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I reading

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Aa

abandon *verb*
1 *The robbers **abandoned** the stolen car.*
leave, desert, forsake, leave behind, strand
(*informal*) dump, ditch
2 *We **abandoned** our picnic because of the rain.*
cancel, give up, scrap, drop, abort, discard

ability *noun*
*Skin has a natural **ability** to heal itself.*
capability, competence, aptitude, talent, expertise, skill

able *adjective*
1 *Will you be **able** to come to my party?*
allowed, permitted, free, willing
OPPOSITE unable
2 *Penguins are very **able** swimmers.*
competent, capable, accomplished, expert, skilful, proficient, talented, gifted
OPPOSITE incompetent

abolish *verb*
*I wish someone would **abolish** homework!*
get rid of, do away with, put an end to, eliminate
OPPOSITE create

about *preposition*
*There are **about** two hundred children in the school.*
approximately, roughly, close to, around
to be about something
*The film is **about** a dog called Scruff.*
concern, deal with, involve

abrupt *adjective*
1 *The book came to a very **abrupt** end.*
sudden, hurried, hasty, quick, unexpected
OPPOSITE gradual
2 *The sales assistant had a very **abrupt** manner.*
blunt, curt, sharp, rude, gruff, impolite, tactless, unfriendly
OPPOSITE polite

absent *adjective*
*Why were you **absent** from school yesterday?*
away, missing
To be absent from school without a good reason is to **play truant**.
OPPOSITE present

absolute *adjective*
*The hypnotist asked for **absolute** silence.*
complete, total, utter, perfect

absolutely *adverb*
*This floor is **absolutely** filthy!*
completely, thoroughly, totally, utterly, wholly, entirely

abuse *verb*
1 *The rescued dog had been **abused** by its owners.*
mistreat, maltreat, hurt, injure, damage, harm, misuse
2 *The referee was **abused** by players from both teams.*
be rude to, insult, swear at
(*informal*) call someone names

abuse *noun*
1 *They campaigned against the **abuse** of animals.*
mistreatment, misuse, damage, harm, injury
2 *A spectator yelled **abuse** at the referee.*
insults, name-calling, swear words

accelerate *verb*
*The bus **accelerated** when it reached the motorway.*
go faster, speed up, pick up speed
OPPOSITE slow down

accept *verb*
1 *I **accepted** the offer of a lift to the station.*
take, receive, welcome
OPPOSITE reject
2 *The club **accepted** my application for membership.*
approve, agree to, consent to
OPPOSITE reject
3 *Do you **accept** responsibility for the damage?*
admit, acknowledge, recognize, face up to
OPPOSITE deny
4 *They had to **accept** the umpire's decision.*
agree to, go along with, tolerate, put up with, resign yourself to

acceptable *adjective*
1 *Would a pound be **acceptable** as a tip?*
welcome, agreeable, appreciated, pleasant, pleasing, worthwhile
2 *She said my handwriting was not **acceptable**.*
satisfactory, adequate, appropriate, permissible, suitable, tolerable, passable
OPPOSITE unacceptable

accident *noun*
1 *There has been an **accident** at a fireworks display.*
misfortune, mishap, disaster, calamity, catastrophe
A person who is always having accidents is **accident-prone**.
2 *A motorway **accident** is causing traffic delays.*
collision, crash, smash
An accident involving a lot of vehicles is a **pile-up**.
A railway accident may involve a **derailment**.
3 *It was pure **accident** that led us to the secret passage.*
chance, luck, a fluke

accidental *adjective*
1 *The damage to the building was **accidental**.*
unintentional, unfortunate, unlucky
2 *The professor made an **accidental** discovery.*
unexpected, unforeseen, unplanned, fortunate, lucky, chance
OPPOSITE deliberate

account *noun*
1 *I wrote an **account** of our camping trip in my diary.*
report, record, description, history, narrative, story, chronicle, log
(*informal*) write-up
2 *Money was of no **account** to him.*
importance, significance, consequence, interest, value

accurate *adjective*
1 *The detective took **accurate** measurements of the room.*
careful, correct, exact, meticulous, minute, precise
OPPOSITE inexact, rough
2 *Is this an **accurate** account of what happened?*
faithful, true, reliable, truthful, factual
OPPOSITE inaccurate, false

accuse *verb*
accuse of
*Miss Sharp **accused** her opponent **of** cheating.*
charge with, blame for, condemn for, denounce for
OPPOSITE defend

ache *noun*
*The **ache** in my tooth is getting worse.*
pain, soreness, throbbing, discomfort, pang, twinge

achieve *verb*
1 *He **achieved** his ambition to play rugby for Wales.*
accomplish, attain, succeed in, carry out, fulfil
2 *The singer **achieved** success with her first CD.*
acquire, win, gain, earn, get, score

achievement *noun*
*To climb Mount Everest would be an **achievement**.*
accomplishment, attainment, success, feat, triumph

act *noun*
1 *Rescuing the boy from the river was a brave **act**.*
action, deed, feat, exploit, operation

2 *The best **act** at the circus involved three clowns.*
performance, sketch, item, turn

act *verb*
1 *We must **act** as soon as we hear the signal.*
do something, take action
2 *Give the medicine time to **act**.*
work, take effect, have an effect, function
3 *Stop **acting** like a baby!*
behave, carry on
4 *I **acted** the part of a pirate in the play.*
perform, play, portray, represent, appear as

action *noun*
1 *The driver's **action** prevented an accident.*
act, deed, effort, measure, feat
2 *The fruit ripens through the **action** of the sun.*
working, effect, mechanism
3 *The film was packed with **action**.*
drama, excitement, activity, liveliness, energy, vigour, vitality

active *adjective*
1 *Mr Aziz is very **active** for his age.*
energetic, lively, dynamic, vigorous, busy
2 *My uncle is an **active** member of the football club.*
enthusiastic, devoted, committed, dedicated, hard-working
OPPOSITE inactive

activity *noun*
1 *The town centre was full of **activity**.*
action, life, busyness, liveliness, excitement, movement, animation
2 *My mum's favourite **activity** is gardening.*
hobby, interest, pastime, pursuit, job, occupation, task

actual *adjective*
*Did you see the **actual** crime?*
real, true, genuine, authentic
OPPOSITE imaginary, supposed

actually *adverb*
*What did the teacher **actually** say to you?*
really, truly, definitely, certainly, genuinely, in fact

adapt *verb*
1 *I'll **adapt** the goggles so that they fit you.*
alter, change, modify, convert, reorganize, transform
2 *Our family **adapted** quickly to life in the country.*
become accustomed, adjust, acclimatize

add *verb*
*The poet **added** an extra line in the last verse.*
join on, attach, append, insert

to add to
*The herbs **add to** the flavour of the stew.*
improve, enhance, increase

to add up
1 *Can you **add up** these figures for me?*
count up, find the sum of, find the total of
(*informal*) tot up
2 (*informal*) *Her story just doesn't **add up**.*
be convincing, make sense

additional *adjective*
*There are **additional** toilets downstairs.*
extra, further, more, supplementary

adequate *adjective*
1 *A sandwich will be **adequate**, thank you.*
enough, sufficient, ample
2 *Your work is **adequate**, but I'm sure you can do better.*
satisfactory, acceptable, tolerable, competent, passable, respectable

adjust *verb*
1 *You need to **adjust** the TV picture.*
correct, modify, put right, improve, tune
2 *She **adjusted** the central heating thermostat.*
alter, change, set, vary, regulate

admire *verb*
1 *I **admire** her skill with words.*
think highly of, look up to, value, have a high opinion of, respect, applaud, approve of, esteem
OPPOSITE despise
2 *The travellers stopped to **admire** the view.*
enjoy, appreciate, be delighted by

admit *verb*
*Did he **admit** that he told a lie?*
acknowledge, agree, accept, confess, grant, own up
OPPOSITE deny

adopt *verb*
1 *Our school has **adopted** a healthy eating policy.*
take up, accept, choose, follow, embrace
2 *We have **adopted** a stray kitten.*
foster, take in

adore *verb*
1 *Rosie **adores** her big sister.*
love, worship, idolize, dote on
2 (*informal*) *I **adore** chocolate milk shakes!*
love, like, enjoy
OPPOSITE hate, detest

adult *adjective*
*An **adult** zebra can run at 80km an hour.*
grown-up, mature, full-size, fully grown
OPPOSITE young, immature

advance *verb*
1 *As the army **advanced**, the enemy fled.*
move forward, go forward, proceed, approach, come near, press on, progress, forge ahead, gain ground, make headway, make progress
OPPOSITE retreat
2 *Mobile phones have **advanced** in the last few years.*
develop, grow, improve, evolve, progress

advantage *noun*
*We had the **advantage** of the wind behind us.*
assistance, benefit, help, aid, asset
OPPOSITE disadvantage, drawback

adventure *noun*
1 *He told us about his latest **adventure**.*
enterprise, exploit, venture, escapade
2 *They travelled the world in search of **adventure**.*
excitement, danger, risk, thrills

advertise *verb*
*We made a poster to **advertise** the cake sale.*
publicize, promote, announce, make known
(*informal*) plug

advice *noun*
*The website gives **advice** on building a bird table.*
guidance, help, directions, recommendations, suggestions, tips, pointers

advise *verb*
1 *What did the doctor **advise**?*
recommend, suggest, advocate, prescribe
2 *He **advised** me to rest.*
counsel, encourage, urge

affect *verb*
1 *Global warming will **affect** our climate.*
have an effect or impact on, influence, change, modify, alter
2 *The bad news **affected** us deeply.*
disturb, upset, concern, trouble, worry

afford *verb*
*I can't **afford** a new bike just now.*
have enough money for, pay for, manage, spare

afraid *adjective*
1 *We felt **afraid** as we approached the haunted house.*
frightened, scared, terrified, petrified, alarmed, fearful, anxious, apprehensive
OPPOSITE brave
2 *Don't be **afraid** to ask questions.*
hesitant, reluctant, shy

age *noun*
*The book is set in the **age** of the Vikings.*
period, time, era, epoch, days

aggressive *adjective*
*Bats are not **aggressive** creatures.*
hostile, violent, provocative, quarrelsome, bullying, warlike
OPPOSITE friendly

agile *adjective*
*Mountain goats are extremely **agile**.*
nimble, graceful, sure-footed, sprightly, acrobatic, supple, swift
OPPOSITE clumsy, stiff

agony *noun*
*He screamed in **agony** when he broke his leg.*
pain, suffering, torture, torment, anguish, distress

agree *verb*
1 *I'm glad that we **agree**.*
be united, think the same, concur
OPPOSITE disagree
2 *I **agree** that you are right.*
accept, acknowledge, admit, grant, allow
OPPOSITE disagree
3 *I **agree** to pay my share.*
consent, promise, be willing, undertake
OPPOSITE refuse

agreement *noun*
1 *There was **agreement** on the need for longer holidays.*
consensus, unanimity, unity, consent, harmony, sympathy, conformity
OPPOSITE disagreement
2 *The two sides signed an **agreement**.*
alliance, treaty
An agreement to end fighting is an ***armistice*** or ***truce***.
A business agreement is a ***bargain***, ***contract***, or ***deal***.

aid *noun*
1 *We can climb out with the **aid** of this rope.*
help, support, assistance, backing, cooperation
2 *They agreed to send more **aid** to the poorer countries.*
donations, subsidies, contributions

aid *verb*
*The local people **aided** the police in their investigation.*
help, assist, support, back, collaborate with, cooperate with, contribute to, lend a hand to, further, promote, subsidize

aim *noun*
*What was the **aim** of the experiment?*
ambition, desire, dream, goal, hope, intention, objective, purpose, target, wish

aim *verb*
1 *She **aims** to be a professional dancer.*
intend, mean, plan, propose, want, wish, seek
2 *He **aimed** his bow and arrow at the target.*
point, direct, take aim with, line up, level, train, focus

air *noun*
1 *We shouldn't pollute the **air** we breathe.*
atmosphere
2 *This room needs some **air**.*
fresh air, ventilation
3 *There was an **air** of mystery about the place.*
feeling, mood, look, appearance, sense

aircraft *noun*

alarm *verb*
*The barking dog **alarmed** the sheep.*
frighten, startle, scare, panic, agitate, distress, shock, surprise, upset, worry
OPPOSITE reassure

alarm *noun*
1 *Did you hear the **alarm**?*
signal, alert, warning, siren
2 *The sudden noise filled me with **alarm**.*
fright, fear, panic, anxiety, apprehension, distress, nervousness, terror, uneasiness

alien *adjective*
1 *The desert landscape looked **alien** to us.*
strange, foreign, unfamiliar, different, exotic
OPPOSITE familiar
2 *They saw the lights of an **alien** spaceship.*
extraterrestrial

alien *noun*

WORD WEB



aircraft *noun*

Some types of aircraft
aeroplane, airliner, airship, biplane, bomber, fighter, glider, helicopter, hot-air balloon, jet, jumbo jet, seaplane

Parts of aircraft
cabin, cargo hold, cockpit, engine, fin, flap, flight deck, fuselage, joystick, passenger cabin, propeller, rotor, rudder, tail, tailplane, undercarriage, wing

Places where aircraft take off and land
aerodrome, airfield, airport, airstrip, helipad, heliport, landing strip, runway

People who fly in aircraft
pilot, aviator, balloonist;, co-pilot, cabin crew, flight attendant, passengers

WORD WEB



alien *noun*

An alien from another planet might be
humanoid, insect-like, lizard-like, reptilian, intelligent, primitive, super-intelligent, telepathic

Body parts an alien might have
antenna, blotches, scales, slime, sucker, tentacle, webbing

Transport an alien might use
alien vessel, flying saucer, mothership, pod, spacecraft, spaceship, starship, time-machine, transporter beam

An alien might call someone from Earth an ***Earthling***.

alive *adjective*
*Fortunately, my goldfish was still **alive**.*
living, live, existing, in existence, surviving, breathing, flourishing
OPPOSITE dead

allow *verb*
1 *They don't **allow** skateboards in the playground.*
permit, let, authorize, approve of, agree to, consent to, give permission for, license, put up with, stand, support, tolerate
OPPOSITE forbid
2 *Have you **allowed** enough time for the journey?*
allocate, set aside, assign, grant, earmark

all right *adjective*
1 *The survivors appeared to be **all right**.*
well, unhurt, unharmed, uninjured, safe
2 *The food in the hotel was **all right**.*
satisfactory, acceptable, adequate, reasonable, passable
3 *Is it **all right** to play music in here?*
acceptable, permissable

almost *adverb*
1 *I have **almost** finished the crossword.*
nearly, practically, just about, virtually, all but, as good as, not quite
2 ***Almost** a hundred people came to the concert.*
about, approximately, around

alone *adjective,_ adverb*
1 *Did you go to the party **alone**?*
on your own, by yourself, unaccompanied
2 *Zoe had no friends and felt very **alone**.*
lonely, friendless, isolated, solitary, lonesome, desolate

also *adverb*
*We need some bread, and **also** more butter.*
in addition, besides, additionally, too, furthermore, moreover

alter *verb*
*They have **altered** the route for the cycle race.*
change, adjust, adapt, modify, transform, amend, make different, revise, vary

always *adverb*
1 *The sea is **always** in motion.*
constantly, continuously, endlessly, eternally, for ever, perpetually, unceasingly
2 *This bus is **always** late.*
consistently, continually, invariably, persistently, regularly, repeatedly

amaze *verb*
*It **amazes** me to think that the Earth is billions of years old.*
astonish, astound, startle, surprise, stun, shock, stagger, dumbfound
(*informal*) flabbergast

amazed *adjective*
*I was **amazed** by the number of emails I received.*
astonished, astounded, stunned, surprised, dumbfounded, speechless, staggered
(*informal*) flabbergasted

amazing *adjective*
*The Northern Lights are an **amazing** sight.*
astonishing, astounding, staggering, remarkable, surprising, extraordinary, incredible, breathtaking, phenomenal, sensational, stupendous, tremendous, wonderful, mind-boggling

ambition *noun*
1 *She had great **ambition** when she was young.*
drive, enthusiasm, enterprise, push, zeal
2 *My **ambition** is to play tennis at Wimbledon.*
goal, aim, intention, objective, target, desire, dream, wish, hope, aspiration

ambitious *adjective*
1 *If you're **ambitious**, you will probably succeed.*
enterprising, enthusiastic, committed, go-ahead, keen
OPPOSITE unambitious
2 *I think your plan is too **ambitious**.*
grand, big, large-scale

amount *noun*
1 *Mum wrote a cheque for the correct **amount**.*
sum, total, whole
2 *There's a large **amount** of paper in the cupboard.*
quantity, measure, supply, volume, mass, bulk

amuse *verb*
*I think this joke will **amuse** you.*
make you laugh, entertain, cheer up, divert
(*informal*) tickle

amusing *adjective*
*I didn't find his jokes very **amusing**.*
funny, witty, humorous, comic, comical, hilarious, diverting, entertaining
OPPOSITE unamusing, serious

ancient *adjective*
1 *Does that **ancient** car still go?*
old, old-fashioned, antiquated, out of date, obsolete
2 *In **ancient** times, our ancestors were hunters.*
early, primitive, prehistoric, remote, long past, olden
The times before written records were kept are **prehistoric** times.
The ancient Greeks and Romans lived in **classical** times.
OPPOSITE modern

anger *noun*
*I was filled with **anger** when I read her letter.*
rage, fury, indignation
(*old use*) wrath, ire
An outburst of anger is a **tantrum** or a **temper**.

anger *verb*
*His cruelty towards his dog **angered** me.*
enrage, infuriate, incense, madden, annoy, irritate, exasperate, antagonize, provoke
(*informal*) make your blood boil, make you see red
OPPOSITE pacify

angry *adjective*
*Miss Potts turns purple when she gets **angry**.*
cross, furious, enraged, infuriated, irate, livid, annoyed, incensed, exasperated, fuming, indignant, raging, seething
(*informal*) mad
To become angry is to **lose your temper**.
OPPOSITE calm

animal *noun*
Refer to page 9.

announce *verb*
1 *The head **announced** that sports day was cancelled.*
declare, state, proclaim, report
2 *The DJ **announced** the next record.*
present, introduce, lead into

announcement *noun*
1 *The head reads the **announcements** in assembly.*
notice
2 *The prime minister issued an **announcement**.*
statement, declaration, proclamation, pronouncement
3 *I heard the **announcement** on TV.*
report, bulletin, news flash

annoy *verb*
1 *I was **annoyed** that I missed the bus.*
irritate, bother, displease, exasperate, anger, upset, vex, trouble, worry
OPPOSITE please
2 *Please don't **annoy** me while I'm working.*
pester, bother, harass, badger, nag, plague, trouble, try
(*informal*) bug

annoying *adjective*
*My brother has a lot of **annoying** habits.*
irritating, exasperating, maddening, provoking, tiresome, trying, vexing, troublesome

WORD WEB

animal *noun*
*Wild **animals** roam freely in the safari park.*
creature, beast, brute
A word for wild animals in general is **wildlife**.
A scientific word for animals is **fauna**.

Various kinds of animal
amphibian, arachnid, bird, fish, insect, invertebrate, mammal, marsupial, mollusc, reptile, rodent, vertebrate

An animal that eats meat is a **carnivore**.
An animal that eats plants is a **herbivore**.
An animal that eats many things is an **omnivore**.
Animals that sleep most of the winter are **hibernating animals**.
Animals that are active at night are **nocturnal animals**.

Some animals that live on land
aardvark, antelope, ape, armadillo, baboon, badger, bat, bear, beaver, bison, buffalo, camel, cheetah, chimpanzee, chinchilla, chipmunk, deer, dormouse, elephant, elk, fox, gazelle, gibbon, giraffe, gnu, gorilla, grizzly bear, hare, hedgehog, hippopotamus, hyena, jackal, jaguar, kangaroo, koala, lemming, lemur, leopard, lion, llama, lynx, mongoose, monkey, moose, mouse, ocelot, opossum, orang-utan, otter, panda, panther, platypus, polar bear, porcupine, rabbit, rat, reindeer, rhinoceros, skunk, squirrel, stoat, tapir, tiger, vole, wallaby, weasel, wildebeest, wolf, wolverine, wombat, yak, zebra

Some animals that live in the sea
dolphin, porpoise, seal, sea lion, walrus, whale

Some extinct animals
dinosaur, dodo, quagga

Parts of an animal's body
antler, claw, fang, foreleg, hindleg, hoof, horn, jaws, mane, muzzle, paw, snout, tail, trotter, tusk, whisker, fur, coat, fleece, hide, pelt

Male and female animals
A male elephant or whale is a **bull** and a female is a **cow**.
A male fox is a **dog** and a female is a **vixen**.
A male goat is a **billy goat** and a female is a **nanny goat**.
A male hare or rabbit is a **buck** and a female is a **doe**.
A male horse is a **stallion** and a female is a **mare**.
A female lion is a **lioness**.
A female pig is a **sow**.
A male sheep is a **ram** and a female is a **ewe**.
A female tiger is a **tigress**.

Writing tips
You can use these words to describe an **animal**.
1 TO DESCRIBE ***how an animal moves*:**
bound, creep, crouch, dart, gallop, gambol, leap, lumber, nuzzle, pad, paw, pounce, roam, scuttle, skip, slink, slither, spring, stamp, stampede, trot, waddle
*The jaguar **padded** along silently.*
2 TO DESCRIBE ***an animal's body*:**
agile, nimble, sinewy, wiry; lumbering, majestic, mighty, muscular, powerful *The cheetah stretched its long, **sinewy** body.*
3 TO DESCRIBE ***an animal's skin* OR *coat*:**
coarse, fluffy, furry, glistening, glossy, hairy, leathery, matted, prickly, scaly, shaggy, shiny, silky, sleek, slimy, slippery, smooth, spiky, thick, thorny, tough, wiry, woolly; mottled, piebald, spotted, striped *The otters' coats were **smooth** and **silky**.*

A male wolf is a **dog** and a female is a **bitch**.

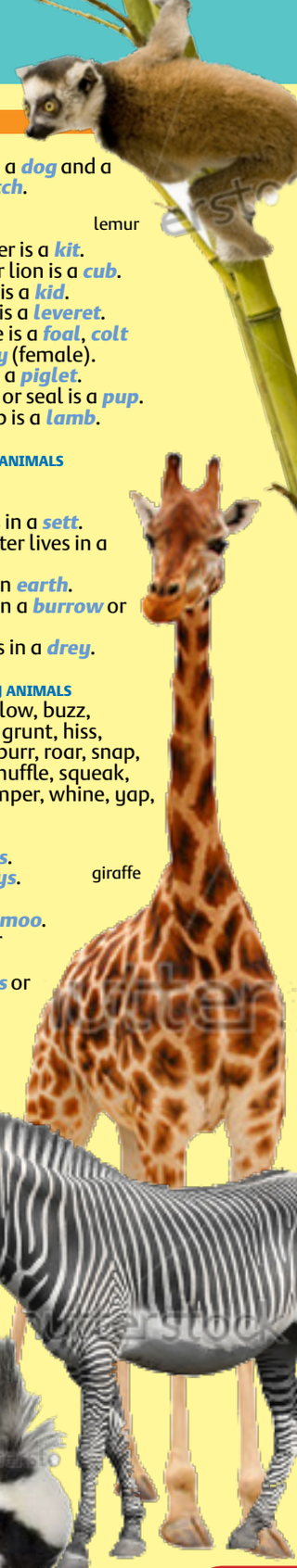
Young animals
A young beaver is a **kit**.
A young fox or lion is a **cub**.
A young goat is a **kid**.
A young hare is a **leveret**.
A young horse is a **foal**, **colt** (male), or **filly** (female).
A young pig is a **piglet**.
A young otter or seal is a **pup**.
A young sheep is a **lamb**.

Homes of wild animals
den, lair

A badger lives in a **sett**.
A beaver or otter lives in a **lodge**.
A fox lives in an **earth**.
A rabbit lives in a **burrow** or **warren**.
A squirrel lives in a **drey**.

Sounds made by animals
bark, bay, bellow, buzz, gnash, growl, grunt, hiss, howl, jabber, purr, roar, snap, snarl, snort, snuffle, squeak, trumpet, whimper, whine, yap, yelp, yowl

A sheep **bleats**.
A donkey **brays**.
A frog **croaks**.
Cattle **low** or **moo**.
A cat **mews** or **miaows**.
A horse **neighs** or **whinnies**.



answer *noun*
1 *Did you get an **answer** to your letter?*
reply, response, acknowledgement, reaction
A quick or angry answer is a ***retort***
2 *The **answers** to the quiz are on the next page.*
solution, explanation

answer *verb*
1 *You haven't **answered** my question.*
give an answer to, reply to, respond to, react to, acknowledge
2 *'I'm quite well,' I **answered**.*
reply, respond, return
To answer quickly or angrily is to ***retort***.

anxious *adjective*
1 *Are you **anxious** about your exams?*
nervous, worried, apprehensive, concerned, uneasy, fearful, edgy, fraught, tense, troubled (*informal*) uptight, jittery
OPPOSITE calm
2 *I'm **anxious** to do my best.*
eager, keen, impatient, enthusiastic, willing

apologize *verb*
*The ogre **apologized** for being rude.*
make an apology, say sorry, express regret, repent, be penitent

apparent *adjective*
*There was no **apparent** reason for the crash.*
obvious, evident, clear, noticeable, detectable, perceptible, recognizable, conspicuous, visible
OPPOSITE concealed

appeal *verb*
to appeal for
*The prisoners **appealed for** our help.*
request, beg for, plead for, cry out for, entreat, ask earnestly for, pray for
to appeal to
*That kind of music doesn't **appeal to** me.*
attract, interest, fascinate, tempt

appear *verb*
1 *Snowdrops **appear** in the spring.*
come out, emerge, become visible, come into view, develop, occur, show, crop up, spring up, surfa ce
2 *Our visitors didn't **appear** until midnight.*
arrive, come, turn up (*informal*) show up
3 *It **appears** that the baby is asleep.*
seem, look
4 *I once **appeared** in a musical.*
act, perform, take part, feature

appearance *noun*
1 *They were startled by the **appearance** of the ghost.*
approach, arrival, entrance, entry
2 *Mr Hogweed had a grim **appearance**.*
air, aspect, bearing, look

appetite *noun*
1 *When I was ill, I completely lost my **appetite**.*
hunger
2 *Explorers have a great **appetite** for adventure.*
desire, eagerness, enthusiasm, passion, keenness, wish, urge, taste, thirst, longing, yearning, craving, lust, zest

apply *verb*
1 *The nurse told me to **apply** the ointment generously.*
administer, put on, lay on, spread
2 *My brother has **applied** for a new job.*
make an application for, ask for, request
3 *The rules **apply** to all our members.*
be relevant, relate, refer
4 *The vet **applied** all her skill to save the animal's life.*
use, employ, exercise, utilize

appreciate *verb*
1 *He **appreciates** good music.*
enjoy, like, love
2 *I **appreciate** her good qualities.*
admire, respect, regard highly, approve of, value, esteem
OPPOSITE despise
3 *I **appreciate** that you can't afford much.*
realize, recognize, understand, comprehend, know, see
4 *Dad hopes that the value of our house will **appreciate**.*
grow, increase, go up, mount, rise

approach *verb*
1 *The lioness **approached** her prey.*
draw near to, move towards, come near to, advance on
2 *I **approached** the head to ask if we could have a party.*
speak to, contact, go to
3 *The volunteers **approached** their work cheerfully.*
begin, undertake, embark on, set about

approach *noun*
1 *We could hear the **approach** of heavy footsteps.*
arrival, advance, coming
2 *Dad made an **approach** to the bank manager for a loan.*
application, appeal, proposal
3 *I like her positive **approach**.*
attitude, manner, style, way
4 *The easiest **approach** to the castle is from the west.*
access, entry, entrance, way in

appropriate *adjective*
*It's not **appropriate** to wear jeans to a wedding.*
suitable, proper, fitting, apt, right, tactful, tasteful, well-judged
OPPOSITE inappropriate

approval *noun*
1 *We cheered to show our **approval**.*
appreciation, admiration, praise, high regard, acclaim, respect, support
OPPOSITE disapproval
2 *The head gave her **approval** to our plan.*
agreement, consent, authorization, assent, go-ahead, permission, support, blessing
OPPOSITE refusal

approve *verb*
*The head **approved** my request for a day off school.*
agree to, consent to, authorize, allow, accept, pass, permit, support, back
OPPOSITE refuse

approximate *adjective*
*What is the **approximate** length of the journey?*
estimated, rough, inexact, near
OPPOSITE exact

approximately *adverb*
*The film will finish at **approximately** five o'clock.*
roughly, about, around, round about, close to, nearly, more or less

area *noun*
1 *From the plane we saw a big **area** of desert.*
expanse, stretch, tract
A small area is a ***patch***.
An area of water or ice is a ***sheet***.
2 *I live in an urban **area**.*
district, locality, neighbourhood, region, zone, vicinity

argue *verb*
1 *You two are always **arguing** over something.*
quarrel, disagree, differ, fall out, fight, have an argument, squabble, wrangle, bicker
OPPOSITE agree
2 *We **argued** over the price of the cloth.*
bargain, haggle
3 *He **argued** that it was my turn to walk the dog.*
claim, assert, try to prove, maintain, reason, suggest

argument *noun*
1 *They was an **argument** over who should pay for the meal.*
disagreement, quarrel, dispute, row, clash, controversy, debate, difference, fight, squabble, altercation
2 *Did you follow the **argument** of the book?*
line of reasoning, theme, outline, gist

armour *noun*

WORD WEB

PARTS OF A MEDIEVAL KNIGHT'S ARMOUR
breastplate, cuirass (breast and back plate), gauntlet, greave (shin guard), habergeon (sleeveless coat), helmet, visor

Armour made of linked rings is ***chain mail***.
An outfit of armour is a ***suit of armour***.



arrange *verb*
1 *The books are **arranged** in alphabetical order.*
sort, order, put in order, group, organize, categorize, classify, collate, display, sort out, set out, lay out, line up
2 *Do you need any help **arranging** the party?*
plan, organize, prepare, set up, see to

arrangement *noun*
1 *They have improved the **arrangement** of the garden.*
layout, organization, design, planning
2 *Did you change the **arrangement** of my CDs?*
order, grouping, display, distribution, spacing
3 *We have an **arrangement** to use the swimming pool.*
agreement, deal, bargain, contract, scheme

arrive *verb*
*When is the train due to **arrive**?*
appear, come, turn up, show up, get in
When a plane arrives it ***lands*** or ***touches down***.
to arrive at
*We **arrived at** the castle before midnight.*
get to, reach

arrogant *adjective*
*His **arrogant** manner annoys me.*
boastful, conceited, proud, haughty, self-important, bumptious, pompous, snobbish, superior, vain (*informal*) cocky, snooty, stuck-up
OPPOSITE modest

art - need to add Word Web back in here.
See below

article *noun*
1 *Have you any **articles** for the jumble sale?*
item, object, thing
2 *Did you read my **article** in the magazine?*
essay, report, piece of writing

artificial *adjective*
1 *Organic gardeners don't use **artificial** fertilizers.*
man-made, synthetic, unnatural, manufactured
OPPOSITE natural
2 *She had an **artificial** flower in her buttonhole.*
fake, false, imitation, unreal, bogus, counterfeit
OPPOSITE genuine, real

ashamed *adjective*
*He was **ashamed** because of what he had done.*
sorry, remorseful, repentant, embarrassed, shamefaced, abashed, mortified apologetic, penitent (*informal*) red-faced
OPPOSITE unashamed, unrepentant

ask *verb*
1 *I **asked** them to be careful with the parcel.*
beg, entreat, appeal to, implore, plead with
2 *'Are you ready?' I **asked**.*
demand, enquire, inquire, query, question
3 *I'm going to **ask** you to my party.*
invite (*formal*) request the pleasure of your company

asleep *adjective*
*I didn't hear the phone because I was **asleep**.*

WORD WEB

artist *noun*
SOME ARTISTS AND CRAFTSPEOPLE
animator, blacksmith, carpenter, cartoonist, designer, draughtsman, draughtswoman, embroiderer, engraver, goldsmith, graphic designer, illustrator, knitter, mason, painter, photographer, potter, printer, quilter, sculptor, silversmith, weaver

artistic *adjective*
*Mum's flower arrangements are very **artistic**.*
creative, imaginative, aesthetic, attractive, beautiful, tasteful
OPPOSITE ugly





sleeping, dozing, having a nap, napping
(*formal*) slumbering
A patient asleep for an operation is ***anaesthetized*** or ***under sedation***.
An animal asleep for the winter is ***hibernating***.
OPPOSITE awake

to fall asleep
*We waited until the giant **fell asleep**.*
drop off, doze, nod off
To fall asleep quickly is ***to go out like a light***.

assemble *verb*
1 *A crowd **assembled** to watch the rescue.*
gather, come together, converge, accumulate, crowd together, flock together, meet, convene
OPPOSITE disperse
2 *We **assembled** our luggage at the front door.*
collect, gather, bring together, pile up, put together
3 *The general **assembled** his troops.*
round up, rally, muster

assembly *noun*
*There was a large **assembly** of people in the market square.*
gathering, meeting, crowd, throng
An assembly for worship is a ***service***.
A large assembly to show support for something, often out of doors, is a ***rally***.
An assembly to discuss political matters is a ***council*** or ***parliament***.
An assembly to discuss and learn about a particular topic is a ***conference*** or ***congress***.

assistance *noun*
1 *Do you need **assistance** with your luggage?*
help, aid, support, encouragement
2 *We bought new sports equipment with the **assistance** of a local firm.*
backing, collaboration, cooperation, sponsorship, subsidy, support

assistant *noun*
*The magician was training a new **assistant**.*
helper, partner, colleague, associate, supporter

assorted *adjective*
*I bought a bag of sweets with **assorted** flavours.*
various, different, mixed, diverse, miscellaneous, several

assortment *noun*
*There was an **assortment** of sandwiches to choose from.*
variety, mixture, selection, array, choice, collection, diversity

assume *verb*
1 *I **assume** you'd like some chocolate.*
suppose, presume, imagine, believe, guess, expect, gather, suspect, think
2 *The bandit **assumed** a disguise.*
put on, adopt, dress up in, wear

assure *verb*
*I **assure** you that I will take care of your dog.*
promise, give your word to

astonish *verb*
*It **astonished** us to learn that the house was haunted.*
amaze, astound, surprise, stagger, shock, dumbfound, leave speechless, startle, stun, take aback, take by surprise
(*informal*) flabbergast, take your breath away

astonishing *adjective*
*The volcano was an **astonishing** sight.*
amazing, astounding, staggering, remarkable, surprising, extraordinary, incredible, breathtaking, phenomenal, sensational, stupendous, tremendous, wonderful

astronaut *noun*

WORD WEB

*The **astronauts** climbed aboard the space shuttle.*
spaceman or spacewoman

Things an astronaut might use or wear
spacesuit, jet pack, oxygen tank;, gloves, helmet, moonboots or spaceboots, visor

Places an astronaut might visit
alien planet, moonbase, spacelab, space shuttle, space station, starbase



athletic *adjective*
*You need to be **athletic** to run in a marathon.*
fit, active, energetic, strong, muscular, powerful, robust, sturdy, vigorous, well-built
(*informal*) sporty
OPPOSITE feeble, puny

atrocious *adjective*
*Everyone was shocked by the **atrocious** crime.*
wicked, terrible, dreadful, abominable, brutal, savage, barbaric, bloodthirsty, callous, cruel, diabolical, evil, fiendish, horrifying, merciless, outrageous, sadistic, terrible, vicious, villainous

attach *verb*
***Attach** this label to the parcel.*
fasten, fix, join, tie, bind, secure, connect, link, couple, stick, affix, add, append
OPPOSITE detach

attack *noun*
1 *The pirates' **attack** took us by surprise.*
assault, strike, charge, rush, raid, ambush, invasion, onslaught
An attack with big guns or bombs is a ***blitz*** or ***bombardment***.
An attack by planes is an ***air raid***.
2 *The newspaper published an **attack** on his character.*
criticism, outburst, abuse, tirade
3 *I had a sneezing **attack** in assembly.*
bout, fit, spasm
(*informal*) turn

attack *verb*
1 *The travellers were **attacked** by highwaymen.*
assault, beat up, mug, set on, assail
To attack someone else's territory is to ***invade*** or ***raid*** it.
To attack someone from a hidden place is to ***ambush*** them.
To attack the enemy with bombs or heavy guns is to ***bombard*** them.
To attack by rushing at the enemy is to ***charge***.
To attack a place suddenly is to ***storm*** it.
If an animal attacks you, it might ***savage*** you.
2 *He **attacked** her reputation.*
abuse, criticize, denounce
OPPOSITE defend

attempt *verb*
*They will **attempt** to reconstruct a Viking ship.*
try, endeavour, strive, seek, aim, make an effort

attend *verb*
*Are you going to **attend** the end-of-term concert?*
go to, appear at, be present at

to attend to
1 *Please **attend** carefully **to** my instructions.*
listen to, pay attention to, follow carefully, heed, mark, mind, note, notice, observe, think about
2 *Who will **attend to** the washing up?*
deal with, see to
3 *The nurses **attended to** the wounded.*
take care of, care for, look after, help, mind, tend

attitude *noun*
*I'm trying to take a more positive **attitude** to life.*
outlook, approach, behaviour, stance, frame of mind, disposition, view, position, manner, mood

attract *verb*
1 *Do you think our exhibition will **attract** people?*
interest, appeal to, fascinate, tempt, entice
2 *Baby animals **attract** big crowds at the zoo.*
draw, pull in

attractive *adjective*
1 *Miranda was a very **attractive** young woman.*
beautiful, pretty, good-looking, handsome, gorgeous, glamorous, striking, fetching, charming, lovely, delightful, pleasing, fascinating, captivating, enchanting
OPPOSITE unattractive, repulsive
2 *There are some **attractive** bargains in the sale.*
appealing, agreeable, interesting, desirable, tempting, irresistible

authority *noun*
1 *I have the head's **authority** to go home early.*
permission, consent, approval
2 *The king had the **authority** to execute the prisoners.*
power, right, influence
3 *My uncle is an **authority** on steam trains.*
expert, specialist

automatic *adjective*
1 *We took our car through the **automatic** car wash.*
automated, mechanical, programmed, computerized
2 *My sneezing was an **automatic** response to the pepper.*
instinctive, involuntary, impulsive, spontaneous, reflex, natural, unconscious, unthinking

available *adjective*
1 *There are no more seats **available**.*
obtainable, free
2 *Is there a phone **available** in the library?*
accessible, ready, usable, at hand, handy, within reach, convenient

average *adjective*
*It was an **average** kind of day at school.*
everyday, ordinary, normal, typical, usual, regular, commonplace, familiar
OPPOSITE unusual, extraordinary

avoid *verb*
1 *The driver tried hard to **avoid** the collision.*
get out of the way of, avert, dodge, keep clear of, steer clear of, fend off, shun
2 *The outlaws **avoided** capture for months.*
elude, evade, run away from, escape from
3 *How did you manage to **avoid** the washing up?*
get out of, shirk

awake *adjective*
*Hester lay **awake** all night worrying.*
wide awake, restless, sleepless, conscious, astir
Not being able to sleep is to be suffering from ***insomnia***.
OPPOSITE asleep

award *noun*
*Kirsty got a national **award** for gymnastics.*
prize, trophy, medal

aware *adjective*

aware of
*The spy was **aware of** the dangers of the mission.*
acquainted with, conscious of, familiar with, informed about
OPPOSITE ignorant of

awful *adjective*
1 *The weather was **awful** last weekend.*
bad, dreadful, terrible, appalling, dire, abysmal
(*informal*) rubbish, lousy
2 *The teacher complained about our **awful** behaviour.*
disgraceful, shameful, disobedient, naughty
3 *Cinderella's stepmother was an **awful** woman.*
unpleasant, disagreeable, nasty, horrid, detestable, unkind, unfriendly
4 *The country was shocked by the **awful** crime.*
horrifying, shocking, atrocious, abominable, outrageous
5 *I feel **awful** about forgetting your birthday.*
sorry, ashamed, embarrassed, guilty, remorseful

awkward *adjective*
1 *The parcel was an **awkward** shape.*
bulky, inconvenient, unmanageable, unwieldy
OPPOSITE convenient
2 *The giant was very **awkward** with his knife and fork.*
clumsy, unskilful, bungling
OPPOSITE skilful
3 *We found ourselves in a very **awkward** situation.*
difficult, troublesome, trying, perplexing, tough
OPPOSITE straightforward, easy
4 *Are you trying to be **awkward**?*
obstinate, stubborn, uncooperative, unhelpful, exasperating
OPPOSITE cooperative
5 *I felt **awkward** as I didn't know anyone at the party.*
embarrassed, uncomfortable, uneasy, out of place
OPPOSITE comfortable, at ease

Bb

baby *noun*
infant, child
A baby who has just been born is a ***new-born***.
A baby just learning to walk is a ***toddler***.
The time when someone is a baby is their ***babyhood***.

babyish *adjective*
*My brother thinks that dolls are **babyish**.*
childish, immature, infantile
OPPOSITE grown-up, mature

back *noun*
*We always sit at the **back** of the bus.*
end, rear, tail end
OPPOSITE front

back *adjective*
*The **back** door of the cabin was locked.*
end, rear, tail
The back legs of an animal are its ***hind*** legs.
OPPOSITE front



back *verb*
1 *A big lorry was **backing** into our driveway.*
go backwards, reverse
2 *I'm **backing** the blue team to win the race.*
bet on, put money on
3 *The council is **backing** the plan to build a skate park.*
support, sponsor, endorse

background *noun*
1 *I drew a mermaid with the sea in the **background**.*
OPPOSITE foreground
2 *The first chapter deals with the **background** to the war.*
circumstances of, history of, lead-up to
3 *My mother's family has a Swedish **background**.*
tradition, upbringing, ancestry



bad *adjective*
*This has been a **bad** week for all of us.*
awful, horrible, terrible
OPPOSITE good, fine, excellent

OVERUSED WORDS

bad *adjective*
Try to vary the words you use for **bad**. Here are some other words you could use.

FOR A ***bad person***:
wicked, evil, cruel, malevolent, malicious, vicious, villainous, mean, nasty, beastly, monstrous, corrupt, deplorable, detestable, immoral, infamous, shameful, sinful *Gobo was a **detestable** king who was loathed by his subjects.*
A bad person is a ***scoundrel***, ***rogue***, or ***rascal***.
A bad character in a story or film is a ***villain*** or (*informal*) ***baddy***.
OPPOSITE good, virtuous

FOR A ***bad accident*** OR ***bad illness***:
serious, severe, grave, distressing, acute *Ingrid has a **severe** case of chickenpox.*
OPPOSITE minor

FOR ***bad behaviour***:
naughty, mischievous, disobedient, disgraceful, wrong *That **mischievous** kitten drank my milk!*
OPPOSITE exemplary, angelic

FOR A ***bad experience*** OR ***bad news***:
unpleasant, unwelcome, disagreeable, horrible, awful, terrible, dreadful, horrific, appalling, shocking, hideous, disastrous, ghastly, frightful, abominable, diabolical *The letter contained **disagreeable** news.*
Another word for a bad experience is an ***ordeal***.
OPPOSITE good, excellent

FOR A ***bad habit*** OR SOMETHING THAT IS ***bad for you***:
harmful, damaging, dangerous, undesirable, detrimental, injurious *Fizzy drinks can be **harmful** to your teeth.*

FOR ***bad weather***:
harsh, hostile, unfavourable, adverse, miserable (*informal*) lousy *Penguins face **hostile** weather in the Antarctic.*
OPPOSITE fine, favourable

FOR FOOD THAT HAS ***gone bad***:
mouldy, rotten, off, decayed, sour, spoiled, rancid *The strawberries have started to go **mouldy**.*
OPPOSITE fresh

TO ***feel bad*** ABOUT SOMETHING:
guilty, ashamed, sorry, remorseful, repentant *Scrooge feels **repentant** by the end of the story.*
OPPOSITE unashamed, unrepentant

bad-tempered *adjective*
*Trolls are always **bad-tempered** before breakfast.*
cross, grumpy, irritable, moody, quarrelsome, fractious, ill-tempered, short-tempered, cantankerous, crotchety, snappy, testy, sullen
OPPOSITE good-tempered, cheerful

bags



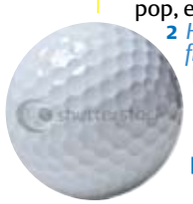
bag *noun*
*I put my wet clothes in a plastic **bag**.*
sack, carrier, holdall, satchel, handbag, shoulder bag
A bag you carry on your back is a ***backpack*** or ***rucksack***.



backpack

ball *noun*
*Wind the string into a **ball**.*
sphere, globe, orb
A small ball of something is a ***pellet*** or ***globule***.

ban *verb*
*Rollerblades are **banned** from the playground.*
forbid, prohibit, bar, exclude, outlaw
OPPOSITE allow,



band *noun*
1 *The king was surrounded by a **band** of courtiers.*
company, group, gang, party, troop, crew
2 *I play piano in the junior jazz **band**.*
group, ensemble, orchestra
3 *The team captain wears a red arm **band**.*
strip, stripe, ring, line, belt, hoop



bang *noun*
1 *There was a loud **bang** as the balloon burst.*
blast, boom, crash, thud, thump, pop, explosion, report
2 *He got a **bang** on the head from the low ceiling.*
bump, blow, hit, knock, thump, punch, smack, whack, clout (*informal*) wallop

bang *verb*



*Miss Crabbit **banged** her fist on the desk and scowled.*
hit, thump, strike, bash, slam, wham

banish *verb*
*The king's brother was **banished** forever.*
exile, expel, deport, send away, eject

bank *noun*
1 *The temple was built on the **banks** of the River Nile.*
edge, side, shore, margin, brink
2 *We rolled our Easter eggs down a grassy **bank**.*
slope, mound, ridge, embankment

banquet *noun*
*There was a **banquet** on the queen's birthday.*
dinner, feast

bar *noun*
1 *Did you eat the whole **bar** of chocolate?*
block, slab, chunk, wedge
A bar of gold or silver is an ***ingot***.
A bar of soap is a ***cake***.
2 *The window had iron **bars** across it.*
rod, pole, rail, stake, beam, girder

bar *verb*
1 *Two athletes were **barred** from competing in the race.*
ban, prohibit, exclude, keep out
2 *A fallen tree **barred** our way.*
block, hinder, impede, obstruct, stop, check

bare *adjective*
1 *I put suncream on my **bare** arms and legs.*
naked, nude, exposed, uncovered, unclothed, undressed
2 *The wolf had a **bare** patch on its back.*
bald, hairless
3 *We slept outside on the **bare** mountain.*
barren, bleak, treeless
4 *Inside, the dungeon was cold and **bare**.*
empty, unfurnished, vacant
5 *There wasn't a **bare** patch of wall left.*
blank, plain, clear, empty
6 *There is only room to pack the **bare** essentials.*
basic, minimum

barely *adverb*
*We **barely** had time to get dressed.*
hardly, scarcely, only just

bargain *noun*
1 *We made a **bargain** with the captain to take us ashore.*
deal, agreement, promise, pact
2 *That camera you bought was a **bargain**.*
good buy, special offer (*informal*) snip, steal

bargain *verb*
*He refused to **bargain** with the pirates for his life.*
argue, do a deal, haggle, negotiate

bark *verb*
*The guard dog began to **bark** fiercely.*
woof, yap, yelp, growl

barrel *noun*
*The smugglers carried **barrels** of gunpowder.*
cask, drum, tub, keg, butt

barrier *noun*
1 *Spectators were asked to stay behind the **barrier**.*
wall, fence, railing, barricade
A barrier across a road is a ***roadblock***.
2 *His shyness was a **barrier** to making friends.*
obstacle, hurdle, drawback, handicap, hindrance, stumbling block

base *noun*
1 *The footprints stop at the **base** of the pyramid.*
bottom, foot
2 *The dolls' house comes with a wooden **base**.*
foundation, support
A base under a statue is a ***pedestal*** or ***plinth***.
3 *The mountaineers returned to their **base**.*
headquarters, camp, depot

basic *adjective*
1 *These are the **basic** moves in ice-skating.*
main, chief, principal, key, central, essential, fundamental, crucial
2 *My knowledge of French is very **basic**.*
elementary, simple
OPPOSITE advanced

bathe *verb*
1 *It was too cold to **bathe** in the sea.*
swim, go swimming, splash about, take a dip
To walk about in shallow water is to ***paddle***.
To walk through deep water is to ***wade***.
2 *The nurse gently **bathed** the wound.*
clean, cleanse, wash, rinse

battle *noun*
*The **battle** between our countries raged for many years.*
fight, clash, conflict, action, engagement, hostilities, struggle





beach *noun*
*We found these shells on the **beach**.*
sands, seashore, seaside, shore

beam *noun*
1 *Wooden **beams** ran across the ceiling.*
bar, timber, joist, plank, post, rafter, boom, spar, strut, support
2 *A **beam** of sunlight entered the cave.*
ray, shaft, stream, gleam
A strong narrow beam of light used in various devices is a ***laser***.

bear *verb*
1 *The rope won't **bear** my weight.*
carry, support, hold, take
2 *The messenger **bore** a letter from the king.*
bring, carry, convey, transport, take, transfer
3 *The gravestone **bears** an old inscription.*
display, show, have
4 *The stench in the cave was too much to **bear**.*
put up with, cope with, stand, suffer, tolerate, endure, abide
5 *The lioness has **borne** three cubs.*
give birth to

beast *noun*
*In the darkness, they heard a wild **beast** howl.*
animal, creature
You might call a large or frightening beast a ***brute*** or ***monster***.

beat *verb*
1 *It's cruel to **beat** an animal with a stick.*
hit, strike, thrash, batter, whip, lash, flog (*informal*) whack, wallop
2 *I **beat** my brother at chess for the first time.*
defeat, conquer, vanquish, win against, get the better of, overcome, overwhelm, rout, thrash, trounce (*informal*) hammer
3 ***Beat** the eggs, milk, and sugar together.*
whisk, whip, blend, mix, stir
4 *Can you feel your heart **beating**?*
pound, thump, palpitate
to beat someone up
*The bully threatened to **beat me up**.*
assault, attack

beat *noun*
1 *Can you feel the **beat** of your heart?*
pulse, throb
2 *Reggae music has a strong **beat**.*
rhythm, accent, stress

beautiful *adjective*
*The fairy queen looked **beautiful** by moonlight.*
attractive, good-looking, pretty, gorgeous, glamorous, radiant, elegant, enchanting, dazzling, stunning, magnificent, resplendent
A man who is pleasing to look at is *good-looking* or *handsome*.
OPPOSITE ugly, unattractive
*It was a **beautiful** day for a bicycle trip.*
fine, excellent, glorious, marvellous, sunny, superb, splendid, wonderful
OPPOSITE dull, gloomy, drab
*The Northern Lights are a **beautiful** sight.*
glorious, magnificent, picturesque, scenic, spectacular, splendid
*The nightingale has a **beautiful** song.*
harmonious, mellifluous, melodious, sweet-sounding
OPPOSITE grating

beckon *verb*
*The guard was **beckoning** me to approach.*
signal, gesture, motion, gesticulate

become *verb*
1 *I soon **became** frustrated with the video game.*
begin to be, turn, get
2 *Eventually, the tadpoles will **become** frogs.*
grow into, change into, develop into, turn into
3 *That style of hat **becomes** you.*
look good on, suit, flatter

bed *noun*
1 *The children slept on hard, wooden **beds**.*
bunk, mattress
A bed for a baby is a ***cot***, ***cradle***, or ***crib***.
Two single beds one above the other are ***bunk beds***.
A bed on a ship or train is a ***berth***.
A bed made of net or cloth hung up above the ground is a ***hammock***.
2 *We planted daffodils in the flower **beds**.*
plot, patch, border
3 *These creatures feed on the **bed** of the ocean.*
bottom, floor
OPPOSITE surface

beg *verb*
*He **begged** me not to let go of the rope.*
ask, plead with, entreat, implore, beseech

begin *verb*
1 *The hunters **began** their search at dawn.*
start, commence, embark on, set about
OPPOSITE end, finish, conclude
2 *When did the trouble **begin**?*
start, commence, arise, emerge, appear, originate, spring up
OPPOSITE end, stop, cease

beginning *noun*
*The house was built at the **beginning** of last century.*
start, opening, commencement, introduction, establishment, foundation, initiation, launch, dawn
The beginning of the day is ***dawn*** or ***daybreak***.
The beginning of a journey is the ***starting point***.
The beginning of a stream or river is the ***origin*** or ***source***.
A piece of writing at the beginning of a book is an ***introduction***, ***preface***, or ***prologue***.
A piece of music at the beginning of a musical or opera is a ***prelude*** or ***overture***.
OPPOSITE end, conclusion

behave *verb*
*Our neighbour is **behaving** very strangely.*
act, react, perform
to behave yourself
*We promised to **behave ourselves** in the car.*
be good, be on your best behaviour

behaviour *noun*
*I give my puppy treats for good **behaviour**.*
actions, conduct, manners, attitude

belief *noun*
1 *She was a woman of strong religious **beliefs**.*
faith, principle, creed, doctrine
2 *It is my **belief** is that he stole the money.*
opinion, view, conviction, feeling, notion, theory

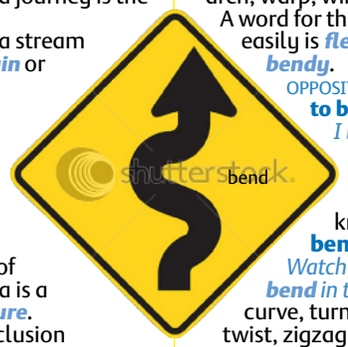
believable *adjective*
*None of the characters in the book are **believable**.*
credible, plausible
OPPOSITE unbelievable, implausible

believe *verb*
1 *I don't **believe** anything he says.*
accept, have faith in, rely on, trust
OPPOSITE disbelieve, doubt
2 *I **believe** they used to live in Canada.*
assume, feel, know, presume, reckon, suppose, think

belong *verb*
1 *This ring **belonged** to my grandmother.*
be owned by
2 *Do you **belong** to the sports club?*
be a member of, be connected with

belongings *plural noun*
*Don't leave any **belongings** on the bus.*
possessions, property, goods, things

bend *verb*
*This drinking straw **bends** in the middle.*
curve, turn, twist, curl, coil, loop, arch, warp, wind
A word for things which bend easily is ***flexible*** or (*informal*) ***bendy***.
OPPOSITE straighten



to bend down
*I **bent down** to tie my shoelaces.*
stoop, bow, crouch, duck, kneel

bend *noun*
*Watch out for the sharp **bend** in the road.*
curve, turn, angle, corner, twist, zigzag

bent *adjective*
1 *After the crash, the car was a mass of **bent** metal.*
curved, twisted, coiled, looped, buckled, crooked, arched, folded, warped
(*informal*) wonky
2 *The witch had a **bent** back and walked with a stick.*
crooked, hunched, curved, arched, bowed

best *adjective*
1 *She is our **best** goalkeeper.*
top, leading, finest, foremost, supreme, star, outstanding, unequalled, unrivalled
OPPOSITE worst
2 *We did what we thought was **best**.*
most suitable, most appropriate

betray *verb*
1 *He **betrayed** us by telling the enemy our plan.*
be disloyal to, be a traitor to, cheat, conspire against, double-cross
Someone who betrays you is a ***traitor***.
To betray your country is to commit ***treason***.
2 *The look in her eyes **betrayed** her true feelings.*
reveal, show, indicate, disclose, divulge, expose, tell

better *adjective*
1 *Which of these songs do you think is **better**?*
superior, finer, preferable
2 *I had a cold, but I'm **better** now.*
recovered, cured, healed, improved, well

beware *verb*
***Beware**! There are thieves about.*
be careful! watch out! look out! take care! be on your guard!
beware of
*Beware **of** the bull.*
watch out for, avoid, mind, heed, keep clear of

biased *adjective*
*A referee should not make a **biased** decision.*
prejudiced, partial, one-sided, partisan, unfair
OPPOSITE impartial

big *adjective*
*The giant owned three pairs of **big** boots.*
large, huge, great, massive, enormous, gigantic, colossal, mammoth
(*informal*) whopping, ginormous, humungous
OPPOSITE small, little, tiny

OVERUSED WORDS

big *adjective*
Try to vary the words you use for **big**. Here are some other words you could use.
FOR A ***big person*** OR ***big creature***:
burly, giant, hefty, hulking, mighty, monstrous, towering
*The **mighty** robot clanked as it moved.*
FOR A ***big object***:
bulky, heavy, hefty, weighty
*What could be inside that **bulky** envelope?*
FOR A ***big room*** OR ***big box***:
roomy, sizeable, spacious *Inside, the spaceship was surprisingly **roomy**.*
OPPOSITE cramped
FOR A ***big distance***:
immense, infinite, vast *A **vast** stretch of ocean lay before them.*
FOR A ***big amount*** OR ***big helping***:
ample, considerable, substantial
*We each got an **ample** helping of porridge.*
OPPOSITE meagre, paltry
FOR A ***big decision*** OR ***big moment***:
grave, important, serious, significant *Yesterday was the most **significant** day in my short life.*
OPPOSITE unimportant, minor

WORD WEB

bird *noun*
A female bird is a ***hen***.
A male bird is a ***cock***.
A young bird is a ***chick***, ***fledgling***, or ***nestling***.
A family of chicks is a ***brood***.
A group of birds is a ***colony*** or ***flock***.
A group of flying birds is a ***flight*** or ***skein***.
A person who studies birds is an ***ornithologist***.

SOME COMMON BRITISH BIRDS
blackbird, bluetit, bullfinch, bunting, chaffinch, crow, cuckoo, dove, greenfinch, jackdaw, jay, linnet, magpie, martin, nightingale, pigeon, raven, robin, rook, skylark, sparrow, starling, swallow, swift, thrush, tit, wagtail, waxwing, woodpecker, wren, yellowhammer

BIRDS OF PREY
buzzard, eagle, falcon, hawk, kestrel, kite, merlin, osprey, owl, sparrowhawk, vulture

FARM AND GAME BIRDS
chicken, duck, goose, grouse, partridge, pheasant, quail, turkey

Birds kept by farmers are called ***poultry***.

SEA AND WATER BIRDS
albatross, auk, bittern, coot, cormorant, crane, curlew, duck, gannet, goose, guillemot, gull, heron, kingfisher, kittiwake, lapwing, mallard, moorhen, oystercatcher, peewit, pelican, penguin, puffin, seagull, snipe, stork, swan, teal

BIRDS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES
bird of paradise, budgerigar, canary, cockatoo, flamingo, humming bird, ibis, kookaburra, macaw, mynah bird, parakeet, parrot, toucan

BIRDS WHICH CANNOT FLY
emu, kiwi, ostrich, peacock, penguin


eagle

PARTS OF A BIRD'S BODY
beak, bill, claw, talon, breast, crown, throat;, crest, feather, down, plumage, plume, wing

SOME TYPES OF BIRD HOME
nest, nesting box;, aviary, coop, roost

SOUNDS MADE BY BIRDS
cackle, caw, cheep, chirp, chirrup, cluck, coo, crow, gabble, honk, peep, pipe, quack, screech, squawk, trill, tweet, twitter, warble

A turkey ***gobbles***.
An owl ***hoots***.

SPECIAL NAMES
A female peacock is a ***peahen***.
A young duck is a ***duckling***.
A young goose is a ***gosling***.
A young swan is a ***cygnet***.
An eagle's nest is an ***eyrie***.
A place where rooks nest is a ***rookery***.


flamingo

OVERUSED WORDS

You can use these words to describe a **bird**.
1 TO DESCRIBE *how a bird moves*:
circle, dart, flit, flutter, fly, glide, hop, hover, peck, perch, preen, skim, soar, swoop, waddle, wheel *A pair of swallows **flitted** among the rooftops.*
2 TO DESCRIBE *a bird's feathers*:
bedraggled, downy, drab, fluffy, gleaming, iridescent, ruffled, smooth, speckled *The peacock displayed its **iridescent** tail.*



bit *noun*
1 *Mum divided the cake into eight **bits**.*
piece, portion, part, section, segment, share, slice
2 *These jeans are a **bit** long for me.*
a little, slightly, rather, fairly, somewhat, quite

bite *verb*
1 *I **bit** a chunk out of my apple.*
munch, nibble, chew, crunch, gnaw
(*informal*) chomp
2 *Take care. These animals can **bite**.*
nip, pinch, pierce, wound
When an animal tries to bite you it ***snaps*** at you.
When an insect bites you it ***stings*** you.
A fierce animal ***mauls*** or ***savages*** its prey.

bitter *adjective*
1 *The medicine had a **bitter** taste.*
sour, sharp, acid, acrid, tart
OPPOSITE sweet
2 *His brother was still **bitter** about the quarrel.*
resentful, embittered, disgruntled, aggrieved
OPPOSITE contented
3 *The wind blowing in from the sea was **bitter**.*
biting, cold, freezing, icy, piercing, raw, wintry
(*informal*) perishing
OPPOSITE mild

black *adjective, noun*
*The pony had a shiny **black** coat.*
coal-black, jet-black, pitch-black, ebony, raven
You can also describe a black night as ***pitch-dark***.
Someone in a bad mood is said to look ***as black as thunder***.
Common similes are ***as black as coal*** and ***as black as night***.

blame *verb*
*Don't **blame** me if you miss the bus.*
accuse, criticize, condemn, reproach, scold

blank *adjective*
1 *There are no **blank** pages left in my jotter.*
empty, bare, clean, plain, unmarked, unused
2 *The old woman gave us a **blank** look.*
expressionless, faceless, vacant

blaze *noun*
*Firefighters fought the **blaze** for hours.*
fire, flames, inferno

blaze *verb*
*Within a few minutes the campfire was **blazing**.*
burn brightly, flare up

bleak *adjective*
1 *The countryside was **bleak** and barren.*
bare, barren, desolate, empty, exposed, stark
2 *The future looks **bleak** for the club.*
gloomy, hopeless, depressing, dismal, grim, miserable
OPPOSITE promising

blend *verb*
1 ***Blend** the flour with a tablespoon of water.*
beat together, mix, stir together, whip, whisk
2 *The paint colours **blend** well with each other.*
go together, match, fit, harmonize
OPPOSITE clash

blind *adjective*
*Polar bear cubs are born **blind**.*
sightless, unsighted, unseeing
A common simile is ***as blind as a bat***.
OPPOSITE sighted, seeing

blind to
*The captain was **blind to** his own faults.*
ignorant of, unaware of, oblivious to
OPPOSITE aware of

bliss *noun*
*Having a whole day off school was sheer **bliss**.*
joy, delight, pleasure, happiness, heaven, ecstasy
OPPOSITE misery

blob *noun*
*The alien left **blobs** of green slime on the carpet.*
drop, lump, spot, dollop, daub, globule

block *noun*
1 *A **block** of ice fell from the glacier.*
chunk, hunk, lump, piece
2 *There must be a **block** in the drainpipe.*
blockage, jam, obstacle, obstruction

block *verb*
1 *A tall hedge **blocked** our view of the house.*
obstruct, hamper, hinder, interfere with
2 *A mass of leaves had **blocked** the drain.*
clog, choke, jam, plug, stop up, congest
(*informal*) bung up

bloodthirsty *adjective*
*The **bloodthirsty** pirates rattled their swords.*
brutal, cruel, barbaric, murderous, inhuman, pitiless, ruthless, savage, vicious

bloom *noun*
*The pear tree was covered in white **blooms**.*
flower, blossom, bud

bloom *verb*
*The daffodils **bloomed** early this year.*
blossom, flower, open
OPPOSITE fade

blot *noun*
*The old map was covered with ink **blots**.*
spot, blotch, mark, blob, splodge, smudge, smear, stain

blot *verb*
to blot something out
*The new tower block **blots out** the view.*
conceal, hide, mask, obliterate, obscure

blow *noun*
1 *He was knocked out by a **blow** on the head.*
knock, bang, bash, hit, punch, clout, slap, smack, swipe, thump
(*informal*) wallop, whack
2 *Losing the hockey match was a terrible **blow**.*
shock, upset, setback, disappointment, catastrophe, misfortune, disaster, calamity

blow *verb*
*The wind was **blowing** from the east.*
blast, gust, puff, fan
To make a shrill sound by blowing is to ***whistle***.

blunder *noun*
*Forgetting her birthday was a terrible **blunder**.*
mistake, error, fault, slip, slip-up, gaffe
(*informal*) howler

blunt *adjective*
1 *This pencil is **blunt**.*
dull, worn, unsharpened
OPPOSITE sharp, pointed
2 *Her reply to my question was very **blunt**.*
abrupt, frank, direct, outspoken, plain, tactless
OPPOSITE tactful

blurred *adjective*
*The background of the photograph is all **blurred**.*
indistinct, vague, blurry, fuzzy, hazy, out of focus
OPPOSITE clear, distinct

blush *verb*
*The actor **blushed** with embarrassment.*
flush, go red, colour

boast *verb*
*The knight was always **boasting** about his fencing skills.*
brag, show off, crow, gloat, swagger
(*informal*) blow your own trumpet

boastful *adjective*
*Giants are **boastful** creatures and brag about everything.*
arrogant, big-headed, conceited, vain, bumptious
(*informal*) cocky, swanky
OPPOSITE modest, humble

WORD WEB

boat *noun*
*Several fishing **boats** were moored in the harbour.*
ship, craft, vessel

Some types of boat or ship
barge, canoe, catamaran, cruise liner, dhow, dinghy, dugout, ferry, freighter, gondola, hovercraft, hydrofoil, junk, launch, lifeboat, motor boat, oil tanker, paper boat, punt, raft, rowing boat, schooner, skiff, speedboat, steamship, tanker, trawler, tug, yacht

Military boats or ships
aircraft carrier, battleship, destroyer, frigate, gunboat, minesweeper, submarine, warship

Some boats used in the past
brigantine, clipper, coracle, cutter, galleon, galley, man-of-war, paddle steamer, schooner, trireme, windjammer

kayaking

Words for parts of a boat or ship
boom, bridge, bulwark, cabin, crow's nest, deck, engine room, fo'c'sle or forecastle, funnel, galley, helm, hull, keel, mast, poop, porthole, propeller, quarterdeck, rigging, rudder, sail, tiller

Special names
The front part of a boat is the ***bow*** or ***prow***.
The back part of a boat is the ***stern***.

The left-hand side of a boat is called ***port***.

The right-hand side of a boat is called ***starboard***.
A shed where boats are stored is a ***boathouse***.

canoe

lifeboat

yacht

cruiseliner

dinghy

body *noun*

WORD WEB

The study of the human body is ***anatomy***.
The main part of your body except your head, arms, and legs is your ***trunk*** or ***torso***.
The shape of your body is your ***build***, ***figure***, or ***physique***.
A person's dead body is a ***corpse***.
The dead body of an animal is a ***carcass***.

OUTER PARTS OF THE HUMAN BODY
abdomen, ankle, arm, armpit, breast, buttocks, calf, cheek, chest, chin, ear, elbow, eye, finger, foot, forehead, genitals, groin, hand, head, heel, hip, instep, jaw, knee, kneecap, knuckle, leg, lip, mouth, navel, neck, nipple, nose, pores, shin, shoulder, skin, stomach, temple, thigh, throat, waist, wrist

INNER PARTS OF THE HUMAN BODY
arteries, bladder, bowels, brain, eardrum, glands, gullet, gums, guts, heart, intestines, kidneys, larynx, liver, lung, muscles, nerves, ovaries, pancreas, prostate, sinews, stomach, tendons, tongue, tonsil, tooth, uterus, veins, windpipe, womb

bog *noun*
*We felt our boots sinking into the **bog**.*
swamp, quagmire, quicksand, fen

boisterous *adjective*
*Baby dragons can be loud and **boisterous**.*
lively, noisy, rowdy, unruly, wild, disorderly
OPPOSITE restrained, calm

bold *adjective*
1 *It was a **bold** move to attack the fortress.*
brave, courageous, daring, adventurous, audacious, confident, enterprising, fearless, heroic, valiant, intrepid, plucky
OPPOSITE cowardly
2 *The poster uses large letters in **bold** colours.*
striking, strong, bright, loud, showy, conspicuous, eye-catching, noticeable, prominent
OPPOSITE inconspicuous, subtle

bolt *verb*
1 *Did you remember to **bolt** the door?*
fasten, latch, lock, secure, bar
2 *The horses **bolted** when they heard the thunder.*
dash away, dart, flee, sprint, run away, rush off
3 *Don't **bolt** your food.*
gobble, gulp, guzzle, wolf down

book *verb*
1 *Have you **booked** a seat on the train?*
order, reserve
2 *I've **booked** the disco for the party.*
arrange, engage, organize

border *noun*
1 *The town is on the **border** between France and Germany.*
boundary, frontier
2 *I drew a thin line around the **border** of the picture.*
edge, margin, perimeter
A decorative border round the top of a wall is a ***frieze***.
A border round the bottom of a skirt is a ***hem***.
A decorative border on fabric is a ***frill***, ***fringe***, or ***trimming***.

boring *adjective*
*The film was so **boring** I fell asleep.*
dull, dreary, tedious, tiresome, unexciting, uninteresting, dry, monotonous, uninspiring, insipid, unimaginative, uneventful, humdrum
OPPOSITE interesting, exciting

bossy *adjective*
*Stop being so **bossy** towards your sister.*
domineering, bullying, dictatorial, officious, tyrannical
An informal name for a bossy person is ***bossy boots***.

bother *verb*
1 *Would it **bother** you if I played some music?*
disturb, trouble, upset, annoy, irritate, pester, worry, vex, exasperate
(*informal*) bug, hassle
2 *Don't **bother** to phone tonight.*
make an effort, take trouble, concern yourself, care, mind

bother *noun*
*It's such a **bother** to remember the password.*
nuisance, annoyance, irritation, inconvenience, pest, trouble, difficulty, problem
(*informal*) hassle

bottom *noun*
1 *We camped at the **bottom** of the mountain.*
foot, base
OPPOSITE top, peak
2 *The wreck sank to the **bottom** of the sea.*
bed, floor
OPPOSITE surface
3 *A wasp stung me on the **bottom**.*
backside, behind, buttocks, rear, rump, seat
(*informal*) bum

bottom *adjective*
*I got the **bottom** mark in the maths test.*
least, lowest
OPPOSITE top

bounce *verb*
*The ball **bounced** twice before it reached the net.*
rebound, ricochet, spring, leap

bound *verb*
*The puppies **bounded** across the lawn.*
leap, bounce, jump, spring, skip, gambol, caper, frisk

box *noun*
case, chest, crate, carton, packet
A small box for jewellery or treasure is a ***casket***.
A large box for luggage is a ***trunk***.

boy *noun*
lad, youngster, youth
(*informal*) kid

brain *noun*
*You'll need to use your **brain** to solve this riddle.*
intelligence, intellect, mind, reason, sense, wit

branch *noun*
1 *A robin perched on a **branch** of the tree.*
bough, limb
2 *I've joined the local **branch** of the Kennel Club.*
section, division, department, wing

branch *verb*
*Follow the track until it **branches** into two.*
divide, fork

brand *noun*
*Which **brand** of ice cream do you like?*
make, kind, sort, type, variety, label
The sign of a particular brand of goods is a ***trademark***.

brave *adjective*
*It was **brave** of you to save the cat from drowning.*
courageous, heroic, valiant, fearless, daring, gallant, intrepid, plucky
A common simile is ***as brave as a lion***.
OPPOSITE cowardly

bravery *noun*
*The police dog was awarded a medal for **bravery**.*
courage, heroism, valour, fearlessness, daring, nerve, gallantry, grit, pluck
(*informal*) guts, bottle
OPPOSITE cowardice

break *noun*
1 *Can you see any **breaks** in the chain?*
breach, crack, hole, gap, opening, split, rift, puncture, rupture, fracture, fissure
2 *Let's take a **break** for coffee.*
interval, pause, rest, lull, time-out
(*informal*) breather

break *verb*
1 *The vase fell off the shelf and **broke**.*
smash, shatter, fracture, chip, crack, split, snap, splinter
(*informal*) bust
2 *The burglar was arrested for **breaking** the law.*
disobey, disregard, violate, flout
3 *In her last race, she **broke** the world record.*
beat, better, exceed, surpass, outdo

breathe *verb*
To breathe in is to ***inhale***.
To breathe out is to ***exhale***.
To breathe heavily when you have been running is to ***pant*** or ***puff***.
The formal word for breathing is ***respiration***.

breed *verb*
1 *Salmon swim upstream to **breed** every year.*
reproduce, have young, multiply, procreate, spawn
2 *Bad hygiene **breeds** disease.*
cause, produce, generate, encourage, promote, cultivate, induce

breed *noun*
*What **breed** of dog is that?*
kind, sort, type, variety
The evidence of how a dog has been bred is its ***pedigree***.

breezy *adjective*
*This morning the weather was bright and **breezy**.*
windy, blowy, blustery, gusty, fresh, draughty

bridge *noun*
A bridge you can walk over is a ***footbridge***.
A bridge to carry water is an ***aqueduct***.
A long bridge carrying a road or railway is a ***viaduct***.

brief *adjective*
1 *We paid a **brief** visit to our cousins on the way home.*
short, quick, hasty, fleeting, temporary
2 *Give me a **brief** account of what happened.*
short, concise, abbreviated, condensed, compact, succint

bright *adjective*
1 *We saw the **bright** lights of the town in the distance.*
shining, brilliant, blazing, dazzling, glaring, gleaming
OPPOSITE dull, dim, weak
2 ***Bright** colours will make the poster stand out.*
strong, intense, vivid
Colours that shine in the dark are ***luminous*** colours.
OPPOSITE dull, faded, muted
3 *Her teachers thought she was very **bright**.*
clever, intelligent, gifted, sharp, quick-witted
(*informal*) brainy
A common simile is ***as bright as a button***.
OPPOSITE stupid, dull-witted
4 *Miranda gave me a **bright** smile.*
cheerful, happy, lively, merry, jolly, radiant
OPPOSITE sad, gloomy
5 *The day was cold, but **bright**.*
sunny, fine, fair, clear, cloudless
OPPOSITE dull, cloudy, overcast

brilliant *adjective*
1 *The fireworks gave off a **brilliant** light.*
bright, blazing, dazzling, glaring, gleaming, glittering, glorious, shining, splendid, vivid
OPPOSITE dim, dull
2 *Brunel was a **brilliant** engineer.*
clever, exceptional, outstanding, gifted, talented
OPPOSITE incompetent, talentless
3 (*informal*) *I saw a **brilliant** film last week.*
excellent, marvellous, outstanding, wonderful, superb
(*informal*) fantastic, fabulous

bring *verb*
1 *Can you **bring** the shopping in from the car?*
carry, fetch, deliver, bear, transport
2 *You can **bring** a friend to the party.*
invite, conduct, escort, guide, lead
3 *The war has **brought** great sorrow to our people.*
cause, produce, lead to, result in, generate
to bring something about
*The new coach **brought about** some changes.*
cause, effect, create, introduce, be responsible for
to bring someone up
*In the story, Tarzan is **brought up** by apes.*
rear, raise, care for, foster, look after, nurture, educate, train
to bring something up
*I wish you hadn't **brought up** the subject of money.*
mention, talk about, raise, broach

brisk *adjective*
1 *Mr Hastie went for a **brisk** walk every evening.*
lively, fast-paced, energetic, invigorating, vigorous, refreshing, bracing
OPPOSITE slow, leisurely
2 *The flower shop does a **brisk** trade around Easter.*
busy, lively, bustling, hectic
OPPOSITE quiet, slack, slow

broad *adjective*
1 *The streets in the city were **broad** and straight.*
wide, open, large, roomy, spacious, vast, extensive
OPPOSITE narrow
2 *Just give me a **broad** outline of what happened.*
general, rough, vague, loose, indefinite, imprecise
OPPOSITE specific, detailed

broken *adjective*
1 *Don't use that computer—it's **broken**.*
faulty, defective, damaged, out of order
OPPOSITE working
2 *After losing all his money, Forbes was a **broken** man.*
crushed, defeated, beaten, spiritless

brush *verb*
1 *Jill spent ages **brushing** her hair for the party.*
groom, comb, tidy
2 *A bird **brushed** against my cheek as it flew past.*
touch, contact, rub, scrape

brutal *adjective*
*The bandits launched a **brutal** attack.*
savage, vicious, cruel, barbaric, bloodthirsty, callous, ferocious, inhuman, merciless, pitiless, ruthless, sadistic
OPPOSITE gentle, humane

bubble *verb*
*A green liquid **bubbled** in the witch's cauldron.*
boil, seethe, gurgle, froth, foam

bubbly *adjective*
1 ***Bubbly** drinks get up my nose.*
fizzy, sparkling, effervescent
2 *Sophie has a bright and **bubbly** personality.*
cheerful, lively, vivacious, spirited, animated

buckle *noun*
*The pirate wore a belt with a large silver **buckle**.*
clasp, fastener, fastening, clip, catch

buckle *verb*
1 *Please **buckle** your seat belts.*
fasten, secure, clasp, clip, do up, hook up
2 *The bridge **buckled** when the giant stepped onto it.*
bend, warp, twist, crumple, cave in, collapse

budge *verb*
*The window was stuck and wouldn't **budge**.*
give way, move, shift, stir

bug *noun*
1 *Birds help to control **bugs** in the garden.*
insect, pest
2 (*informal*) *I can't get rid of this stomach **bug**.*
infection, virus, germ, disease, illness
3 *There are a few **bugs** in the computer program.*
fault, error, defect, flaw
(*informal*) gremlin

build *verb*
*Dad is going to **build** a shed in the garden.*
construct, erect, put together, put up, set up, assemble
to build up
1 *I'm **building up** a collection of DVDs.*
accumulate, assemble, collect, put together
2 *We felt the tension **building up** in the crowd.*
increase, intensify, rise, grow, mount up, escalate

build *noun*
*Charlotte was a girl of slender **build**.*
body, form, frame, figure, physique

bulge *noun*
*There was a large **bulge** in the robber's sack.*
bump, hump, lump, swelling, protuberance

bulge *verb*
*The creature had eyes which **bulged** out of its head.*
stick out, swell, puff out, protrude

bulky *adjective*
*The parcel is too **bulky** to go through the letterbox.*
big, large, hefty, substantial, sizeable, cumbersome, unwieldy
OPPOSITE small, compact

bully *verb*
*Some of the children were afraid of being **bullied**.*
persecute, torment, intimidate, terrorize, push around

bump *verb*
1 *The baby **bumped** his head on the table.*
hit, strike, knock, bang
2 *My bicycle **bumped** up and down over the cobbles.*
bounce, shake, jerk, jolt
to bump into
1 *The taxi **bumped into** the car in front of it.*
collide with, bang into, run into, crash into
2 *I **bumped into** one of my friends in the bookshop.*
meet, come across, run into

bump *noun*
1 *We felt a **bump** as the plane landed.*
thud, thump, bang, blow, knock
2 *How did you get that **bump** on your head?*
lump, swelling, bulge

bumpy *adjective*
1 *The car jolted up and down on the **bumpy** road.*
rough, uneven, irregular, lumpy
OPPOSITE smooth, even
2 *We had a **bumpy** ride in a jeep over muddy tracks.*
bouncy, jerky, jolting, lurching, choppy

bunch *noun*
1 *The jailer jangled a **bunch** of keys.*
bundle, cluster, collection, set
2 *She picked a **bunch** of flowers.*
bouquet, posy, spray
3 (*informal*) *They're a friendly **bunch** of people.*
group, set, circle, band, gang, crowd


bunch

bundle *noun*
*I found a **bundle** of old newspapers.*
bunch, batch, pile, stack, collection, pack, bale

burn *verb*
1 *We could see the campfire **burning** in the distance.*
be alight, be on fire, blaze, flame, flare, flicker
To burn without flames is to ***glow*** or ***smoulder***.
2 *The captain ordered them to **burn** the enemy ship.*
set fire to, incinerate, reduce to ashes
To start something burning is to ***ignite***, ***kindle***, or ***light*** it.
To burn something slightly is to ***char***, ***scorch***, or ***singe*** it.
To hurt someone with boiling liquid or steam is to ***scald*** them.
To burn a dead body is to ***cremate*** it.
To burn a mark on an animal is to ***brand*** it.

burst *verb*
*The balloon **burst** when my brother sat on it.*
puncture, rupture, break, give way, split, tear

bury *verb*
1 *The document was **buried** under a pile of old letters.*
cover, conceal, hide, secrete
2 *They say the old witch was **buried** in that graveyard.*
inter, entomb

bushy *adjective*
*The troll had **bushy** green eyebrows.*
hairy, thick, dense, shaggy, bristly

WORD WEB

building *noun*
*The new **building** will have seven storeys.*
construction, structure, dwelling
A person who designs buildings is an ***architect***.


lighthouse

Buildings where people live
apartment, barracks, bungalow, castle, cottage, farmhouse, flat, fort, fortress, house, mansion, palace, skyscraper, tenement, terrace, tower, villa

Buildings where people work
factory, garage, lighthouse, mill, shop, store, warehouse

Buildings where people worship
abbey, cathedral, chapel, church, monastery, mosque, pagoda, shrine, synagogue, temple

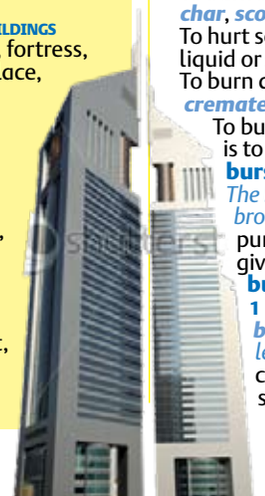
Other types of building
cabin, cafe, cinema, college, gallery, hotel, inn, library, museum, observatory, police station, post office, power station, prison, pub or public house, restaurant, school, shed, theatre

Parts you might find inside a building
balcony, basement, cellar, conservatory, corridor, courtyard, crypt, dungeon, foyer, gallery, lobby, porch, quadrangle, room, staircase, veranda

Parts you might find outside a building
arch, balustrade, bay window, bow window, buttress, chimney, colonnade, column, dome, dormer window, drainpipe, eaves, foundations, gable, gutter, masonry, parapet, pediment, pillar, pipes, roof, tower, turret, vault, wall, window, windowsill

Castles and fortified buildings
château, citadel, fort, fortress, motte and bailey, palace, stronghold, tower

Parts of a castle
bailey, barbican, battlement, buttress, courtyard, donjon, drawbridge, dungeon, gate, gateway, keep, magazine, moat, motte, parapet, portcullis, postern, rampart, tower, turret, wall, watchtower


skyscraper

business *noun*
1 *My uncle runs a restaurant **business**.*
company, firm, organization
2 *The new bookshop does a lot of **business**.*
trade, trading, buying and selling, commerce
3 *What sort of **business** do you want to go into?*
work, job, career, employment, industry, occupation, profession, trade
4 *He left early to attend to some urgent **business**.*
matter, issue, affair, problem, point, concern, question

bustle *verb*
*Miss Flyte **bustled** about the kitchen making tea.*
rush, dash, hurry, scurry, scuttle, fuss

busy *adjective*
1 *Mum is **busy** making my birthday cake just now.*
occupied, engaged, employed, working, slaving away, beavering away
(*informal*) hard at it, up to your eyes
A common simile is ***as busy as a bee***.
OPPOSITE idle
2 *Christmas is a very **busy** time for shops.*
active, hectic, frantic, lively
OPPOSITE quiet, restful
3 *Is the town always this **busy** on Saturdays?*
crowded, bustling, hectic, lively, teeming
OPPOSITE quiet, peaceful

buy *verb*
*I'm saving up to **buy** a skateboard.*
get, pay for, purchase, acquire
OPPOSITE sell

Cc

cabin *noun*
*The outlaws hid in a **cabin** in the woods.*
hut, shack, shed, lodge, chalet, shelter

cafe *noun*
*We had lunch in a **cafe** overlooking the river.*
cafeteria, coffee shop, tearoom, snack bar, buffet, canteen, bistro, brasserie

cage *noun*
A large cage or enclosure for birds is an ***aviary***.
A cage or enclosure for poultry is a ***coop***.
A cage or enclosure for animals is a ***pen***.
A cage or box for a pet rabbit is a ***hutch***.

calculate *verb*
*I **calculated** that it would take an hour to walk home.*
work out, compute, figure out, reckon, add up, count, total
To calculate something roughly is to ***estimate***.

call *noun*
1 *We heard a **call** for help from inside the cave.*
cry, exclamation, scream, shout, yell
2 *Grandad made an unexpected **call**.*
visit, stop, stay
3 *There's not much **call** for suncream in winter.*
demand, need

call *verb*
1 *`Stop that racket!' **called** the janitor.*
cry out, exclaim, shout, yell
2 *It was too late at night to **call** my friends.*
phone, ring, telephone
3 *The headteacher **called** me to her office.*
summon, invite, send for, order
4 *The doctor **called** to see if I was feeling better.*
visit, pay a visit, drop in, drop by
5 *They **called** the baby Jessica.*
name, baptize, christen, dub
6 *What is your new book going to be **called**?*
name, title, entitle

calm *adjective*
1 *The weather was too **calm** to fly our kites.*
still, quiet, peaceful, tranquil, serene, windless
OPPOSITE stormy, windy
2 *The sea was **calm**, and we had a pleasant voyage.*
smooth, still, flat, motionless, tranquil
OPPOSITE rough, choppy
3 *I tried to stay **calm** before my judo exam.*
cool, level-headed, patient, relaxed, sedate, unemotional, unexcitable, untroubled
OPPOSITE anxious, nervous

cancel *verb*
*We had to **cancel** the race because of the weather.*
abandon, call off, scrap, drop
(*informal*) scrub, ditch, axe
To cancel something after it has already begun is to ***abort*** it.
To put something off until later is to ***postpone*** it.
To cancel items on a list is to ***cross out***, ***delete***, or ***erase*** them.

capture *verb*
1 *The bank robbers were **captured** by police this morning.*
catch, arrest, apprehend, seize, take prisoner
(*informal*) nab, nick
2 *The castle has never been **captured** by enemy forces.*
occupy, seize, take, take over, win

care *noun*
1 *The old wizard's face was full of **care**.*
worry, anxiety, trouble, concern, burden, responsibility, sorrow, stress
2 *I took great **care** with my handwriting.*
attention, concentration, thoroughness, thought, meticulousness
OPPOSITE carelessness
3 *Jake left his pet hamster in my **care**.*
charge, keeping, protection, safe keeping, supervision
to take care
*Please **take care** crossing the road.*
be careful, be on your guard, look out, watch out **to take care of someone** or **something**
*My granny **takes care of** me after school.*
care for, look after, mind, watch over, attend to, tend

care *verb*
*Do you **care** which team wins the World Cup?*
mind, bother, worry, be interested, be troubled, be bothered, be worried
to care for someone or **something**
1 *The veterinary hospital **cares for** sick animals.*
take care of, look after, attend to, tend, nurse
2 *I don't really **care for** broccoli.*
like, be fond of, be keen on, love

career *noun*
*Max had a successful **career** as a racing driver.*
job, occupation, profession, trade, business, employment, calling

careful *adjective*
1 *You must be more **careful** with your spelling.*
accurate, conscientious, thorough, thoughtful, meticulous, painstaking, precise
OPPOSITE careless, inaccurate
2 *Dad kept a **careful** watch on the bonfire.*
attentive, cautious, watchful, alert, wary, vigilant

OPPOSITE careless, inattentive
to be careful
*Please **be careful** with those scissors.*
take care, be on your guard, look out, watch out

careless *adjective*
1 *This is a very **careless** piece of work.*
messy, untidy, thoughtless, inaccurate, slapdash, shoddy, scrappy, sloppy, slovenly
OPPOSITE careful, accurate
2 *I was **careless** and cut my finger.*
inattentive, thoughtless, absent-minded, heedless, irresponsible, negligent, reckless
OPPOSITE careful, attentive

carnival *noun*
*The whole village comes out for the annual **carnival**.*
fair, festival, fÃªte, gala, parade, procession, show, celebration, pageant

carry *verb*
1 *I helped Mum to **carry** the shopping to the car.*
take, transfer, lift, fetch, bring, lug
2 *Aircraft **carry** passengers and goods.*
transport, convey
3 *The rear axle **carries** the greatest weight.*
bear, support, hold up
to carry on
*We **carried on** in spite of the rain.*
continue, go on, persevere, persist, keep on, remain, stay, survive
to carry something out
*The soldiers **carried out** the captain's orders.*
perform, do, execute, accomplish, achieve, complete, finish

carve *verb*
1 *The statue was **carved** out of stone.*
sculpt, chisel, hew
2 *Mum **carved** the chicken for Sunday dinner.*
cut, slice

case *noun*
1 *I loaded my **case** into the boot of the car.*
suitcase, trunk
A number of suitcases that you take on holiday is your **baggage** or **luggage**.
2 *What's in those **cases** in the attic?*
box, chest, crate, carton, casket
3 *This has been a clear **case** of mistaken identity.*
instance, occurrence, example, illustration
4 *It was one of Sherlock Holmes's most famous **cases**.*
inquiry, investigation
5 *She presented a good **case** for abolishing hunting.*
argument, line of reasoning

casual *adjective*
1 *It was just a **casual** remark, so don't take it too seriously.*
accidental, chance, unexpected, unintentional, unplanned
OPPOSITE deliberate
2 *The restaurant had a **casual** atmosphere.*
easy-going, informal, relaxed
OPPOSITE formal
3 *The teacher complained about our **casual** attitude.*
apathetic, careless, slack, unenthusiastic
OPPOSITE enthusiastic

catastrophe *noun*
*The drought is a **catastrophe** for the farmers.*
disaster, calamity, misfortune, mishap, tragedy

catch *verb*
1 *My friends yelled at me to **catch** the ball.*
clutch, grab, grasp, grip, hang on to, hold, seize, snatch, take
2 *One of the anglers **caught** a fish.*
hook, net, trap
3 *The police hoped to **catch** the thief red-handed.*
arrest, capture, corner
(*informal*) nab
4 *I hope you don't **catch** my cold.*
become infected by, contract, get
(*informal*) go down with
5 *You must hurry if you want to **catch** the bus.*
be in time for, get on

catch *noun*
1 *The angler got a large **catch** of salmon.*
haul
2 *The car is so cheap that there must be a **catch**.*
problem, obstacle, snag, difficulty, disadvantage, drawback, trap, trick
3 *All the windows are fitted with safety **catches**.*
fastening, latch, lock, bolt, hook

cause *noun*
1 *What was the **cause** of the trouble?*
origin, source, start
You can also talk about the **reasons** for the trouble.
2 *You've got no **cause** to complain.*
grounds, basis, motive
3 *The sponsored walk is for a good **cause**.*
purpose, object

cause *verb*
*A single spark from the fire could **cause** an explosion.*
bring about, create, generate, lead to, give rise to, result in, provoke, arouse

caution *noun*
1 *We decided to proceed with **caution**.*
care, attention, watchfulness, wariness, vigilance
2 *The traffic warden let him off with a **caution**.*
warning, reprimand, telling-off
(*informal*) ticking-off

cautious *adjective*
*My grandad is a **cautious** driver.*
careful, attentive, watchful, wary, vigilant, hesitant
OPPOSITE reckless

cease *verb*
*The fighting **ceased** at midnight.*
come to an end, end, finish, stop, halt
OPPOSITE begin

celebrate *verb*
1 *Let's **celebrate**!*
enjoy yourself, have a good time, be happy, rejoice
2 *What shall we do to **celebrate** Granny's birthday?*
commemorate, observe, keep

celebration *noun*
*We had a big **celebration** for my cousin's wedding.*
festivity, party, feast, festival, banquet, jamboree

celebrity *noun*
*The awards were handed out by a TV **celebrity**.*
famous person, personality, public figure, VIP, star, idol

cemetery *noun*
*A famous author is buried in the local **cemetery**.*
graveyard, burial ground, churchyard
A place where dead people are cremated is a **crematorium**.

central *adjective*
1 *We are now in the **central** part of the building.*
middle, core, inner, interior
OPPOSITE outer
2 *Who are the **central** characters in the story?*
chief, crucial, essential, fundamental, important, main, major, principal, vital
OPPOSITE unimportant

centre *noun*
*The library is in the **centre** of the town. The burial chamber is in the **centre** of the pyramid.*
middle, heart, core, inside, interior
The centre of a planet or a piece of fruit is the **core**.
The centre of an atom or a living cell is the **nucleus**.
The centre of a wheel is the **hub**.
The point at the centre of a see-saw is the **pivot**.
The edible part in the centre of a nut is the **kernel**.
OPPOSITE edge, outside, surface

ceremony *noun*
1 *We watched the **ceremony** of the opening of parliament.*
rite, ritual, formalities
A ceremony where someone is given a prize is a **presentation**.
A ceremony where someone is given a special honour is an **investiture**.
A ceremony to celebrate something new is an **inauguration** or **opening**.
A ceremony where someone becomes a member of a society is an **initiation**.
A ceremony to make a church or other building sacred is a **dedication**.
A ceremony to remember a dead person or a past event is a **commemoration**.
A ceremony held in a church is a **service**.
2 *They had a quiet wedding without a lot of **ceremony**.*
formality, pomp, pageantry, spectacle

certain *adjective*
1 *My mum was **certain** she would win the cookery competition.*
confident, convinced, positive, sure, determined
OPPOSITE uncertain
2 *We have **certain** proof that the painting is a forgery.*
definite, clear, convincing, absolute, unquestionable, reliable, trustworthy, undeniable, infallible, genuine, valid
OPPOSITE unreliable
3 *The damaged plane faced **certain** disaster.*
inevitable, unavoidable
OPPOSITE possible
4 *Her new book is **certain** to be a bestseller.*
bound, sure

chain *noun*
1 *The anchor was attached to a **chain**.*
One ring in a chain is a **link**.
A chain used to link railway wagons together is a **coupling**.
2 *The police formed a **chain** to keep the crowd back.*
line, row, cordon
3 *Holmes described the **chain** of events that led to the murder.*
series, sequence, succession, string

champion *noun*
1 *She is the current world **champion** at ice-skating.*
title-holder, prizewinner, victor, winner, conqueror
2 *Martin Luther King was a **champion** of civil rights.*
supporter, advocate, defender, upholder, patron, backer

championship *noun*
*Fifteen schools took part in the karate **championship**.*
competition, contest, tournament

chance *noun*
1 *They say there's a **chance** of rain later.*
possibility, likelihood, probability, prospect, danger, risk
2 *I haven't had a **chance** to reply yet.*
opportunity, time, occasion
3 *The director took a **chance** in hiring an unknown actor.*
gamble, risk
by chance
*I found the house quite **by chance**.*
by accident, accidentally, by coincidence
An unfortunate chance is **bad luck** or a **misfortune**.
A fortunate chance is **good luck** or a **fluke**.

change *verb*
1 *They've **changed** the programme for the concert.*
alter, modify, rearrange, reorganize, adjust, adapt, vary
2 *The town has **changed** a lot since Victorian times.*
alter, become different, develop, grow, move on
3 *Can I **change** these jeans for a bigger size, please?*
exchange, replace, switch, substitute
(*informal*) swap
to change into
*Tadpoles **change into** frogs.*
become, turn into, be transformed into

change *noun*
*There has been a slight **change** of plan.*
alteration, modification, variation, difference, break
A change to something worse is a **deterioration**.
A change to something better is an **improvement** or a **reform**.
A very big change is a **revolution** or **transformation** or **U-turn**.
A change in which one person or thing is replaced by another is a **substitution**.

chaos *noun*
*After the earthquake, the city was in **chaos**.*
confusion, disorder, mayhem, uproar, tumult, pandemonium, anarchy, bedlam, muddle, shambles
OPPOSITE order

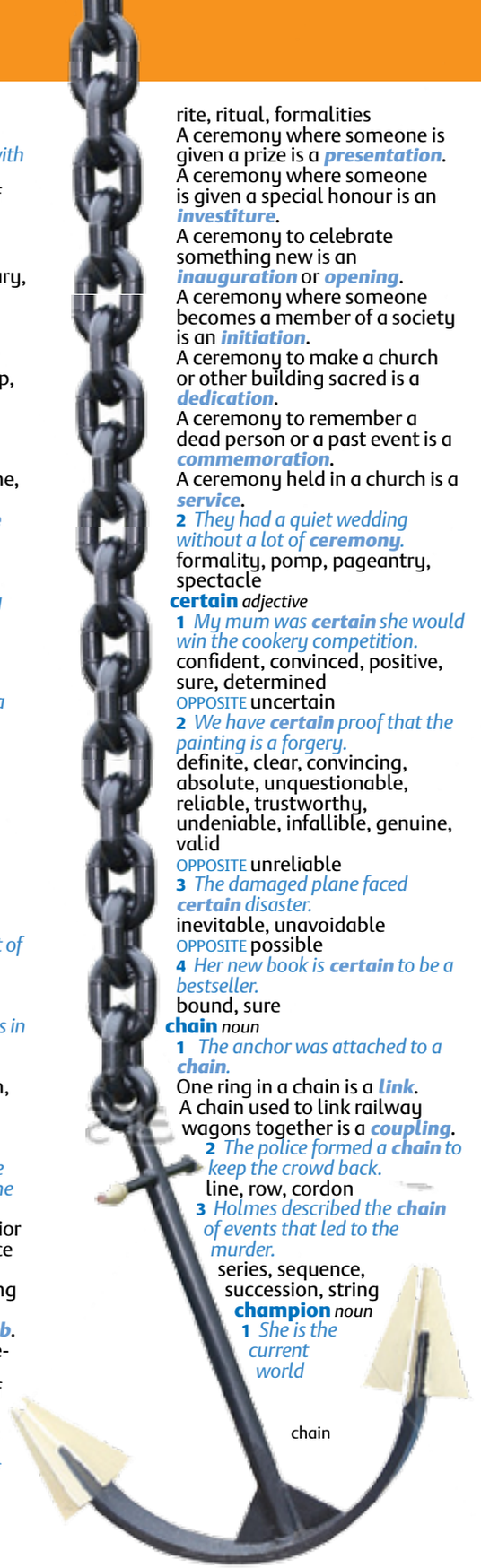
chaotic *adjective*
*Alice finds that life in Wonderland is **chaotic**.*
confused, disorderly, disorganized, muddled, topsy-turvy, untidy, unruly, riotous
OPPOSITE orderly, organized

chapter *noun*
*I read a **chapter** of my book last night.*
part, section, division
One section of a play is an **act** or **scene**.
One part of a serial is an **episode** or **instalment**.

character *noun*
1 *Her **character** is quite different from her sister's.*
personality, temperament, nature, disposition, make-up, manner
2 *Our neighbour is a well-known **character** in our street.*
figure, personality, individual, person
3 *Which **character** would you like to play in Peter Pan?*
part, role

charge *noun*
1 *The admission **charge** is five euros.*
price, rate
The charge made for a ride on public transport is the **fare**.
The charge made to post a letter or parcel is the **postage**.
A charge made to join a club is a **fee** or **subscription**.
A charge made for certain things by the government is a **duty** or a **tax**.
A charge made to use a private road, bridge, or tunnel is a **toll**.
2 *The robbers face several criminal **charges**.*
accusation, allegation
3 *Many soldiers were killed in the **charge**.*
assault, attack, onslaught, raid
4 *My best friend left her hamster in my **charge**.*
care, keeping, protection, custody, trust
to be in charge of something
*An experienced sailor was **in charge of** the crew.*
manage, lead, command, direct, supervise, run

charge *verb*
1 *The library **charges** ten pence for a photocopy.*
ask for, make you pay
2 *A man has been **charged** with attempted robbery*
accuse (of)


chain

3 *The cavalry **charged** the enemy line.*
attack, assault, storm, rush

charm *verb*
*Winnie the Pooh has **charmed** readers all over the world.*
bewitch, captivate, delight, enchant, entrance, fascinate, please

charming *adjective*
*We drove through some **charming** scenery.*
delightful, attractive, pleasant, pleasing, likeable, appealing

chart *noun*
1 *The explorer stopped to consult his **chart**.*
map
2 *This **chart** shows the average rainfall for each month.*
diagram, graph, table

chase *verb*
*The wolves **chased** a deer through the forest.*
pursue, run after, follow, track, trail, hunt

chatty *adjective*
*Frank is usually shy, but today he's quite **chatty**.*
talkative, communicative
OPPOSITE silent

cheap *adjective*
1 *We got a **cheap** flight to London.*
inexpensive, affordable, bargain, cut-price, discount, reasonable
2 *These tyres are made from **cheap** rubber.*
inferior, shoddy, second-rate, worthless, trashy
(*informal*) tacky, tatty
OPPOSITE superior, good-quality

cheat *verb*
1 *She was **cheated** into buying a fake diamond ring.*
deceive, trick, swindle, double-cross, hoax
(*informal*) con, diddle, fleece, fool, rip off
2 *Anyone who **cheats** in the quiz will be disqualified.*
copy, crib

cheat *noun*
*Don't trust him—he's a **cheat**.*
cheater, deceiver, swindler, fraud, impostor, hoaxer

check *verb*
1 *Have you **checked** your work carefully?*
examine, inspect, look over, scrutinize
2 *The heavy snow **checked** their progress towards the Pole.*
hamper, hinder, block, obstruct, delay, hold back, slow, slow down, halt, stop

check *noun*
*I need to run some **checks** on your computer.*
test, examination, inspection, check-up

cheeky *adjective*
*Don't be so **cheeky**!*
disrespectful, facetious, flippant, impertinent, impolite, impudent, insolent, insulting, irreverent, mocking, rude, saucy, shameless
OPPOSITE respectful

cheer *verb*
1 *We **cheered** when our team scored a goal.*
clap, applaud, shout, yell
OPPOSITE jeer
2 *The good news **cheered** us.*
comfort, console, gladden, delight, please, encourage, uplift
OPPOSITE sadden

cheerful *adjective*
*The sun was shining, and we set out in a **cheerful** mood.*
happy, good-humoured, light-hearted, merry, jolly, joyful, joyous, glad, pleased, optimistic, lively, elated, animated, bright, buoyant, jovial, gleeful, chirpy
OPPOSITE sad

chest *noun*
*I found some old books in a **chest** in the attic.*
box, crate, case, trunk

chew *verb*
*Are you still **chewing** that toffee?*
eat, gnaw, munch

chief *noun*
*The pirates chose Redbeard as their **chief**.*
leader, ruler, head, commander, captain, chieftain, master, governor, president, principal
(*informal*) boss

chief *adjective*
1 *The **chief** ingredients in a trifle are jelly, custard, and cream.*
main, central, key, principal, crucial, basic, essential, important, vital, major, primary, foremost, fundamental, indispensable, necessary, significant, predominant, prominent
OPPOSITE unimportant, minor, trivial
2 *Albert was Queen Victoria's **chief** advisor.*
head, senior

child *noun*
1 *The book festival is aimed especially at **children**.*
boy or girl, infant, juvenile, youngster, youth, lad or lass
(*informal*) kid, tot, nipper
A child who expects to inherit a title or fortune from parents is an ***heir*** or ***heiress***.
A child whose parents are dead is an ***orphan***.
A child looked after by a guardian is a ***ward***.
2 *How many **children** do you have?*
son or daughter, descendant, offspring
A child who expects to inherit a title or fortune from parents is an ***heir*** or ***heiress***.
A child whose parents are dead is an ***orphan***.
A child looked after by a guardian is a ***ward***.

childish *adjective*
*It's **childish** to make rude noises.*
babyish, immature, juvenile, infantile
OPPOSITE mature

chilly *adjective*
1 *It's a **chilly** evening, so wrap up well.*
cold, cool, frosty, icy, crisp, fresh, raw, wintry
(*informal*) nippy
OPPOSITE warm
2 *The librarian gave me a very **chilly** look.*
unfriendly, hostile, unwelcoming, unsympathetic
OPPOSITE friendly

chip *noun*
1 *There were **chips** of broken glass on the pavement.*
bit, piece, fragment, scrap, sliver, splinter, flake, shaving
2 *This mug's got a **chip** in it.*
crack, nick, notch, flaw

chip *verb*
*I **chipped** a cup while I was washing up.*
crack, nick, notch, damage

choice *noun*
1 *My bike had a flat tyre, so I had no **choice** but to walk.*
alternative, option
2 *She wouldn't be my **choice** as team captain.*
preference, selection, pick, vote
3 *The greengrocer has a good **choice** of vegetables.*
range, selection, assortment, array, mixture, variety, diversity

choke *verb*
1 *This tie is so tight it's **choking** me.*
strangle, suffocate, stifle, throttle
2 *Thick fumes made the firefighters **choke**.*
cough, gasp

choose *verb*
1 *We had a show of hands to **choose** a winner.*
select, appoint, elect, vote for
2 *I **chose** the blue shoes to go with my dress.*
decide on, select, pick out, opt for, plump for, settle on, single out
3 *Lola **chose** to stay at home.*
decide, make a decision, determine, prefer, resolve

chop *verb*
1 *Chop the celery into large chunks.*
cut, split
2 *They **chopped** down the undergrowth to make a path.*
hack, slash
To chop down a tree is to ***fell*** it.
To chop off an arm or leg is to ***amputate*** it.
To chop a branch off a tree is to ***lop*** it.
To chop food into small pieces is to ***dice*** or ***mince*** it.

chunk *noun*
*I bit a **chunk** out of my apple.*
piece, portion, lump, block, hunk, slab, wedge

circle *noun*
1 *We arranged the chairs in a **circle**.*
ring, round, hoop, loop, band
A flat, solid circle is a ***disc***.
A three-dimensional round shape is a ***sphere***.
An egg shape is an ***oval*** or ***ellipse***.
The distance round a circle is the ***circumference***.
The distance across a circle is the ***diameter***.
The distance from the centre to the circumference is the ***radius***.
A circular movement is a ***revolution*** or ***rotation***.
A circular trip round the world is a ***circumnavigation***.
A circular trip of a satellite round a planet is an ***orbit***.
2 *She has a wide **circle** of friends.*
group, set, crowd

city *noun*
The chief city of a country or region is the ***metropolis***.
An area of houses outside the central part of a city is the ***suburbs***.
A word meaning 'to do with a town or city' is ***urban***.
A word meaning 'to do with a city and its suburbs' is ***metropolitan***.

claim *verb*
1 *You can **claim** your prize for the raffle here.*
ask for, request, collect, demand, insist on
2 *The professor **claims** to be an expert on dinosaurs.*
declare, assert, allege, maintain, argue, insist

clap *verb*
1 *The audience **clapped** loudly at the end of the concert.*
applaud, cheer
2 *Suddenly, a hand **clapped** me on the shoulder.*
slap, hit, pat, smack

class *noun*
1 *There are 26 children in our **class**.*
form, set, stream
The other pupils in your class are your ***classmates***.
2 *There are many different **classes** of plants.*
category, group, classification, division, set, sort, type, kind, species
3 *The ancient Romans divided people into social **classes**.*
level, rank, status

clean *adjective*
1 *Can you bring me a **clean** cup, please?*
spotless, washed, scrubbed, swept, tidy, immaculate, hygienic, sanitary
An informal word meaning 'very clean' is ***squeaky-clean***.
A common simile is ***as clean as a whistle***.
OPPOSITE dirty
2 *I began my diary on a **clean** piece of paper.*
blank, unused, unmarked, empty, bare, fresh, new
OPPOSITE used
3 *This plaster will keep the wound **clean**.*
sterile, sterilized, uninfected
4 *You can get **clean** water from this tap.*
pure, clear, fresh, unpolluted, uncontaminated
5 *The referee said he wanted a **clean** fight.*
fair, honest, honourable, sporting, sportsmanlike
OPPOSITE dishonourable

clean *verb*
1 *We **cleaned** the house from top to bottom. I tried to **clean** the mud off my boots.*
wash, wipe, mop, scour, scrub, polish, dust, sweep, vacuum, rinse, wring out, hose down, sponge, shampoo, swill
To clean clothes is to ***launder*** them.
OPPOSITE dirty, mess up
2 *The nurse **cleaned** the wound with an antiseptic wipe.*
cleanse, bathe, disinfect, sanitize, sterilize
OPPOSITE infect, contaminate

clear *adjective*
1 *We saw fish swimming in the **clear** pool.*
clean, pure, colourless, transparent


class

A common simile is ***as clear as crystal***.
A simile which means the opposite is ***as clear as mud***.
OPPOSITE opaque
2 *It was a beautiful **clear** day.*
bright, sunny, cloudless, unclouded
A clear night is a ***moonlit*** or ***starlit*** night.
OPPOSITE cloudy, overcast
3 *The instructions on the map were quite **clear**.*
plain, understandable, intelligible, lucid, unambiguous
OPPOSITE ambiguous, confusing
4 *The actor spoke his words with a **clear** voice.*
distinct, audible
A common simile is ***as clear as a bell***.
OPPOSITE muffled
5 *The signature on this letter is not **clear**.*
legible, recognizable, visible
OPPOSITE illegible
6 *My camera takes nice **clear** pictures.*
sharp, well defined, focused
OPPOSITE unfocused
7 *Are you sure that your conscience is **clear**?*
innocent, untroubled, blameless
OPPOSITE guilty
8 *There's a **clear** difference between a male blackbird and a female.*
obvious, definite, noticeable, conspicuous, perceptible, pronounced
OPPOSITE imperceptible
9 *They made sure the road was **clear** for the ambulance.*
open, empty, free, passable, uncrowded, unobstructed
OPPOSITE congested

clear *verb*
1 *I **cleared** the weeds from the flower bed.*
get rid of, remove, eliminate, strip
2 *The plumber **cleared** the blocked drain.*
unblock, unclog, clean out, open up
To clear a channel is to ***dredge*** it.
3 *I **cleared** the misty windows.*
clean, wipe, polish
4 *If the fire alarm goes, **clear** the building.*
empty, evacuate
5 *The fog **cleared** slowly.*
disappear, vanish, disperse, evaporate, melt away
6 *The forecast said that the weather will **clear**.*
become clear, brighten, fair up



climb

7 *He was **cleared** of all the charges against him.*
acquit, free, release
8 *The runners **cleared** the first hurdle.*
go over, get over, jump over, pass over, vault
to clear up
*Please **clear up** this mess before you go.*
clean up, tidy up, put right, put straight

clever *adjective*
1 *Dr Hafiz is very **clever** and can read hieroglyphics.*
intelligent, bright, gifted, able, knowledgeable
(*informal*) brainy, smart
OPPOSITE unintelligent
An informal name for a clever person is a ***brainbox***.
An uncomplimentary synonym is ***clever clogs*** or ***smartypants***.
2 *The elves were very **clever** with their fingers.*
accomplished, capable, gifted, skilful, talented
If you are clever at a lot of things, you are ***versatile***.
OPPOSITE unskilful
3 *They are **clever** enough to get away with it.*
quick, sharp, shrewd, smart
Uncomplimentary synonyms are ***artful***, ***crafty***, ***cunning***, ***wily***.
OPPOSITE stupid

climax *noun*
*The **climax** of the film is a stunning car chase.*
high point, highlight, peak, crisis
OPPOSITE anticlimax

climb *verb*
1 *It took us several hours to **climb** the mountain.*
ascend, clamber up, go up, scale
2 *The plane **climbed** into the clouds.*
lift off, soar, take off
3 *The road **climbs** steeply up to the castle.*
rise, slope
to climb down
3 *It's harder to **climb down** rock than to get up it.*
descend, get down from
*We all told him he was wrong, so he had to **climb down**.*
admit defeat, give in, surrender

WORD WEB

clothes *plural noun*
*What **clothes** are you taking on holiday?*
clothing, garments, outfits, dress, attire, garb, finery
(*informal*) gear, togs, get-up
A set of clothes to wear is a ***costume***, ***outfit***, or ***suit***.
An official set of clothes worn for school or work is a ***uniform***.

Some items of clothing
blouse, caftan, camisole, chador or chuddar, dhoti, dress, dungarees, frock, gown, jeans, jersey, jodhpurs, jumper, kilt, kimono, leggings, miniskirt, pinafore, polo shirt, pullover, robe, sari, sarong, shirt, shorts, skirt, slacks, smock, suit, sweater, sweatshirt, trousers, trunks, T-shirt, tunic, waistcoat

Outer clothes
anorak, apron, blazer, cagoule, cape, cardigan, cloak, coat, dressing gown, duffel coat, fleece, gilet, hoodie, greatcoat, jacket, mackintosh, oilskins, overalls, overcoat, parka, poncho, raincoat, shawl, stole, tracksuit, windcheater

Underwear
boxer shorts, bra, briefs, crop top, drawers, knickers, pants, petticoat, slip, socks, stockings, tights, underpants, vest

Clothes for sleeping in
nightdress or informal nightie, pyjamas

Clothes worn in the past
corset, doublet, frock coat, gauntlet, ruff, toga

Accessories worn with clothes
belt, braces, cravat, earmuffs, glove, sash, scarf, shawl, tie

Parts of a garment
bodice, button, buttonhole, collar, cuff, hem, lapel, pocket, seam, sleeve, waistband, zip

Things used to decorate clothes
beads, frills, fringes, lace, ruffles, sequins, tassels

Some kinds of hat
balaclava, baseball cap, bearskin, beret, boater, bonnet, bowler, cap, deerstalker, fez, helmet, mitre, mortarboard, panama hat, skull cap, sombrero, sou'wester, stetson, sun-hat, tam-o'shanter, top hat, trilby, turban

cling *verb*
to cling to someone or **something**
1 *The baby koala **clung to** its mother.*
clasp, grasp, clutch, embrace, hug
2 *Ivy **clings to** the wall.*
adhere to, fasten on to, stick to

clip *verb*
1 *The sheets of paper were **clipped** together.*
pin, staple
2 *Dad **clipped** the hedges in the back garden.*
cut, trim
To cut unwanted twigs off a tree or bush is to ***prune*** it.

close *adjective*
1 *Our house is **close** to the shops.*
near, nearby, not far
To be actually by the side of something is to be ***adjacent***.
OPPOSITE far, distant
2 *Anisha and I are **close** friends.*
intimate, dear, devoted, fond, affectionate
3 *The police made a **close** examination of the stolen car.*
careful, detailed, painstaking, minute, thorough
OPPOSITE casual
4 *It was an exciting race because it was so close.*
equal, even, level, well-matched
5 *Open the window—it's very **close** in here.*
humid, muggy, stuffy, clammy, airless, stifling, suffocating
OPPOSITE airy

close *verb*
1 *Don't forget to **close** the lid.*
shut, fasten, seal, secure
2 *The road has been **closed** to traffic for the parade.*
barricade, block, obstruct, stop up
3 *The band **closed** the concert with my favourite song.*
finish, end, complete, conclude, stop, terminate
(*informal*) wind up

WRITING TIPS

You can use these words to describe **clothes**:
baggy, casual, chic, dowdy, drab, fashionable, fine, flashy, flattering, frilly, frumpy, glamorous, ill-fitting, loose, luxurious, old-fashioned, ornate, ragged, roomy, shabby, skimpy, smart, sporty, stylish, tattered or in tatters, threadbare, tight-fitting, trendy, worn

cloudy *adjective*
1 *The day was cold and **cloudy**.*
dull, overcast, grey, dark, dismal, gloomy, sunless
OPPOSITE cloudless
2 *We couldn't see any fish in the **cloudy** water.*
muddy, murky, hazy, milky
OPPOSITE clear, transparent

club *noun*
1 *The warrior brandished a wooden **club**.*
stick, baton, truncheon
2 *Would you like to join our book **club**?*
group, society, association, organization, circle, union

clue *noun*
1 *I don't know the answer. Can you give me a **clue**?*
hint, suggestion, indication, pointer, tip, idea
2 *`This footprint is an important **clue**,' said the detective.*
piece of evidence, lead

clumsy *adjective*
*The **clumsy** gnome was always breaking things.*
careless, awkward, ungainly, inept
An informal name for a clumsy person is ***butterfingers***.
OPPOSITE graceful

clutter *noun*
*We'll have to clear up all this **clutter**.*
mess, muddle, junk, litter, rubbish, odds and ends

coach *verb*
*He was **coached** by a former champion.*
train, teach, instruct

coarse *adjective*
1 *The blanket was made of **coarse** woollen material.*
rough, harsh, scratchy, bristly, hairy
OPPOSITE soft
2 *We were shocked by their **coarse** table manners.*
rude, offensive, impolite, improper, indecent, crude, vulgar
OPPOSITE polite, refined

coat *noun*
1 *The detective was wearing a thick winter **coat**.*
2 *The fox had a reddish brown **coat**.*
hide, pelt, skin, fur, hair
A sheep's coat is a ***fleece***.
3 *The front door needs a **coat** of paint.*
layer, coating, covering

coat *verb*
*We ate marshmallows **coated** with chocolate.*
cover, spread, smear, glaze

coax *verb*
*Sam **coaxed** the hamster back into its cage.*
persuade, tempt, entice

coil *noun*
*The snake twisted itself into a **coil**.*
spiral, twist, curl, twirl, screw, corkscrew, whirl, whorl, roll, scroll
A coil of wool or thread is a ***skein***.

coil *verb*
*The snake **coiled** itself round a branch.*
curl, loop, roll, spiral, turn, twist, twirl, wind, writhe

cold *adjective*
1 *Wrap up warm in this **cold** weather.*
freezing, chilly, frosty, icy, raw, arctic, bitter, cool, crisp, snowy, wintry
(*informal*) perishing
A common simile is ***as cold as ice***.
OPPOSITE hot, warm
2 *I tried to shelter from the **cold** wind.*
biting, bitter, keen, penetrating, piercing
3 *I was **cold** in spite of my woolly hat.*
freezing, frozen, chilly, chilled, shivering, shivery
To be so cold that you become ill is to suffer from ***hypothermia***.
OPPOSITE hot, warm
4 *The cyclops gave us a **cold** stare from his one eye.*
unfriendly, unkind, unfeeling, distant, cool, heartless, indifferent, reserved, stony, uncaring, unemotional, unsympathetic
OPPOSITE warm, friendly

collapse *verb*
1 *Many buildings **collapsed** in the earthquake.*
fall down, fall in, cave in, give way, crumple, buckle, disintegrate, tumble down
2 *Some of the runners **collapsed** in the heat.*
faint, pass out, fall over, keel over

collect *verb*
1 *Squirrels **collect** nuts for the winter.*
gather, accumulate, hoard, heap, pile up, store up, stockpile, amass
2 *A crowd **collected** to watch the fire.*
assemble, gather, come together, converge
OPPOSITE scatter, disperse
3 *We **collected** a large sum for charity.*
raise, take in
4 *She **collected** the car from the garage.*
fetch, get, obtain, bring
OPPOSITE drop off, hand in

collection *noun*
*Would you like to see my fossil **collection**?*
assortment, set, accumulation, array, hoard, pile
A collection of books is a ***library***.
A collection of poems or short stories is an ***anthology***.

collide *verb*
to collide with
*The runaway trolley **collided with** a wall.*
bump into, crash into, run into, smash into, hit, strike

collision *noun*
*The **collision** dented the front wheel of my bike.*
bump, crash, smash, knock, accident
A collision involving a lot of vehicles is a ***pile-up***.

colossal *adjective*
*A **colossal** statue towered above us.*
huge, enormous, gigantic, immense, massive, giant, mammoth, monumental, towering, vast
OPPOSITE small, tiny

colour *noun*

WRITING TIPS

You can use these words to describe a **colour**.
1 TO DESCRIBE *a pale colour*:
delicate, faded, light, muted, neutral, pastel, washed-out
2 TO DESCRIBE *a strong colour*:
bright, fluorescent, garish, loud, neon, vibrant, zingy



colourful *adjective*
1 *The rose garden is **colourful** in the summer.*
multicoloured, showy, vibrant, bright, brilliant, gaudy
OPPOSITE colourless
2 *The book gives a **colourful** account of life on an island.*
exciting, interesting, lively, vivid, striking, rich, picturesque
OPPOSITE dull

column *noun*
1 *The roof of the temple was supported by stone **columns**.*
pillar, post, support, shaft
2 *A **column** of soldiers wound its way across the desert.*
line, file, procession, row, string
3 *I sometimes read the sports **column** in the newspaper.*
article, piece, report, feature

combine *verb*
1 *We **combined** our pocket money to buy a kite.*

put together, add together, join, merge, unite, amalgamate
OPPOSITE divide
2 *Combine the mixture with water to make a paste.*
mix, stir together, blend, mingle, bind
OPPOSITE separate

come *verb*
1 *We expect our guests to come in the afternoon.*
arrive, appear, visit
OPPOSITE go
2 *When you hear a cuckoo, you know that summer is coming.*
advance, draw near
to come about
Can you tell me how the accident came about?
happen, occur, take place, result
to come across
I came across an old friend of mine.
find, discover, chance upon, meet, bump into
to come to
1 *Tell me when you come to the last chapter.*
reach, get to, arrive at
2 *What did the repair bill come to?*
add up to, amount to, total

comfort *noun*
1 *My teddy bear was a comfort to me when I was ill.*
reassurance, consolation, encouragement, support, relief
2 *If I had a million pounds, I could live in comfort.*
ease, luxury, contentment, well-being, prosperity, luxury, affluence

comfort *verb*
The coach tried to comfort the team after they lost.
cheer up, console, reassure, encourage, hearten, sympathize with, soothe

comfortable *adjective*
1 *The bed was so comfortable that Goldilocks fell fast asleep.*
cosy, snug, relaxing, easy, soft, warm, roomy, padded, plush (*informal*) comfy
OPPOSITE uncomfortable
2 *We'll need comfortable clothes for travelling.*
casual, informal, loose-fitting
3 *Our cat leads a comfortable life.*
contented, happy, pleasant, agreeable, well-off, prosperous, luxurious, affluent

command *noun*
1 *The general gave the command to attack.*
order, instruction, commandment, edict
2 *Captain Nemo has command of the whole crew.*
charge, control, authority (over), power (over), management, supervision
3 *My sister has a good command of Spanish.*
knowledge, mastery, grasp, understanding, ability (in), skill (in)

command *verb*
1 *The officer commanded his troops to fire.*
order, instruct, direct, tell, bid
2 *The captain commands the ship.*
control, direct, be in charge of, govern, head, lead, manage, administer, supervise

comment *noun*
He made some nasty comments about his boss.
remark, statement, observation, opinion, mention, reference
A hostile comment is a *criticism*.

commit *verb*
The thieves were planning to commit another robbery.
carry out, do, perform, execute

common *adjective*
1 *Colds are a common complaint in winter.*
commonplace, everyday, frequent, normal, ordinary, familiar, well known, widespread
OPPOSITE rare
2 *'Good morning' is a common way to greet people.*
typical, usual, regular, routine, standard, customary, conventional, habitual, traditional
OPPOSITE uncommon
3 *My friends and I have a common interest in music.*
shared, mutual, joint

commotion *noun*
Football supporters were causing a commotion outside.
disturbance, row, fuss, trouble, disorder, unrest, agitation, turmoil, uproar, racket, rumpus, upheaval, riot, fracas, furore, hullabaloo, brouhaha, pandemonium, bedlam

communicate *verb*
1 *Steve communicated his boredom with a yawn.*
express, make known, indicate, convey, disclose, announce, pass on, proclaim, publish, report
2 *Nowadays, we communicate by email.*
contact each other, correspond, be in touch

company *noun*
1 *My cousin works for a computer company.*
business, firm, corporation, organization, establishment
2 *Shrek shunned the company of other ogres.*
fellowship, companionship, friendship, society

compare *verb*
Can you compare these sets of figures?
contrast, juxtapose, relate, set side by side
to compare with
This copy can't compare with the original painting.
compete with, rival, emulate, equal, match

compete *verb*
Five schools will be competing in the hockey tournament.
participate, perform, take part, enter
to compete against
We are competing against a strong team this week.
oppose, play against, contend with

competent *adjective*
You have to be a competent swimmer to join the club.
able, capable, skilful, skilled, accomplished, proficient, experienced, expert, qualified, trained
OPPOSITE incompetent

competitor *noun*
The competitors lined up for the start of the race.
contestant, contender, challenger, participant, opponent, rival
People who take part in an exam are *candidates* or *entrants*.

complain *verb*
Miss Grouch spent most of her life complaining.
moan, protest, grumble, grouse, gripe, whinge, make a fuss
to complain about
I wrote a letter complaining about the noise.
protest about, object to, criticize, find fault with
OPPOSITE praise

complaint *noun*
1 *They received hundreds of complaints about the film.*
criticism, objection, protest, moan, grumble
2 *You have a nasty stomach complaint.*
disease, illness, ailment, sickness, infection
(*informal*) upset

complete *adjective*
1 *Your training as a witch is not yet complete.*
completed, ended, finished, accomplished, concluded
OPPOSITE unfinished
2 *Have you got a complete set of cards?*
whole, entire, full, intact
OPPOSITE incomplete
3 *My birthday party was a complete disaster.*

total, utter, sheer, absolute, thorough, downright, perfect, pure

complete *verb*
We have completed all the tasks on the sheet.
finish, end, conclude, carry out, perform

complex *adjective*
Defusing a bomb is a complex task.
complicated, difficult, elaborate, detailed, intricate, involved (*informal*) fiddly
OPPOSITE simple

complicated *adjective*
The plot of the film is very complicated.
complex, intricate, involved, difficult, elaborate, convoluted
OPPOSITE simple, straightforward

compliments *plural noun*
It was nice to get compliments about my cooking.
praise, appreciation, approval, congratulations, tribute
Compliments which you don't deserve are *flattery*.
OPPOSITE insults

compose *verb*
Beethoven composed nine symphonies.
create, devise, produce, make up, think up, write
to be composed of
This quilt is composed of pieces of patchwork.
be made of, consist of, comprise

compulsory *adjective*
The wearing of seat belts is compulsory.
required, obligatory, necessary
OPPOSITE optional

conceal *verb*
1 *The dog tried to conceal its bone.*
hide, cover up, bury
2 *We tried to conceal our hiding place.*
disguise, mask, screen, camouflage, make invisible
3 *Don't conceal the truth.*
keep quiet about, keep secret, hush up, suppress

conceited *adjective*
He was so conceited when he won first prize!
boastful, arrogant, proud, vain, self-satisfied
(*informal*) big-headed, cocky
OPPOSITE modest

concentrate *verb*
I had to concentrate to hear what she was saying.
be attentive, think hard, focus

concern *verb*
1 *This conversation doesn't concern you.*
affect, involve, be important to, matter to, be relevant to, relate to
2 *It concerns me that we are destroying the rain forests.*
bother, distress, trouble, upset, worry

concern *noun*
1 *My private life is no concern of theirs.*
affair, business
2 *Global warming is a great concern to us all.*
worry, anxiety, fear
3 *She's the head of a business concern.*
company, firm, enterprise, establishment

concerned *adjective*
1 *After waiting an hour, Julia began to feel concerned.*
worried, bothered, troubled, anxious, upset, distressed
2 *We're writing a letter to all those concerned.*
involved, connected, related, affected

conclusion *noun*
1 *The conclusion of the film was a bit puzzling.*
close, end, finale, finish, completion, culmination
2 *'What is your conclusion, Inspector?'*
decision, judgement, opinion, verdict, deduction

condemn *verb*
1 *The manager condemned the behaviour of the players.*
criticize, disapprove of, denounce, deplore, reproach
OPPOSITE praise
2 *The judge condemned the men to death.*
sentence
OPPOSITE acquit

condition *noun*
1 *Is your bike in good condition?*
state, order, repair
2 *A dog needs exercise to stay in good condition.*
fitness, health, shape
3 *It's a condition of membership that you pay a subscription.*
requirement, obligation, term

confess *verb*
The goblin confessed that he had stolen the gold.
admit, own up to, acknowledge, reveal

confidence *noun*
1 *We can face the future with confidence.*
hope, optimism, faith
OPPOSITE doubt
2 *I wish I had her confidence.*
self-confidence, assurance, boldness, conviction

confident *adjective*
1 *I am confident that we will win.*
certain, sure, positive, optimistic
OPPOSITE doubtful
2 *She is a confident sort of person.*
self-confident, assertive, bold, fearless, unafraid

confirm *verb*
1 *The strange events confirmed his belief in ghosts.*
prove, justify, support, back up, reinforce
OPPOSITE disprove
2 *I phoned to confirm my appointment at the dentist.*
verify, make official
OPPOSITE cancel

confront *verb*
I decided to confront her and demand an apology.
challenge, stand up to, face up to
OPPOSITE avoid

confuse *verb*
1 *I was confused by the directions on the map.*
puzzle, bewilder, mystify, baffle, perplex
2 *You must be confusing me with someone else.*
mix up, muddle

confusion *noun*
1 *There was great confusion when the lights went out.*
chaos, commotion, fuss, uproar, turmoil, pandemonium, bedlam, hullabaloo
2 *There was a look of confusion on her face.*
bewilderment, puzzlement, perplexity

congratulate *verb*
We congratulated the winners.
praise, applaud, compliment
OPPOSITE criticize

connect *verb*
1 *What's the best way to connect these wires?*
join, attach, fasten, link, couple, fix together, tie together
OPPOSITE separate
2 *The fingerprints connected him with the crime.*
make a connection between, associate, relate

connection *noun*
There is a close connection between our two families.
association, relationship, link

conquer *verb*
1 *Extra troops were sent to conquer the enemy forces.*
beat, defeat, overcome, vanquish, get the better of, overwhelm, crush, rout, thrash
2 *Gaul was conquered by Julius Caesar.*
seize, capture, take, win, occupy, possess

conscientious *adjective*
Elves are very conscientious workers.

hard working, careful, dependable, reliable, responsible, dutiful, meticulous, painstaking, thorough
OPPOSITE careless

conscious *adjective*
1 *The patient was **conscious** throughout the operation.*
awake, alert, aware
OPPOSITE unconscious
2 *She made a **conscious** effort to improve her work.*
deliberate, intentional, planned
OPPOSITE accidental

consequence *noun*
1 *He drank the potion without thinking of the **consequences**.*
effect, result, outcome, sequel, upshot
2 *The loss of a few pence is of no **consequence**.*
importance, significance

consider *verb*
1 *The detective **considered** the problem carefully.*
think about, examine, contemplate, ponder on, reflect on, study, weigh up, meditate about
2 *I **consider** this to be my best work.*
believe, judge, reckon

considerate *adjective*
*It was **considerate** of you to lend me your umbrella.*
kind, kind-hearted, helpful, obliging, sympathetic, thoughtful, unselfish, caring, charitable, neighbourly
OPPOSITE selfish

consist *verb*
to consist of
1 *The planet **consists** largely **of** craters.*
be made of, be composed of, comprise, contain, include, incorporate
2 *His job **consists** mostly **of** answering the phone.*
involve

consistent *adjective*
1 *These plants need to be kept at a **consistent** temperature.*
steady, constant, regular, stable, unchanging
2 *Fortunately, our goalkeeper is a **consistent** player.*
predictable, dependable, reliable

console *verb*
*He did his best to **console** me when my dog died.*
comfort, soothe, sympathize with, support

conspicuous *adjective*
1 *The clock tower is a **conspicuous** landmark.*
prominent, notable, obvious, eye-catching, unmistakable, visible
2 *I had made some **conspicuous** mistakes.*
clear, noticeable, obvious, evident, glaring

constant *adjective*
1 *There is a **constant** noise of traffic on the motorway.*
continual, continuous, never-ending, non-stop, ceaseless, incessant, interminable, endless, everlasting, permanent, perpetual, unending, persistent, relentless
OPPOSITE changeable
2 *My dog has been my **constant** friend for many years.*
faithful, loyal, dependable, reliable, firm, true, trustworthy, devoted
OPPOSITE unreliable

construct *verb*
*We **constructed** a tree-house in the back garden.*
build, erect, assemble, make, put together, put up, set up
OPPOSITE demolish


construct

consult *verb*
1 *You should **consult** the dentist about your sore tooth.*
ask, get advice from, speak to
2 *If you don't know how to spell a word, **consult** your dictionary.*
refer to

contact *verb*
*I'll **contact** you when I have some news.*
call, call on, get in touch with, communicate with, notify, speak to, talk to, correspond with, phone, ring, write to

contain *verb*
1 *This box **contains** various odds and ends.*
hold
2 *A dictionary **contains** words and definitions.*
include, incorporate, comprise, consist of

contemplate *verb*
1 *The princess **contemplated** herself in the mirror.*
look at, view, observe, survey, watch, stare at, gaze at
2 *The robbers **contemplated** what to do next.*
think about, consider, ponder, study, reflect on, weigh up, meditate about

contempt *noun*
*The knight stared at his enemy with a look of **contempt**.*
hatred, scorn, loathing, disgust, dislike, distaste
OPPOSITE admiration

contented *adjective*
*After her meal, the cat looked very **contented**.*
happy, pleased, content, satisfied, fulfilled, serene, peaceful, relaxed, comfortable, tranquil, untroubled
OPPOSITE discontented

contest *noun*
*The tennis final was an exciting **contest**.*
competition, challenge, fight, bout, encounter, struggle, game, match, tournament

contestant *noun*
*There are twenty **contestants** in the spelling competition.*
competitor, participant, player, contender

continual *adjective*
*I get sick of their **continual** arguing.*
constant, persistent, perpetual, repeated, frequent, recurrent, eternal, unending
OPPOSITE occasional

continue *verb*
1 *We **continued** our search until it got dark.*
keep up, prolong, sustain, persevere with, pursue
(*informal*) stick at
2 *This rain can't **continue** for long.*
carry on, last, persist, endure, keep on, go on, linger
3 *We'll **continue** our meeting after lunch.*
resume, proceed with, pick up

continuous *adjective*
*We had **continuous** rain all through our holiday.*
never-ending, non-stop, ceaseless, everlasting, incessant, unbroken, unceasing, uninterrupted
An illness which continues for a long time is a ***chronic*** illness.
OPPOSITE intermittent

contract *noun*
*The actress has signed a **contract** for a new film.*
agreement, deal, undertaking
A contract between two countries is an ***alliance*** or ***treaty***.
A contract to end a dispute about money is a ***settlement***.

contract *verb*
1 *Metal **contracts** when it gets colder.*
reduce, lessen, shrink, tighten
OPPOSITE expand
2 *The crew **contracted** a mysterious illness.*
catch, develop, get

contrast *verb*
1 *We were asked to **contrast** two of our favourite poems.*
compare, juxtapose, distinguish between
2 *Her handwriting **contrasts** with mine.*
clash, differ (from)

contrast *noun*
*There is a sharp **contrast** between the two paintings.*
difference, distinction, opposition
OPPOSITE similarity

contribute *verb*
*Will you **contribute** something to our charity collection?*
donate, give, provide
(*informal*) chip in
to contribute to
*The sunny weather **contributed to** our enjoyment.*
add to, help, aid, encourage, enhance

control *noun*
*The captain had complete **control** over the crew.*
authority, power, command, government, management, direction, leadership, guidance

control *verb*
1 *The government **controls** the country's affairs.*
be in control of, be in charge of, manage, run, command, direct, lead, guide, govern, administer, regulate, rule, superintend, supervise
2 *Can't you **control** that dog?*
manage, handle, restrain
3 *They built a dam to **control** the floods.*
check, curb, hold back, contain

convenient *adjective*
1 *Is there a **convenient** place to put my umbrella?*
suitable, appropriate, available, nearby, accessible
OPPOSITE inconvenient
2 *Mum has a **convenient** tool for opening jars.*
handy, helpful, useful, labour-saving, neat

conventional *adjective*
*The **conventional** way to greet someone is to shake hands.*
customary, traditional, usual, accepted, common, normal, ordinary, everyday, routine, standard, regular, habitual
OPPOSITE unconventional

conversation *noun*
An informal conversation is a ***chat*** or ***gossip***.
A more formal conversation is a ***discussion***.
A very formal conversation is a ***conference***.
Conversation in a play or novel is ***dialogue***.

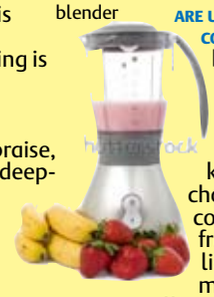


WORD WEB

cook *verb*
To cook food for guests or customers is to ***cater*** for them.
Cooking as a business is ***catering***.
The art or skill of cooking is ***cookery***.

SOME WAYS TO COOK FOOD
bake, barbecue, boil, braise, brew, broil, casserole, deep-fry, fry, grill, poach, roast, sauté, simmer, steam, stew, toast

OTHER WAYS TO PREPARE FOOD
baste, blend, chop, dice, grate, grind, infuse, knead, liquidize, marinade, mince, mix, peel, purée, sieve, sift, stir, whisk


blender

SOME ITEMS THAT ARE USED FOR COOKING
baking tin or tray, barbecue, blender, bowl, carving knife, casserole, cauldron, chopping board, colander, cooker, dish, food processor, frying pan, grill, ladle, liquidizer, microwave, mincer, oven, pan, pot, rolling pin, saucepan, skewer, spatula, spit, strainer, toaster, whisk, wok, wooden spoon



convert *verb*
1 *We have **converted** our attic into a games room.*
change, adapt, alter, transform
2 *I never used to like football, but my cousin **converted** me.*
change someone's mind, persuade, convince, win over

convince *verb*
*The prisoner **convinced** them that he was innocent.*
persuade, assure, satisfy, make believe, win round

convincing *adjective*
*I tried to think of a **convincing** excuse.*
persuasive, believable, credible, plausible

cook *verb*

cool *adjective*
1 *The weather is **cool** for the time of year.*
chilly, coldish
OPPOSITE hot, warm
2 *Would you like a **cool** glass of lemonade?*
chilled, iced, refreshing
OPPOSITE hot
3 *Clifford remained **cool** when everyone else panicked.*
calm, level-headed, relaxed, unexcitable, unflustered
(*informal*) laid-back
A common simile is ***as cool as a cucumber***.
OPPOSITE frantic
4 (*informal*) *Those rollerskates are really **cool**!*
chic, fashionable, smart
(*informal*) trendy

cooperate *verb*
to cooperate with
*The scouts **cooperated with** each other to build a fire.*
work with or together with, collaborate with, aid, assist, support

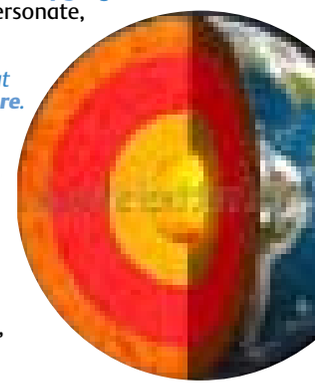
cope *verb*
*Shall I help you, or can you **cope** on your own?*
manage, carry on, get by, make do, survive
to cope with
*I can't **cope with** all this homework!*
deal with, handle, manage, get through

copy *noun*
*That isn't the original painting—it's a **copy**.*
replica, reproduction, duplicate, imitation, likeness
A copy made to deceive someone is a ***fake*** or a ***forgery***.
A living organism which is identical to another is a ***clone***.

copy *verb*
1 *I **copied** the poem into my jotter.*
duplicate, reproduce, write out
To copy something in order to deceive is to ***fake*** or ***forge*** it.
2 *My parrot can **copy** my voice.*
imitate, impersonate, mimic

core *noun*
*It is very hot at the earth's **core**.*
centre, middle, inside, heart, nucleus

corner *noun*
1 *I'll meet you at the **corner** of the road.*
turn, turning, junction, crossroads, intersection
The place where


core

two lines meet is an ***angle***.
2 *I sat in a quiet **corner** and read her letter.*
alcove, recess, nook

correct *adjective*
1 *Your answers are all **correct**.*
right, accurate, exact, faultless
2 *I hope he has given us **correct** information.*
true, genuine, authentic, precise, reliable, factual
3 *What is the **correct** way to address this letter?*
proper, acceptable, regular, appropriate, suitable
OPPOSITE wrong

correct *verb*
1 *I have to **correct** my spelling mistakes.*
alter, put right, make better, improve
2 *Miss Nicol spent the day **correcting** exam papers.*
mark

correspond *verb*
to correspond with
1 *Her version of the story doesn't **correspond with** mine.*
agree with, match, be similar to, be consistent with, tally with
2 *Carol **corresponds with** a friend in Paris.*
write to, communicate with, send letters to

corrupt *adjective*
***Corrupt** officials had accepted millions of pounds in bribes.*
dishonest, criminal, untrustworthy
(*informal*) bent, crooked
OPPOSITE honest

cost *noun*
*The bill shows the total **cost**.*
price, charge, amount, payment, fee, figure, expense, expenditure, tariff
The cost of travelling on public transport is the ***fare***.

costume *noun*
*The Irish dancers were wearing national **costumes**.*
outfit, dress, clothing, suit, attire, garment, garb
(*informal*) get-up
A costume you dress up in for a party is ***fancy dress***.
A set of clothes worn by soldiers or members of an organization is a ***uniform***.

cosy *adjective*
*It's good to feel **cosy** in bed when it's cold outside.*
comfortable, snug, soft, warm, secure
OPPOSITE uncomfortable

count *verb*
1 *I'm **counting** the days until my birthday.*
add up, calculate, compute, estimate, reckon, figure out, work out, total
2 *It's playing well that **counts**, not winning.*
be important, be significant, matter

to count on
*You can **count on** me to support you.*
depend on, rely on, trust, bank on

country *noun*
1 *England and Wales are separate **countries**.*
nation, state, land, territory
A country ruled by a king or queen is a ***kingdom***, ***monarchy***, or ***realm***.
A country governed by leaders elected by the people is a ***democracy***.
A democratic country with a President is a ***republic***.
2 *We went for a picnic in the **country**.*
countryside, landscape, outdoors, scenery
A word meaning 'to do with the country' is ***rural*** and its opposite is ***urban***.
OPPOSITE town, city

courage *noun*
*The rescue dogs showed great **courage**.*
bravery, boldness, daring, fearlessness, nerve, pluck, valour, heroism, grit
(*informal*) guts
OPPOSITE cowardice

course *noun*
1 *The hot-air balloon was drifting off its **course**.*
direction, path, route, way, progress, passage
2 *The war changed the **course** of history.*
development, progression, sequence, succession

cover *verb*
1 *A coat of paint will **cover** the graffiti.*
conceal, disguise, hide, obscure, mask, blot out
2 *She **covered** her face with her hands.*
shield, screen, protect, shade, veil
3 *An encyclopedia **covers** many subjects.*
deal with, include, contain, incorporate

cover *noun*
1 *The **cover** of the book was torn.*
wrapper
A cover for a letter is an ***envelope***.
A cover for a book is a ***jacket***.
A cover to keep papers in is a ***file*** or ***folder***.
2 *On the bare hillside, there was no **cover** from the storm.*
shelter, protection, defence, shield, refuge, sanctuary

covering *noun*
*There was a light **covering** of snow on the hills.*
coating, coat, layer, blanket, carpet, film, sheet, skin, veil

cowardly *adjective*
*It was **cowardly** to run away.*
timid, faint-hearted, spineless, gutless
(*informal*) yellow, chicken
OPPOSITE brave

cower *verb*
*A frightened creature was **cowering** in the corner.*
cringe, shrink, crouch, flinch, quail

crack *noun*
1 *There's a **crack** in this cup.*
break, chip, fracture, flaw, chink, split
2 *The outlaw hid in a **crack** between two rocks.*
gap, opening, crevice, rift, cranny
3 *The detective heard the **crack** of a pistol shot.*
bang, fire, explosion, snap, pop
4 *She gave the robber a **crack** on the head.*
blow, bang, knock, smack, whack
5 *I had a **crack** at writing a poem.*
try, attempt, shot, go

crack *verb*
*A brick fell down and **cracked** the pavement.*
break, fracture, chip, split, shatter, splinter

craft *noun*
1 *I'd like to learn the **craft** of weaving.*
art, skill, technique, expertise, handicraft
2 *All sorts of craft were in the harbour.*
boats, ships, vessels

crafty *adjective*
*The evil sorceress had a **crafty** plan.*
cunning, clever, shrewd, scheming, sneaky, sly, tricky, wily, artful

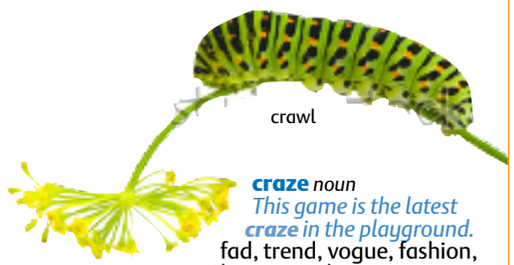
cram *verb*
1 *We can't **cram** any more people in— the car is full.*
pack, squeeze, crush, force, jam, compress
2 *My sister is **cramming** for her maths exam.*
revise, study
(*informal*) swot

cramped *adjective*
*The seating on the train was a bit **cramped**.*
confined, narrow, restricted, tight, uncomfortable, crowded
(*informal*) poky
OPPOSITE roomy

crash *noun*
1 *I heard a loud **crash** from the kitchen.*
bang, smash
2 *We saw a nasty **crash** on the motorway.*
accident, collision, smash, bump
A crash involving a lot of vehicles is a ***pile-up***.
A train crash may involve a ***derailment***.

crash *verb*
*The car **crashed** into a lamp-post.*
bump, smash, collide, knock

crawl *verb*
*I saw a caterpillar **crawling** along a leaf.*
creep, edge, inch, slither, clamber


crawl

craze *noun*
*This game is the latest **craze** in the playground.*
fad, trend, vogue, fashion, enthusiasm, obsession, passion

crazy *adjective*
1 *The dog went **crazy** when it was stung by a wasp.*
mad, insane, frenzied, hysterical, frantic, berserk, delirious, wild
(*informal*) loopy, nuts
2 *It was a **crazy** idea to try to build a space rocket!*
absurd, ridiculous, ludicrous, daft, idiotic, senseless, silly, stupid, foolhardy, preposterous
(*informal*) bonkers, barmy, wacky
OPPOSITE sensible

create *verb*
1 *The cats were **creating** a racket outside.*
make, cause, produce
2 *We have **created** a website for our chess club.*
set up, start up, bring about, bring into existence, originate
You ***write*** a poem or story.
You ***compose*** music.
You ***draw*** or ***paint*** a picture.
You ***carve*** a statue.
You ***invent*** or ***think up*** a new idea.
You ***design*** a new product.
You ***devise*** a plan.
You ***found*** a new club or organization.
You ***manufacture*** goods.
You ***generate*** electricity.
You ***build*** or ***construct*** a model or a building.

creative *adjective*
*My aunt is a very **creative** person.*
artistic, imaginative, inventive, original, inspired
OPPOSITE unimaginative

creator *noun*
*Walt Disney was the **creator** of Mickey Mouse.*
inventor, maker, originator, producer, deviser
The creator of a design is an ***architect*** or ***designer***.
The creator of goods for sale is a ***manufacturer***.

creature *noun*
*A wild-looking **creature** emerged from the swamp.*
animal, beast, being

creep *verb*
1 *I watched the lizard **creep** back into its hiding place.*
crawl, edge, inch, slither, wriggle
2 *I **crept** out of bed without waking the others.*
move quietly, sneak, tiptoe, slip, slink, steal

creepy *adjective*
*There were **creepy** noises coming from the cellar.*
scary, frightening, eerie, ghostly, weird, sinister, uncanny, unearthly
(*informal*) spooky

crisis *noun*
*The election result caused a **crisis** in the country.*
emergency, problem, difficulty, predicament

crisp *adjective*
1 *Fry the bacon until it's **crisp**.*
crispy, crunchy, brittle
OPPOSITE soft, soggy, limp
2 *It was a **crisp** winter morning.*
cold, fresh, frosty

critical *adjective*
1 *Some people made **critical** comments about my hairstyle.*
negative, disapproving, derogatory, uncomplimentary, unfavourable
OPPOSITE complimentary
2 *This match is **critical** for our team's chances of success.*
crucial, important, vital, serious, decisive
OPPOSITE unimportant

criticize *verb*
*She **criticized** us for being so careless.*
blame, condemn, disapprove of, find fault with, reprimand, reproach, scold, berate
OPPOSITE praise

crooked *adjective*
1 *The wizard bent his wand into a **crooked** shape.*
bent, twisted, warped, knarled
OPPOSITE straight
2 (*informal*) *The **crooked** salesman was selling fake diamonds.*
criminal, dishonest, corrupt, illegal, unlawful
(*informal*) bent
OPPOSITE honest

cross *verb*
1 *There is a bus stop where the two roads **cross**.*
criss-cross, intersect
2 *You can **cross** the river at the footbridge.*
go across, pass over, traverse, ford, span

cross *adjective*
*My mum will be **cross** if we're late.*
angry, annoyed, upset, vexed, bad-tempered, ill-tempered, irritable, grumpy, testy, irate
OPPOSITE pleased

crouch *verb*
*The outlaws **crouched** silently in the bushes.*
squat, kneel, stoop, bend, duck, bob down, hunch, huddle

crowd *noun*
1 *A **crowd** of people waited outside the theatre.*
gathering, group, assembly, bunch, cluster, throng, mob, multitude, crush, horde, swarm
2 *There was a huge **crowd** for the tennis final.*
audience, spectators, gate, attendance

crowd *verb*
1 *People **crowded** on the pavement to watch the parade.*
gather, collect, assemble, congregate, mass, flock, muster
2 *Hundreds of people **crowded** into the hall.*
push, pile, squeeze, pack, cram, crush, jam, bundle, herd


crowd

crowded *adjective*
*The shops are always **crowded** at Christmas time.*
full, packed, teeming, swarming, overflowing, jammed, congested
OPPOSITE empty

crude *adjective*
1 *The refinery processes **crude** oil.*
raw, natural, unprocessed, unrefined
OPPOSITE refined
2 *We made a **crude** shelter out of twigs.*

rough, clumsy, makeshift, primitive
OPPOSITE skilful
3 *The teacher told them to stop using **crude** language.*
rude, obscene, coarse, dirty, foul, impolite, indecent, vulgar
OPPOSITE polite

cruel *adjective*
*I think hunting is a **cruel** way to kill animals.*
brutal, savage, vicious, fierce, barbaric, bloodthirsty, barbarous, heartless, ruthless, merciless, inhuman, sadistic, uncivilized, beastly
OPPOSITE kind, humane, gentle

crumb *noun*
*We put out some **crumbs** of bread for the birds.*
bit, fragment, scrap, morsel

crumble *verb*
1 *The walls of the castle were beginning to **crumble**.*
disintegrate, break up, collapse, fall apart, decay, decompose
2 *The farmer **crumbled** some bread into his soup.*
crush, grind, pound, pulverize

crunch *verb*
1 *The dog was **crunching** on a bone.*
chew, munch, chomp, grind
2 *I heard heavy footsteps **crunching** up the path.*
crush, grind, pound, smash

crush *verb*
1 *He **crushed** his anorak into his schoolbag.*
squash, squeeze, mangle, pound, press, bruise, crunch, scrunch
To crush something into a soft mess is to **mash** or **pulp** it.
To crush something into a powder is to **grind** or **pulverize** it.
To crush something out of shape is to **crumple** or **smash** it.
2 *Our soldiers **crushed** the attacking army.*
defeat, conquer, vanquish, overcome, overwhelm, quash, trounce, rout

crush *noun*
*There was a **crush** of people at the front gates.*
crowd, press, mob, throng, jam, congestion

cry *verb*
1 *Someone was **crying** for help from the burning house.*
call, shout, yell, exclaim, roar, bawl, bellow, scream, screech, shriek
2 *The baby started to **cry** when she dropped her toy.*
sob, weep, bawl, blubber, wail, shed tears, snivel
When someone starts to cry, their eyes **well up with tears**.

cry *noun*
*The wounded man let out a **cry** of pain.*
call, shout, yell, roar, howl, exclamation, bellow, scream, screech, shriek, yelp

cuddle *verb*
*My baby brother **cuddles** a teddy bear in bed.*
hug, hold closely, clasp, embrace, caress, nestle against, snuggle against

cunning *adjective*
*The pirates had a **cunning** plan to seize the ship.*
clever, crafty, devious, wily, ingenious, shrewd, artful, scheming, sly, tricky

cup *noun*
A tall cup with straight sides is a **mug**.
A tall cup without a handle is a **beaker** or **tumbler**.
A decorative drinking cup is a **goblet**.

cure *verb*
1 *These pills will **cure** your headache.*
ease, heal, help, improve, make better, relieve
OPPOSITE aggravate
2 *No-one can **cure** the problem with my computer.*
correct, mend, sort, repair, fix, put an end to, put right

cure *noun*
*I wish they could find a **cure** for colds.*
remedy, treatment, antidote, medicine, therapy

curious *adjective*
1 *We were all very **curious** about the secret chamber.*
inquisitive, inquiring, interested (in), intrigued, agog
An uncomplimentary word is **nosy**.
OPPOSITE uninterested, indifferent
2 *What is that **curious** smell?*
odd, strange, peculiar, abnormal, queer, unusual, extraordinary, funny, mysterious, puzzling, weird

curl *verb*
1 *The snake **curled** itself around a branch.*
wind, twist, loop, coil, wrap, curve, turn, twine
2 *Steam **curled** upwards from the cauldron.*
coil, spiral, twirl, swirl, furl, snake, writhe, ripple

curl *noun*
*The girl's hair was a mass of golden **curls**.*
wave, ringlet, coil, loop, twist, roll, scroll, spiral

curly *adjective*
*My new doll has **curly** black hair.*
curled, curling, wavy, frizzy, crinkly, ringletted
OPPOSITE straight

current *noun*
*The wooden raft drifted along with the **current**.*
flow, tide, stream
A current of air is a **draught**.

current *adjective*
1 *The shop sells all the **current** teenage fashions.*
modern, contemporary, present-day, up to date, topical, prevailing, prevalent
OPPOSITE past, old-fashioned
2 *Have you got a **current** passport?*
valid, usable, up to date
OPPOSITE out of date
3 *Who is the **current** prime minister?*
present, existing
OPPOSITE past, former

curse *noun*
1 *Long ago, a wizard put a **curse** on the family.*
jinx, hex
2 *When the gardener hit his finger, he let out a **curse**.*
swearword, oath

curve *noun*
*Try to draw a straight line without any **curves**.*
bend, curl, loop, turn, twist, arch, arc, bow, bulge, wave
A curve in the shape of a new moon is a **crescent**.
A curve on a road surface is a **camber**.

curve *verb*
*The road ahead **curves** round to the right.*
bend, wind, turn, twist, curl, loop, swerve, veer, snake, meander

curved *adjective*
*The wall was painted with a series of **curved** lines.*
curving, curvy, curled, looped, coiled, rounded, bulging, bent, arched, bowed, twisted, crooked, spiral, winding, meandering, serpentine, snaking, undulating
A surface which is curved like the inside of a circle is **concave**.
A surface which is curved like the outside of a circle is **convex**.

custom *noun*
1 *It's our **custom** to give presents at Christmas.*
tradition, practice, habit, convention, fashion, routine, way
2 *The shop is having a sale to attract more **custom**.*
customers, buyers, trade, business

cut *verb*
1 *The woodcutter **cut** the tree trunk to make logs.*
chop, slit, split, chip, notch, axe, hack, hew, cleave
To cut off a limb is to **amputate** or **sever** it.
To cut down a tree is to **fell** it.
To cut branches off a tree is to **lop** them.
To cut twigs off a growing plant is to **prune** it.
To cut something up to examine it is to **dissect** it.
To cut stone to make a statue is to **carve** it.
To cut an inscription in stone is to **engrave** it.
2 *The cook **cut** the apples into small pieces.*
chop, slice, dice, grate, mince, shred
3 *I'm going to get my hair **cut** in the holidays.*
trim, clip, crop, snip, shave
To cut wool off a sheep is to **shear** it.
To cut grass is to **mow** it.
To cut corn is to **harvest** or **reap** it.
4 *Josh **cut** his foot on a sharp stone.*
gash, slash, nick, stab, pierce, wound
5 *This letter is too long—I'll need to **cut** it.*
shorten, condense, edit
6 *The shop has **cut** its prices by 10%.*
lower, reduce, decrease
If you cut something by half, you **halve** it.

cut *noun*
*I got a nasty **cut** when I was slicing bread.*
gash, wound, injury, nick, slash, scratch, slit, snip



Dd

damage *verb*
*Many books were **damaged** in the fire.*
harm, spoil, mar, break, impair, weaken, disfigure, deface, mutilate, scar
To damage something beyond repair is to **destroy**, **ruin**, or **wreck** it.
To damage something deliberately is to **sabotage** or **vandalize** it.

damp *adjective*
1 *Don't wear those clothes if they are **damp**.*
moist, soggy, clammy, dank
2 *I don't like this **damp** weather.*
drizzly, foggy, misty, rainy, wet
Weather which is both damp and warm is **humid** or **muggy** weather.
OPPOSITE dry

dance *verb*
*I could have **danced** for joy.*
caper, cavort, frisk, frolic, gambol, hop about, jig about, jump about, leap, prance, skip, whirl

danger *noun*
1 *Who knows what **dangers** lie ahead?*
peril, jeopardy, trouble, crisis, hazard, menace, pitfall, threat, trap
OPPOSITE safety
2 *The forecast says there's a **danger** of frost.*
chance, possibility, risk

dangerous *adjective*
1 *We were in a **dangerous** situation.*
hazardous, perilous, risky, precarious, treacherous, unsafe, alarming, menacing
(*informal*) hairy
2 *The police arrested him for **dangerous** driving.*
careless, reckless
3 *A **dangerous** criminal had escaped from prison.*
violent, desperate, ruthless, treacherous
4 *It's wicked to empty **dangerous** chemicals into the river.*
harmful, poisonous, deadly, toxic
OPPOSITE harmless, safe

dangle *verb*
*There was a bunch of keys **dangling** from the chain.*
hang, swing, sway, droop, wave about, flap, trail

dare *verb*
1 *I wouldn't **dare** to make a parachute jump.*
have the courage, take the risk
2 *They **dared** me to climb the tree.*
challenge, defy

daring *adjective*
*It was a very **daring** plan.*
bold, brave, adventurous, courageous, fearless, intrepid, plucky, valiant
A daring person is a **daredevil**.
OPPOSITE timid

dark *adjective*
1 *It was a very **dark** night.*
black, dim, murky, shadowy, gloomy, dingy
OPPOSITE bright
2 *She wore a **dark** green coat.*
OPPOSITE pale, light

dash *verb*
1 *We **dashed** home because it was raining.*
hurry, run, rush, race, hasten, sprint, speed, tear, zoom
2 *She **dashed** her cup against the wall.*
throw, hurl, knock, smash

data *plural noun*
*I entered all the **data** into the computer.*
information, details, facts
Data can be in the form of ***figures***, ***numbers***, or ***statistics***.

dawn *noun*
1 *I was woken at **dawn** by the birds singing outside.*
daybreak, sunrise, first light
OPPOSITE dusk, sunset
2 *It was the **dawn** of the modern age.*
beginning, start, birth, origin

day *noun*
1 *Badgers sleep during the **day**.*
daytime
OPPOSITE night
2 *Things were different in my grandfather's **day**.*
age, time, era, epoch, period

dazed *adjective*
*He had a **dazed** expression on his face.*
confused, bewildered, muddled, perplexed

dazzle *verb*
1 *My eyes were **dazzled** by the bright lights.*
daze, blind
2 *The acrobats **dazzled** the audience with their skill.*
amaze, astonish, impress, fascinate, awe

dead *adjective*
1 *A **dead** fish floated by the side of the river.*
deceased, lifeless
Instead of 'the king who has just died', you can say 'the ***late*** king'.
A dead body is a ***carcass*** or ***corpse***.
A common simile is ***as dead as a doornail***.
OPPOSITE alive
2 *This battery is **dead**.*
flat, not working, worn out
3 *The town centre is **dead** at this time of night.*
dull, boring, uninteresting, slow
OPPOSITE lively

deadly *adjective*
*The witch gave her a **deadly** dose of poison.*
lethal, fatal, harmful, dangerous, destructive
OPPOSITE harmless

deafening *adjective*
*We complained about the **deafening** noise.*
loud, blaring, booming, thunderous, penetrating

deal *verb*
1 *Who is going to **deal** the cards?*
give out, distribute, share out
2 *My uncle used to **deal** in second-hand cars.*
do business, trade
to deal with something
1 *I can **deal with** this problem.*
cope with, sort out, attend to, see to, handle, manage, control, grapple with, look after, solve
2 *The book **deals with** the history of Rome.*
be concerned with, cover, explain about

deal *noun*
*She made a **deal** with the garage for her new car.*
arrangement, agreement, contract, bargain

dear *adjective*
1 *She is a very **dear** friend.*
close, loved, valued, beloved
OPPOSITE distant
2 *I didn't buy the watch because it was too **dear**.*
expensive, costly
(*informal*) pricey
OPPOSITE cheap

debate *noun*
*We had a **debate** about animal rights.*
discussion, argument, dispute
Something which people argue about a lot is a ***controversy***.

debate *verb*
1 *We **debated** whether it is right to kill animals for food.*
discuss, argue
2 *I **debated** what to do next.*
consider, ponder, deliberate, weigh up, reflect on

decay *verb*
*Dead leaves fall to the ground and **decay**.*
decompose, rot, disintegrate, break down

decay



deceitful *adjective*
*Don't trust him—he's a **deceitful** person.*
dishonest, underhand, insincere, duplicitous, false, cheating, hypocritical, lying, treacherous, two-faced, sneaky
OPPOSITE honest

deceive *verb*
*The spy had been **deceiving** them for years.*
fool, trick, delude, dupe, hoodwink, cheat, double-cross, mislead, swindle, take in
(*informal*) con, diddle

decent *adjective*
1 *I did the **decent** thing and owned up.*
honest, honourable
2 *My friend's jokes were not **decent**.*
polite, proper, respectable, acceptable, appropriate, suitable, fitting
OPPOSITE indecent
3 *I haven't had a **decent** meal for ages!*
satisfactory, agreeable, good, nice
OPPOSITE bad

decide *verb*
1 *We **decided** to finish our work instead of going out to play.*
choose, make a decision, make up your mind, opt, elect, resolve
2 *The referee **decided** that the player was offside.*
conclude, judge, rule
3 *The last lap **decided** the result of the race.*
determine, settle

decision *noun*
1 *Can you tell me what your **decision** is?*
choice, preference
2 *The judge announced his **decision**.*
conclusion, judgement, verdict, findings

decisive *adjective*
1 *A **decisive** piece of evidence proved that he was innocent.*
crucial, convincing, definite
OPPOSITE uncertain
2 *A referee needs to be **decisive**.*
firm, forceful, strong-minded, resolute, quick-thinking
OPPOSITE hesitant

declare *verb*
*He **declared** that he was innocent.*
announce, state, assert, make known, pronounce, proclaim, swear

decline *verb*
1 *Our enthusiasm **declined** as the day went on.*
become less, decrease, diminish, lessen, weaken, dwindle, flag, wane, tail off
OPPOSITE increase
2 *Why did you **decline** my invitation to lunch?*
refuse, reject, turn down
OPPOSITE accept

decorate *verb*
1 *We **decorated** the Christmas tree with tinsel.*
ornament, adorn, beautify, prettify, deck, festoon
To decorate a dish of food is to ***garnish*** it.
To decorate clothes with lace or ribbon is to ***trim*** them.
2 *Dad is going to **decorate** my bedroom next weekend.*
paint, paper, or wallpaper (*informal*) do up, make over
3 *The firefighters were **decorated** for their bravery.*
award or give a medal to, honour, reward

decrease *verb*
1 *We **decreased** speed.*
reduce, cut, lower, slacken
2 *Our enthusiasm **decreased** as the day went on.*
become less, decline, decrease, diminish, lessen, weaken, dwindle, flag, wane, tail off, shrink, subside
OPPOSITE increase

dedicate *verb*
*He **dedicates** himself entirely to his art.*
commit, devote

deed *noun*
*They thanked the rescue team for their heroic **deed**.*
act, action, feat, exploit, effort, achievement

deep *adjective*
1 *The pond is quite **deep** in the middle.*
OPPOSITE shallow
2 *The letter expressed his **deep** regret.*
intense, earnest, genuine, sincere
OPPOSITE insincere
3 *Veronica fell into a **deep** sleep.*
heavy, sound
OPPOSITE light
4 *The actor spoke in a **deep** and sombre voice.*
low, bass
OPPOSITE high

defeat *verb*
*The Greeks attacked and **defeated** the Trojans.*
beat, conquer, vanquish, triumph over, win a victory over, overcome, overpower, crush, rout, trounce
To defeat someone in chess is to ***checkmate*** them.
To be defeated is to ***lose***.

defeat *noun*
*The team suffered a humiliating **defeat**.*
failure, humiliation, rout, trouncing
OPPOSITE victory

defect *noun*
*Cars are tested for **defects** before they leave the factory.*
fault, flaw, imperfection, shortcoming, failure, weakness
A defect in a computer program is a ***bug***.

defence *noun*
1 *What was the accused woman's **defence**?*
justification, excuse, explanation, argument, case
2 *The castle was built as a **defence** against enemy attack.*
protection, guard, safeguard, fortification, barricade, shield

defend *verb*
1 *They tried to **defend** themselves against the enemy.*
protect, guard, keep safe
OPPOSITE attack
2 *He gave a speech **defending** his actions.*
justify, support, stand up for, make a case for
OPPOSITE accuse

defiant *adjective*
*The prisoner cursed with a **defiant** look in his eye.*
rebellious, insolent, aggressive, challenging, disobedient, obstinate, quarrelsome, uncooperative, stubborn, mutinous
OPPOSITE submissive, compliant

definite *adjective*
1 *Is it **definite** that we're going to move?*
certain, sure, fixed, settled, decided
2 *The doctor saw **definite** signs of improvement.*
clear, distinct, noticeable, obvious, marked, positive, pronounced, unmistakable
OPPOSITE indefinite

definitely *adverb*
*I'll **definitely** phone you tomorrow.*
certainly, for certain, positively, surely, unquestionably, without doubt, without fail
OPPOSITE perhaps

defy *verb*
1 *The rebel army decided to **defy** the king.*
disobey, refuse to obey, resist, stand up to, confront
OPPOSITE obey
2 *I **defy** you to come up with a better idea.*
challenge, dare
3 *The jammed door **defied** our efforts to open it.*
resist, withstand, defeat, frustrate, beat

delay *verb*
1 *Don't let me **delay** you.*
detain, hold up, keep waiting, make late, hinder, slow down
2 *They **delayed** the race because of bad weather.*
postpone, put off, defer
3 *You'll miss the bus if you **delay**.*
hesitate, linger, pause, wait, dawdle, loiter
(*informal*) hang about or around, drag your feet

delay *noun*
*There has been a **delay** with the building work.*
hold-up, wait, pause

deliberate *adjective*
1 *That remark was a **deliberate** insult.*
intentional, planned, calculated, conscious, premeditated
OPPOSITE accidental, unintentional
2 *He walked with **deliberate** steps across the room.*
careful, steady, cautious, slow, unhurried
OPPOSITE hasty, careless

deliberately *verb*
*Did you say that **deliberately** to hurt my feelings?*
on purpose, intentionally
OPPOSITE accidentally, unintentionally

delicate *adjective*
1 *The blouse has **delicate** embroidery on the cuffs.*
dainty, exquisite, intricate, neat
2 *Take care not to damage the **delicate** material.*
fragile, fine, flimsy, thin
3 ***Delicate** plants should be protected from frost.*
sensitive, tender
OPPOSITE tough, hardy
4 *The child was born with a **delicate** constitution.*
frail, weak, feeble, sickly, unhealthy
OPPOSITE strong
5 *The pianist's fingers had a **delicate** touch.*
gentle, light, soft

delicious *adjective*
*The food at the banquet was **delicious**.*
tasty, appetizing, mouth-watering, delectable
(*informal*) scrumptious, yummy
OPPOSITE horrible, disgusting

delight *noun*
*Imagine my **delight** when I saw my friend again!*
happiness, joy, pleasure, enjoyment, bliss, ecstasy

delight *verb*
*The puppet show **delighted** the children.*
please, charm, entertain, amuse, divert, enchant, entrance, fascinate, thrill
OPPOSITE dismay

delighted *adjective*
*The **delighted** crowd cheered the winners.*
pleased, happy, joyful, thrilled, ecstatic, elated, exultant

deliver *verb*
1 *Does anyone **deliver** mail to the island?*
convey, bring, hand over, distribute, present, supply, take round
2 *The head **delivered** a lecture on good behaviour.*
give, make, read out

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

demand *verb*
1 *I **demanded** a refund for my train fare.*
insist on, claim, call for, require, want
2 *'What do you want?' **demanded** a voice inside.*
ask, enquire, inquire

demand *noun*
1 *The king refused the **demands** of his people.*
request, claim, requirement
2 *There is not much **demand** for ice lollies in winter.*
need, call

demolish *verb*
*They **demolished** a building to make way for the road.*
destroy, flatten, knock down, level, pull down, tear down, bulldoze
OPPOSITE build, construct

demonstrate *verb*
1 *The teacher **demonstrated** how warm air rises.*
show, exhibit, illustrate
2 *Animal rights campaigners were **demonstrating** in the street.*
protest, march, parade

demonstration *noun*
1 *I watched a **demonstration** of the new computer game.*
show, display, presentation
2 *Everyone joined the **demonstration** against world poverty.*
protest, rally, march, parade
(informal) demo

den *noun*
*We built a **den** in the garden.*
hideout, shelter, hiding place, secret place
The den of a wild animal is its ***lair***.

dense *adjective*
1 *The accident happened in **dense** fog.*
thick, heavy
2 *A **dense** crowd waited in the square.*
compact, packed, solid
3 *I'm being rather **dense** today!*
stupid, slow

dent *noun*
*There was a large **dent** in the car door.*
indentation, depression, hollow, dip, dimple

deny *verb*
1 *The boy **denied** that he had stolen the money.*
reject, dispute, disagree with, contradict, dismiss, oppose
OPPOSITE admit, accept
2 *Her parents don't **deny** her anything.*
refuse, deprive of, withhold
OPPOSITE give

depart *verb*
1 *What time is the train due to **depart**?*
leave, set off, get going, set out, start, begin a journey
OPPOSITE arrive, get in
2 *It looks as if the robbers **departed** in a hurry.*
leave, exit, go away, retreat, withdraw, make off
(*informal*) clear off, scram, scarper
OPPOSITE arrive

depend *verb*
to depend on someone
*I **depend on** you to help me.*
rely on, count on, bank on, trust
to depend on something
*My success will **depend on** good luck.*
be decided by, rest on, hinge on

dependable *adjective*
*Are these friends of yours **dependable**?*
reliable, trustworthy, loyal, faithful, trusty, honest, sound, steady
OPPOSITE unreliable

depressed *adjective*
*After his friends left, he began to feel **depressed**.*
disheartened, dejected, discouraged, downcast, downhearted, unhappy, sad, low, gloomy, glum, melancholy, miserable, despondent, desolate, in despair
(*informal*) down
OPPOSITE cheerful

derelict *adjective*
*They plan to pull down those **derelict** buildings.*
dilapidated, crumbling, decrepit, neglected, deserted, abandoned, ruined

descend *verb*
1 *After admiring the view, we began to **descend** the mountain.*
climb down, come down, go down, move down
To descend through the air is to ***drop*** or ***fall***.
To descend through water is to ***sink***.
2 *The road **descends** gradually into the valley.*
drop, fall, slope, dip, incline
OPPOSITE ascend
to be descended from someone
*She's **descended from** a French family.*
come from, originate from

describe *verb*
1 *An eyewitness **described** how the accident happened.*
report, tell about, depict, explain, outline
2 *Friends **described** him as a quiet, shy man.*
portray, characterize, represent, present

description *noun*
1 *I wrote a **description** of our day at the seaside.*
report, account, story
2 *Write a **description** of your favourite character in the play.*
portrait, representation, sketch

descriptive *adjective*
*The author writes in a very **descriptive** style.*
expressive, colourful, detailed, graphic, vivid

desert *verb*
*He **deserted** his friends when they needed him most.*
abandon, leave, forsake, betray
(*informal*) walk out on
To desert someone in a place they can't get away from is to ***maroon*** or ***strand*** them.

deserted *adjective*
*By midnight, the streets of the town were **deserted**.*
empty, unoccupied, uninhabited, vacant
OPPOSITE crowded

deserve *verb*
*You **deserve** a break after all your hard work.*
be worthy of, be entitled to, have earned, merit, warrant

design *noun*
1 *This is the winning **design** for the new art gallery.*
plan, drawing, outline, blueprint, sketch
A first example of something, used as a model for making others, is a ***prototype***.
2 *Do you like the **design** of this wallpaper?*
style, pattern, arrangement, composition

design *verb*
*She **designs** all her own clothes.*
create, develop, invent, devise, conceive, think up

desire *verb*
*The magic mirror will show you what you most **desire**.*
wish for, long for, want, crave, fancy, hanker after, yearn for, pine for, set your heart on, have a yen for

desire *noun*
*My greatest **desire** is to swim with dolphins.*
wish, want, longing, ambition, craving, fancy, hankering, urge, yearning
A desire for food is ***appetite*** or ***hunger***.
A desire for drink is ***thirst***.
Excessive desire for money or other things is ***greed***.

desolate *adjective*
1 *Jamie felt **desolate** when his goldfish died.*
depressed, dejected, miserable, sad, melancholy, hopeless, wretched, forlorn
OPPOSITE cheerful
2 *No-one wants to live in that **desolate** place.*
bleak, depressing, dreary, gloomy, dismal, cheerless, inhospitable, deserted, uninhabited, abandoned, godforsaken
OPPOSITE pleasant

despair *noun*
*The defeated knight was overcome by **despair**.*
depression, desperation, gloom, hopelessness, misery, anguish, dejection, melancholy, pessimism, wretchedness
OPPOSITE hope

desperate *adjective*
1 *The shipwrecked crew were in a **desperate** situation.*
difficult, critical, grave, serious, severe, drastic, dire, urgent, extreme
2 *The hills were home to a band of **desperate** outlaws.*
dangerous, violent, reckless

despise *verb*
*I **despise** people who cheat at cards.*
hate, loathe, feel contempt for, deride, have a low opinion of, look down on, scorn, sneer at
OPPOSITE admire

destiny *noun*
*Was it **destiny** that brought us together?*
fate, fortune

destroy *verb*
1 *An avalanche **destroyed** the village.*
demolish, devastate, crush, flatten, knock down, level, pull down, shatter, smash, sweep away
2 *He tried to **destroy** the good work we had done.*
ruin, wreck, sabotage, undo

destruction *noun*
1 *The hurricane caused **destruction** all along the coast.*
devastation, damage, demolition, ruin, wrecking
OPPOSITE creation
2 *Global warming may cause the **destruction** of many animal species.*
elimination, annihilation, obliteration, extermination, extinction
OPPOSITE conservation

detach *verb*
*The camera lens can be **detac** for cleaning.*
remove, separate, disconnect, take off, release, undo, unfasten, part
To detach a caravan from a vehicle is to ***unhitch*** it.
To detach railway wagons from a locomotive is to ***uncouple*** them.
To detach something by cutting it off is to ***sever*** it.
OPPOSITE attach

detail *noun*
*Her account of what happened was accurate in every **detail**.*
fact, feature, particular, aspect, item, point, respect

detective *noun*

WORD WEB



Detective Dewar solved the case of the stolen tiara.
investigator, sleuth
(*informal*) private eye

THINGS A DETECTIVE MIGHT LOOK FOR
clues, evidence, eyewitness, fingerprints, footprints, murder weapon, tracks;, criminal, crook, culprit, felon, suspect, mastermind

THINGS A DETECTIVE MIGHT DO
analyse, comb (an area), deduce, deduct, detect, dig up, ferret out, follow a hunch, follow a lead or a tip-off, interrogate or question (a witness), investigate, pursue, shadow, solve (a case), stake out (a hiding place), tail or track down (a suspect)

An informal name for a story in which a detective solves a crime is a ***whodunnit***.



deteriorate *verb*
1 *The queen's health had begun to **deteriorate**.*
worsen, decline, degenerate, get worse, go downhill
2 *The walls will **deteriorate** if we don't maintain them.*
decay, disintegrate, crumble
OPPOSITE improve

determination *noun*
*Marathon runners show great **determination**.*
resolve, commitment, will-power, courage, dedication, drive, grit, perseverance, persistence, spirit
(*informal*) guts

determined *adjective*
1 *Boudicca must have been a **determined** woman.*
resolute, decisive, firm, strong-minded, assertive, persistent, tough
OPPOSITE weak-minded
2 *I'm **determined** to finish the race.*
committed, resolved

detest *verb*
*I **detest** the smell of boiled cabbage.*
dislike, hate, loathe
Informal expressions are ***can't bear*** and ***can't stand***.
OPPOSITE love

develop *verb*
1 *The zoo is **developing** its education programme.*
expand, extend, enlarge, build up, diversify
2 *Her piano playing has **developed** this year.*
improve, progress, evolve, advance, get better
3 *The plants will **develop** quickly in the spring.*
grow, flourish
4 *How did he **develop** that posh accent?*
get, acquire, pick up, cultivate

device *noun*
*The TV comes with a remote control **device**.*
tool, implement, instrument, appliance, apparatus, gadget, contraption
(*informal*) gizmo

devious *adjective*
1 *The mad professor had a **devious** plan to take over the world.*
cunning, deceitful, dishonest, furtive, scheming, sly, sneaky, treacherous, wily
2 *Because of the roadworks, we took a **devious** route home.*
indirect, roundabout, winding, meandering
OPPOSITE direct

devoted *adjective*
*She's a **devoted** supporter of our team.*

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

loyal, faithful, dedicated, enthusiastic, committed
OPPOSITE apathetic

devour *verb*
*He **devoured** a whole plateful of sandwiches.*
eat, consume, guzzle, gobble up, gulp down, swallow
(*informal*) scoff, wolf down

diagram *noun*
*We drew a **diagram** of the life cycle of a frog.*
chart, plan, sketch, outline

diary *noun*
*I write all about my birthday party in my **diary**.*
journal, daily record
A diary describing a voyage or mission is a ***log*** or ***logbook***.
A diary in which you insert pictures and souvenirs is a ***scrapbook***.
A diary published on a website is a ***blog***.

die *verb*
1 *My sister's hamster **died** last week.*
expire, pass away, perish
(*informal*) snuff it, kick the bucket, croak
To die of hunger is to ***starve***.
2 *The flowers will **die** if they don't have water.*
wither, wilt, droop, fade

to die out
*When did the dinosaurs **die out**?*
become extinct, cease to exist, come to an end, disappear, vanish

differ *verb*
*The two men **differed** in their beliefs.*
disagree, conflict, argue, clash, contradict each other, oppose each other, quarrel
OPPOSITE agree

to differ from
*My style of painting **differs from** hers.*
be different from, contrast with

difference *noun*
1 *Can you see any **difference** between these two colours?*
contrast, distinction
OPPOSITE similarity
2 *This money will make a **difference** to their lives.*
change, alteration, modification, variation

different *adjective*
1 *We have **different** views about global warming.*
differing, contradictory, opposite, clashing, conflicting
2 *It's important that the teams wear **different** colours.*
contrasting, dissimilar, distinguishable
3 *The packet contains sweets of **different** flavours.*
various, assorted, mixed, several, diverse, numerous, miscellaneous
4 *Let's go somewhere **different** on holiday this year.*
new, original, fresh
5 *Everyone's handwriting is **different**.*
distinct, distinctive, individual, special, unique

difficult *adjective*
1 *This crossword is really **difficult**. We were faced with a **difficult** problem.*
hard, complicated, complex, involved, intricate, baffling, perplexing, puzzling
(*informal*) tricky, thorny, knotty
OPPOSITE simple
2 *It is a **difficult** climb to the top of the hill.*
challenging, arduous, demanding, taxing, exhausting, formidable, gruelling, laborious, strenuous, tough
OPPOSITE easy
3 *Mum says I was a **difficult** child when I was little.*
troublesome, awkward, trying, tiresome, annoying, disruptive, obstinate, stubborn, uncooperative, unhelpful
OPPOSITE cooperative

difficulty *noun*
1 *The explorers were used to facing **difficulty**.*
trouble, adversity, challenges, hardship
2 *There are some **difficulties** with your application.*
problem, complication, hitch, obstacle, snag

dig *verb*
1 *We spent the afternoon **digging** the garden.*
cultivate, fork over, turn over
2 *Rabbits **dig** holes in the ground.*
burrow, excavate, tunnel, gouge out, hollow out, scoop out
3 *Did you **dig** me in the back?*
poke, prod, jab

dignified *adjective*
*Lady Snodgrass was a very **dignified** old lady.*
refined, stately, distinguished, noble, sedate, solemn, proper, grave, grand, august
OPPOSITE undignified

dim *adjective*
1 *I could see the **dim** outline of a figure in the mist.*
indistinct, faint, blurred, fuzzy, hazy, shadowy, vague
OPPOSITE clear
2 *The light in the cave was rather **dim**.*
dark, dull, dingy, murky, gloomy
OPPOSITE bright

din *noun*
*I can't hear you because of that awful **din**!*
noise, racket, row, clatter, hullabaloo

dingy *adjective*
*How can we brighten up this **dingy** room?*
dull, drab, dreary, dowdy, colourless, dismal, gloomy, murky
OPPOSITE bright

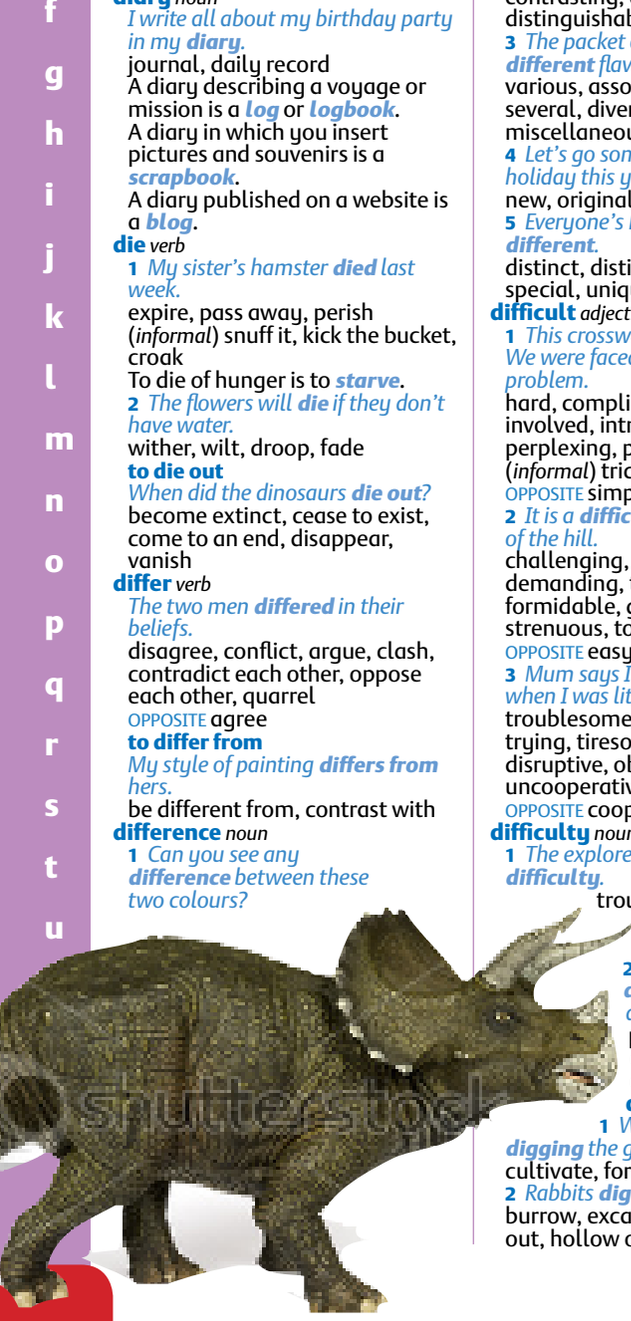
dinosaur *noun*

WORD WEB

Some types of dinosaur
apatosaurus, archaeopteryx, brachiosaurus, diplodocus, gallimimus, iguanodon, megalosaurus, pterodactylus, stegosaurus, triceratops, tyrannosaurus rex, velociraptor

Body parts which a dinosaur may have
dorsal plates, bony frill, fleshy fin, horn, wings, crest

A person who studies dinosaurs and other fossils is a ***palaeontologist***.





dip *verb*
*I **dipped** my hand in the water.*
immerse, lower, plunge, submerge, dunk

dip *noun*
1 *There was a **dip** in the road ahead.*
hollow, hole, depression, slope
2 *It was so hot we decided to have a **dip** in the sea.*
swim, bathe

direct *adjective*
1 *It would be quicker to take the **direct** route.*
straight, shortest
OPPOSITE indirect
2 *Please give me a **direct** answer.*
straightforward, frank, honest, sincere, blunt, plain, outspoken, candid, unambiguous
OPPOSITE evasive

direct *verb*
1 *Can you **direct** me to the station?*
guide, point, show the way, give directions to
2 *A new manager has been apppointed to **direct** the company.*
manage, run, be in charge of, control, administer, superintend, supervise, take charge of
To direct an orchestra is to ***conduct*** it.
3 *The conductor **directed** us to begin playing.*
instruct, command, order, tell

dirt *noun*
1 *The floor was covered in **dirt**.*
filth, grime, mess, muck, mud, dust
2 *Chickens scratched about in the **dirt**.*
earth, soil, clay, loam, mud

dirty *adjective*
1 *Those **dirty** clothes need to be washed.*
unclean, filthy, grimy, grubby, soiled, stained, messy, mucky, muddy, sooty, foul
(*informal*) manky, grotty
OPPOSITE clean
2 *We refused to drink the **dirty** water.*
impure, polluted, murky, cloudy
OPPOSITE pure
3 *The other team used **dirty** tactics.*
unfair, dishonest, illegal, mean, unsporting
OPPOSITE honest
4 *The comedian used a lot of **dirty** words.*
rude, offensive, coarse, crude, improper, indecent, obscene
OPPOSITE decent

disadvantage *noun*
*It's a **disadvantage** to be small if you play basketball.*
drawback, handicap, hindrance, inconvenience, downside, snag

disagree *verb*
*My sister and I often **disagree** about music.*
argue, differ, clash, quarrel, squabble, bicker, fall out
OPPOSITE agree

to disagree with
*He **disagrees with** everything I say.*
argue with, contradict, oppose, object to

disagreement *noun*
*We had a **disagreement** over who should pay for the meal.*
argument, dispute, difference of opinion, quarrel, row, clash, squabble, conflict
OPPOSITE agreement

disappear *verb*
1 *The markings will **disappear** as the chicks grow older.*
become invisible, vanish, fade, clear, disperse, dissolve
2 *The thief **disappeared** around the corner.*
run away, escape, flee, go away, withdraw
OPPOSITE appear

disappoint *verb*
*She didn't want to **disappoint** her fans by cancelling the show.*
let down, fail, dissatisfy, displease, upset
OPPOSITE please, satisfy

disappointed *adjective*
*I'm **disappointed** that you can't come to my party.*
saddened, unhappy, upset, let down, unsatisfied, displeased
OPPOSITE pleased, satisfied

disapprove *verb*

to disapprove of
*My aunt **disapproves of** watching television.*
object to, take exception to, dislike, deplore, condemn, criticize, denounce, frown on
(*informal*) take a dim view of
OPPOSITE approve of

discipline *noun*
***Discipline** is important in the army.*
order, control

discourage *verb*
1 *Don't let her criticism **discourage** you.*
demoralize, depress
(*informal*) put you off
2 *The burglar alarm will **discourage** thieves.*
deter, dissuade, prevent, restrain, stop, hinder

discover *verb*
*I **discovered** some old toys in the attic.*
find, come across, spot, stumble across, uncover
To discover something that has been buried is to ***unearth*** it.
To discover something that has been under water is to ***dredge it up***.
To discover something you have been pursuing is to ***track it down***.
OPPOSITE hide



discovery *noun*
*Scientists have made an exciting new **discovery**.*
find, breakthrough

discrimination *noun*
1 *She shows **discrimination** in her choice of music.*
good taste, good judgement
2 *The school has a policy against racial **discrimination**.*
prejudice, bias, intolerance, unfairness
Discrimination against people because of their sex is ***sexism***.
Discrimination against people because of their race is ***racism***.

discuss *verb*
*I **discussed** the idea with my parents.*
talk about, confer about, debate

discussion *noun*
*We had a lively **discussion** about pocket money.*