ *verb* [T] to show, point or make clear in another way.

Exploratory investigations have indicated large amounts of oil below the sea bed.

[+ question word] *Please indicate which free gift you would like to receive.*

[+ (that)] *She indicated to me (that) she didn't want me to say anything.*

Indication: /ˌɪn.dɪˈkeɪ.ʃən/ *noun* [C or U]

There are few indications (that) the economy is on an upswing.

Helen's face gave no indication of what she was thinking.

Indicative /ɪnˈdɪk.ə.tɪv/ US /-tɪv/ *adjective* being or relating to a sign that something exists, is true, or is likely to happen.

Resumption of the talks is indicative of an improving relationship between the countries.

Indicator: *noun* signal, measure, gauge, barometer, guide, index, mark, sign; standard, touchstone, yardstick, benchmark, criterion, point of reference, guideline.

Indulge: *verb* [I and T] to let yourself do or have something that you enjoy, especially something that is considered bad for you.

Indulge in:

Most of us were too busy to indulge in heavy lunchtime drinking.

Eva had never been one to indulge in self-pity.

Indulge yourself:

Even if you're dieting, you can indulge yourself (=eat what you want) once in a while.

Ray has enough money to indulge his taste for expensive wines.

Inevitable: /ɪˈnevətəbəl, ɪˈnevɪtəbəl/ *adjective*

1. certain to happen and impossible to avoid:

A further escalation of the crisis now seems inevitable.

It is inevitable (that)

It's inevitable that doctors will make the occasional mistake.

Inevitable consequence/result

Disease was an inevitable consequence of poor living conditions.

2. **The inevitable** a situation that is certain to happen:

One day the inevitable happened and I got a speeding ticket.

Inextricable /ɪn.ɪkˈstrɪk.ə.bəl/ *adjective*

1. *our lives are inextricable:* inseparable, indivisible, entangled, tangled, mixed up.

2. *an inextricable situation:* inescapable, unavoidable, ineluctable.

Inextricably /ɪn.ɪkˈstrɪk.ə.bli/ *adverb*

His name was inextricably linked with the environmental movement.

Infirmary:

1. (often used in names) a hospital.

2. a special room in a school, prison, etc. for people who are ill/sick.

The college infirmary

He had his leg bandaged in the infirmary.

She works at the Radcliffe Infirmary.

When she collapsed at dinner they took her to the local infirmary.

He had to remain in the college infirmary for about a fortnight.

Surgeons at the Radcliffe Infirmary successfully removed a blood clot from her brain.

Infrastructure: *n* [U and C] the basic systems and structures that a country or organization needs in order to work properly, for example roads, railways, banks etc.

Some countries lack a suitable economic infrastructure.

A \$65 billion investment package in education, health care and infrastructure

Ingredient: *noun* [C] constituent, component, element; part, piece, bit, strand, portion, unit, feature, aspect, attribute.

John has all the ingredients of a great player.

Investment in new product development is an essential ingredient of corporate success.

Inherent: /ɪnˈhɪərənt/ *adjective* formal quality that is inherent in something is a natural part of it and cannot be separated from it.

Inherent in:

I'm afraid the problems you mention are inherent in the system.

Every business has its own inherent risks.

Inherently: *adverb*

Firefighting is an inherently dangerous occupation.

Inhibit: *verb*

1. *the obstacles which inhibit change:* impede, hinder, hamper, hold back, discourage, interfere with, obstruct, slow down, retard; curb, check, suppress, restrict, fetter, cramp, frustrate, stifle, prevent, block, thwart, foil, stop, halt.

2. *she feels inhibited from taking part:* prevent, disallow, exclude, forbid, prohibit, preclude, ban, bar, interdict.

Innermost: *[only before noun]*

1. your innermost feelings, desires etc are your most personal and secret ones.

A man who would never share his innermost thoughts with anyone

2. *formal* furthest inside or nearest to the centre.

≠ **outermost:**

the innermost depths of the cave

Innovative: *adjective* original, innovatory, innovational, new, novel, fresh, unusual, unprecedented, avant-garde, inventive, ingenious; advanced, modern, state-of-the-art, pioneering, ground-breaking, revolutionary.

An innovative approach to language teaching

Innovative schemes for recycling waste materials

Inspire: *verb*

1. *the landscape inspired him to write:* stimulate, motivate, encourage, influence, rouse, move, stir, energize, galvanize, incite; animate, fire, inspirit, incentivize.

2. *the film inspired a musical:* give rise to, lead to, bring about, cause, prompt, spawn, engender.

3. *Charles inspired awe in her:* arouse, awaken, prompt, induce, ignite, trigger, kindle, produce, bring out; *poetic/literary* enkindle.

Inspiration: *noun*

1. *she's a real inspiration to others:* stimulus, stimulation, motivation, encouragement, influence, muse, spur, lift, boost, incentive, impulse, catalyst; example, model.

2. *his work lacks inspiration:* creativity, inventiveness, innovation, ingenuity, imagination, originality; insight, vision; finesse, flair.

3. *she had a sudden inspiration:* bright idea, revelation.

4. *inspiration pains her:* inhalation, breathing in; respiration.

Integral: *adjective*

1. *an integral part of human behavior:* essential, fundamental, basic, intrinsic, inherent, constitutive, innate, structural; vital, necessary, requisite.

2. *the dryer has integral cord storage:* built-in, inbuilt, integrated, incorporated, fitted.

3. *an integral approach to learning*: unified, integrated, comprehensive, composite, combined, aggregate; complete, whole.

Integrity: *noun* [uncountable]

1. the quality of being honest and strong about what you believe to be right.

Personal/professional/political etc integrity

A man of great moral integrity

2. *formal* the state of being united as one complete thing.

The territorial integrity of the country

In terms of: used to show what aspect of a subject you are talking about or how you are thinking about it.

The job is great in terms of salary, but it has its disadvantages.

What does this mean in terms of cost?

In terms of cost—how much were you thinking of charging?

Interwoven: past participle of interweave

Interweave: interlink, link, connect; intermix, mix, merge, blend, interlock, knit/bind together.

Their fates were interwoven.

In that: *idiom (formal)* for the reason that; because

She was fortunate in that she had friends to help her.

This research is important in that it confirms the link between aggression and alcohol.

Invaluable: *adjective* extremely useful, indispensable, crucial, critical, key, vital, irreplaceable, all-important, **priceless**.

J:

Jack-of-all-trades (and master of none): *noun* [singular] someone who can do many different types of work, but who often is not very skilled at any of them.

Jot down: to write a short piece of information quickly

Let me jot down your number and I'll call you tomorrow.

Juncture: *n* [C usually singular] *formal* a particular point in an activity or period of time.

At this juncture, I suggest we take a short break.

*The talks are at a **critical juncture** (= very important point).*

*Childhood is a **critical juncture of everyone's life**. Therefore, a huge proportion of the government's budget should be allocated to the education of children.*

*Adulthood can be considered as a **critical juncture of everyone's life**. Therefore, a huge proportion of the government's budget should be allocated to the education of adults.*

Juvenile: (*adjective*) young, teenage, adolescent, junior.

Juvenile offenders

K:

Keystone: *noun*

1. *the keystone of the door*: cornerstone, central stone, quoin.

2. *the keystone of the government's policy*: foundation, basis, linchpin, cornerstone, base, (guiding) principle, core, heart, centre, crux, fundament.

L:

Laborious: *adjective*

A laborious job: arduous, hard, heavy, difficult, strenuous, grueling, punishing, exacting, tough, onerous, burdensome, back-breaking, trying, challenging; tiring, fatiguing, exhausting, wearying, wearing, taxing, demanding, wearisome.

Languish: /'læŋ.gwiʃ/ *verb* [I]

1. to become languid, lose strength or animation, be or become dull, feeble, or spiritless, lose force or vividness.

≠ **flourish**

The housing market continues to languish.

The shares are languishing at just 46p after yesterday's fall.

West Ham United are currently languishing at the bottom of the league.

2. to exist in an unpleasant or unwanted situation, often for a long time.

*After languishing in **obscurity** for many years, her early novels have recently been rediscovered.*

*He has been languishing in **jail** for the past twenty years.*

*The ruling party is languishing in **third place** in the opinion polls.*

Law-abiding: *adjective* honest, lawful, righteous, honorable, upright, upstanding, good, decent, virtuous, moral, dutiful, obedient, compliant, disciplined.

Let alone *idiom* used after a statement to emphasize that because the first thing is not true or possible, the next thing cannot be true or possible either.

There isn't enough room for us, let alone any guests.

I didn't have any clothes, let alone a passport.

He was incapable of leading a bowling team, let alone a country.

Some people never even read a newspaper, let alone a book.

Lethargy: *noun* sluggishness, inertia, inactivity, inaction, slowness, torpor, torpidity, lifelessness, listlessness, languor, languidness, laziness, idleness, indolence, shiftlessness.

Lie (in sth): (of ideas, qualities, problems, etc.) to exist or be found = **reside in**.

The problem lies in deciding when to intervene.

M:

Magnetism: *noun* allure, attraction, fascination, appeal, draw, drawing power, pull, charm, enchantment, seductiveness, magic, spell, charisma.

His personal magnetism drew people to the church.

The magnetism produced by the battery attracts the metal.

Changes in the earth's magnetism

His sheer magnetism

Make the most of: use to the greatest advantage.

He made the most of his time in Europe and visited many art galleries.

Mandatory: *adjective* if something is mandatory, the law says it must be done; obligatory, compulsory, binding, required, requisite, necessary, essential, imperative.

Crash helmets are mandatory for motorcyclists.

*Murder carries a **mandatory** life **sentence**.*

*The Council has **made** it **mandatory** for all nurses to attend a refresher course every three years.*

Manifold: *adjective* many, numerous, multiple, multifarious, legion, diverse, various, varied, different, miscellaneous, assorted, sundry; *poetic/literary* myriad, divers.

The reasons for this situation are manifold.

The possibilities were manifold.

Manifold examples of her work have been preserved in the city archives.

Despite her manifold faults, she was a strong leader.

Measure: *noun* an official action that is done in order to achieve a particular aim; action, act, course (of action), deed, proceeding, procedure, step, means, expedient; maneuver, initiative.

Safety/security/austerity measures

A temporary/an emergency measure

Measure (to do sth) → *collocations* = to take measures/ steps/ actions to do sth

We must take **preventive measures** to reduce crime in the area.

The government is introducing tougher measures to combat crime.

Measures against racism

Police in riot gear were in attendance as a **precautionary measure**.

Mentality: *noun*

I can't understand the mentality of these people: way of thinking, mind set, cast of mind, frame of mind, turn of mind, mind, psychology, mental attitude, outlook, disposition, make-up.

Mercy:

At the mercy of: completely in the power or under the control of.

After the boat's motor failed, they were at the mercy of the weather.

She was completely at his mercy.

Merit: *noun* [C] an advantage or good feature of something.

Merit of:

*The film **has the merit** of being short.*

The merit of the report is its realistic assessment of the changes required.

*The **great merit** of the project is its flexibility and low cost.*

*Each of these approaches to teaching **has its merits**.*

*Tonight's meeting will weigh up the **relative merits** of the two candidates.*

Meticulous: very careful about small details and always making sure that everything is done correctly.

Their planning and preparation were meticulous.

He cleaned the tools with meticulous care.

The book describes his journey in meticulous detail.

Meticulous in:

He was meticulous in his use of words.

Meticulous about:

He has always been so meticulous about his appearance.

Meticulously: *adv*

The attack was meticulously planned and executed.

Milestone: /'maɪl.stəʊn/ US /-stoʊn/ *noun* [C] an important event in the development or history of something or in someone's life:

He felt that moving out from his parents' home was a real milestone in his life.

Mind:

With this in mind = If you do sth with a particular thing in mind, you do it with that thing as your aim or as the reason or the basis for your action.

These families need support. With this in mind, a group of 35 specialists met last weekend.

With these aims in mind, the school operates a broad-based curriculum.

Mischief: *noun* naughtiness, bad behavior, misbehavior, mischievousness, misconduct, disobedience; pranks, tricks.

The boys are always getting up to mischief

*If you can't see Nick, you can be sure he's **up to some mischief** (=behaving badly and causing trouble or damage).*

Miscellaneous: *adjective* various, varied, different, assorted, mixed, sundry, diverse, disparate; diversified, motley, multifarious, heterogeneous; *poetic/literary* divers.

Miscellany /mɪ'sel.ə.ni/ *noun* [S] a mixture of different things.

The museum houses a fascinating miscellany of nautical treasures.

Mold = Mould: *verb*

1. *a figure moulded from clay:* shape, form, fashion, model, work, construct, make, create, manufacture, sculpt, sculpture; forge, cast.

2. *moulding US policy:* determine, direct, control, guide, lead, influence, shape, form, fashion, make.

I try to take young athletes and mold them into team players.

An attempt to mold public opinion

Monotony: *noun* /mə'nɒt.ə.n.i/

The monotony of everyday life: tedium, tediousness, lack of variety, dullness, boredom, repetitiveness, repetitiousness, uniformity, lack of excitement, dreariness.

Monotonous: *adjective* [mə'nɒtənəs] [mə'nɑ:tənəs] never changing and therefore boring.

A monotonous voice/diet/routine

Monotonous work

*New secretaries came and went with **monotonous regularity**.*

The housewives were asked if they found housework monotonous.

A routine which may appear monotonous to some people

Speaking in a rather monotonous voice

New secretaries came and went with monotonous regularity.

A monotonous voice/diet/routine

N:

Namely: used when saying the names of the people or things you are referring to; that is.

Switzerland is surrounded by four large neighbors, namely (that is) France, Germany, Austria and Italy.

Three students were mentioned, namely John, Sarah and Sylvia.

To name but a few/a handful/two etc.: used after a short list of things or people to say that there are many more you could mention.

Technology has facilitated our daily life in diverse aspects such as working, shopping, and teaching children, to name but a few.

NB, nb /,en'bi:/ *formal* written before a piece of important information to make readers notice it.

NB Applications received after the closing date will not be accepted.

Nirvana: *noun* paradise, heaven; bliss, ecstasy, joy, peace, serenity, tranquility.

Nuisance: *noun* annoyance, inconvenience, bore, bother, irritation, problem, trouble, trial, burden; pest, plague, thorn in one's side/flesh.

Nurture: *verb*

1. *she nurtured her children into adulthood:* bring up, care for, take care of, look after, tend, rear, raise, support, foster; parent, mother.

2. *we nurtured these plants:* cultivate, grow, keep, tend.

3. *he nurtured my love of art:* encourage, promote, stimulate, develop, foster, cultivate, boost, contribute to, assist, help, abet, strengthen, fuel.

O:

Objective: *Adjective*

1. *an interviewer must try to be objective:* impartial, unbiased, unprejudiced, non-partisan, disinterested, neutral, uninvolved, even-handed, equitable, fair, fair-minded, just, open-minded, dispassionate, detached.

2. *the world of objective knowledge:* factual, actual, real, empirical, verifiable.

Opposites:

biased, subjective.

Noun: *our objective is to build a profitable business:* aim, intention, purpose, target, goal, intent, object, ambition, aspiration, desire, hope.

Obliged: *adjective* thankful, grateful, appreciative, much obliged; beholden, indebted, in someone's debt.

Oblige: *verb*

1. *both parties are obliged to accept the decision:* require, compel, bind, constrain, obligate, leave someone no option, force.

2. *I'll be happy to oblige you:* do someone a favor, accommodate, help, assist, serve; gratify someone's wishes, indulge, humor.

Offspring: *noun* plural **offspring** children, sons and daughters, progeny, family, youngsters, babies, infants, brood; descendants, heirs, successors.

Opportune: *adjective* auspicious, propitious, favorable, advantageous, golden, felicitous, suitable, appropriate, apt, fitting.

I waited, hoping for an opportune moment to discuss the possibility of a raise.

Opt: to choose one thing or do one thing instead of another.

After graduating, she opted for a career in music.

Opt to do sth:

Many young people are opting to go on to college.

Optimum: [only before noun] the best or most suitable for a particular purpose or in a particular situation; optimal.

Optimum conditions for growth

This design makes the optimum use of the available space.

The optimal economic position for households is represented by point B on the chart.

The optimal temperature for the development of larvae is in the range 18-26 C.

Orthodox: *adjective*

1. conventional, mainstream, conformist, (well) established, traditional, traditionalist, prevalent, popular, conservative.

Orthodox medical treatments

He challenged the orthodox views on education.

Orthodox views

2. *an orthodox Hindu:* conservative, traditional, observant, devout, strict.

Other:

The other way around/round: the opposite of what you have just mentioned.

I always thought that rugby was a rougher game than football, but in fact it's the other way round.

Students practice translating from French to English and the other way around.

Other than:

1. formal different from or except.

Holidays other than those in this brochure do not have free places for children.

The form cannot be signed by anyone other than yourself.

2. in a negative sentence, used to mean 'except'.

There's nothing on TV tonight, other than rubbish.

Otherwise:

1. used to state what the result would be if sth did not happen or if the situation were different.

I'd better write it down, otherwise I'll forget it.

We're committed to the project. We wouldn't be here, otherwise.

2. in a different way to the way mentioned; differently

Bismarck, otherwise known as 'the Iron Chancellor'

It is not permitted to sell or otherwise distribute copies of past examination papers.

You know what this is about. Why pretend otherwise (= that you do not)?

I wanted to see him but he was otherwise engaged (= doing sth else).

A tiny mark flawed the otherwise perfect silk shirt.

She was badly bruised but otherwise unhurt.

Or otherwise: *idiom* used to refer to sth that is different from or the opposite of what has just been mentioned.

It was necessary to discover the truth or otherwise of these statements.

We insure against all damage, accidental or otherwise.

Outermost: *adjective* [before noun] at the greatest distance from the centre.

These spacecraft may send back data about the outermost reaches of the solar system.

Outperform: *to achieve better results than sb/sth*

The company has consistently outperformed its larger rivals.

Outshine: ~ *sb/sth* To be more impressive than *sb/sth*; to be better than *sb/sth* = surpass, overshadow, outclass, exceed, transcend, be head and shoulders above,
He far outshone the rest of the class.

Outweigh: to be greater or more important than *sth*.
The advantages far outweigh the disadvantages.
The risks are vastly outweighed by the potential benefits.

Overstate: to describe or explain something in a way that makes it seem more important or serious than it really is = exaggerate, overdo, overemphasize, overplay.
The impact of the new legislation has been greatly overstated.

P:

Pave the way for: prepare (the way) for, make preparations for, get ready for, lay the foundations for.

Pendant: /'pen.tʃənt/ *n* liking, fondness, preference, taste, relish, appetite, partiality, soft spot, love, passion, desire, fancy, whim, weakness, inclination, bent, bias, proclivity, predilection, predisposition.
A/sb's pendant for sth:
if you have a pendant for something, you like that thing very much and try to do it or have it often
A pendant for fast cars

Persevere: *v* [i] to continue trying to do something in a very determined way in spite of difficulties - use this to show approval.
It can be tricky at first, but persevere.

Persevere with:

He persevered with his task until he had succeeded in collecting an armful of firewood.

Persevere in (doing) sth:

She had persevered in her claim for compensation.

Perseverance: *noun* persistence, tenacity, determination, staying power, indefatigability, steadfastness, purposefulness; patience, endurance, diligence, dedication, commitment, doggedness, assiduity, tirelessness, *formal* pertinacity.

Picky: *adj informal* someone who is picky only likes particular things and not others, and so is not easy to please; finicky, particular, over-particular, fastidious, discriminating, selective, dainty; hard to please, difficult, exacting, demanding; faddish; *informal* pernickety, choosy, picky.
He's a very picky eater.
She's very picky about her clothes.
Big companies can afford to be picky about who they hire.

Pivotal: *adjective* central, crucial, vital, critical, focal, essential, key, decisive.

The Bank of England has a pivotal role in the London money market.

Pivotal to

The talks are pivotal to the success of the country.

Plague sb/sth (with sth): /pleɪg/ to cause pain or trouble to *sb/sth* over a period of time; to trouble.

To be plagued by doubt

Financial problems are plaguing the company.

The team has been plagued by injury this season.

Practice: verb

1. *intransitive, transitive* to do an activity or train regularly so that you can improve your skill.

You need to practice every day.

~ **for sth** *She's practicing for her piano exam.*

~ **sth** *I've been practicing my serve for weeks.*

~ **(sth) on sb/sth** *He usually wants to practice his English on me.*

~ **doing sth** *Practice reversing the car into the garage.*

2. *transitive* ~ **sth (formal)** to do sth regularly as part of your normal behavior.

To practice self-restraint

Do you still practice your religion?

Practice what you preach: to do the things that you advise other people to do.

She didn't always practice what she preached.

Preach:

1. to talk about a religious subject in a public place, especially in a church during a service.

Preach to:

Christ began preaching to large crowds.

Preach on/about:

*The vicar **preached** a **sermon** about the prodigal son.*

*He traveled the southern states, **preaching the gospel**.*

2. to talk about how good or important something is and try to persuade other people about this.

Alexander has been preaching patience.

Preach the virtues/merits/benefits of sth:

A politician preaching the virtues of a free market

Predicament: *noun* difficult situation, mess, difficulty, plight, quandary, muddle, dilemma.

Priceless: *adjective* of incalculable value/worth, of immeasurable value/worth, invaluable, beyond price; irreplaceable, incomparable, unparalleled.

The ability to motivate people is a priceless asset.

Her knowledge and experience would make her a priceless (= extremely useful) asset to the team.

Priceless works of art

Prime: the time in your life when you are strongest or most successful.

A young woman in her prime

He was barely 30 and in the prime of (his) life.

These flowers are long past their prime.

Privilege: *noun* advantage, benefit; prerogative.

Senior pupils have certain privileges.

Prolong: *verb* lengthen, extend, draw out, drag out, protract, spin out, stretch out, string out, elongate; carry on, continue, keep up, perpetuate.

A prolonged illness

A prolonged period of dry weather

The effects of prolonged exposure to the sun

In many parts of the country, frosts were severe and prolonged.

Prolonged repetitive movements can cause inflammation of the joint.

The drug becomes less effective after prolonged use.

There were prolonged spells of dry weather.

Pros and cons of sth: /prɒz ən ˈkɒnz / *noun* [plural] the advantages and disadvantages of something.

We need to look at the pros and cons of each system.

Purvey: *verb* sell, supply, provide, furnish, cater, retail, deal in, trade, stock, offer.

Q:

Query: *noun*

1. *we are happy to answer any queries:* question, enquiry.

2. *there was a query as to who owned the hotel:* doubt, uncertainty, question, reservation; skepticism.

Quite a bit of: a large amount of sth; **much.**

It requires quite a bit of work and research.

Quite a few: (*formal*) many.

Life involves quite a few triumphs and failures.

Quite a few towns are now banning cars from their shopping centers.

His encouragement and interest inspired quite a few people to take up skiing.

Quite a lot of: a fairly large number or amount.

He's got quite a lot of friends.

There was quite a lot of traffic today, but yesterday was even busier.

My family has moved around quite a lot since then.

R:

Raging: /ˈreɪdʒɪŋ/ *adjective* [only before noun]

1. very great and hard to control.

A raging appetite

I was in a raging temper.

2. continuing strongly and showing no signs of ending.

A raging debate

Raging inflation

The show was a raging success.

3. a raging headache etc is very painful.

Richard developed a raging headache and had to lie down.

A raging fever (=a very high body temperature)

4. continuing or moving with great natural force.

A raging storm

A raging sea

The fire had become a raging blaze.

Rather: used to express an opposite opinion.

جمله منفی. Rather, clause.

نه...، بلکه...

A country does **not** develop by money. **Rather**, it is good management that brings about advancement.

The purpose of Paxton's book was **not** to make accusations. **Rather**, it was to provide information on which accusations might be based.

not ..., but (rather) + Phrase

نه...، بلکه...

A country develops **not by** money, **but by** good management.

The problem is **not their** lack of funding, **but (rather) their** lack of planning.

A summary differs from a paraphrase **in that** it does **not present** a full account of the material, **but rather describes** only the major points.

The ending of the war is **not** a cause for celebration, **but (rather)** for regret that it ever happened.

Our goal was **not to** punish the rich, **but (rather) to** bring justice to the poor.

Rather than:

1. (and) not & sometimes instead of. (in the middle of a sentence)

It is better for children to participate in team sports rather than individual sports.

Practically, every resident of the city can be considered as cold-blooded, unwelcoming, and soulless robots rather than humans.

The youth rather than the old are the ones who build the future of a country.

Mutual understanding rather than impulsive emotions (transient whims) is a significant driving force at around the age of 30.

2. instead of. (mostly at the beginning of a sentence)

*Rather than **criticizing** your husband, why not find out if there's something wrong?*

*Rather than **go** straight on to university why not get some work experience first?*

Why didn't you ask for help, rather than trying to do it on your own?

It would be better to make a decision now, rather than leave it until later.

Rational: adjective

1. rational thoughts, decisions, etc are based on reasons rather than emotions.

≠ **irrational**

Parents need to be fully informed so they can make a rational decision.

*I'm sure there's a **rational explanation** for all this.*

It's impossible to have a rational conversation with him.

2. a rational person is able to think calmly and sensibly.

≠ **irrational**

Culley was quite rational at the time of her baby's death.

3. *formal* able to make sensible judgments.

Man is a rational animal.

Rationally: adverb

*We were too shocked to **think rationally**.*

Rationality: noun [U]

Realize: fulfill, achieve, accomplish, make a reality, make happen, bring to fruition, bring about/off, carry out/through; *formal* effectuate.

They realized their dream.

Realm: noun

Peace in the realm: kingdom, country, land, dominion, nation.

The realm of academia: domain, sphere, area, field, world, province, territory.

Recapitulate: verb summarize, sum up; restate, repeat, reiterate, go over, review.

Recast: [ˌriːˈkæst] *verb*

1. ~ **sth (as sth)** to change sth by organizing or presenting it in a different way.

She made an attempt to recast the statement in less formal language.

She recast her lecture as a radio talk.

Recession: *noun* economic decline, downturn, depression, slump, slowdown.

Reckon: *verb*

1. *the cost was reckoned at £6,000:* calculate, compute, work out, put a figure on, figure; count (up).

2. *Anselm reckoned Hugh among his friends:* include, count, consider to be, regard as, look on as.

3. *(informal) I reckon I can manage that:* believe, think, be of the opinion/view, be convinced, dare say, imagine, guess, suppose, consider.

Rectify: *verb* correct, (put) right, put to rights, sort out, deal with, amend, remedy, repair, fix, make good, resolve, settle.

Regard:

In this/that regard: *formal* relating to something you have just mentioned.

The company's problems, in this regard, are certainly not unique.

The university needs to cut costs but has not made any particular proposals in this regard.

Remedy: *noun*

1. *herbal remedies:* treatment, cure, medicine, medication, medicament, drug; archaic physic.

2. *a remedy for all kinds of problems:* solution, answer, cure, antidote, curative, nostrum, panacea, cure-all.

Verb:

1. *remedying the situation:* put/set right, put/set to rights, right, rectify, solve, sort out, straighten out, resolve, correct, repair, mend, make good.

2. *anemia can be remedied by iron tablets:* cure, treat, heal, make better; relieve, ease, alleviate, palliate.

Replete: /riˈpli:t/ *adjective* [not before noun] ~ (with sth) (*formal*) filled with sth; with a full supply of sth. *Literature is replete with tales of power.*

Repose:

Noun

1. *a face in repose:* rest, relaxation, inactivity; sleep, slumber.

2. *they found true repose:* peace (and quiet), peacefulness, quiet, quietness, calm, tranquility.

3. *he lost his repose:* composure, serenity, equanimity, poise, self-possession, aplomb.

Verb

1. *the diamond reposed on a bed of velvet:* lie, rest, be placed, be situated.

2. *(poetic/literary) the trust he had reposed in her:* put, place, invest, entrust.

3. *the beds where we reposed:* lie (down), recline, rest, sleep.

Reside: *verb*

1. *most students reside in flats:* live in, occupy, inhabit, stay in, lodge in; *formal* dwell in, be domiciled in.

2. *the paintings reside in an air-conditioned vault:* be situated, be found, be located, lie.

3. *executive power resides in the president*: be vested in, be bestowed on, be conferred on, be in the hands of.

4. *the qualities that reside within each individual*: be inherent, be present, exist.

Resourceful: [rɪ'zɔːsf ə l] [-'sɔːr-] *adjective* skilled at solving problems and making decisions on your own

She's a very resourceful manager.

Revelation: *noun* [c] a surprising fact about someone or something that was previously secret and is now made known.

Revelation about/concerning

Startling revelations about his background

Revolve around: [not in progressive]

1. to have something as a main subject or purpose.

Jane's life revolves around her children.

The argument revolved around costs.

She seems to think that the world revolves around her (=that she is the only important person) .

2. to move in circles around something

The moon revolves around the Earth.

Rife: /raɪf/ *adjective* [not before noun] if something bad or unpleasant is rife, it is very common.

Violent crime is rife in our inner cities.

Rife with something: full of something bad or unpleasant.

The crowded factories are rife with disease.

Run rife: to spread quickly in an uncontrolled way.

No one knew exactly what he had done, but speculation ran rife.

Righteous: /'raɪ.tʃəs/ *adjective (Formal)* ethical, principled, moral, high-minded, law-abiding, honest, honorable, blameless, irreproachable, noble.

He was regarded as a righteous and holy man.

Root: the cause or origin of something bad

We must get to the root of (= discover the cause of) this problem.

What is/lies at the root of the problem is their lack of interest.

The high crime rate has its roots in unemployment and poverty.

So what's the root cause of his anxiety?

S:

Sake:

For the sake of: On behalf of; for the benefit of.

For the sake of truth and freedom, Dr. Sakharov, the Soviet dissident, was willing to be banished from Moscow.

"Do it for my sake, please!" Tom begged.

Salubrious: *adjective*

1. *I found the climate salubrious*: healthy, health giving, healthful, beneficial, wholesome.

2. *a salubrious area of London*: pleasant, agreeable, nice, select, high-class, posh.

Self-abnegating: self-denying

Self-denial: *noun* [U] when you do not do or have the things you enjoy for moral or religious reasons.

Serene: /sə'ri:n/ *adjective* peaceful and calm; troubled by nothing.

She has a lovely serene face.

A serene mountain lake

Serenely: /sə'ri:n.li/ *adverb*

She smiled serenely and said nothing.

Serenity: /sə'ren.i.ti/ US /-ə.ti/ *noun* [U]

The hotel offers a haven of peace and serenity away from the bustle of the city.

I admired her serenity in the midst of so much chaos.

Sheer luck/happiness/stupidity etc: luck, happiness etc with no other feeling or quality mixed with it
= **pure**

I'll never forget the look of sheer joy on her face.

His success was due to sheer willpower/determination.

Sheer hypocrisy

Pure/sheer luck/chance/coincidence/delight/joy/bliss/determination

Sheer terror/panic/desperation/exhaustion/hell

Simply: *adverb* only **SYN just:**

Some students lose marks simply because they don't read the question properly.

It's not simply a question of money.

What we need is not simply a smaller organization, but a more efficient one.

Simulation: *noun*

1. *countable, uncountable* a situation in which a particular set of conditions is created artificially in order to study or experience sth that could exist in reality.

A computer simulation of how the planet functions

A simulation model

An important part of training is role-play and the simulation of court cases.

2. *uncountable* the act of pretending that sth is real when it is not.

The simulation of genuine concern

Simulation models are used to predict earthquake patterns.

The pilot's skills are tested through simulation.

To test the model under different conditions, it is necessary to run simulations on a computer.

A virtual reality simulation of a moon landing

So as to do sth: *formal* in order to do something.

I drove at a steady 50 mph so as to save fuel.

We went along silently on tiptoe so as not to disturb anyone.

He observed the snakes so as to describe their behavior.

So-called: *adjective* [only before noun]

1. used to describe someone or something that has been given a name that you think is wrong.

The so-called experts couldn't tell us what was wrong.

2. used to show that something or someone is usually called a particular name.

The health threats posed by so-called 'mad cow disease'

Solace:

noun comfort, consolation, cheer, support, relief.

Seek/find solace in sth:

After the death of her son, Val found solace in the church.

They found solace in each other.

verb comfort, console, cheer, support, soothe, calm.

She was solaced with tea and sympathy.

Solidarity: (noun) unanimity, unity, like-mindedness, agreement, accord, harmony, consensus, cooperation, cohesion, concord.

So much so that: to such an extent that; to the extent that; inasmuch as; such that.

I was fascinated by the company so much so that I wrote a book about it.

Specialize in: concentrate on and become expert in a particular skill or area.

Specialized: adjective trained, designed, or developed for a particular purpose, type of work, place etc.

Specialized training for specific jobs

The highly specialized plants that live in desert areas

Specialization: the practice of limiting your interests or activities to one particular subject.

Industrial specialization

Sportsmanship: n [U] behavior that is fair, honest, and polite in a game or sports competition.

His sportsmanship and style of play is refreshing.

Good/bad/poor sportsmanship: (=good or bad behavior in a sport)

We try to teach the kids good sportsmanship.

He has a reputation for fair play and good sportsmanship.

Squander: verb waste, misspend, misuse, throw away, fritter away, spend recklessly, spend unwisely, spend like water.

Stakeholder: n [C] someone who has **invested** money into something, or who has some important connection with it, and therefore is affected by its success or failure.

Stakeholder in

Citizens should be stakeholders in the society they live in.

(It) stands to reason: it is obvious or logical.

Joe is intelligent and studies hard; it stands to reason that he will pass the examination.

Stark: adjective

1. very plain in appearance, with little or no color or decoration

In the cold dawn light, the castle looked stark and forbidding.

The stark beauty of New Mexico

2. unpleasantly clear and impossible to avoid = **harsh**

The movie shows the stark realities of life in the ghetto.

The extreme poverty of the local people is in stark contrast to the wealth of the tourists.

We are faced with a stark choice.

A stark reminder of life under communist rule

Starkly: adverb very obviously and clearly.

Her later sensual works contrast starkly with the harsh earlier paintings.

State-of-the-art: (*adjective*) modern, ultra-modern, the latest, new, the newest, up to the minute; advanced, highly developed, innovative, sophisticated.

Steadfast: *adjective*

1. *a steadfast friend:* loyal, faithful, committed, devoted, dedicated, dependable, reliable, steady, true, constant, staunch.

2. *a steadfast policy:* firm, determined, resolute, relentless, implacable, single-minded; unchanging, unwavering, unswerving, unyielding, uncompromising.

He remained steadfast in his determination to bring the criminal to justice.

Steer: *verb*

1. *he steered the boat:* guide, direct, maneuver, drive, pilot, navigate.

2. *Luke steered her down the path:* guide, conduct, direct, lead, take, usher, shepherd, marshal.

Stepping stone: *noun* an action that helps one to make progress towards a specified goal.

Stock-in-trade: *noun* [U]

1. something that is typical of a particular person or thing, especially what they say or do.

Famous people and their private lives are the stock-in-trade of the popular newspapers.

Stewart's stock-in-trade was the face-to-face interview.

2. *literary* the things you need to do your job.

The song was perfect for the soft vocals that are her stock-in-trade.

Vanessa's looks have been her stock-in-trade as an actress.

A ready wit is her stock-in-trade.

Straightforward: honest about your feelings or opinions and not hiding anything; frank, candid, open, truthful, sincere.

Jack is tough, but always straightforward and fair.

Stratum: *noun* [C] *plural strata*

1. a layer of rock or earth.

The cliffs are characterized by remarkable zigzagging strata of shale, limestone and sandstone.

2. a social class in a society.

People of different social strata

The report shows that drugs have penetrated every stratum of American society.

Strive: *verb*

I shall strive to be virtuous: try (hard), attempt, endeavor, aim, venture, make an effort, exert oneself, do one's best, do all one can, do one's utmost, labor, work; *informal* go all out, give it one's best shot.

Stupendous: *adjective*

1. *stupendous achievements:* amazing, astounding, astonishing, extraordinary, remarkable, phenomenal, staggering, breathtaking; *informal* fantastic, mind-boggling, awesome; *poetic/literary* wondrous.

2. *a building of stupendous size:* colossal, immense, vast, gigantic, massive, mammoth, huge, enormous.

Subject to:

1. *it is subject to budgetary approval:* conditional on, contingent on, dependent on.

2. *horses are subject to coughs*: susceptible to, liable to, prone to, vulnerable to, predisposed to, at risk of.

3. *we are all subject to the law*: bound by, constrained by, accountable to.

Subordinate: *noun* [sə'bɔ:rdɪnət] a person who has a position with less authority and power than sb else in an organization. **Syn**: inferior

The relationship between subordinates and superiors

He always confers with his subordinates before making decisions.

Subscribe to:

1. if you subscribe to an idea, you agree with it or support it.

Subscribe to the view/belief/theory etc.

I have never subscribed to the view that schooldays are the happiest days of your life.

He subscribes to the view that children benefit from being independent.

2. to pay money so that you will regularly receive copies of a newspaper or magazine.

We subscribe to all the main medical journals.

Substantial: sizeable, considerable, significant, large, ample, appreciable, goodly.

Substantially: *adverb*

1. *the cost has fallen substantially*: considerably, significantly, to a great/large extent, greatly, markedly, appreciably.

2. *the draft was substantially accepted*: largely, for the most part, by and large, on the whole, in the main, mainly, in essence, basically, fundamentally, to all intents and purposes.

Subtlety: *noun*

1. *the subtlety of the flavor*: delicacy, delicateness, subtleness.

2. *classification is fraught with subtlety*: fineness, subtleness, niceness, nicety, nuance.

Suffer: [suffer suffers suffered suffering] BrE ['sʌfə(r)] NAmE ['sʌfər] verb

1. *intransitive* to become worse

His school work is suffering because of family problems.

Supplant: *verb*

1. *motorways supplanted the network of a-roads*: replace, supersede, displace, take over from, substitute for, override.

2. *the man he supplanted as prime minister*: oust, usurp, overthrow, remove, topple, unseat, depose, dethrone.

To be supposed to do/be sth: *idiom* to be expected or required to do/be sth according to a rule, a custom, an arrangement, etc.

You're supposed to buy a ticket, but not many people do.

I thought we were supposed to be paid today.

The engine doesn't sound like it's supposed to.

You were supposed to be here an hour ago!

How was I supposed to know you were waiting for me?

Surmount: *verb*

1. *his reputation surmounts language barriers*: overcome, conquer, prevail over, triumph over, beat, vanquish; clear, cross, pass over; resist, endure.

2. *they surmounted the ridge*: climb over, top, ascend, scale, mount.

Sympathy: *noun*

He shows sympathy for the poor: compassion, caring, concern, solicitude, empathy; support; consideration, kindness.

Sympathetic: *adjective*

A sympathetic listener: compassionate, caring, concerned, solicitous, empathetic, understanding; considerate, kind, tender-hearted.

T:

Take:

Take, for instance, the English: consider, contemplate, ponder, think about, weigh up, mull over, examine, study, meditate over, ruminate about.

Take for granted:

1. To consider as true, real, or forthcoming; anticipate correctly.

Mr. Harper took for granted that the invitation included his wife.

A teacher cannot take it for granted that students always do their homework.

2. To underestimate the value of.

A publisher who took the editors for granted.

George took for granted all that his parents did for him.

Take one's time/health/parents/youth/friends etc. for granted.

Tedious: lasting or taking too long and not interesting, so that you feel bored and impatient.

The journey soon became tedious.

Boring/dull/tedious subjects/books

Boring/dull/tedious jobs/work/games

Her visits were starting to get a bit tedious.

The joke became increasingly tedious.

It was tedious, repetitive work.

There was a long, unutterably tedious wait.

We had to listen to all the tedious details of his operation.

Tend to do sth: if something tends to happen, it happens often and is likely to happen again = **usually**.

My car tends to overheat in the summer.

People tend to need less sleep as they get older.

Tendency: *noun*

1. *his tendency to take the law into his own hands:* propensity, proclivity, proneness, aptness, likelihood, inclination, disposition, predisposition, bent, leaning, penchant, predilection, susceptibility, liability; readiness; habit.

2. *this tendency towards cohabitation:* trend, movement, drift, swing, gravitation, direction, course; orientation, bias.

Thanks to: as a result of, owing to, due to, because of, through, as a consequence of, on account of, by virtue of; *formal* by reason of.

That is: I mean; that means; in other words; that is to say.

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I think a large proportion of the government's budget should be spent on kids for a great number of reasons, three of which—that is—a basic learning system, kids' potentials, and their concentration are the most significant ones.

Thwart *verb* stop, check, block, prevent, defeat, impede, obstruct, hinder, hamper, stymie; foil, frustrate, balk, stand in the way of, forestall, derail, dash.

They were thwarted in their attempt to gain overall control of the company.

His ambition to be a painter was thwarted by poor eyesight.

It is claimed that the authorities had thwarted the plans at the last minute.

Thrive: *verb* flourish, prosper, burgeon, bloom, blossom, do well, advance, make strides, succeed, boom.

Plants that thrive in tropical rain forests

A business which managed to thrive during a recession

Thus far also so far: *formal* until now

So far we have not had to borrow any money.

They're delighted with the replies they've received from the public thus far.

Tortuous: ['tɔ:.tʃu.əs] *adjective*

1. with many turns and changes of direction = twisting, twisty, twisting and turning, winding.

He took a tortuous route through back streets.

2. not direct or simple = convoluted, complicated, complex, labyrinthine, involved, confusing, difficult to follow.

The path to peace seems at last to be clear, although it may be a long and tortuous one.

Trace: *noun*

No trace had been found of the missing plane: vestige, sign, mark, indication, evidence, clue; remains, remnant, relic.

Transient: *adjective* transitory, temporary, short-lived, short-term, ephemeral, impermanent, brief, short, momentary, fleeting, passing, fugitive, here today and gone tomorrow; poetic/literary evanescent.

The transient nature of life

Transient fashions

Transience: /'træn.zi.ənts/ *noun* [U] *formal*

The transience of human existence/fame

Triumph: *noun* [C] an important victory or success after a difficult struggle.

*Winning the championship is a great **personal triumph**.*

Triumph for

*A tremendous **diplomatic triumph** for France*

Triumph over

The triumph over hardship

Turning point: n [C] the time when an important change starts, especially one that improves the situation

Turning point in

Meeting her was the turning point in my life.

It marks a great turning point in your lives.

The election represented a major turning point in American history.
The industrial revolution was a major historical turning point.
The process of disarmament is at a crucial turning point.
The turning point came when reinforcements arrived from the south.
This win could prove to be a historic turning point in the fortunes of the team.

U:

Ugly duckling: a person or thing that at first does not seem attractive or likely to succeed but that later becomes successful or much admired.

Unattainable: impossible to achieve.

An unattainable goal

Victory seemed unattainable.

Unblemished: *adjective* impeccable, flawless, faultless, perfect, pure, clean, spotless, unsullied, unspoil, untouched, untarnished, unpolluted; incorrupt, guiltless, sinless, innocent, blameless.

Undergo: if you undergo a change, an unpleasant experience etc, it happens to you or is done to you.

The country has undergone massive changes recently.

He has been released from prison to undergo medical treatment in the United States.

She has been undergoing tests since Monday.

Teachers should be expected to undergo mid-career training and development.

Unearth: *verb*

1. *workmen unearthed an artillery shell:* dig up, excavate, exhume, disinter, root out, unbury.

2. *I unearthed an interesting fact:* discover, uncover, find, come across, hit on, bring to light, expose, turn up, hunt out.

Unqualified: *BrE* [ˌʌnˈkwɒlɪfaɪd] *NAmE* [ˌʌnˈkwɑːlɪfaɪd] *adjective*

1. not having the right knowledge, experience or qualifications to do sth.

an unqualified instructor

• ~ **to do sth** *I feel unqualified to comment on the subject.*

• ~ **for sth** *He was totally unqualified for his job as a senior manager.*

2. *BrE* [ˌʌnˈkwɒlɪfaɪd] *NAmE* [ˌʌnˈkwɑːlɪfaɪd] *usually before noun* complete; not limited by any negative qualities

The event was not an unqualified success.

I gave her my unqualified support.

Unravel: /ʌnˈræv.əl/ *verb*

1. *detectives are trying to unravel the mystery:* solve, resolve, clear up, puzzle out, get to the bottom of, explain, clarify, make head or tail of; *informal* figure out.

2. *he unraveled the strands:* untangle, disentangle, separate out, unwind, untwist.

Unremitting: (*Formal*) never stopping, weakening in effort or failing.

Our thanks are due to Bob Lawrence whose unremitting labors have ensured the success of the whole scheme.

Unswerving: *adjective* unwavering, unflinching, steadfast, unshakeable, staunch, firm, resolute, stalwart, dedicated, committed, constant, single-minded, indefatigable, unyielding, unbending.

Unswerving loyalty/commitment/support etc:

A politician with unswerving loyalty to the President

Unswervingly:

An unswervingly loyal man

Unwavering: *adjective* steady, fixed, resolute, resolved, firm, steadfast, unswerving, unflinching, untiring, tireless, indefatigable, unyielding, relentless, unremitting, unrelenting, sustained.

Upbringing: /'ʌp,briŋɪŋ/ *noun* [singular, uncountable] the way that your parents care for you and teach you to behave when you are growing up ⇒ **bring up**

A middle-class upbringing:

She had a comfortable middle-class upbringing.

A religious/Muslim/Catholic etc upbringing:

Because of her Catholic upbringing, she would not divorce her husband.

A sheltered upbringing: (=one in which someone is protected from difficult or unpleasant experiences)
I'd had a very sheltered upbringing, so going to college was a real eye-opener.

A strict upbringing:

He reacted violently against his strict upbringing.

A privileged upbringing: (=when someone has advantages because their family is wealthy)

Due to his privileged upbringing, he finds it difficult to identify with ordinary people.

A good upbringing:

However good their upbringing, young people may still behave badly.

Utopia: *noun* paradise, heaven, heaven on earth, nirvana, ideal place.

OPP. Dystopia

Utopian: /ju:'təʊ.pi.ən/ US /-'tʊʊ-/ *adjective*

A utopian vision

Utopian aims

A utopian society

V:

(The) Very: *adjective* [only before noun] used to emphasize that you are talking exactly about one particular thing or person.

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*He died in **this very** room.*

*I'll start at **the very** beginning.*

*Those were **his very** words.*

*You'd better start doing some work **this very minute** (=now, not later).*

*That might provoke a riot, **the very thing** he was trying to avoid.*

***The very fact that** you are reading this book suggests you want to improve your fitness.*

***By its very nature**, capitalism involves exploitation of the worker.*

*His life's work was being destroyed before **his very eyes** (=directly in front of him).*

The very thought/idea/mention (of sth): (=just thinking about or suggesting something)

***The very thought of** food made me feel ill.*

***The very mention of** his name excited her.*

Via: /vaɪə/ /'vi:.ə/ *preposition* through; using.

*The London-Addis flight goes **via** Rome.*

*Reports are coming in **via** satellite.*

*I only found out about it **via** my sister.*

Vicissitudes: /vi'sis.i.tju:dz/ US /-tu:dz/ *plural noun formal* changes which happen at different times during the life or development of someone or something, especially those which result in conditions being worse.

You could say that losing your job is just one of the vicissitudes of life.

The vicissitudes of married life

Victor: *noun* winner, champion, conqueror, vanquisher.

Virtually: almost, practically, all but.

Virtually all the children come to school by bus.

He was virtually unknown before running for office.

Virtue: a particular good quality in someone's character

≠ **vice**

Among her many virtues are loyalty, courage, and truthfulness.

Virtuous: having good moral qualities and behavior.

He described them as virtuous and hard-working people.

By virtue of: *formal* because of; as a result of

She succeeded by virtue of her tenacity rather than her talent.

W:

Weighty: *adjective*

A weighty subject: important, significant, momentous, consequential, far-reaching, key, major, vital, critical, crucial; serious, grave, solemn.

White lie: *noun* [countable] *informal* a lie that you tell someone in order to protect them or avoid hurting their feelings.

Many a white lie better than a seditious truth. (English proverb)

Wholesome: *adjective*

1. promoting or conducive to good health or well-being; healthful

A wholesome climate

2. tending to improve the mind or character

A wholesome film for children

3. characterized by health and vigor of mind and body; sound

A wholesome young man

Willpower or **will power:** *noun* unwavering firmness of character, action, or will.

Decidedness, decision, decisiveness, determination, firmness, purpose, purposefulness, resoluteness, resolution, resolve, toughness, will.

Worldly-wise: *adjective* having a lot of experience and knowledge about life so that you are not easily shocked or deceived.

≠ **Naïve**

Lisa was sufficiently worldly-wise to understand the situation.

X:

Y:

Yearn: *NAmE* [jɜ:rn] *verb intransitive (literary)* to want sth very much, especially when it is very difficult to get.

~ **(for sth/sb)** *The people yearned for peace.*

There was a yearning look in his eyes.

~ **to do sth** *She yearned to escape from her office job.*

Yet: *conjunction* despite what has just been said; nevertheless.

It's a small car, yet it's surprisingly spacious.

He has a good job, and yet he never seems to have any money.

Z:

Zenith: /'zen.iθ/ *noun* highest point, high point, crowning point, height, top, acme, peak, pinnacle, apex, apogee, crown, crest, summit, climax, culmination, prime.