

# English Dictionary

Fabio

## Words

**outbound** [UK:\*/aʊtbaʊnd/] (ITA **in uscita**) *Adj.* • **e.g.** We're going on holiday on Saturday; our outbound flight leaves at 8.23 on Saturday morning

**pointer** [UK:\*/pɔɪntər/] (ITA **indicazione/suggerimento**) *Noun* • tip, piece of advice **e.g.** The food expert gave some good pointers on making better salads.

**snippet** [UK:\*/snɪpɪt/] (ITA **frammenti**) *Noun* • extract of [sth] published, information [figurative] **e.g.** He sat at the table and read me snippets from the paper.

**tame** [UK:\*/teɪm/] (ITA **addomesticato**) *adj* • animal: domesticated **e.g.** Harry keeps a tame rat as a pet.

**tame** [UK:\*/teɪm/] (ITA **monotono, piatto, sciatto, scialbo**) *adj* • figurative (event, activity: dull) **e.g.** The Smiths normally gave exciting parties, but this particular party was rather tame.

**subtle** [UK:\*/sʌtəl/] (ITA **sottile, discreto, acuto**) *adj* • (not obvious, clever, finely nuanced) **e.g.** Wendy started making subtle signs that they should leave.

**hinder** [sb/sth] [UK:\*/haɪndə/] (ITA **ostacolare, intralciare, impedire, bloccare**) *vtr* • (slow progress) **e.g.** The manager's incompetence hindered the progress of the project.

**snappy** [UK:\*/snæpi/] (ITA **svelto, rapido, svelgio**) *adj* • informal (brisk, fast) **e.g.** Susie is a snappy worker; she finishes assignments very quickly.

**gallows** [UK:\*/gæləʊz/] (ITA **forca**) *npl* • (execution apparatus) **e.g.** The gallows was erected just outside the courthouse.

**land** [sth] [UK:\*/lænd/] (ITA **aggiudicarsi**) *vtr* • figurative, informal (win) **e.g.** His company landed a big contract with the government.

**shortfall** [UK:\*/ʃɔ:tfɔ:l/] (ITA **deficit**) *n* • (deficit, less

than needed) **e.g.** A shortfall in recruitment led to the company being understaffed.

**breach** [UK:\*/brɪtʃ/] (ITA **violazione, infrazione**) *n* • figurative (breaking of a law) **e.g.** The supervisor was arrested for breach of confidence.

**peruse** [sth] [UK:\*/pəru:z/] (ITA **leggere accuratamente, leggere attentamente**) *n* • formal (read thoroughly) **e.g.** I didn't have time to peruse your article this morning.

**coin purse** [UK:\*/kɔɪn pɜ:s/] (ITA **portaspicci, portamonete**) *n* • (small bag for carrying loose change) **e.g.** The Europeans carry so many coins that some men carry coin purses.

**wordy** [UK:\*/wɜ:di/] (ITA **prolisso**) *n* • (verbose, using many words) **e.g.** The headmaster gave a wordy speech which seemed to go on for hours.

**rookie** [UK:\*/rʊki/] (ITA **esordiente**) *n* • informal (sport: first-year player) **e.g.** The rookie made a name for himself in last night's game.

**instrumental** [UK:\*/rʊki/] (ITA **determinante, essenziale, di grande aiuto, fondamentale, imprescindibile**) *adj* • (important, helpful) **e.g.** Your work in this company is instrumental.

**crave** [sth] [UK:\*/'tɔ:ə/] (ITA **bramare, desiderare ardentemente**) [*vtr*] • (desire) **e.g.** The school food wasn't bad, but Kevin craved his mother's cooking.

**namely** [UK:\*/nemli/] (ITA **cioè, ossia, vale a dire**) *adv* • (specifically) **e.g.** Josh always wanted to succeed in life; namely, he wanted to get rich.



**smear** [UK:\*/smɪər/] (ITA **sbavare**) *vi* • (become smudged) **e.g.** *Ursula tried to apply the nail polish evenly, but it smeared as soon as she put it on.*

**smear** [sb] [UK:\*/smɪər/] (ITA **sbavare**) *vt* • figurative (lie to harm reputation of) **e.g.** *The opposition party was clearly trying to smear the Prime Minister.*

**endearing** [UK:\*/ɪndɪərɪŋ/] (ITA **che ispira tenerezza, che ispira affetto**) *adj* • (lovable) **e.g.** *The baby had an endearing laugh.*

**tether** [UK:\*/tðər/] (ITA **catena, pastoia**) *n* • often plural (rope, chain: fastening) **e.g.** *The dogs were eager to break free from their tethers.*

**tether to [sth]** [UK:\*/tðər/] (ITA **legare**) [*vt*] • (fasten, attach) **e.g.** *You can tether your horse to that railing.*

**acquisitive** [UK:\*/əkwiːzɪtɪv/] (ITA **avido, (persona) che tende ad accumulare**) *adj* • (greedy, materialistic) **e.g.** *The writer claims we are living in an acquisitive society in which wealth is considered all-important.*

**resort to [sth]** [UK:\*/rɪˈzɔrt/] (ITA **ricorrere a, fare ricorso a**) [*vi*] • (have recourse to) **e.g.** *The demonstration was largely peaceful, though a small number of protesters resorted to violence.*

**resort to doing [sth]** [UK:\*/rɪˈzɔrt/] (ITA **(ultima opzione) essere costretto a fare**) [*vi*] • (do as final option) **e.g.** *Bill resorted to eating tuna after he ran out of other food.*

**manhole** [UK:\*/mænˈhəʊl/] (ITA **(tombino) essere costretto a fare**) [*n*] • (hole giving access underground) **e.g.** *We took a tour of the manholes used in the Vietnam War.*

**overtake** [sth/sb] [UK:\*/əʊvərteɪk/] (ITA **(superare) essere costretto a fare**) *vt* • exceed: in numbers or business) **e.g.** *Sales of Android phones have overtaken sales of iPhones.*

**flawed** [UK:\*/flɪd/] (ITA **imperfetto, viziato, fallace, errato, difettoso**) *adj* • (idea, strategy: imperfect) **e.g.** *The general's plan was flawed, so he lost the battle.*

**blistering** [UK:\*/blɪstərɪŋ/] (ITA **violento, feroce**) *adj* • figurative (verbal attack: ferocious) **e.g.** *The critic's blistering review of the play made the director cry.*

**blistering** [UK:\*/blɪstərɪŋ/] (ITA **rapidissimo**) *adj* • figurative (pace: very fast) **e.g.** *The truck set off at a blistering pace.*

**cuddle** [UK:\*/bɪstərɪŋ/] (ITA **stringersi a [qlcn], abbracciarsi**) *adj* • hug **e.g.** *Alice and Gerald were cuddling on the porch.*



**sledgehammer** [UK:\*/sldʒhæmər/] (ITA **martello, mazza**) *n* • (blunt-ended hitting tool) **e.g.** *Ben struck the wood with a sledgehammer.*

**whim** [UK:\*/ˈhwɪm/] (ITA **forte voglia improvvisa, ghiribizzo, capriccio**) *n* • (sudden desire) **e.g.** *Adam's desire to learn Japanese was a whim that soon disappeared when he realised how difficult it was.*

**blistering** [UK:\*/blɪstərɪŋ/] (ITA **rovente, scottante**) *adj* • figurative (heat: fierce) **e.g.** *The soldiers marched in the blistering heat.*

**sought** [UK:\*/st/] (ITA **richiesto, cercato, ricercato, desiderato, (persone: da polizia) ricercato**) *adj* • (searched for) **e.g.** *The sought man was found at last.*

**fierce** [UK:\*/fɪərs/] (ITA **feroce**) *adj* • (vicious, ferocious) **e.g.** *Some of the zoo animals were very fierce and needed to be restrained.*

**fierce** [UK:\*/fɪərs/] (ITA **violento, impetuoso, aggressivo, brutale**) *adj* • (violent) **e.g.** *The general launched a fierce assault.*

**fierce** [UK:\*/fɪərs/] (ITA **accanito, violento**) *adj* • (argument) **e.g.** *Kate had a fierce argument with her roommate.*

**fierce** [UK:\*/fɪərs/] (ITA **violento**) *adj* • (weather: powerful, violent) **e.g.** *Fierce winds uprooted a tree in the park.*

**jab** [UK:\*/dʒæb/] (ITA **colpo rapido, colpo, affondo**) *adj* • (quick hit, poke) **e.g.** *She gave me a jab in the ribs and yelled, "Wake up!"*

**upbeat** [UK:\*/ʌpbit/] (ITA **positivo, ottimistico, allegro**) *adj* • figurative (cheerful, optimistic) **e.g.** *The report gives an upbeat assessment of the housing market.*

**buzzword** [UK:\*/bʌz-wɜrd/] (ITA **(trendy term)**) *n* • an important-sounding usually technical word or phrase often of little meaning used chiefly to impress laymen, (trendy term) **e.g.** *The paper's headlines are full of buzzwords but contain almost no real content at all.*

**starch** *n* figurative (formality) formalismo *nm* James could tell his girlfriend's mother didn't like him from the starch in her manner.

**starch** *n* (in food) amido *nm* Potatoes and rice contain starch.

**curse** *n* (evil spell) maledizione *nf* incantesimo *nm* (incantesimo) *fattura nf* In the end, it turns out that the

ogre was under a curse

**clueless about [sth]** adj + prep informal (uninformed) non sapere niente di, non saperne niente di  
vtr Don't ask me! I'm clueless about babies!

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**heist** [UK:\*/haɪst/] (ITA rapina, (colloquiale) colpo) n • (robbery) e.g. The jewel thieves pulled off an impressive heist.

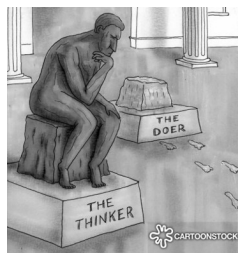
**loom** [UK:\*/lum/] (ITA (formale) profilarsi, stagliarsi, incombere) vi • figurative (appear imminent) e.g. The threat of war was looming.

**gist** [UK:\*/dʒɪst/] (ITA (essenziale) concetto, idea, essenza) n • (general idea) e.g. John didn't pay attention in class, but he was pretty sure that he got the gist of the lesson.

**watershed** [UK:\*/wtərʃd/] (ITA (figurato: svolta) spartiacque, (figurato) svolta, (figurato) pietra miliare) n • (event, turning point) e.g. This moment is a watershed in the history of our country.

**pier** [UK:\*/piər/] (ITA molo, pontile, banchina) n • (into lake, ocean) e.g. The pier in Brighton is a popular tourist attraction.

**longsighted** [UK:\*///] (ITA previdente, lungimirante) agg • figurative (prudent) e.g.



**doer** [UK:\*/duər/] (ITA persona che fa, persona che agisce, persona che si dà da fare) n • (person: takes action) e.g. I like a boss who is a doer rather than a talker.

**buster, -buster suffix** [UK:\*/bʌstə/] (ITA (contro [qlcs]), combattente) nm • informal (person: defeats [sth], Nota: Usually used in compounds.) e.g. Batman is a famous crime-buster.

**fasting** [UK:\*/fstɪŋ/] (ITA digiuno) n • (act of abstaining from food) e.g. According to this diet book, fasting is good for you.

**devise** [sth] [UK:\*/dɪvaɪz/] (ITA ideare, concepire) vtr • (invent: idea, plan) e.g. The prisoner devised an escape plan.

**hone** [sth] [UK:\*/həʊn/] (ITA affinare, perfezionare) vtr • figurative (refine: skills) e.g. Jane worked as an intern to continue to hone her skills before she applied for graduate school.

**gauge** [sth] [UK:\*/geɪdʒ/] (ITA misurare, valutare, stimare) vtr • (estimate) e.g. Ron tried to gauge the distance to the trees.

**glare** [UK:\*/glər/] (ITA splendere, brillare, risplendere, accecare, abbagliare) vtr • (light: shine harshly) e.g. It was midday and the sun was glaring.

**glare** [UK:\*/glər/] (ITA lanciare un'occhiataccia, lanciare uno sguardo truce, gelare con lo sguardo) vtr • (give an angry look) e.g. Tom sat in the corner glaring angrily.

**brashly** [UK:\*/bræʃli/] (ITA con coraggio, con temerarietà) adv • (boldly, audaciously) e.g.

**poignant** [UK:\*/pɔɪnjənt/] (ITA intenso, commovente, toccante, ricco di pathos) agg • (emotionally moving) e.g. The film's poignant ending had us all in tears.

**fairground** [UK:\*/fərgraʊnd/] (ITA luna park) n • (funfair) e.g. The children begged to go to the fairground.

**warped** [UK:\*/wɒpt/] (ITA contorto, corrotto, perverso, distorto) agg • figurative (idea, mind: twisted) e.g. The film provides an insight into the warped mind of a serial killer.

**cheapskate** [UK:\*/tʃɪpskɜrt/] (ITA (informale) taccagno, tirschio, avaro) n • slang (stingy person) e.g. Don't be a cheapskate! These shoes may be more expensive, but they're much better quality.

**hurtle** [UK:\*/hɜrtəl/] (ITA frecciare (figurato, informale) passare veloce come un razzo, passare veloce come una saetta) vi • (rush forward) e.g. Jeffrey hurtled through the store.

**gravitate to [sb/sth], gravitate toward [sth/sb], gravitate towards [sth/sb]** vi + prep [UK:\*/vi/] (ITA (figurato) gravitare intorno a) vi • figurative (be drawn or attracted) e.g. Many people gravitate to Chris because of his charisma. Crocodiles naturally gravitate towards water.

**hangover** [UK:\*/hæŋəʊvər/] (ITA resti, rimanente, restante, resto, retaggio) n • figurative ([sth] remaining) e.g. These misogynistic company policies are a hangover from the sixties.

**noose** [UK:\*/nus/] (ITA cappio) n • (rope for strangling) e.g. Kyle tied the rope into a noose.

**jab** [UK:\*/dʒæb/] (ITA colpo rapido, colpo, affondo) n • (quick hit, poke) e.g. She gave me a jab in the ribs and yelled, "Wake up!"

**wary** [UK:\*/wəri/] (ITA sospettoso, diffidente, circospetto, cauto, prudente) adj • (not trusting) e.g. The wary dog stood a few feet away, only approaching to take the

food when she judged Harry to be at a safe distance from it.

**eyeball** [sth] [UK:\*/aɪbəl/] (ITA **giudicare** [qlcs] a **occhio**) *vtr* • informal (measure, gauge by sight) **e.g.** The inspector eyeballed the room and guessed it to be twenty feet in length.

**pond** [UK:\*/pɒnd/] (ITA **laghetto**, **stagno**) *n* • (small lake) **e.g.** The cows drink from the pond in the field.

**facet** [UK:\*/fæst/] (ITA (**figurato**) **sfaccettatura**, **aspetto**, **risvolto**) *n* • figurative (aspect of [sth]) **e.g.** The problem has many facets that need to be addressed individually.

**ruthless** [UK:\*/ruθləs/] (ITA **spietato**, **senza pietà**) *adj* • (without mercy) **e.g.** Marsha is ruthless; she'll trample over anyone to get what she wants.

**loosely** [UK:\*/lusli/] (ITA (**figurato**) **liberamente**) *adv* • figurative (freely, not strictly) **e.g.** Tom interpreted his boss's instructions somewhat loosely. The document was only loosely translated.

**oust** [sb] [UK:\*/aʊst/] (ITA **da incarico**, **ecc.**) **rimuovere**, **deporre**, **espellere**, **cacciare**) *vtr* • remove, eject) **e.g.** The rebels were on a crusade to oust the king.

**cling to** [sth/sb] [UK:\*/klɪŋ/] (ITA (**figurato**: **emotivamente**) **attaccarsi a**, **aggrapparsi a**) *vi + prep* • figurative (to [sth], [sb]: emotionally) **e.g.** I don't like the way Roger's new girlfriend clings to him.

**cling to** [sth/sb] [UK:\*/klɪŋ/] (ITA (**figurato**) **restare ancorato a** [qlcs], **rimanere fedele a** [qlcs], **restare attaccato a** [qlcs]) *figurative* (belief: be faithful) • No matter what happens, religious people cling to their beliefs. **e.g.**

**resent** [sth] [UK:\*/rɪznt/] (ITA **essere infastidito da** [qlcs], **non sopportare** [qlcs], **risentirsi per** [qlcs]) • feel aggrieved about [sth]) **e.g.** I resent Michelle's perfect hair and tiny nose.

**wounded** *adj* (hurt) **ferito** *agg* **wound** *Id* The wounded soldiers were sent home.

**wounded** *adj* (feelings) (nei sentimenti) **ferito** *agg* James felt wounded after Amanda said his novel wasn't any good.

**stem from** [sth] *vtr* **phrasal insep** (be caused by) **derivare da** [qlcs], **avere origine da** [qlcs] *vi* **provenire da** *vi* **discendere da** *vi* These problems stem from the terrorist attack a few years ago.

**scorch** [sth/sb] *vtr* (burn) **bruciacchiare**, **bruciare** *vtr* **skrtS** The bottom of the pan got scorched in the fire.

**choppy** *adj* **tS6pi** (wind: variable) (vento) **incostante**,

**variabile** *agg* The choppy winds kept the ball players guessing.

**praiseworthy** *adj* **prelzw3rDI** (deserving praise) **lodevole**, **encomiabile** *agg* The organization was featured in the news for their praiseworthy work of improving public health.

**kəbəl** **cabal** *n* (secret society or group) (**segreta**: **intrighi**, **cospirazioni**, **ecc.**) **congrega** *n*

**cabal** *n* (plot or scheme of secret group) **trama** *nf* **complotto** *nm*

**ring** *n* (network of people, cartel) **banda**, **organizzazione** *nf* The police broke up a drug ring.

**envision** [sth] *vtr* (imagine, conceive) **immaginare** *vtr* **figurarsi** *v* **rif** **concepire** *vtr* We'd envisioned a park where there was only a mud hole. **InvɪZən**

**hamper** [sth] *vtr* (slow progress of sthg) **intralciare**, **ostacolare** *vtr* Irene's petty coworker tried his best to hamper progress on her project. **hæmpər**

**gauge** [sth], **geldZ** **gage** [sth] *vtr* (estimate) (**stimare**) **misurare**, **valutare** *vtr* **stimare** *vtr* Ron tried to gauge the distance to the trees.

**IntlIdZIbəl** **intelligible** *adj* (comprehensible) **comprensibile**, **intelligibile**, **intelligibile** *agg* The language the man spoke was not intelligible to me.

**undersell** [sb/sth] *vtr* (sell at a cheaper price than) **sven-**  
**dere** *vtr* **vendere** **sottocosto** *vtr* The large supermarkets often undersell small local shops.

**w6bli** **wobbly** *adj* (furniture, structure: unsteady) **trabal-**  
**lante** *agg* **malfermo** *agg* Don't put anything heavy on that wobbly table.

**snugly** *adv* (cozily, comfortably) **confortevolmente** *adv* The children were tucked snugly into their beds. **snʌgli** **snugly** *adv* (tightly) **strettamente** *adv* Monica wrapped the blanket snugly around her shoulders.

**upcoming** *adj* (imminent) **imminente** *agg* **invar** *in ar-*  
**rivo** *loc* *agg* The troupe are rehearsing every day for their upcoming play.

**bækdr6p** **backdrop** *n* **figurative** (background) (**figurato**) **sfondo**, **scenario** *nm* **contesto** *nm* The programme was cancelled against a backdrop of severe budget problems. Il programma è stato cancellato nel contesto di gravi problemi di budget. **backdrop**, **backcloth** *n* (scenic cloth) **sfondo**, **scenario** *nm* The film was shot in a studio against painted backdrops

**plain** *wrong*

**bare-bones** *n* **as** *adj* **figurative** (basic, fundamental) **più saliente** *loc* *agg*



*bare* adj figurative (facts, truth: basic) essenziale agg (informale) nudo e crudo agg There is no way to argue against the bare facts of the matter.

*parse* [sth] vtr (analyze: computer data) (informatica, dati) analizzare vtr It will take researchers months to parse the data from the satellite.

*gist* n (general idea) (essenziale) concetto nm idea, essenza nf John didn't pay attention in class, but he was pretty sure that he got the gist of the lesson.

*peep into* [sth] vi + prep (look inside quickly) sbirciare vi I peeped into the room to see if the children were asleep. Margaret peeped inside the envelope.

*pick* [sb] out vtr phrasal sep (select) selezionare, scegliere vtr The professor picked Ken out as his research assistant.

*punctually* adv (on time, in good time) puntualmente, in orario avv Please arrive punctually so we can begin the meeting on time.

*fond* adj (expressing affection) attaccato, affezionato, legato agg Kelsey gave her friend a fond smile.

*undermine* [sth] vtr figurative (argument, progress) indebolire, danneggiare vtr (figurato) minare vtr Fighting broke out during the ceasefire, undermining the peace talks.

*pertain to* [sth] vi + prep (relate, be relevant to) riguardare, concernere vtr attenere a [qlcs] vi riferirsi a v rif Please limit your discussion to facts that pertain to the case.

*dim* adj (not seeing clearly) offuscato agg My eyes were dim with tears.

*proceedings* npl (series of events) programma nm concatenazione di eventi, successione di eventi nf The day's proceedings included a parade and a festival in the park.

*prompt* n (theater: cue) suggerimento nm (informale, figurato) imbeccata nf Mary forgot her line and needed a prompt.

*dwell* vi informal (think too much about [sth]) rimuginare sopra [qlcs] vi I know what's happened is sad, but try not to dwell.

*duly*

*endow* [sb] with [sth] vtr + prep (give abilities, qualities) dotare [qlcn] di [qlcs] vtr Shirley decided that as God had seen fit to endow her with a great singing voice, she would become a singer.

*tarnish* [sth] vtr figurative (reputation: stain) (figurato) macchiare, sporcare vtr Allegations of sexual misconduct tarnished his reputation.

*peel* [sth] vtr (remove outer layer of) staccare, scortecciare vtr Grace peeled the bark from the tree.

*dread* [sth] vtr (feel daunted by) temere vtr I'm dreading tonight's party. I won't know anybody there.

*deceptive* ingannevole

*vivid* vivido

*hectic* frenetico

*bloom* fioritura

*objectionable* discutibile

*were waging* stavano combattendo

*skank* [sb] vtr informal (trick [sb]) (figurato, informale: ingannare) incastrare vtr (figurato, colloquiale: ingannare) fregare vt

I feel so skanky. lurido

*compelling* adj (persuasive) convincente, persuasivo agg stringente agg The court did not find the evidence compelling.

*pst̥ar* pastor n (religion: minister) (religione) pastore nm (religione cattolica) parroco nm Tony asked the pastor for advice about his sin of adultery.

*jeopardize* [sth], also UK: *jeopardise* [sth] vtr (put [sth] at risk) mettere [qlcs] a repentaglio, mettere [qlcs] a rischio vtr arrischiare vtr Karen jeopardized her career to help a friend.

*kæviæt* caveat n (limitation, qualification) precisazione, puntualizzazione nf avvertimento, ammonimento nm riserva, condizione

*əʊvərɪlɪəns* overreliance, over-reliance n (excessive dependence) eccessiva dipendenza nf

*override* [sth] vtr (be more important than) superare, scavalcare vtr avere la precedenza su vtr prevalere su vi The importance of this project overrides any concerns you may have about the costs involved.

*ingenuity* n (resourcefulness) ingegnosità nf The pilot's ingenuity enabled her to land the plane safely. L'ingegnosità della pilota le ha permesso di far atterrare l'aereo senza danni. *ingenuity* n (cleverness, skill) ingegno, acume, genio nm His ingenuity in sales has earned him a fortune. Il suo acume nelle vendite gli ha fatto guadagnare una fortuna

*dye* n (coloring material) tintura, tinta nf (tinta, vernice) colore nm Wendy couldn't find a pair of shoes she liked to go with her red dress, so she bought a pair of white shoes and some red dye.

*windward* adv (against the wind) sopravvento, sopravento avv The yacht was sailing windward.

*ward* n (room in hospital) (ospedale) *corsia* nf (ospedale)  
*reparto* nm When he arrived at the hospital, Rick asked which  
ward his wife was on

*knackered* adj UK, figurative, slang (very tired) *sfinito*,  
*stanchissimo* agg

*plummy* adj informal, figurative (voice: upper-class)  
(tono di voce) *ricco*, sofisticato, profondo, ricercato, affettato

*overarching* adj (all-encompassing) *onnicomprendivo*  
agg *principale* agg *invar* *complessivo* agg Parenthood is  
the overarching theme of the novel.

*wisecrack* n informal (witty remark) *battuta* nf (battuta)  
*frecciata* nf *freddura* nf Steve liked to sit at the back of the  
classroom and make wisecracks to amuse his classmates.

*toss* [sth] vtr (throw lightly) *lanciare*, *gettare*, *tirare* vtr  
Jacob tossed the ball to Pippa.

*spare* [sb] [sth] vtr (not impose) *risparmiare* [qlcs] a  
[qlcn] vtr Spare me your insincere flattery. I know you don't  
mean it.

*headway* n (progress) *avanzamento*, *progresso* nm *passo*  
*avanti* nm We made a lot of headway with our project this  
week.

*borne*, *-borne* adj often as suffix (carried) *trasmesso*, *ve-*  
*icolato* pp *portato* pp

*cloth* n (rag) *straccio*, *strofinaccio* nm *canovaccio* nm  
*salvietta* nf The maid wiped the windows with a cloth.

*shackles* npl (fetters, restraints) *catene* nfpl *ceppi* nmpl  
The man was brought into the court in shackles.

*herald* [sth] vtr (announce, signal) *annunciare* vtr *procla-*  
*mare* vtr The elections herald a major political change in the  
country. [UK:\*/] (ITA) • e.g.

*a whisker* n figurative, informal (very close margin) (fig-  
urato) *soffio*, *pelo* nm The bullet missed Roger by a whisker,  
so he is very lucky to still be alive.

*disgrace* n (dishonorable situation) *disgrazia*, *sciagura*  
nf *disonore* nm *vergogna* nf The politician never recovered  
from the disgrace of being caught taking bribes.

*appease* [sb] vtr (calm) *calmare*, *tranquillizzare* vtr The  
new nanny appeased the fussy infant by singing to him.

*admittedly* adv (in truth, I confess) *in verità*, *a dire il*  
*vero* *in effetti*, *effettivamente* avv *bisogna ammettere che...*, *è*  
*pur vero che...*, *non si può negare che...* cong Admittedly, I  
was wrong to keep secrets from you.

*entrenched* adj figurative (established, secure) *radicato*,  
*consolidato* agg It is difficult to persuade people with en-  
trenched attitudes to change their opinions.

comes to fruition

*a tall order* n figurative (challenging task) (figurato: com-  
pito arduo) *un'impresa* nf *un compito arduo* nm Translate  
300 legal pages in three days? That's a pretty tall order.

*providing* conj (on condition that) *purché* cong *posto che*,  
*a patto che*, *a condizione che* cong You may go to the ball,  
Cinderella, providing you are back by midnight.

You might just make it out there. Potresti anche farcela,  
lì fuori.

*facet* n (surface of a gemstone) (letterale) *sfaccettatura* nf  
*faccetta* nf The light gleamed through the diamond's facets.

*staple* adj (basic) *base* agg *invar* *di base* loc agg *principale*  
agg Bread and rice are staple foodstuffs.

give me heads up. dare un avviso

fluffy soffice

*not abide* [sth/sb] vtr (not tolerate) *non sopportare*, *non*  
*tollerare* vtr I can't abide his smoking in the house. "I won't  
abide insolence or bad behaviour," said the schoolteacher.

*sparingly* adv (with restraint) *moderatamente* avv *con*  
*moderazione*, *senza esagerare* loc avv Use the double cream  
sparingly, as too much isn't good for you.

*ubiquitous* adj (omnipresent, everywhere) *onnipresente*  
agg *ubiquitario* agg God is supposed to be ubiquitous.

*underpin* [sth] vtr figurative (argument: support) (fig-  
urato) *sostenere*, *sorreggere* vtr His conclusions are under-  
pinned by hard evidence

*squarely* adv (fairly, honestly) *onestamente*, *francamente*,  
*lealmente* avv The lawyer has a reputation for dealing with  
his clients squarely.

*grapple* vi (wrestle, fight) (corpo a corpo) *lottare*  
*avvinghiato* a [qlcn] vi He and his brother were grappling  
on the muddy ground. Lottava nel fango avvinghiato a suo  
fratello. grapple with [sb/sth] vi + prep (wrestle, fight with)  
(informale) *lottare con* [qlcs], *lottare con* [qlcn] vi *essere alle*  
*prese con* [qlcs] vi Horace grappled with his opponent in  
the wrestling ring. The police officers grappled with the  
protesters to keep them behind the barrier.

*stunt* [sth] vtr (hamper, impede) *arrestare*, *bloccare* vtr  
*inibire*, *impedire* vtr *infiacire* vtr Smoking stunts your  
growth.

*crusader* (activist) *crociato* Harold is a passionate anti-  
whaling crusader.

*pin* [sb] down vtr phrasal sep figurative, informal (force  
to a decision, statement) (figurato, colloquiale) *inchiodare*,  
*incastrare* vtr *costringere a dire* vtr *far prendere un impegno*

*vtr* The reporters asked again and again whether he favored the bill, but they couldn't pin him down.

*sparingly adv* (with restraint) *moderatamente avv con moderazione, senza esagerare loc avv* Use the double cream sparingly, as too much isn't good for you.

*purposefully adv* (with definite purpose) *con intenzione, con decisione loc avv decisamente, risolutamente avv* Olivia marched to her boss's office and rapped purposefully on the door.

*clunky adj* (cumbersome) *ingombrante agg poco maneggevole agg goffo agg* Helen wants to buy a smaller camera because her current one is too clunky.

'Heck of a' or 'heck out of' = this informal expression is used for emphasis in various statements or exclamations (of dialect origin, heck is a late 19th-century euphemism for hell = 'the hell out of (something)'). It may also mean 'quite good or impressive' / 'very much'.

*whack n* (hit, blow) *colpo nm botta nf* Rachel's whack stopped the picture on the old TV flickering.

*shove n* (push) *spinta nf spintone nm* Edward's shove knocked Larry off balance.

*clunky adj* (cumbersome) *ingombrante agg poco maneggevole agg goffo agg* Helen wants to buy a smaller camera because her current one is too clunky.

*usher [sth] in, usher in [sth] vtr phrasal sep figurative* (signal, herald) (figurato: dare inizio) *inaugurare vtr dare inizio a vtr* (figurato: dare inizio) *annunciare vtr* The fall of the Berlin wall ushered in a new period in Germany's history.

*straddle [sth/sb] vtr* (sit with a leg on each side of) *cavalcare, inforcare vtr* The young man turned the chair backwards and straddled it.

*dim adj* (light: not bright) (luce) *fioco, tenue agg* In the dim light, Alison could just make out the shapes of the furniture in the room.

*pertain to [sth] vi + prep* (relate, be relevant to) *riguardare, concernere vtr attenere a [qlcs] vi*

*thereof adv formal* (of it) *di ciò, di questo di esso*

*perk n colloquial* (perquisite: benefit of a job) (monetaria) *gratifica nf* (informale: gratifica monetaria) *extra nm fringe benefit nm beneficio nm* Peter's salary isn't very high, but his job comes with great perks like health insurance and a staff discount.

*mow falciare*

*shack n* (crude home) *baracca, capanna nf* That family are so poor they live in nothing but a shack.

*foster father n* (father by temporary adoption) *padre adottivo nm*

*wounded adj* (hurt) *ferito agg* The wounded soldiers were sent home. *I soldati feriti furono rimandati a casa.* *wounded adj* (feelings) (nei sentimenti) *ferito agg* James felt wounded after Amanda said his novel wasn't any good.

*voluble adj* (fluent, talkative) *loquace, scorrevole agg in-var ciarliero, chiacchierone agg* The voluble politician seems to be able to talk her way out of anything

*wicker n* (basket material) *vimini nm* Wicker can be used to make baskets or furniture. *Il vimini può essere usato per fare cestini o mobili.* *wicker adj* (made of wicker) *di vimini, in vimini loc agg* There was a wicker chair by the fireside.

*pine for [sb/sth] vi + prep* (be nostalgic, long for) *struggersi vi* Now that Tom is a teenager, his parents pine for the days when he wasn't so moody.

*counter [sth] with [sth] vtr* (move in opposition to) *contrastare [qlcs] con [qlcs] vtr rispondere a [qlcs] con [qlcs] vi* He countered his opponent's move with a swift blow.

*adjacent adj* (that is beside [sth]) *adiacente agg confinante, contiguo, vicino agg* There are no vacancies here, so please check the adjacent complex. **VEDERE PRONUNCIA**

*despicable adj* (act: deserving of contempt) *disprezzabile, spregevole agg* Pretending to be ill so that his wife wouldn't leave him was a despicable lie. *Far finta di star male per non essere lasciato dalla moglie è stato un gesto spregevole.*

*whining n* (crying) (informale) *piagnucolio, frignio nm* The dog's whining grew louder. *Il piagnucolio del cane crebbe di intensità.* *whining n* (complaining) *lamento nm* (informale) *lagna nf* Sarah told the children to go to their rooms, as she was sick of their whining. *Sarah disse ai figli di andare nelle loro camere perché era stufo delle loro lagne.*

*lighthouse n* (for ships) (torre di segnalazione) *faro nm* The ship didn't see the lighthouse in time and ran aground.

*hand them out distribuire*

*paddle n* (oar for a canoe, etc.) *pagaia nf* Justin lost his paddle and found himself at the mercy of the current. Justin perse la pagaia e si ritrovò in balia della corrente. *paddle n* (table-tennis bat) (ping-pong) *racchetta nf* Audrey raised her paddle, ready for the game. *Audrey sollevò la racchetta pronta per la partita.*

*curtail [sth] vtr formal* (cut short) *accorciare vtr* We curtailed our vacation when the weather changed. *Abbiamo accorciato la nostra vacanza quando il tempo è cambiato.* *curtail [sth] vtr formal* (restrict) *limitare, ridurre vtr* (figurato: ridurre) *ridimensionare vtr* The students' freedoms

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were curtailed because of their noise. *Le libertà degli studenti sono state ridotte a causa del loro chiasso.*

*with hindsight = con il senno di poi "*

*short-list, shortlist vtr often passive (choose as finalist) (candidati) selezionare vtr The author was surprised when her debut novel was shortlisted for a literature award.*

*pimple n often plural (spot: skin blemish) brufolo, foruncolo nm pustola nf You're getting a pimple on your forehead.*

*dross n (rubbish or waste) rifiuto, scarto nm dross n figurative ([sth] worthless) (figurato) rifiuto, scarto nm*

*deceive [sb] vtr (fool) ingannare, raggirare vtr Fred believed he was making a sound investment, but it turned out that a con man had deceived him.*



## Expressions

**sanity-check** (ITA [verifica di integrità](#)) • The act of checking that something does not contain elementary mistakes or impossibilities, or is not based on invalid assumptions **e.g.** *It also preforms some basic sanity checks of some file formats.*

**fingertip search** (ITA [meticoloso](#)) • UK, figurative (meticulous search) **e.g.** *A fingertip search took place at the scene of the crime.*

**Make it snappy!** (ITA [Datti una mossa!](#), [Sbrigati!](#), [Spicciati!](#)) • (Do it quickly!) **e.g.**

**dark horse** (ITA [\(persona\) misterioso](#)) • figurative (secretive person) **e.g.** *You're such a dark horse! - you never told me you'd got married.*



**dark horse** (ITA [\(corse di cavalli\) partecipante non quotato](#)) • (racehorse about which little is known) **e.g.**

**dark horse** (ITA [outsider](#)) • (figurative (political candidate about whom little is known) **e.g.** *At first Obama was something of a dark horse, but he went on to win the election!*

**to make the case** (ITA [far valere le ragioni](#)) • to argue for something, to defend an idea **e.g.** *Luna, you've made a convincing case for recycling in the work place. We've listened to your argument and it really makes sense.*

**In turn** (ITA [a propria volta](#)) • (connector: subsequently) **e.g.** *John gave me the book and I, in turn, gave it to Sandy.*

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**dead cat bounce** (ITA [rimbalzo del gatto morto](#)) • figurative (stock market: brief recovery) **e.g.** *Are we witnessing a genuine recovery in the share price, or is it just a dead cat bounce?*



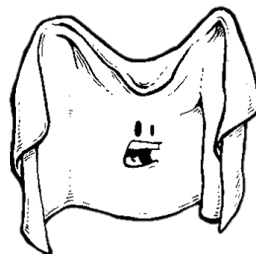
**at the urging of [sb]** (ITA [su pressante richiesta di](#)) • (prompted by [sb] insisting) **e.g.** *Many did so at the urging of their fans.*

(ITA ) • **e.g.**

(ITA ) • **e.g.**

(ITA ) • **e.g.**

(ITA ) • **e.g.**

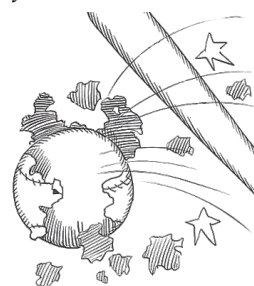


*accept a blanket statement of Fifth Amendment protection.*

**think highly of [sb/sth]** (ITA [avere una buona opinione di](#), [tenere \[qlcn\] in considerazione](#), [stimare](#)) • (hold in high regard) **e.g.** *The boss seems to think highly of you.*

**the prime of your life** (ITA [gli anni migliori](#)) • (best, healthiest time in life) **e.g.** *Many people say that your thirties are the prime of your life.*

**knock the cover off the ball** (ITA [eccellere al di là delle aspettative](#)) • to succeed beyond expectation **e.g.** *Exxon knocked the cover off the ball with its long, disciplined view of global projects.*



**have (one's) plate full** (ITA [essere sovraccarico di cose da fare](#)) • To have a schedule or workload that is filled to capacity with obligations, tasks, or problems. **e.g.** *I'd love to help you but I have my plate full right now.*

**Sandbagger** someone who deceives you about his true nature or intent in order to take advantage of you



**think it over v expr** (consider, deliberate) *pensare a [qlcs], riflettere su [qlcs] vi I'll think it over and let you know my decision.*

**strike it rich** To become wealthy very quickly or suddenly. *The mother of three struck it rich when her weekly lotto ticket ending up winning her over 2\$ million.*

**on your doorstep.**  
**within reach** inside the distance to which someone

---

can stretch out their hand.

being nose-y

farewell n (parting wishes) congedarsi v rif (formale) accomiarsi v rif congedo, commiato nm He made his farewells and left.

off-putting adj informal (unappealing, that deters) sgradevole agg invar Slurping is an off-putting habit in some cultures.

## Phrasal Verbs

**cast about** (ITA *essere alla ricerca di*) • (search) e.g. *As time wore on and Audrey still hadn't found her glasses, she began to cast about desperately.*

**sort out** (ITA *preparare/sistemare/organizzare*) • (organize, plan) e.g. *Julia intended to go home early in order to sort out the dinner arrangements.*

**sort out** (ITA *riordinare*) • (arrange, put in order) e.g. *My son needs to sort out the clothes in the closet.*

**reach out** (ITA *mettersi in comunicazione (figurato) aprire un dialogo*) • (figurative (try to communicate)) e.g. *I tried to reach out to the family in their time of need.*

**crop up** (ITA *saltare fuori, spuntare fuori, venire fuori*) • (informal (appear suddenly)) e.g. *Problems started cropping up when we installed the new software.*

**delve into [sth]** (ITA *immergersi in, addentrarsi in, ricercare, investigare*) • (figurative (investigate, research)) e.g. *He was eager to delve into the ancient archives discovered in the monastery.*

**skim through [sth]** (ITA *scorrere, leggere sommariamente*) • ((read in a cursory way)) e.g. *Read chapter 1 carefully, but just skim through chapter 2.*

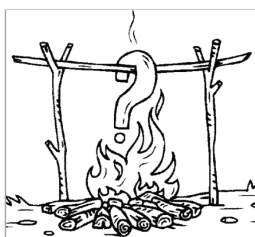
**come along** (ITA *presentarsi, comparire, arrivare*) • (figurative (enter [sb]'s life)) e.g. *I was 30 when Jason came along and changed my life forever.*

**come along** (ITA *procedere, progredire*) • ((progress)) e.g. *My history project is coming along nicely.*

**tear [sth] off** (ITA *strappare, strappare via, togliere via*) • ((detach by ripping)) e.g. *He tore off the wrapping to discover what was inside.*

**soak [sth] up** (ITA *assimilare, (figurato) assorbire*) • (figurative (take in: information, experience)) e.g. *Children pay attention to more than we realise, soaking up everything around them.*

**soak [sth] up, soak up [sth]** (ITA *assorbire*) • ((absorb: liquid)) e.g. *You can use a sponge to soak up water.*



**burning question** (ITA *questione urgente*) • ((urgent matter for discussion)) e.g.

**speak up** vi phrasal informal, figurative (express an opinion) (figurato: opinione)

dire la propria (figurato: opinione) far sentire la pro-

pria voce vtr parlare apertamente vi I always hated to speak up in class, so I got poor grades for oral participation.

**speak out** vi phrasal (state one's opinion publicly) far sentire la propria voce vtr parlare apertamente vi dire apertamente, dire la propria vtr Speak out if you're concerned about it.

**linger on** vi + adv (stay, not go) restare, rimanere vi fermarsi, trattenersi v rif Most of the guests had gone home, but a few lingered on, chatting over the last dregs of wine.

You can flick through the album, simply clicking on picture or using prev / next.

**off-putting** [6fpUtIN ] adjective (British) (informal) (person, manner) antipatico/a scostante

**in the limelight** adj figurative (prominent, featured in the news) (figurato) essere sotto i riflettori, essere sotto la luce dei riflettori vi He's in the limelight at the moment because he has a new book coming out.

**grapple with [sth]** vi + prep figurative (struggle with [sth] difficult) (figurato) essere alle prese con vi vedersela con v rif He's still grappling with French irregular verbs.

**stave [sth] off** vtr phrasal sep (prevent, ward off) prevenire vtr They say that if you take extra vitamins, you may be able to stave off the flu.

**drown [sth/sb] out** vtr phrasal sep (be louder than) sovrastare vtr The helicopter drowned out the screaming of the people below.

**improvise** vi (extemporize, be spontaneous) improvvisare vi We have a long day ahead of us, and we might have to improvise a little on the way.

**hone [sth]** vtr figurative (refine: skills) affinare, perfezionare vtr Jane worked as an intern to continue to hone her skills before she applied for graduate school.