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written by

Sheila Dignen

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allergic adjective
If you are allergic to something, it makes you ill, for example it makes you sneeze or gives you a rash. *I'm allergic to nuts.*

WORD FAMILY
- If you are allergic to something, you have an **allergy**.

alligator noun (*plural* **alligators**)
An alligator is an animal that looks like a crocodile. Alligators are reptiles and live in parts of North and South America and China.

alliteration noun
the use of words that begin with the same sound to create a special effect in writing, for example *five fat fishes*

allow verb **allows, allowing, allowed**
If you allow someone to do something, you let them do it and do not try to stop them. *We're not allowed to play football in the playground.*

all right adjective
1 If you are all right, you are safe and well, and not hurt. *Are you all right?*
2 If something is all right, it is quite good but not very good.

almost adverb
very nearly *We're almost home.*

alone adjective
If you are alone, there is no one with you. *It was a strange feeling, being alone in that big house.*

along adverb & preposition
from one end to the other *He ran along the top of the wall.*

alphabet noun
all the letters that we use in writing, arranged in a particular order

WORD FAMILY
- **alphabetical** Dictionaries list words in alphabetical order.

GRAMMAR
- A lot of reference texts such as dictionaries, glossaries, and encyclopaedias are organized in **alphabetical order**, so that all the words beginning with the letter **a** are listed first, and all the words beginning with the letter **z** are listed last. This makes it easier to find information quickly.

already adverb
before now *When we got to the station, the train had already left.*

also adverb
as well *I love football and also tennis.*

alter verb **alters, altering, altered**
To alter something means to change it.

alternative noun (*plural* **alternatives**)
An alternative is something that you can choose instead of something else. *We discussed the alternatives for our new school uniform.*

although conjunction
even though *We kept on running, although we were tired.*

altogether adverb
including all the people or things *If Mark has three apples and Raj has four, how many do they have altogether?*

aluminium noun
a type of light, silver-coloured metal

always adverb
at all times, or every time *Joshua is always late!*

amaze verb **amazes, amazing, amazed**
If something amazes you, it makes you feel very surprised.
The speed with which Babe learned amazed him. — Dick King-Smith, The Sheep-Pig

WORD FAMILY
- **amazed** Max looked amazed to see me.
- **amazing** It was a most amazing sight.
- **amazement** 'What?' she exclaimed in amazement.

ambition noun (*plural* **ambitions**)
something that you want to do very much *Her ambition is to be a doctor.*

ambulance noun (*plural* **ambulances**)
a van in which people who are ill or injured are taken to hospital

among preposition
1 in the middle of *Somewhere among all these books was the one I was looking for.*
2 between *Share the sweets among you.*

amount noun (*plural* **amounts**)
An amount of something is a quantity of it. *We'll never be able to save up such a large amount of money!*

amphibian noun (*plural* **amphibians**)
An amphibian is an animal that lives some of its life in water, and some on land. Frogs and toads are amphibians.

amuse verb **amuses, amusing, amused**
1 If something amuses you, you find it funny and it makes you laugh.
2 To amuse yourself means to find things to do. *We played games to amuse ourselves.*

WORD FAMILY
- **amused** I tried telling some jokes, but my aunt didn't look amused.
- **amusing** It was a very amusing film.

analogue adjective
An analogue clock or watch has hands and a dial to show the time.

anchor noun (*plural* **anchors**)
An anchor is a heavy metal hook joined to a ship by a chain. It is dropped into the sea, where it digs into the bottom to keep the ship still.

ancient adjective (*say* **ane**-shunt)
Something that is ancient is very old.

and conjunction
a word that you use to join two words or phrases together *We saw lions and tigers at the zoo.*

angel noun (*plural* **angels**)
a messenger sent by God

anger noun
a strong feeling that you get when you are not pleased *The old man's voice was full of anger.*

angle noun (*plural* **angles**)
the corner where two lines meet

angry adjective **angrier, angriest**
If you are angry, you are annoyed or cross.
'Shut up – you!' said Peter, who was still very angry with Edmund. — C. S. Lewis, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

WORD FAMILY
- **angrily** 'You fool!' he said angrily.

animal noun (*plural* **animals**)
An animal is anything that lives and can move about. Birds, fish, snakes, wasps, and elephants are all animals.

ankle noun (*plural* **ankles**)
Your ankle is the thin part of your leg where it is joined to your foot.

anniversary noun (*plural* **anniversaries**)
a day when you remember something special that happened on the same day in the past