

(*ESSENTIAL VERBS for Academic Reading*)

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diminish

diminish diminishes diminishing diminished

When something **diminishes**, or when something **diminishes** it, it becomes reduced in size, importance, or intensity.

The threat of nuclear war has diminished.

Federalism is intended to diminish the power of the central state.

Universities are facing grave problems because of diminishing resources.

This could mean diminished public support for the war.

V-ERG

Antonym: * increase

Synonym: reduce, drop, fall

increase

increase increases increasing increased

If something **increases** or you **increase** it, it becomes greater in number, level, or amount.

The population continues to increase.

Japan's industrial output increased by 2%.

The company has increased the price of its cars.

The increased investment will help stabilise the economy.

We are experiencing an increasing number of problems.

V-ERG

Antonym: * decrease

abandon

1 abandon abandons abandoning abandoned

If you **abandon** a place, thing, or person, you leave the place, thing, or person permanently or for a long time, especially when you should not do so.

He claimed that his parents had abandoned him.

The road is strewn with abandoned vehicles.

VB

* stay with

2 abandon abandons abandoning abandoned

If you **abandon** an activity or piece of work, you stop doing it before it is finished.

The authorities have abandoned any attempt to distribute food in an orderly fashion.

The scheme's investors, fearful of bankruptcy, decided to abandon the project.

VB

= give up * continue

3 abandon abandons abandoning abandoned

If you **abandon** an idea or way of thinking, you stop having that idea or thinking in that way.

Logic had prevailed and he had abandoned the idea.

VB

= give up

take off

take off takes off; taking off; took off; taken off

When an aeroplane **takes off**, it leaves the ground and starts flying.

We eventually took off at 11 o'clock and arrived in Venice at 1.30.

PHR-V * land

invent

1 invent invents inventing invented

If you **invent** something such as a machine or process, you are the first person to think of it or make it.

He invented the first electric clock.

Writing had not been invented as yet.

VB

2 invent invents inventing invented

If you **invent** a story or excuse, you try to make other people believe that it is true when in fact it is not.

I stood still, trying to invent a plausible excuse.

VB (= make up)

fulfil

1 fulfil fulfils fulfilling fulfilled

If you **fulfil** something such as a promise, dream, or hope, you do what you said or hoped you would do.

President Kaunda fulfilled his promise of announcing a date for the referendum.

VB (AM) and sometimes (BRIT) **fulfill, fulfills**

= carry out

2 fulfil fulfils fulfilling fulfilled

To **fulfil** a task, role, or requirement means to do or be what is required, necessary, or expected.

Without them you will not be able to fulfil the tasks you have before you.

All the necessary conditions were fulfilled.

VB (AM) and sometimes (BRIT) **fulfill, fulfills**

put up with

put up **puts up; putting up**

If you **put up with** something, you tolerate or accept it, even though you find it unpleasant or unsatisfactory.

They had put up with behaviour from their son which they would not have tolerated from anyone else.

PHR-V The form **put** is used in the present tense and is the past tense and past participle

= tolerate, endure

cease

1 cease ceases ceasing ceased

If something **ceases**, it stops happening or existing. (FORMAL)

At one o'clock the rain had ceased.

VB

= stop

2 cease ceases ceasing ceased

If you **cease** to do something, you stop doing it. (FORMAL)

He never ceases to amaze me.

The secrecy about the President's condition had ceased to matter.

A small number of firms have ceased trading.

VB

3 cease ceases ceasing ceased

If you **cease** something, you stop it happening or working. (FORMAL)

The Tundra Times, a weekly newspaper in Alaska, ceased publication this week.

VB

= stop

report

1 report reports reporting reported

If you **report** something that has happened, you tell people about it.

They had been called in to clear drains after local people reported a foul smell.

I reported the theft to the police.

The officials also reported that two more ships were apparently heading for Malta.

'He seems to be all right now,' reported a relieved Taylor.

The foreign secretary is reported as saying that force will have to be used if diplomacy fails.

She reported him missing the next day.

Between forty and fifty people are reported to have died in the fighting.

VB

nominate

1 nominate nominates nominating nominated

If someone **is nominated** for a job or position, their name is formally suggested as a candidate for it.

Under party rules each candidate has to be nominated by 55 Labour MPs.

The public will be able to nominate candidates for awards such as the MBE.

...a presidential decree nominating him as sports ambassador.

VB

= propose, put forward

2 nominate nominates nominating nominated

If you **nominate** someone to a job or position, you formally choose them to hold that job or position.

Voters will choose fifty of the seventy five deputies. The Emir will nominate the rest.

The European Community would nominate two members to the committee.

He was nominated by the African National Congress as one of its team at the Groote Sehuur talks.

It is legally possible for an elderly person to nominate someone to act for them, should they become incapable of looking after themselves.

spoil

1 spoil spoils spoiling spoilt

If you **spoil** something, you prevent it from being successful or satisfactory.

It's important not to let mistakes spoil your life.

Peaceful summer evenings can be spoilt by mosquitoes.

VB American English uses the form **spoiled** as the past tense and past participle. British English uses either **spoiled** or **spoilt**.

2 spoil spoils spoiling spoilt

If you **spoil** children, you give them everything they want or ask for. This is considered to have a bad effect on a child's character.

Grandparents are often tempted to spoil their grandchildren whenever they come to visit.

VB American English uses the form **spoiled** as the past tense and past participle. British English uses either **spoiled** or **spoilt**.

- **spoilt, spoiled**

A spoilt child is rarely popular with other children.

Oh, that child. He's so spoiled.

ADJ-GRADED

notice

1 notice notices noticing noticed

If you **notice** something or someone, you become aware of them.

He stressed that people should not hesitate to contact the police if they've noticed any strangers in Hankham recently.

I noticed that most academics were writing papers during the summer.

Luckily, I'd noticed where you left the car.

Mrs Shedden noticed a bird sitting on the garage roof.

She needn't worry that he'll think she looks a mess. He won't notice.

VB

2 notice notices

A **notice** is a written announcement in a place where everyone can read it.

Notices in the waiting room requested that you neither smoke nor spit.

A few guest houses had 'No Vacancies' notices in their windows.

...a notice which said 'Beware Flooding'.

N-COUNT

= announcement

enlarge

1 enlarge enlarges enlarging enlarged

When you **enlarge** something or when it **enlarges**, it becomes bigger.

...the plan to enlarge Ewood Park into a 30,000 all-seater stadium...

The glands in the neck may enlarge.

encourage

1 encourage encourages encouraging encouraged

If you **encourage** someone, you give them confidence, for example by letting them know that what they are doing is good and telling them that they should continue to do it.

When things aren't going well, he encourages me, telling me not to give up.

VB

2 encourage encourages encouraging encouraged

If someone **is encouraged by** something that happens, it gives them hope or confidence.

Investors were encouraged by the news.

Mr Blair said he had been encouraged by recent Irish statements about the issue.

VB: usu passive

· encouraged

We were very , after over 17,000 pictures were submitted.

I am encouraged that more physicians are asking questions in these meetings and coming to workshops.

ADJ-GRADED: v-link ADJ, oft ADJ that

3 encourage encourages encouraging encouraged

If you **encourage** someone to do something, you try to persuade them to do it, for example by telling them that it would be a pleasant thing to do, or by trying to make it easier for them to do it. You can also **encourage** an activity.

We want to encourage people to go fishing, not put them off.

Herbie Hancock was encouraged by his family to learn music at a young age.

Their task is to help encourage private investment in Russia.

Participation is encouraged at all levels.

VB

Sign

sign signs signing signed

When you **sign** a document, you write your name on it, usually at the end or in a special space. You do this to indicate that you have written the document, that you agree with what is written, or that you were present as a witness.

World leaders are expected to sign a treaty pledging to increase environmental protection.

Before an operation the patient will be asked to sign a consent form.

VB

remove

1 remove removes removing removed

If you **remove** something from a place, you take it away. (WRITTEN)

As soon as the cake is done, remove it from the oven.

At least three bullets were removed from his wounds.

Often, the simplest answer is just to remove yourself from the situation.

He went to the refrigerator and removed a bottle of wine.

VB

2 remove removes removing removed

If you **remove** clothing, you take it off. (WRITTEN)

He removed his jacket.

VB

cause

1 cause causes

The **cause** of an event, usually a bad event, is the thing that makes it happen.

Smoking is the biggest preventable cause of death and disease.

The causes are a complex blend of local and national tensions.

N-COUNT: oft N of n

* effect

2 cause causes causing caused

To **cause** something, usually something bad, means to make it happen.

Attempts to limit family size among some minorities are likely to cause problems.

This was a genuine mistake, but it did cause me some worry.

...a protein that gets into animal cells and attacks other proteins, causing disease to spread.

...the damage to Romanian democracy caused by events of the past few days.

VB

3 cause

If you have **cause** for a particular feeling or action, you have good reasons for feeling it or doing it.

Only a few people can find any cause for celebration.

Both had much cause to be grateful for the secretiveness of government in Britain.

N-UNCOUNT: N *for* n, N to-inf

= reason

comprehend

comprehend comprehends comprehending comprehended

If you cannot **comprehend** something, you cannot understand it.

(FORMAL)

I just cannot comprehend your attitude.

I can't comprehend what is written here.

= understand

pretend

1 pretend pretends pretending pretended

If you **pretend** that something is the case, you act in a way that is intended to make people believe that it is the case, although in fact it is not.

I pretend that things are really okay when they're not.

Sometimes the boy pretended to be asleep.

VB

2 pretend pretends pretending pretended

If children or adults **pretend** that they are doing something, they imagine that they are doing it, for example as part of a game.

She can sunbathe and pretend she's in Spain.

The children pretend to be different animals dancing to the music.

possess

possess possesses possessing possessed

If you **possess** something, you have it or own it.

He was then arrested and charged with possessing an offensive weapon.

He is said to possess a fortune of more than two-and-a-half-thousand million dollars.

VB: no passive

afford

1 afford affords affording afforded

If you **cannot afford** something, you do not have enough money to pay for it.

My parents can't even afford a new refrigerator.

The arts should be available to more people at prices they can afford.

We couldn't afford to buy a new rug.

VB

2 afford affords affording afforded

If you say that you cannot **afford** to do something or allow it to happen, you mean that you must not do it or must prevent it from happening because it would be harmful or embarrassing to you.

We can't afford to wait.

The country could not afford the luxury of an election.

postpone

postpone postpones postponing postponed

If you **postpone** an event, you delay it or arrange for it to take place at a later time than was originally planned.

He decided to postpone the expedition until the following day.

The visit has now been postponed indefinitely.

VB

= delay

express

1 express expresses expressing expressed

When you **express** an idea or feeling, or **express** yourself, you show what you think or feel.

He expressed grave concern at American attitudes.

Sumner would greet us with frowns and grimaces, doing his best to express wordless disapproval.

He expresses himself easily in English.

Children may find it easier to express themselves in a letter than in a formal essay.

VB

2 express expresses expressing expressed

If an idea or feeling **expresses** itself in some way, it can be clearly seen in someone's actions or in its effects on a situation.

The anxiety of the separation often expresses itself as anger towards the child for getting lost.

VB

= manifest

3 **express expresses expressing expressed**

In mathematics, if you **express** a quantity or mathematical problem in a particular way, you write it using particular symbols, figures, or equations.

(TECHNICAL)

We can express that equation like that.

It is expressed as a percentage.

VB

= show

consider

1 **consider considers considering considered**

If you **consider** a person or thing to be something, you have the opinion that this is what they are.

We don't consider our customers to be mere consumers; we consider them to be our friends.

I had always considered myself a strong, competent woman.

The paper does not explain why foreign ownership should be considered bad.

I consider activities such as jogging and weightlifting as unnatural.

Barbara considers that pet shops which sell customers these birds are very unfair.

VB

= think

2 **consider considers considering considered**

If you **consider** something, you think about it carefully.

The government is being asked to consider a plan to fix the date of the Easter break.

You do have to consider the feelings of those around you.

Consider how much you can afford to pay for a course, and what is your upper limit.

VB

= think about

3 consider considers considering considered

If you **are considering** doing something, you intend to do it, but have not yet made a final decision whether to do it.

I had seriously considered telling the story from the point of view of the wives.

Watersports enthusiasts should consider hiring a wetsuit as well as a lifejacket.

They are considering the launch of their own political party.

VB

= think about

4 consider

You say **all things considered** to indicate that you are making a judgement after taking all the facts into account.

All things considered, I think you have behaved marvellously in coming here.

PHR: PHR with cl

= all in all

move

1 move moves moving moved

When you **move** something or when it **moves**, its position changes and it does not remain still.

She moved the sheaf of papers into position.

You can move the camera both vertically and horizontally.

A traffic warden asked him to move his car.

I could see the branches of the trees moving back and forth.

The train began to move.

V-ERG

2 move moves moving moved

When you **move**, you change your position or go to a different place.

She waited for him to get up, but he didn't move.

There was so much furniture you could hardly move without bumping into something.

He moved around the room, putting his possessions together.

She moved away from the window.

VB

+ move moves

Also a noun.

The doctor made a move towards the door.

Daniel's eyes followed her every move.

N-COUNT: usu sing

= movement

hire

1 hire hires hiring hired

If you **hire** someone, you employ them or pay them to do a particular job for you.

Sixteen of the contestants have hired lawyers and are suing the organisers.

The rest of the staff have been hired on short-term contracts.

He will be in charge of all hiring and firing at PHA.

...the mystery assassin (who turned out to be a hired killer).

VB

2 hire hires hiring hired

If you **hire** something, you pay money to the owner so that you can use it for a period of time. (mainly BRIT; in AM usually use **rent**)

To hire a car you must produce a passport and a current driving licence.

Her hired car was found abandoned at Beachy Head.

VB

= rent

3 hire

You use **hire** to refer to the activity or business of hiring something. (mainly BRIT; in AM usually use **rental**)

They booked our hotel, and organised car hire.

Hire of skis, boots and clothing, are all available.

4 hire

If something is **for hire**, it is available for you to hire. (mainly BRIT; in AM usually use **for rent**)

Fishing tackle is available for hire and tuition can be arranged.

PHR: usu v-link PHR

= to rent

save

1 save saves saving saved

If you **save** someone or something, you help them to avoid harm or to escape from a dangerous or unpleasant situation.

...a final attempt to save 40,000 jobs in Britain's troubled aero industry...

One man was still missing last night after the Belgian trawler Lucky capsized off the Dutch coast. Three other men were saved.

A new machine no bigger than a 10p piece could help save babies from cot death.

The national health system saved him from becoming a cripple.

VB

· **-saving**

His boxing career was ended after two sight-saving operations.

COMB in ADJ

2 save saves saving saved

If you **save**, you gradually collect money by spending less than you get, usually in order to buy something that you want.

The majority of people intend to save, but find that by the end of the month there is nothing left.

Tim and Barbara are now saving for a house in the suburbs.

They could not find any way to save money.

VB

+ **save up saves up; saving up; saved up**

Save up means the same as **save**.

Julie wanted to put some of her money aside for holidays or save up for something special.

People often put money aside in order to save up enough to make one major expenditure.

PHR-V

3 save saves saving saved

If you **save** something such as time or money, you prevent the loss or waste of it.

It saves time in the kitchen to have things you use a lot within reach.

More cash will be saved by shutting studios and selling outside-broadcast vehicles.

I'll try to save him the expense of a flight from Perth.

I got the fishmonger to skin the fish which helped save on the preparation time.

VB

* waste

· **-saving**

America was among the first to invent and use labor-saving devices in industry and mining.

offer

1 offer offers offering offered

If you **offer** something to someone, you ask them if they would like to have it or use it.

He has offered seats at the conference table to the Russian leader and the president of Kazakhstan.

The number of companies offering them work increased.

Rhys offered him an apple.

Western governments have offered aid.

VB

2 offer offers offering offered

If you **offer** to do something, you say that you are willing to do it.

Peter offered to teach them water-skiing.

'Can I get you a drink,' she offered.

VB

3 offer offers

An **offer** is something that someone says they will give you or do for you.

The offer of talks with Moscow marks a significant change from the previous western position.

'I ought to reconsider her offer to move in,' he mused.

He had refused several excellent job offers.

N-COUNT

4 offer offers offering offered

If you **offer** someone information, advice, or praise, you give it to them, usually because you feel that they need it or deserve it.

They manage a company offering advice on mergers and acquisitions.

She offered him emotional and practical support in countless ways.

They are offered very little counselling or support.

VB

5 offer offers offering offered

If you **offer** someone something such as love or friendship, you show them that you feel that way towards them.

The President has offered his sympathy to the Georgian people.

It must be better to be able to offer them love and security.

John's mother and sister rallied round offering comfort.

VB

6 offer offers offering offered

If people **offer** prayers, praise, or a sacrifice to God or a god, they speak to or give something to their god.

Church leaders offered prayers and condemned the bloodshed.

He will offer the first harvest of rice to the sun goddess.

7 offer offers offering offered

If an organization **offers** something such as a service or product, it provides it.

We have been successful because we are offering a quality service.

Sainsbury's is offering customers 1p for each shopping bag re-used.

Eagle Star offers a 10% discount to the over-55s.

VB

= provide

measure

1 measure measures measuring measured

If you **measure** the quality, value, or effect of something, you discover or judge how great it is.

I continued to measure his progress against the charts in the doctor's office.

A grammar school's success was measured in terms of the number of pupils who got into university.

It was difficult to measure the precise impact of the labor action.

VB

= assess

2 measure measures measuring measured

If you **measure** a quantity that can be expressed in numbers, such as the length of something, you discover it using a particular instrument or device, for example a ruler.

Measure the length and width of the gap.

He measured the speed at which ultrasonic waves travel along the bone.

VB

3 **measure measures measured**

If something **measures** a particular length, width, or amount, that is its size or intensity, expressed in numbers.

The house is more than twenty metres long and measures six metres in width.

This hand-decorated plate measures 30cm across.

Their paddock measures 24 metres square.

VB: no cont

= be

4 **measure**

A **measure of** a particular quality, feeling, or activity is a fairly large amount of it. (FORMAL)

With the exception of Juan, each attained a measure of success.

The colonies were claiming a larger measure of self-government.

N-SING: N of n

= degree

5 **measure**

If you say that one aspect of a situation is a **measure of** that situation, you mean that it shows that the situation is very serious or has developed to a very great extent.

It is a measure of their plight that few of them have anywhere to go to.

That is a measure of how bad things have become at the bank.

N-SING: N of n/wh

6 measure measures

When someone, usually a government or other authority, takes **measures** to do something, they carry out particular actions in order to achieve a particular result. (FORMAL)

The government warned that police would take tougher measures to contain the trouble.

He said stern measures would be taken against the killers.

As a precautionary measure repeat the medication.

deserve

1 deserve deserves deserving deserved

If you say that a person or thing **deserves** something, you mean that they should have it or receive it because of their actions or qualities.

Government officials clearly deserve some of the blame as well.

They know the sport inside out, and we treat them with the respect they deserve.

These people deserve to make more than the minimum wage.

His children's books are classics that deserve to be much better known.

By the time I left he'd become pretty hostile. I felt I deserved better than that.

The Park Hotel has been in business since 1834 and has a well-deserved reputation.

VB

2 deserve

If you say that someone **got what they deserved**, you mean that they deserved the bad thing that happened to them, and you have no sympathy for them.

One of them said the two dead joy riders got what they deserved.

estimate

1 estimate estimates estimating estimated

If you **estimate** a quantity or value, you make an approximate judgement or calculation of it.

Try to estimate how many steps it will take to get to a close object.

I estimate that total cost for treatment will go from \$9,000 to \$12,500.

He estimated the speed of the winds from the degree of damage.

Some analysts estimate its current popularity at around ten per cent.

His personal riches were estimated at s368 million.

VB

= guess

• estimated

There are an estimated 90,000 gangsters in the country.

ADJ: a ADJ amount

2 estimate estimates

An **estimate** is an approximate calculation of a quantity or value.

...the official estimate of the election result...

This figure is five times the original estimate.

A recent estimate was that factories were undermanned by about 30 per cent.

restrict

1 restrict restricts restricting restricted

If you **restrict** something, you put a limit on it in order to reduce it or prevent it becoming too great.

There is talk of raising the admission requirements to restrict the number of students on campus.

The French, I believe, restrict Japanese imports to a maximum of 3 per cent of their market.

VB

= limit

· restriction

Since the costs of science were rising faster than inflation, some restriction on funding was necessary.

N-UNCOUNT

= limit

2 restrict restricts restricting restricted

To **restrict** the movement or actions of someone or something means to prevent them from moving or acting freely.

Villagers say the fence would restrict public access to the hills.

The government imprisoned dissidents, forbade travel, and restricted the press.

These dams have restricted the flow of the river downstream.

VB

· restriction

...the justification for this restriction of individual liberty.

N-UNCOUNT

3 restrict restricts restricting restricted

If you **restrict** someone or their activities to one thing, they can only do, have, or deal with that thing. If you **restrict** them to one place, they cannot go anywhere else.

He was, however, allowed to stay on at the temple as long as he restricted himself to his studies.

The patient isn't restricted to a meagre diet.

For the first two weeks patients are restricted to the grounds.

VB

= confine

transmit

1 transmit transmits transmitting transmitted

When radio and television programmes, computer data, or other electronic messages **are transmitted**, they are sent from one place to another, using wires, radio waves, or satellites.

The game was transmitted live in Spain and Italy.

The information is electronically transmitted to schools and colleges.

This is currently the most efficient way to transmit certain types of data like electronic mail.

The device is not designed to transmit to satellites.

VB

2 transmit transmits transmitting transmitted

If one person or animal **transmits** a disease to another, they have the disease and cause the other person or animal to have it. (FORMAL)

...mosquitoes that transmit disease to humans...

There was no danger of transmitting the infection through operations.

...the spread of sexually transmitted diseases.

distribute

1 distribute distributes distributing distributed

If you **distribute** things, you hand them or deliver them to a number of people.

Students shouted slogans and distributed leaflets.

Thousands of soldiers are working to distribute food and blankets to the refugees.

In the move most of the furniture was left to the neighbours or distributed among friends.

VB

2 distribute distributes distributing distributed

When a company **distributes** goods, it supplies them to the shops or businesses that sell them.

We didn't understand how difficult it was to distribute a national paper.

VB

exaggerate

1 exaggerate exaggerates exaggerating exaggerated

If you **exaggerate**, you indicate that something is, for example, worse or more important than it really is.

He thinks I'm exaggerating.

Don't exaggerate.

Sheila admitted that she did sometimes exaggerate the demands of her job.

VB

• exaggeration exaggerations

Like many stories about him, it smacks of exaggeration.

It would be an exaggeration to call the danger urgent.

N-VAR

2 exaggerate exaggerates exaggerating exaggerated

If something **exaggerates** a situation, quality, or feature, it makes the situation, quality, or feature appear greater, more obvious, or more important than it really is.

These figures exaggerate the loss of competitiveness.

The dress exaggerates her wasp waist and enlarges her bosom.

release

1 release releases releasing released

If a person or animal **is released** from somewhere where they have been locked up or looked after, they are set free or allowed to go.

He was released from custody the next day.

He is expected to be released from hospital today.

Fifty-five foxes were released from a fur farm by animal rights activists.

He was released on bail.

VB: usu passive

2 release releases

When someone is released, you refer to their **release**.

He called for the immediate release of all political prisoners.

...the secret negotiations necessary to secure hostage releases...

Serious complications have delayed his release from hospital.

N-COUNT: with supp

3 release releases releasing released

If someone or something **releases** you from a duty, task, or feeling, they free you from it. (FORMAL)

Divorce releases both the husband and wife from all marital obligations to each other.

This releases the teacher to work with individuals who are having extreme difficulty.

VB

+ release

Also a noun.

Our therapeutic style offers release from stored tensions, traumas and grief.

They look on life at college as a blessed release from the obligation to work.

N-UNCOUNT: also a N, oft N from N

4 release releases releasing released

To **release** feelings or abilities means to allow them to be expressed.

Becoming your own person releases your creativity.

I personally don't want to release my anger on anyone else.

Humour is wonderful for releasing tension.

VB

+ release

Also a noun.

She felt the sudden sweet release of her own tears.

N-UNCOUNT

5 release releases releasing released

If someone in authority **releases** something such as a document or information, they make it available.

They're not releasing any more details yet.

Figures released yesterday show retail sales were down in March.

VB

+ release releases

Also a noun.

Action had been taken to speed up the release of cheques.

N-COUNT: with supp

6 release releases releasing released

If you **release** someone or something, you stop holding them. (FORMAL)

He stopped and faced her, releasing her wrist.

...the twisting action before a bowler releases the ball.

VB = let go

7 release releases releasing released

If you **release** a device, you move it so that it stops holding something.

Wade released the hand brake and pulled away from the curb.

VB

+ release releases

Also a noun.

Under the agreement, releases of cancer-causing chemicals will be cut by about 80 per cent.

N-COUNT: with supp

8 release releases releasing released

When an entertainer or company **releases** a new record, video, or film, it becomes available so that people can buy it or see it.

He is releasing an album of love songs.

VB

9 release releases

A new **release** is a new record, video, or film that has just become available for people to buy or see.

Of the new releases that are out there now, which do you think are really good?

rise

1 rise rises rising rose risen

If something **rises**, it moves upwards.

Wilson's ice-cold eyes watched the smoke rise from his cigarette.

The powdery dust rose in a cloud around him.

VB

+ rise up rises up; rising up; rose up; risen up

Rise up means the same as **rise**.

Spray rose up from the surface of the water.

Black dense smoke rose up.

PHR-V

2 rise rises rising rose risen

When you **rise**, you stand up. (FORMAL)

Luther rose slowly from the chair.

He looked at Livy and Mark, who had risen to greet him.

VB

+ **rise up rises up; rising up; rose up; risen up**

Rise up means the same as **rise**.

The only thing I wanted was to rise up from the table and leave this house.

PHR-V

3 rise rises rising rose risen

When you **rise**, you get out of bed. (FORMAL)

Tony had risen early and gone to the cottage to work.

4 rise rises rising rose risen

When the sun or moon **rises**, it appears in the sky.

He wanted to be over the line of the ridge before the sun had risen.

VB

* set

accuse

1 accuse accuses accusing accused

If you **accuse** someone of doing something wrong or dishonest, you say or tell them that you believe that they did it.

My mum was really upset because he was accusing her of having an affair with another man.

Talk things through in stages. Do not accuse or apportion blame.

VB

2 accuse accuses accusing accused

If you **are accused** of a crime, a witness or someone in authority states or claims that you did it, and you may be formally charged with it and put on trial.

Her assistant was accused of theft and fraud by the police.

He faced a total of seven charges, all accusing him of lying in his testimony.

The accused men have been given relatively light sentences.

develop

1 develop develops developing developed

When something **develops**, it grows or changes over a period of time and usually becomes more advanced, complete, or severe.

As children develop, some of the most important things they learn have to do with their sense of self.

It's hard to say at this stage how the market will develop.

These clashes could develop into open warfare.

...as society begins to have an impact on the developing child.

VB

• developed

Their bodies were well-developed and super fit.

ADJ-GRADED

2 develop develops developing developed

If a problem or difficulty **develops**, it begins to occur.

A huge row has developed about the pollution emanating from a chemical plant.

...blood clots in his lungs, a problem which developed from a leg injury.

VB

= arise

3 develop develops developing developed

If you say that a country **develops**, you mean that it changes from being a poor agricultural country to being a rich industrial country.

All countries, it was predicted, would develop and develop fast.

VB

= progress

4 develop develops developing developed

If you **develop** a business or industry, or if it **develops**, it becomes bigger and more successful.

An amateur hat-maker has won a scholarship to pursue her dreams of developing her own business.

Over the last few years tourism has developed considerably on the attractive neighbouring beaches.

V-ERG

= build, expand

· developed

Housing finance is less developed and less competitive in continental Europe.

persuade

1 persuade persuades persuading persuaded

If you **persuade** someone to do something, you cause them to do it by giving them good reasons for doing it.

My husband persuaded me to come.

We're trying to persuade manufacturers to sell them here.

They were eventually persuaded by the police to give themselves up.

2 persuade persuades persuading persuaded

If something **persuades** someone to take a particular course of action, it causes them to take that course of action because it is a good reason for doing so.

The Conservative Party's victory in April's general election persuaded him to run for President again.

It was the lack of privacy that eventually persuaded us to move after Ben was born.

VB

3 persuade persuades persuading persuaded

If you **persuade** someone that something is true, you say things that eventually make them believe that it is true.

I've persuaded Mrs Tennant that it's time she retired.

We had managed to persuade them that it was worth working with us.

Derek persuaded me of the feasibility of the idea.

VB

= convince

· persuaded

He is not persuaded of the need for electoral reform.

I remain persuaded that the decisions we made last year were broadly right.

ADJ-GRADED: v-link ADJ, ADJ of n, ADJ that

compete

1 compete competes competing competed

When one firm or country **competes** with another, it tries to get people to buy its own goods in preference to those of the other firm or country. You can also say that two firms or countries **compete**.

The banks have long competed with American Express's charge cards and various store cards.

The stores will inevitably end up competing with each other in their push for increased market shares.

Banks and building societies are competing fiercely for business.

The American economy, and its ability to compete abroad, was slowing down according to the report.

2 compete competes competing competed

If you **compete** with someone for something, you try to get it for yourself and stop the other person getting it. You can also say that two people **compete** for something.

Kangaroos compete with sheep and cattle for sparse supplies of food and water.

Schools should not compete with each other or attempt to poach pupils.

More than 2300 candidates from 93 political parties are competing for 486 seats.

V-RECIP

3 compete competes competing competed

If you **compete** in a contest or a game, you take part in it.

He will be competing in the London-Calais-London race.

Dubbed foreign language films will not be allowed to compete for best film.

It is essential for all players who wish to compete that they earn computer ranking points.

humiliate

humiliate humiliates humiliating humiliated

To **humiliate** someone means to say or do something which makes them feel ashamed or stupid.

She had been beaten and humiliated by her husband.

His teacher continually humiliates him in maths lessons.

VB

· **humiliated**

I have never felt so humiliated in my life.

ADJ-GRADED

deny

1 deny denies denying denied

When you **deny** something, you state that it is not true.

She denied both accusations.

The government has denied that the authorities have uncovered a plot to assassinate the president.

They all denied ever having seen her.

= repudiate * admit

improve

1 improve improves improving improved

If something **improves** or if you **improve** it, it gets better.

Within a month, both the texture and condition of your hair should improve.

The weather is beginning to improve.

Time won't improve the situation.

He improved their house.

V-ERG

2 improve improves improving improved

If a skill you have **improves** or you **improve** a skill, you get better at it.

Their French has improved enormously.

He said he was going to improve his football.

V-ERG

3 improve improves improving improved

If you **improve** after an illness or an injury, your health gets better or you get stronger.

He had improved so much the doctor had cut his dosage.

VB

= recover

ensure

ensure ensures ensuring ensured

To **ensure** something, or to **ensure** that something happens, means to make certain that it happens. (FORMAL)

Britain's negotiators had ensured that the treaty which resulted was a significant change in direction.

Ensure that it is written into your contract.

South Africa's parliament has decided to abolish the President's Council, which ensures the supremacy of the National Party.

VB

(sağlamak, garanti etmek)

broaden

1 broaden broadens broadening broadened

When something **broadens**, it becomes wider.

The trails broadened into roads.

The smile broadened to a grin.

VB

= widen

2 broaden broadens broadening broadened

When you **broaden** something such as your experience or popularity, the number of things or people that it includes becomes greater.

We must broaden our appeal.

I thought you wanted to broaden your horizons.

The political spectrum has broadened.

hold

1 hold holds holding held

When you **hold** something, you carry or support it, using your hands or your arms.

Hold the knife at an angle.

She is holding her journal and a pen.

He held the pistol in his right hand.

Hold the baby while I load the car.

imply

1 imply implies implying implied

If you **imply** that something is the case, you say something which indicates that it is the case in an indirect way.

'Are you implying that I have something to do with those attacks?' she asked coldly.

She felt undermined by the implied criticism.

VB

= suggest, hint

2 imply implies implying implied

If an event or situation **implies** that something is the case, it makes you think it likely that it is the case.

Exports in June rose 1.5%, implying that the economy was stronger than many investors had realized.

He stressed that the meeting in no way implies a resumption of contacts with the terrorists.

VB

= suggest

irritate

1 irritate irritates irritating irritated

If something **irritates** you, it keeps annoying you.

Their attitude irritates me.

Perhaps they were irritated by the sound of crying.

VB

= annoy

• irritated

Not surprisingly, her teacher is getting irritated with her.

ADJ-GRADED

2 irritate irritates irritating irritated

If something **irritates** a part of your body, it causes it to itch or become sore.

Wear rubber gloves while chopping chillies as they can irritate the skin.

refer

1 refer refers referring referred

If you **refer** to a particular subject or person, you talk about them or mention them.

In his speech, he referred to a recent trip to Canada.

VB

2 refer refers referring referred

If you **refer** to someone or something as a particular thing, you use a particular word, expression, or name to mention or describe them.

Marcia had referred to him as a dear friend.

He simply referred to him as Ronnie.

Our economy is referred to as a free market.

VB

3 refer refers referring referred

If a word **refers** to a particular thing, situation, or idea, it describes it in some way.

The term electronics refers to electrically-induced action.

expect

expect expects expecting expected

If you **expect** something to happen, you believe that it will happen.

The talks are expected to continue until tomorrow.

It is expected that the new owner will change the yacht's name.