

Planning and organizing

aim at

- ① If you aim at something, or if something that you do is aimed at having a particular effect, you hope to achieve it.

They are aiming at a higher production level.

The research is aimed at developing treatments for the disease.

- ② If an action or activity is aimed at someone, it is intended to influence them or be of interest or help to them.

Many of the devices are aimed at people with hearing problems.

NOTE You can also use be directed at.

count on

If you count on something, you expect it to happen and include it in your plans.

These workers can now count on a regular salary.

NOTE You can also use count upon and rely on.

end up

If you end up in a particular place or situation, you are in that place or situation after a series of events, even though you did not originally intend to be.

If we go on in this way, we'll end up with millions of people unemployed.

NOTE You can also use wind up and finish up.

fit in

If you manage to fit in a person or task, you manage to find time to deal with them.

I'm on holiday next week, but I can fit you in on the 9th.

NOTE You can also use squeeze in.

follow up

- ① If you follow something up, you try to find out more about it and perhaps do something about it.

When I heard the rumours, I tried to follow them up.

- ② If you follow up one action or thing with another, you do or have the second action or thing soon after the first.

They must attend the course, and this is followed up by personal visits.

The President followed up the first round of voting by challenging his opponent to a public debate.

go about

If you go about a task or problem in a particular way, that is the way you start to deal with it.

I'd been wondering how to go about it.

line up

If you line something or someone up in preparation for an event or activity, you arrange for them to be ready and available.

We've lined someone up to present the show.

I had plenty of questions lined up for him.

plan for

If you plan for a particular thing or event, you consider it when you are making your arrangements.

Why didn't I plan for this possibility?

pull off

If you pull something off, you succeed in doing something difficult.

They pulled off a deal with an Australian firm.

She had succeeded, triumphantly: she had pulled it off.

rule out

If you rule out something or someone, you decide that they are impossible or unsuitable or that they are not responsible for something.

The government has not ruled out military action.

You have to be under thirty, so that rules me out.

run into

If you run into problems or difficulties, you unexpectedly begin to experience them.

He ran into trouble with his economic policies.

set out

- ① If you set out to do something, you intend and begin to do it.

They had failed in what they had set out to do.

- ② If you set something out, you explain facts or ideas clearly in writing or in speech.

His conclusions were set out in his article.

start on

If you start on something, you begin doing it or doing something with it.

You clean the kitchen while I start on the bathroom.

turn out

If something turns out a particular way, it happens in that way.

It turned out to be a really great evening.

NOTE You can also use work out.

wind up

- ① When you wind up an activity or event, or when an activity or event winds up, it ends.

When my turn came to wind up the debate, I felt very nervous.

Perhaps we should wind it up there.

- ② If you wind up in a particular place or situation, you are in it as the end result of a series of events or processes.

After a great night out we wound up at a Chinese restaurant.

This plan might wind up costing us more money.

NOTE You can also use finish up and end up.