



目录

Advanced English Vocabulary - Advertising	3
Advanced English Vocabulary- Wild Animals	6
Advanced English Vocabulary- Architecture	10
Advanced English Vocabulary - Art	14
Advanced English Vocabulary - Birthdays	18
Advanced English Vocabulary - Business	22
Advanced English Vocabulary - Children.....	26
Advanced English Vocabulary - Clothes	29
Advanced English Vocabulary - Communication	32
Advanced English Vocabulary - Cooking	36
Advanced English Vocabulary- Crime and Punishment.....	40
Advanced English Vocabulary - Culture.....	44
Advanced English Vocabulary - Daily Routine	48
Advanced English Vocabulary - Economy.....	52
Advanced English Vocabulary - Education.....	56
Advanced English Vocabulary - Employment.....	60
Advanced English Vocabulary - Entertainment.....	64
Advanced English Vocabulary - Ethics.....	68
Advanced English Vocabulary - Exercise	72
Advanced English Vocabulary - Family	76
Advanced English Vocabulary - Food and Diet	80
Advanced English Vocabulary - Friendship	84
Advanced English Vocabulary - Geography	88
Advanced English Vocabulary- Globalisation	92
Advanced English Vocabulary- Government	96
Advanced English Vocabulary - Mental Health	100
Advanced English Vocabulary - Physical Health	104
Advanced English Vocabulary - Hometown and Cities	108



Advanced English Vocabulary – Housing	112
Advanced English Vocabulary– International Aid.....	116
IELTS Vocabulary – Language	120
IELTS Vocabulary – Love	124
IELTS Vocabulary – Media and Fame	128
IELTS Vocabulary – Money	132
IELTS Vocabulary – Movies	136
IELTS Vocabulary – Music.....	140
IELTS Vocabulary – Nature.....	144
IELTS Vocabulary – News.....	148
IELTS Vocabulary – Personality	152
IELTS Vocabulary – Pets	156
IELTS Vocabulary – Shopping.....	160
IELTS Vocabulary – Social Media.....	163
IELTS Vocabulary – Space	167
IELTS Vocabulary – Sports	171
IELTS Vocabulary –Technology.....	175
IELTS Vocabulary – Transport	180
IELTS Vocabulary – Travel and Tourism	184
IELTS Vocabulary – Weather	188
IELTS Vocabulary – Work.....	192





Advanced English Vocabulary - Advertising

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Manipulate (verb)

Meaning: Control someone without them knowing they are being controlled.

Synonyms: Control; Exploit; Influence - (all verbs used in the same way)

Word Family: Manipulation (noun); Manipulative (adj)

Collocations: To be easily manipulated; The ability to manipulate; Manipulated into doing something

Example Sentence: Children can be easily manipulated into desiring certain products.

Word 2: Brand awareness (noun)

Meaning: Whether people know a brand, how famous a brand is.

Synonyms: Brand recognition; Name recognition; Brand recall - (all nouns used in the same way)

Collocations: To promote/to raise one's brand awareness; To create brand awareness; To focus on brand awareness

Example Sentence: This advertising campaign is designed to raise our brand awareness by 50%.

Word 3: Target audience (noun)

Meaning: The group of people a company wants as its customers.

Synonyms: Target market; Target customers; Target demographic; Core audience - (all nouns used in the same way)

Collocations: Identify one's target audience; Reach one's target audience; A specific target audience

Example Sentence: Once a company identifies their target audience, they can design more specific advertisements for them.

Word 4: A call to action (noun)



Meaning: A message in an advertisement that encourages the viewer to do something e.g. make a purchase.

Synonyms: Exhortation (noun, used in same way)

Collocations: An effective call to action; To issue a call to action

Example Sentence: Advertisements that include an effective call to action are much more likely to attract new customers.

Word 5: Commercial break (noun)

Meaning: The 2-3 minutes of TV advertisements before/during a TV show.

Synonyms: Ad break; Advertising break (both nouns, used in the same way)

Collocations: During a commercial break; After a commercial break

Example Sentence: Many people change channels during the commercial break.

Word 6: Word of mouth (noun)

Meaning: A type of natural advertising where people recommend things they like to their friends, without any hope of reward.

Synonyms: Recommendation (noun); To recommend (verb).

Antonyms: Paid advertisement (noun)

Collocations: To (be) spread by word of mouth; To rely on word of mouth; To promote something by word of mouth

Example Sentence: Smaller companies like family restaurants often rely on word of mouth to bring in new customers.

Word 7: Product placement (noun)

Meaning: Type of advertising showing products being used in media (movies, TV shows, videos)

Collocations: Blatant/Obvious product placement; Subtle product placement; To be full of product placement

Example Sentence: Many movies supplement their budgets by allowing subtle, or in some cases blatant, product placement.



Word 8: Jingle (noun)

Meaning: The short song or piece of music included in an advertisement to make it catchy.

Synonyms: Song; Ditty; Tune (all are more general music words but can be used in place of jingle).

Collocations: A catchy jingle; A memorable jingle

Example Sentence: Memorable jingles, like the one featured by McDonald's, are an important part of making an advertisement effective.

Word 9: Slogan (noun)

Meaning: The short set of words used by a company in its advertisement. For example, 'Just do it' from Nike.

Synonyms: Catchphrase; Motto (both nouns, used in advertising and other areas e.g. by politicians).

Collocations: An effective slogan; A distinctive slogan; A catchy slogan; A meaningless slogan

Example Sentence: While an effective or distinctive slogan can set a company apart, a meaningless slogan can actively damage the brand.

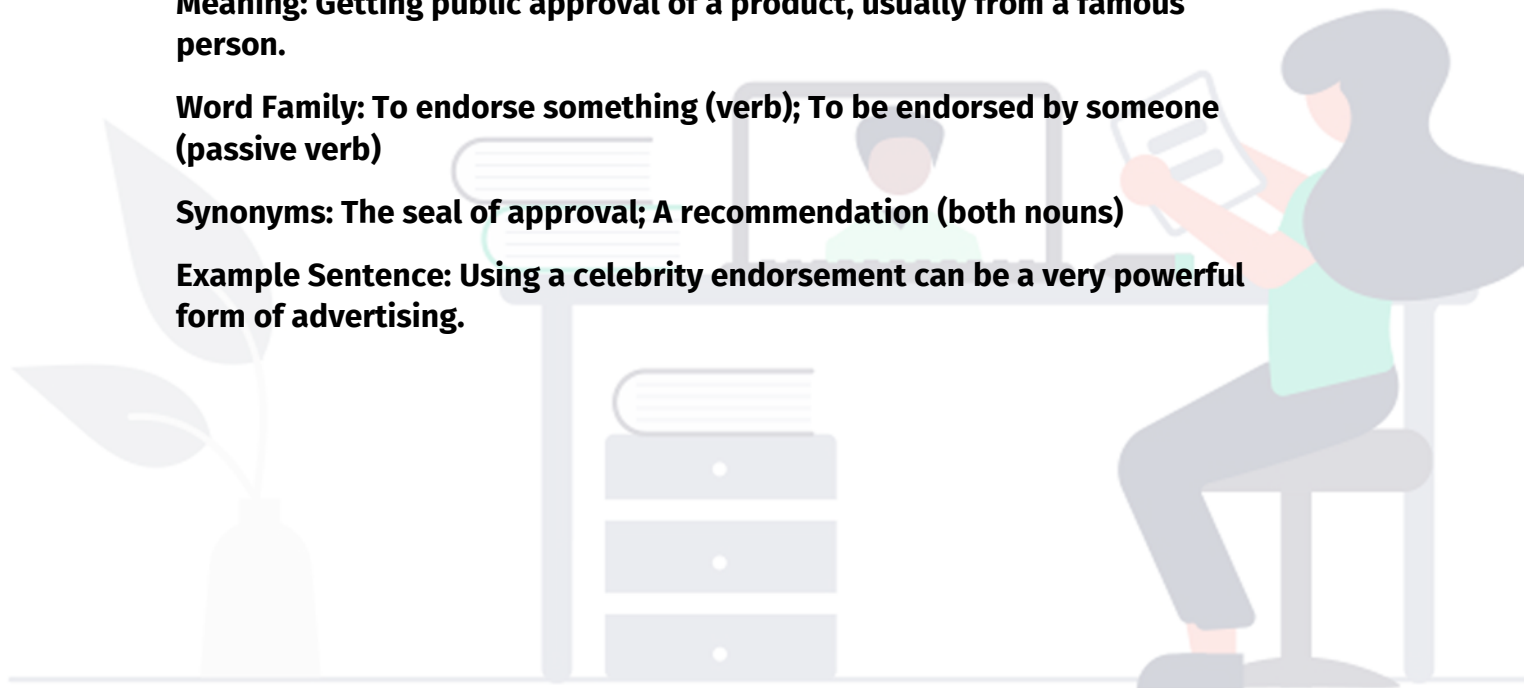
Word 10: (Celebrity) endorsement (noun)

Meaning: Getting public approval of a product, usually from a famous person.

Word Family: To endorse something (verb); To be endorsed by someone (passive verb)

Synonyms: The seal of approval; A recommendation (both nouns)

Example Sentence: Using a celebrity endorsement can be a very powerful form of advertising.





Advanced English Vocabulary– Wild Animals

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Carnivore (noun)

Meaning: Animal that eats meat

Word Family: Carnivorous (adj)

Synonyms: Meat-eater; Hunter; Predator

Antonyms: Herbivore; Prey

Example Sentence: Tigers are known as fearsome carnivores.

Word 2: Herbivore (noun)

Meaning: Animal that eats plants

Word Family: Herbivorous (adj)

Synonyms: Beast of prey; Prey

Antonyms: Carnivore, Omnivore

Example Sentence: Herbivores, like zebra, tend to move in large groups for safety.

Word 3: Domesticated (adjective / passive verb)

Meaning: Changed over time from being wild animal to human service animal e.g. pig, dog.

Word Family: Domestication (noun); to Domesticate (verb)

Synonyms: Tame; Trained; Broken in

Antonyms: Wild; Feral

Example Sentence: Domesticated animals, such as dogs, have completely different behaviour patterns to wild animals.

Word 4: Poach (verb)

Meaning: 1) Illegally hunt wild animals, 2) Take something from a rival/competitor



Word Family: Poacher (noun, person); Poaching (noun, activity)

Synonyms: Hunt; Prey on; Cattle Rustling

Antonyms: Protect

Collocations: Illegal poaching; To poach an idea; To be poached by a rival company

Example Sentence: Illegal poaching remains a huge threat to endangered animals like rhinos.

Word 5: Territory (noun)

Meaning: An animal's area of control

Word Family: Territorial (adjective); Territorially (adverb)

Synonyms: Habitat; Region; Kingdom

Collocations: Act/behave territorially, Mark one's territory, Enemy territory, Familiar territory, Defend one's territory

Example Sentence: Wild animals can be aggressive when defending their territory.

Word 6: Reproduce (verb)

Meaning: Having children, continuing the generations of animal (or person).

Word Family: Reproduction (noun); Reproductive (adj)

Synonyms: Breed; Procreate; Spawn; Give birth (all verbs)

Antonyms: Die; Go extinct (both verbs)

Collocations: Be able to reproduce; Fail to reproduce; The ability to reproduce; Reproduce by + action (e.g. laying eggs/dividing/spreading seeds); Reproduce in the wild; Reproduce in captivity.

Example Sentence: It is often hard for wild animals like pandas to reproduce in captivity.

Word 7: Apex Predator (noun)

Meaning: A carnivore at the top of its food chain, without natural predators of its own. Examples: Brown bears; Polar bears; Great white sharks; Tigers; Lions



Synonyms: Top predator; Alpha predator (both nouns)

Antonyms: Prey; Quarry; Herbivore (all nouns)

Collocations: To encounter an apex predator; The absence of an apex predator; An unchallenged apex predator

Example Sentence: Apex predators like great white sharks are an important part of maintaining a balanced ecosystem.

Word 8: Migrate (verb)

Meaning: Travel long distances on a regular basis (e.g. yearly) for a specific purpose, often at a fixed time of the year.

Word Family: Migration (noun, action); Migrating, Migratory (both adj)

Synonyms: To range; To journey; To roam (all verbs, can all replace migrate but can also be normal daily activities for animals, not necessarily a journey at a fixed time).

Antonyms: To remain; To stay (both verbs)

Collocations: To migrate southwards/northwards; To migrate from somewhere to somewhere else; To migrate annually; Seasonal migration

Example Sentence: Many types of birds in the northern hemisphere migrate southwards in the winter.

Word 9: Endangered (adjective)

Meaning: Few of this animal left, in danger of going extinct.

Word Family: To endanger (verb); Endangerment (noun)

Synonyms: At-risk; Imperilled; Threatened (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Plentiful (adjective, e.g. sheep); Protected (adjective, e.g. pandas)

Collocations: Endangered species; To be endangered; Highly endangered

Example Sentence: The protection of endangered species is one reason why we should keep zoos open.

Word 10: Aggressive (adjective)

Meaning: Dangerous, willing to fight or attack.



Word Family: Aggression (noun); Aggressively (adverb)

Synonyms: Hostile; Belligerent; Violent (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Tranquil; Docile; Friendly (all adjectives)

Collocations: Extremely/highly aggressive; Openly aggressive; Aggressive towards someone

Example Sentence: Sometimes pet dogs can be aggressive towards strangers, but mostly they are fairly docile and even friendly.

Challenge – Fill in the Blank

Note: Remember to think about which form of the word you should choose to make the grammar correct.

1. Dogs can get very _____ when a new dog or person enters their home. They will often bark or display other signs of aggression.
2. Even though the _____ of elephants for their tusks is illegal in most countries, it is still very common.
3. _____ birds like eagles and hawks are often known as birds of prey.
4. Before dogs were _____, they were much closer in behaviour and appearance to wolves.
5. All of the common animals that humans eat, like cows, chickens and pigs, are _____.

Answers:

1. Dogs can get very **territorial** when a new dog or person enters their home. They will often bark or display other signs of aggression.
2. Even though the **poaching** of elephants for their tusks is illegal in most countries, it is still very common.
3. **Carnivorous** birds like eagles and hawks are often known as birds of prey.
4. Before dogs were **domesticated**, they were much closer in behaviour and appearance to wolves.
5. All of the common animals that humans eat, like cows, chickens and pigs, are **herbivores**.



Advanced English Vocabulary– Architecture

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Architect (noun)

Meaning: The person (or job title of someone) who designs buildings.

Word Family: Architecturally (adverb)

Synonyms: Designer (noun)

Collocations: Chief architect; Contemporary architect; Popular architect; Famous architect; Prominent architect; Noted architect; Local architect

Example Sentence: I am more interested in the work of classical architecture rather than the work of contemporary architects.

Word 2: Controversial (adjective)

Meaning: Something that causes strong feelings in both positive and negative ways. For example, a building that some people love but other people hate.

Word Family: Controversy (noun); Controversially (adverb)

Synonyms: Contentious; Emotive (both adjectives)

Antonyms: Anodyne; Uncontroversial (both adjectives)

Collocations: Very/highly/extremely controversial; Rather/somewhat controversial; Artistically/politically/socially/economically controversial (*many more choices here*); A controversial monument; A controversial piece of work; A controversial sculpture; A controversial restoration; A controversial building; A controversial plan; A controversial proposal; (To do something) Would be controversial

Example Sentence: The decision to demolish the original town hall and replace it with a steel and glass alternative was highly controversial.

Word 3: Eyesore (noun)

Meaning: A building, piece of art or something else visual that is considered very unattractive.

Synonyms: A mess; A scar; A blemish; A disfigurement; A monstrosity (all nouns); Unsightly (adjective)



Antonyms: A visual delight; A vision (both nouns)

Collocations: (Something is) A real eyesore; Something was/will be an eyesore

Example Sentence: The new steel and glass town hall is a real eyesore!

Word 4: Demolish (verb)

Meaning: To tear down a building, either for safety, to replace it or just because it is old.

Word Family: Demolition (noun); Demolished (adjective/passive verb)

Synonyms: Tear down; Pull down; Knock down; Flatten; Raze (all verbs)

Antonyms: Maintain; Preserve; Protect (all verbs)

Example Sentence: When the old, unsightly prison on the outskirts of the city was demolished, a great cheer went up amongst the local residents.

Word 5: Planning Permission (noun)

Meaning: The right, usually given by the local government, to construct a building in a specific location.

Synonyms: Building permit (noun)

Collocations: To get planning permission; To apply for planning permission; To be refused planning permission; To seek planning permission; To submit an application for planning permission; To require planning permission

Example Sentence: Now that property developers have to apply for planning permission before beginning construction, the local government can better control the appearance of the local area.

Word 6: Gothic (adjective)

Meaning: A classic, elaborate style of architecture from Europe, most popular between the 12th and 16th Century. Examples include Notre Dame cathedral in Paris.

Collocations: Gothic architecture; A gothic cathedral; A gothic building; A gothic church; A gothic castle; (Something was built) In the gothic style

Example Sentence: I loved exploring the gothic cathedrals when I went to Paris.



Word 7: Modernist (adjective)

Meaning: A type of architecture with heavy use of geometric shapes. A famous example is the Sydney Opera House.

Collocations: Modernist architecture; A modernist design; Modernist architects; Modernist artists

Example Sentence: While I do enjoy some modernist architecture, I find some of it a bit unsightly.

Word 8: Sticks out like a sore thumb (idiom, verb)

Meaning: Something that is very obviously different, often in a bad way, compared to the things around it.

Synonyms: To look out of place; To not match the/its surroundings (both verbs)

Antonyms: To match the/its surroundings; To blend in (both verbs)

Collocations: Something sticks out like a sore thumb; I stuck out like a sore thumb at + event

Example Sentence: I can't believe the government gave them planning permission. That futuristic building sticks out like a sore thumb amongst the gothic architecture all around it.

Word 9: Futuristic (noun)

Meaning: A type of architecture that tries to do something new, either visually or functionally (or both). Examples are 'vertical forests' or the Jeddah tower in Saudi Arabia.

Collocations: Futuristic buildings; Futuristic architecture; A futuristic feeling; A futuristic concept

Example Sentence: I prefer classical architecture in general, although I must admit that I find some futuristic buildings quite inspiring.

Word 10: Iconic (adjective)

Meaning: Something widely recognized or famous, and usually admired by people. Often is an example of a particular style.

Word Family: Icon (noun, usually person)

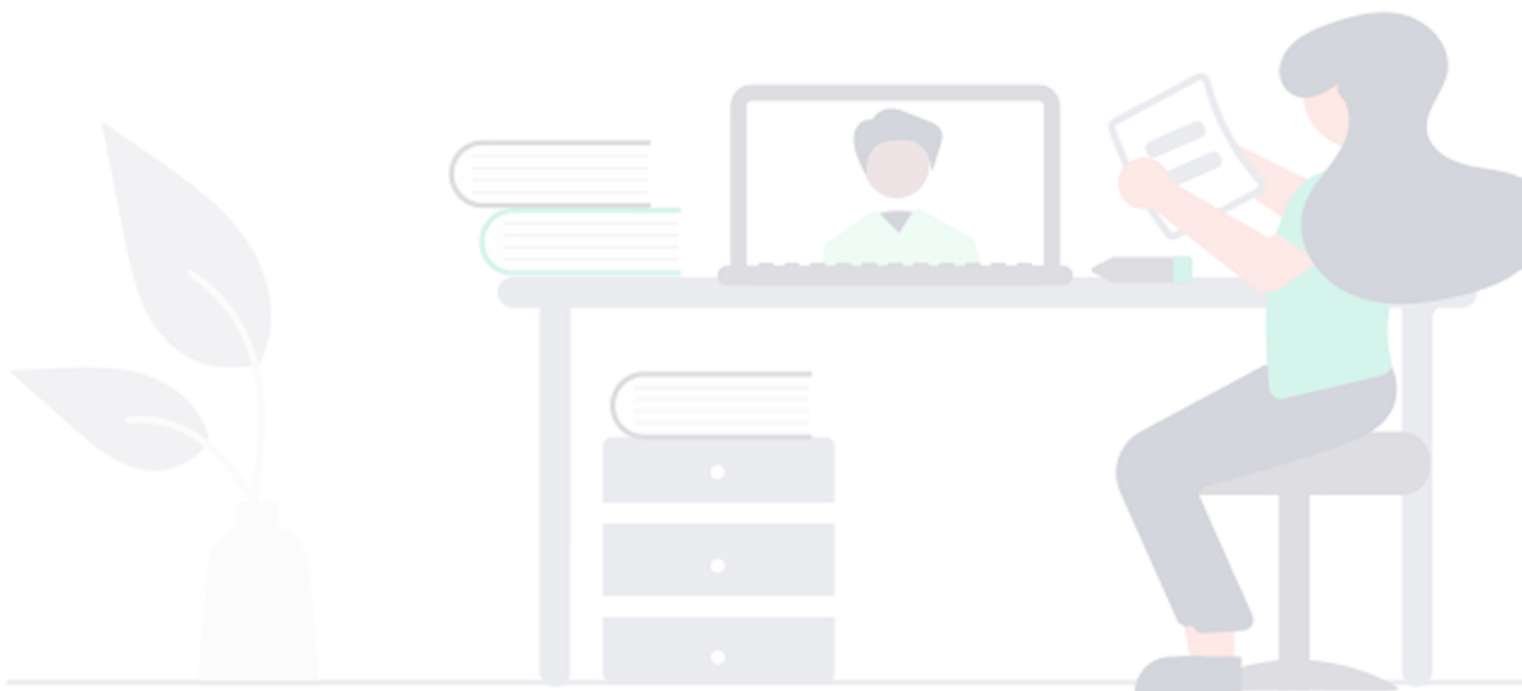


Synonyms: Famous; Respected; Noted; Recognisable; Archetypal (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Unknown; Unimportant (both adjectives)

Collocations: Iconic status; To achieve/gain iconic status; An iconic image; An iconic building; An iconic piece of work; An iconic representation of + style of architecture

Example Sentence: Part of my plan for visiting any city is to check out any iconic buildings they have.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Art

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Abstract (adjective)

Meaning: Type of art that doesn't show the literal object. It uses shapes, colors and other techniques to achieve an effect.

Synonyms: Conceptual (adjective)

Antonyms: Realistic; Representational; Photorealistic (all adjectives)

Collocations: Abstract art; Abstract concepts; An abstract painter; Abstract paintings

Example Sentence: I'm more interested in abstract art than more photorealistic work.

Word 2: (A) Watercolour (adjective/noun)

Meaning: A type of paint or painting style that is based in water rather than oil.

Antonyms: Oil Painting; Sketch; Ink Painting

Collocations: Watercolour painting; A watercolour of a + subject of painting (e.g. sunset)

Example Sentence (Noun): I saw some beautiful watercolours of old buildings in the art gallery in Amsterdam.

Example Sentence (Adj): I would love to learn how to create watercolour paintings.

Word 3: Sculpture (noun)

Meaning: A work of art produced by shaping a material e.g. clay, stone, wood, metal.

Word Family: Sculptor (noun, person who sculpts); To sculpt (verb); Sculptured (adj)

Synonyms: Statue (but only of people/animal and made with metal or stone – so more limited).



Example Sentence: I took sculpture classes in college but I never sculpt these days.

Word 4: A still life (noun)

Meaning: A type of painting depicting an inanimate object e.g. flowers, books

Antonyms: Portrait; Landscape (both nouns)

Example Sentence: The guide at the art gallery showed me an amazing still life called *Vase with Fifteen Sunflowers* by Van Gogh.

Word 5: Masterpiece (noun)

Meaning: A very high-quality piece of art that is praised by the public, and/or usually is an artist's best work.

Synonyms: Magnum opus; Masterwork; A wonder; A triumph (all nouns)

Antonym: A failure; A dud; A turkey (all nouns)

Collocations: (Something is) An absolute masterpiece; (Something is) his/her masterpiece; To be hailed as a masterpiece; (Something is) a real masterpiece.

Example Sentence: Although the Mona Lisa has been hailed as a masterpiece, Leonardo da Vinci didn't consider it his finest piece of work.

Word 6: To depict (verb)

Meaning: Represent a person/animal/object in a piece of art.

Word Family: Depiction (noun); To be depicted (adjective/passive verb)

Synonyms: Portray; Render; Represent; Display (all verbs)

Example Sentence: In her paintings, she often depicts scenes of strong human emotion.

Word 7: Impenetrable (adjective)

Meaning: Very hard to understand or enjoy.



Synonyms: Inaccessible; Baffling; Unclear; Opaque (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Accessible; Approachable (all adjectives)

Collocations: Somewhat impenetrable; Completely impenetrable; (To be) impenetrable to someone

Example Sentence: I must admit that I find a lot of abstract art completely impenetrable.

Word 8: Interpretation (noun)

Meaning: The meaning that a person gets from something e.g. a piece of art.

Word Family: To interpret (verb); Interpreter (person, usually used for translation)

Synonyms: A reading of something; An understanding of something; A take on something

Collocations: My interpretation of something is...; (Something is) Open to interpretation; A literal interpretation; More than one interpretation.

Example Sentence: While I agree that there can be more than one interpretation of this piece of work, my interpretation of it is that it shows the struggles of life.

Word 9: Motor skills (noun)

Meaning: Skills related to using hands and fingers in a specific way.

Synonyms: (Manual) Dexterity; Nimbleness (both nouns)

Collocations: Fine motor skills; The development of motor skills

Example Sentence: Studying art is a great way for children to develop fine motor skills.

Word 10: Innovative (adjective)

Meaning: To be creative and try to create new things/ideas.

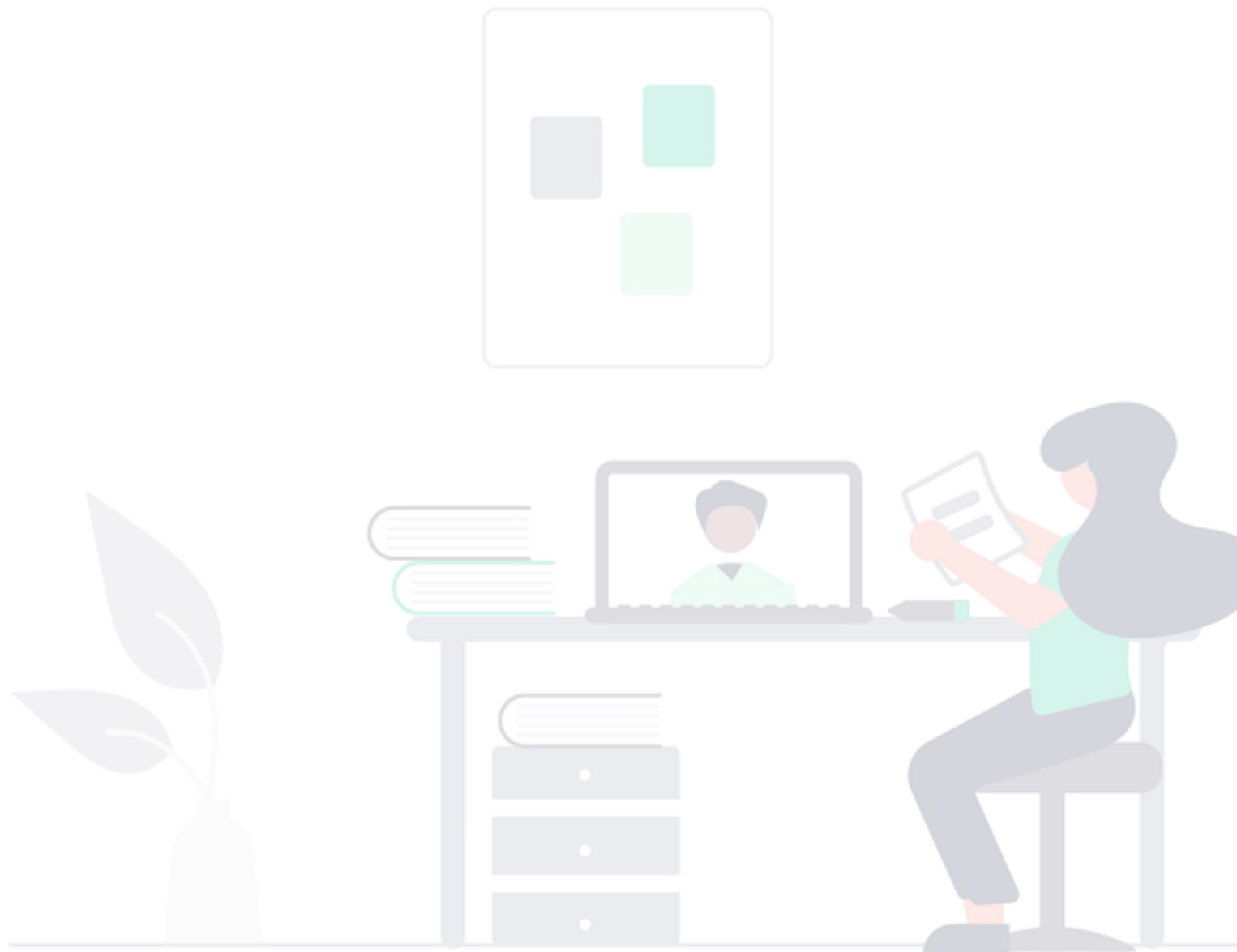
Word Family: Innovation (noun, the new thing); Innovator (noun, person); To innovate (verb)

Synonyms: Creative; Inventive; Original; Ingenious (all adjs)

Antonyms: Repetitive; Monotonous (both adjs)

Collocations: Innovative design; To be/Being innovative

Example Sentence: Parents should offer praise to children when they are being innovative, in order to encourage the same behaviour in the future.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Birthdays

Vocabulary List

Word 1: The center of attention (noun)

Meaning: A situation when lots of people are paying attention to one person.

Synonyms: The focus of attention (also noun)

Antonyms: Unimportant; Ignored; Overlooked (all adjectives)

Collocations: To like being the center of attention; To want to be the center of attention; To hate being the center of attention; To avoid being the center of attention; To try to be the center of attention

Example Sentence: I liked being the center of attention at my birthday parties, because everyone had to do what I wanted!

Word 2: To turn + age (verb)

Meaning: To reach or pass a certain age.

Synonym: To reach + age; To pass + age

Collocations: Someone is going to turn (+ age) tomorrow/next week/next month; Someone turned (+ age) yesterday/last week/last month; When I turn + age, I want to ...

Example Sentence: I remember having a great birthday party when I turned 11.

Word 3: The birthday boy/girl (noun)

Meaning: The person (usually child) who is celebrating their birthday.

Collocations: It's up to the birthday boy; It's the birthday boy's decision; To let the birthday boy decide; To say hello to the birthday boy; To wish the birthday boy a happy birthday

Example Sentence: These days, the birthday girl or boy will receive all kinds of gifts from different people.



Word 4: Low-key (adjective)

Meaning: Describes an event that has few people or a low level of noise, excitement or expense.

Synonyms: Restrained; Modest; Understated; Low-profile; Discreet (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Ostentatious; Extravagant; Loud; Flamboyant; Fancy (all adjectives)

Collocations: To keep it/something low-key; A low-key event; A low-key affair; A low-key approach to something

Example Sentence: These days, I still celebrate my birthday but I prefer to keep it a bit more low-key than when I was in my 20s!

Word 5: To wrap (verb)

Meaning: To cover something (usually a gift) in paper. Often brightly coloured or attractive paper.

Word Family: Wrapping/Wrapping paper (noun); Wrapped / Wrapped up (adjective)

Antonym: To unwrap something; To open something (both verbs)

Collocations: Beautifully wrapped; To wrap a present/gift; To tear off the wrapping paper

Example Sentence: My parents always gave me a gift that was beautifully wrapped in bright blue wrapping paper, and I found it so exciting!

Word 6: A surprise party (noun)

Meaning: A party that the centre of attention (e.g. the birthday girl) didn't know was happening.

Antonyms: A planned party (noun)

Collocations: To organize a surprise party; To plan a surprise party; To hold a surprise party; To find out about a surprise party; To be invited / to invite someone to a surprise party; To keep a surprise party secret (from someone); To celebrate something with a surprise party



Example Sentence: My friends organized a surprise party for me when I turned 18.

Word 7: Get-together (noun)

Meaning: A small party or event where several people (usually less than 20) come together to celebrate something.

Synonyms: Gathering; Small party (both nouns); Reunion (noun, but with feeling of being after a long time without seeing someone)

Antonyms: A blowout; A huge birthday bash (both nouns)

Collocations: A small/little get-together; A quiet get-together; To have a get-together; To organise a get-together; A family get-together; A get-together of/with old friends

Example Sentence: These days, I tend to have a little get-together with some close friends to celebrate my birthday.

Word 8: Decorate (verb)

Meaning: To make something (a cake, a house) look attractive by adding some extra items.

Word Family: Decorations (noun); Decorative (adjective)

Collocations: Decorate the house; Decorate a cake with something (e.g. icing/frosting); To be in charge of decorating (somewhere/something)

Example Sentence: For my birthday, my parents would always decorate the apartment with balloons and a huge banner saying 'Happy Birthday!'

Word 9: Make a birthday wish (phrasal verb)

Meaning: A tradition where the birthday boy/girl makes a secret wish in their head before blowing out the candles on the birthday cake.

Synonyms: To wish for something (verb)

Collocations: (To make) A special birthday wish; (To make) A secret birthday wish; To make a birthday wish about something

Example Sentence: I remember that my parents could always guess what I had made my birthday wish about. I don't know how they always knew!



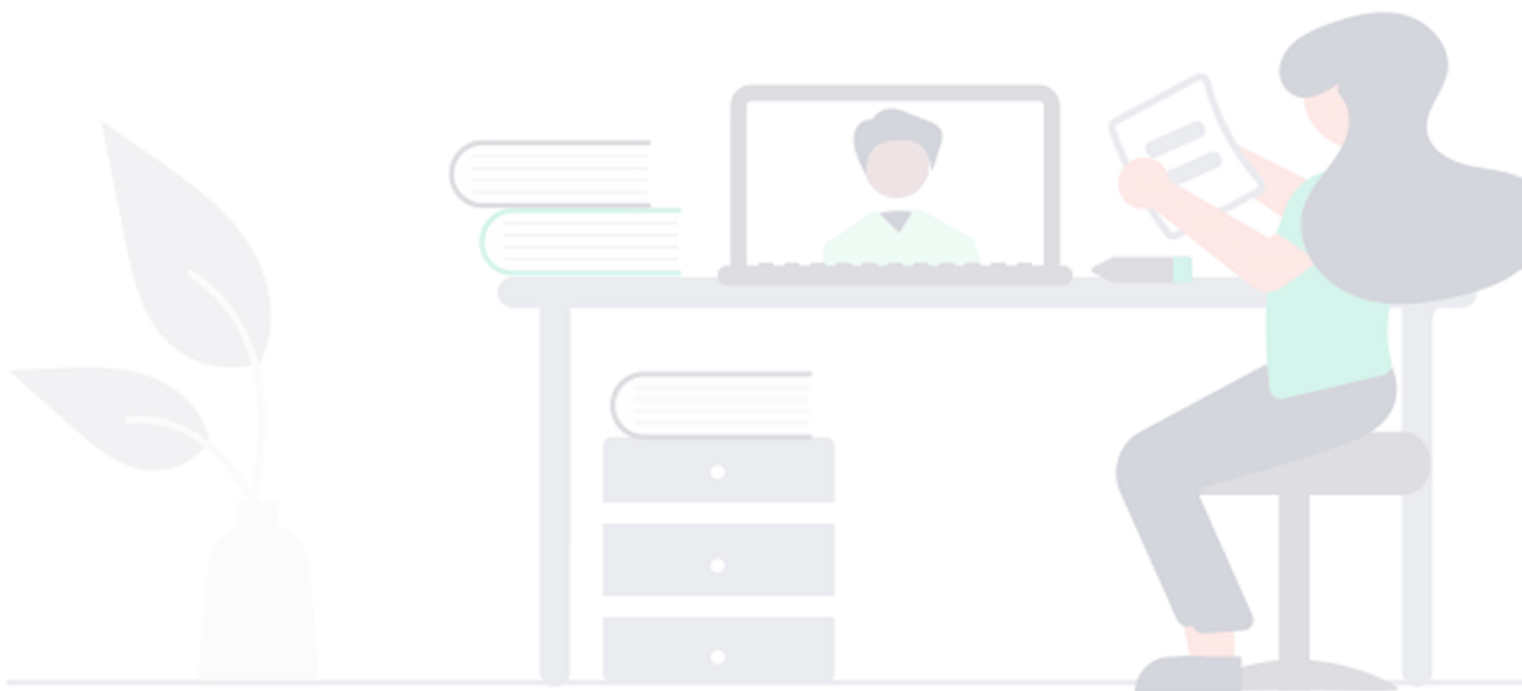
Word 10: Blow out the candles (phrasal verb)

Meaning: A tradition where the birthday boy/girl is the only person who can use their mouth to blow out the candles on top of a birthday cake.

Antonyms: To light the candles (verb)

Collocations: Blow out all the candles in one go; To blow out half the candles; To blow out one candle

Example Sentence: Blowing out the candles was always my favorite part of my birthday when I was young.





Advanced English Vocabulary - Business

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Value for money (noun)

Meaning: The quality level of a product compared to its price. Technically is neutral, but 'value for money' is often used to mean 'good value for money'.

Synonyms (good value for money): Good value; Reasonable; Worth the money (both adjectives)

Synonyms (bad value for money): Overpriced;

Collocations: To offer value for money; Great/Outstanding/Exceptional value for money; Terrible value for money; Better/The best value for money; To provide value for money

Example Sentence: If a company offers exceptional value for money, they are likely to have plenty of customers.

Word 2: Entrepreneur (noun)

Meaning: Someone who starts or has started new companies.

Word Family: Entrepreneurial (adj)

Synonyms: Founder; Businessman; Businessperson; Mogul (all nouns)

Collocations: To have/need/show entrepreneurial spirit; A successful/famous entrepreneur; A serial entrepreneur; A visionary entrepreneur; A budding entrepreneur

Example Sentence: Visionary entrepreneurs like Jack Ma and Elon Musk have the power to change the world.

Word 3: The bottom line (noun)

Meaning: A company's profit (the money they make after costs are removed).

Synonyms: Net profit; Operating profit (nouns, used in more formal situations)

Antonyms: Operating costs; Running costs; Overheads (all nouns)



Collocations: To focus on the(ir) bottom line; To only care about the bottom line; To affect the bottom line; To improve the bottom line

Example Sentence: Companies which only focus on their bottom line often ignore their ethical and community responsibilities.

Word 4: Generate revenue (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To earn money for a company. Note – not the same as earning a salary for an individual. Also not the same as making a profit.

Word Family: Revenue Generation (noun)

Synonyms: Make money; Generate income (both phrasal verbs used in the same way)

Antonyms: Make a loss; Lose money (both phrasal verbs).

Collocations: The ability to generate revenue; The need to generate revenue

Example Sentence: New companies usually have to start generating revenue early on in order to be successful.

Word 5: Cut-throat (adjective). Note – sometimes written as cutthroat.

Meaning: A ruthless, fierce, intense situation.

Synonyms: Ruthless, Dog-eat-dog; Back-stabbing (all adjectives, used in the same way)

Antonyms: Inclusive; Compassionate (both adjectives)

Collocations: A cut-throat culture/environment/workplace/business/industry/competition.

Example Sentence: Some people enjoy the challenge of working in a cut-throat culture, whereas others prefer a more relaxed and compassionate environment.

Word 6: Cut costs (verb)

Meaning: To reduce the amount of money a company (or person) spends.

Word Family: Cost-cutting (noun, adjective)



Synonyms: Reduce costs; Cut expenditure; Reduce outlays; Cut spending (all verbs)

Antonyms: Waste money; Squander money (both negative verbs)

Collocations: Be under pressure to cut costs; The need to cut costs; Avoid cutting costs

Example Sentence: Many managers are under pressure to cut costs by making workers redundant.

Word 7: Rules and regulations (noun)

Meaning: Legal restrictions that a company faces e.g. not polluting the local area, or inside a company e.g. coming to work on time.

Collocations: Extensive rules and regulations; To be against all rules and regulations; To impose rules and regulations; To reduce rules and regulations; To follow rules and regulations

Example Sentence: The government can help companies to grow by reducing rules and regulations.

Word 8: Multinational corporation (noun)

Meaning: A large company with operations in many countries.

Synonyms: MNC; Multinational Company; Multinational Enterprise; Transnational Corporation (all nouns)

Antonyms: A local company; A national company; A domestic company (all nouns)

Example Sentence: Multinational corporations have a big responsibility to treat their employees well and protect the local areas in which they operate.

Word 9: A start-up / A start-up company (noun/adjective)

Meaning: A new company, often (but not always) associated with technology. Generally assumed to have the ability to grow quickly.

Synonyms: A new venture (noun)

Antonyms: An established company; An existing company (both nouns)



Collocations: To work for a start-up; To be the founder of a start-up; A small/new start-up; A fast-growing start-up; A tech(nology) start-up; An exciting/cool start-up

Example Sentence: People who work for fast-growing start-ups are often extremely busy, but the rewards could be enormous.

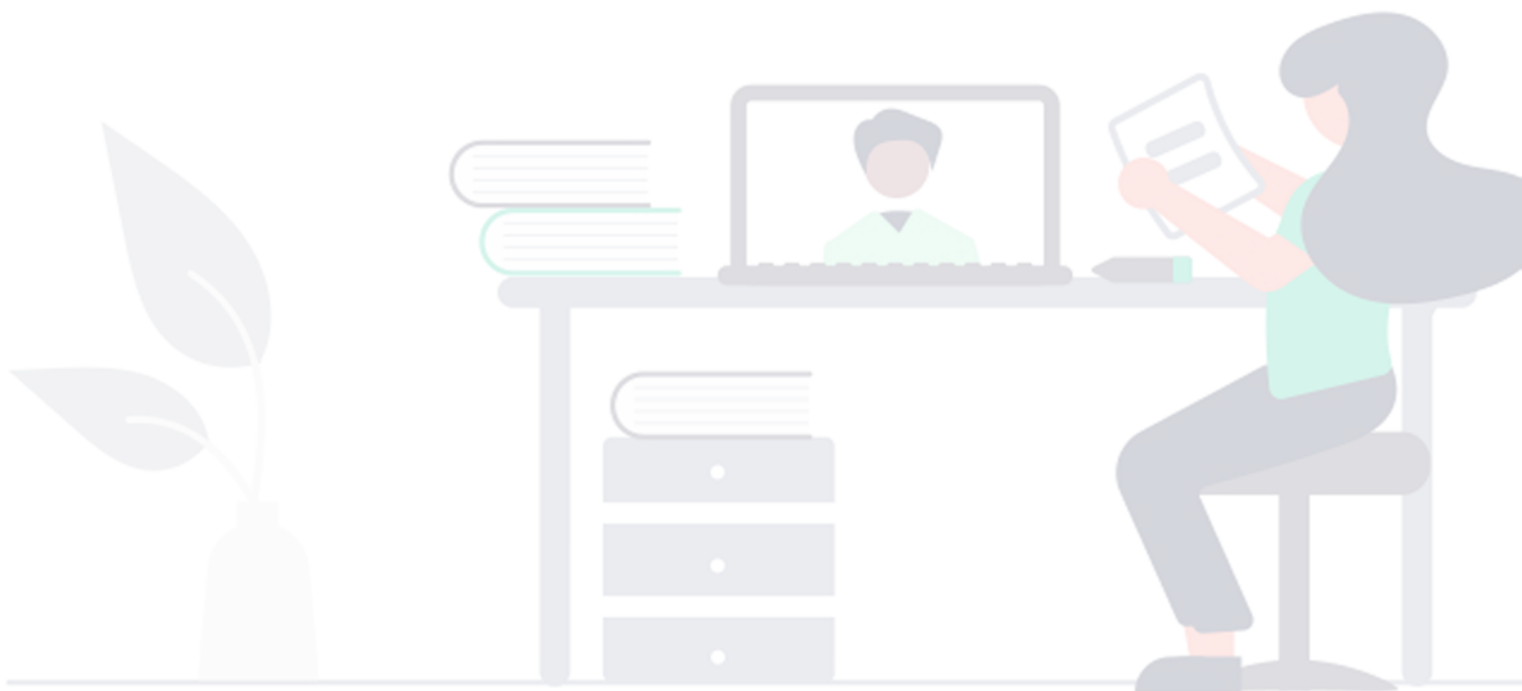
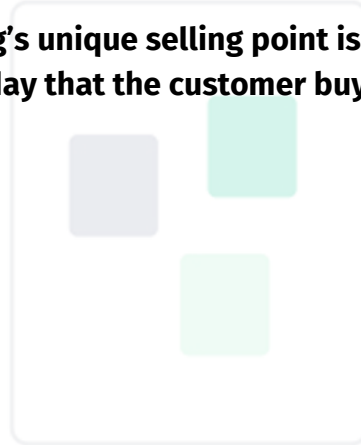
Word 10: Unique selling point (noun)

Meaning: A special characteristic of a company/product that can make it successful.

Synonyms: USP; Distinguishing feature; Competitive advantage; Point of difference (all nouns)

Collocations: A product's unique selling point; A powerful unique selling point; To find a unique selling point; A company's unique selling point

Example Sentence: JingDong's unique selling point is that they promise to deliver products the same day that the customer buys them.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Children

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Lenient (adjective)

Meaning: To allow people to break the rules without punishment, or avoid giving people strict rules.

Synonyms: Indulgent; Soft-hearted (both adjectives)

Antonyms: Strict; Disciplined; Severe (all adjectives)

Collocations: To be lenient with someone

Example Sentence: I think modern parents are often too lenient with their children.

Word 2: Obedient (adjective)

Meaning: Someone who usually follows the rules.

Synonyms: Dutiful; Deferential (both adjectives)

Antonyms: Disobedient; Rebellious; Unruly; Unmanageable (all adjectives)

Example Sentence: I was always very obedient as a child, whereas my sister was a lot more rebellious than me.

Word 3: To get away with something (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To avoid being punished for something wrong.

Synonyms: To escape; To avoid; To dodge (both verbs, all need to add something e.g. 'to escape punishment')

Antonyms: To get caught red-handed (phrasal verb)

Collocations: To get away with it; Get away with murder (murder = normal bad children's behaviour); To get away with anything

Example Sentence: My sister could get away with murder when we were growing up, but I was constantly getting caught red-handed.

Word 4: An only child (noun)



Meaning: A child that doesn't have siblings (brothers or sisters)

Antonyms: Sibling (noun)

Collocations: Only-child syndrome

Example Sentence: Someone who grows up as an only child is more likely to be spoilt.

Word 5: To raise someone to be (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To raise children in a specific way, usually a positive meaning.

Synonyms: To bring someone up to be...; To encourage someone to be... (both phrasal verbs)

Example Sentence: My parents raised me to be always polite and respectful with strangers.

Word 6: To drift apart (phrasal verb)

Meaning: Lose contact with someone gradually, over a long period of time.

Synonyms: To lose touch with...; (all verbs)

Antonyms: To keep in touch with...; To stay in touch with...;

Example Sentence: My friend Paul and I were great friends in high school, but we drifted apart after going to different universities.

Word 7: To look up to someone (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To admire someone, usually older. Mostly used by children or young adults.

Synonyms: To admire; To idolize; To respect (all verbs)

Antonyms: To mock; To disparage; To look down on someone; To turn one's nose up at someone (all verbs)

Example Sentence: Children look up to their parents and often follow in their footsteps.

Word 8: To follow in someone's footsteps (phrasal verb)



Meaning: To do the same thing as someone did before, usually related to jobs or studies.

Synonyms: To copy someone; To follow suit (both verbs)

Antonyms: To go it alone; To break free; To be original; To make one's own path (all verbs)

Collocations: Don't follow in my footsteps; I'm following in my mother/father's footsteps

Example Sentence: My mother is an artist, and when I was young, I wanted to follow in her footsteps.

Word 9: To go through a ____ phase (phrasal verb)

Meaning: Be very interested in something for a limited period of time, usually when young.

Synonyms: To be obsessed with...; To be really taken with...; To go through a ____ period (both verbs + add the area of interest)

Antonyms: To be unconcerned by... (verb)

Example Sentence: I remember that I went through a dinosaur phase when I was about seven years old.

Word 10: Upbringing (noun)

Meaning: The way that a child is raised.

Word Family: To bring up (verb)

Synonyms: Raising; Childhood (both nouns)

Collocations: A happy upbringing; A difficult upbringing; A conventional upbringing; A strict upbringing; (Something is) the result of someone's upbringing

Example Sentence: Behavioural problems suffered by adults are often the result of a difficult upbringing.



Advanced English Vocabulary – Clothes

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Outfit (noun)

Meaning: A collection of clothes worn together at one time.

Synonyms: A look (noun)

Collocations: New outfit; Someone's best outfit; Cute/great/fantastic outfit

Example Sentence: I generally spend a long time choosing my outfit before going to see my friends.

Word 2: To get dressed up (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To put on one's best clothes, often for a special occasion.

Antonyms: To throw something on; To just wear whatever; To dress down (all phrasal verbs)

Example Sentence: I very rarely get dressed up during the summer – most of the time, I just throw something on when I'm leaving the house.

Word 3: Presentable (adjective)

Meaning: To be dressed in an appropriate way, usually including wearing neat, clean clothes.

Synonyms: Well-groomed; Dapper (adjectives, usually for men); Elegant (adjective, usually for women); Smart (adjective for both)

Antonyms: Dishevelled; Shabby; Unkempt; Bedraggled; Slovenly (all adjectives)

Collocations: To make oneself presentable; Perfectly presentable (meaning = acceptable, not 100% perfect); To look presentable

Example Sentence: We can certainly learn about a person's character from whether they usually make themselves presentable or generally turn up looking dishevelled.

Word 4: A fashionista (noun)



Meaning: Someone who follows fashion and pays careful attention to their appearance, usually wearing the latest styles.

Synonyms: A follower of fashion; A trend-setter; A clothes horse (all nouns); Stylish; Fashionable (both adjectives)

Antonyms: Tasteless; Frumpy; Old-fashioned (all adjectives)

Example Sentence: I'm certainly no fashionista, but I do like to make myself presentable.

Word 5: Dress code (noun)

Meaning: The rules of what to wear at an event, including weddings, or in an organisation, including schools and companies.

Collocations: Strict dress code; To enforce the dress code; To violate the dress code; To ignore the dress code

Example Sentence: Traditional events, including weddings and funerals, tend to have a strict dress code in my country.

Word 6: Smart-casual (adjective)

Meaning: A type of clothing style or dress code that includes both smart and comfortable clothes. Neat and tidy but not too formal. Example – wearing a shirt and jeans.

Synonyms: Business casual; Semi-formal (both adjectives)

Antonyms: Black-tie (adjective, very formal); Casual (adjective, informal)

Collocations: A smart-casual look; A smart-casual outfit; A smart-casual dress code

Example Sentence: Modern companies often choose a smart-casual dress code rather than making their employees dress very formally every day.

Word 7: Accessories (noun)

Meaning: Small items that people wear, including bracelets, rings, and bags.

Word Family: To accessorise (verb)

Synonyms: Fashion accessory (noun)



Collocations: A perfect accessory; Matching accessories; A range of accessories

Example Sentence: I try to find the perfect accessories to go with my outfit.

Word 8: Metrosexual (noun, adjective)

Meaning: A heterosexual man who enjoys shopping, fashion and grooming.

Antonyms: Macho (adjective)

Example Sentence: Many men these days are considered to be metrosexuals, given their strong interest in fashion and grooming.

Word 9: Leisure wear (noun)

Meaning: Comfortable clothes that are informal, and often worn around the house or for doing exercise.

Synonyms: Casual wear; Sports clothes; Active wear (all nouns)

Antonyms: A suit; Formal wear; Formal attire (all nouns)

Example Sentence: I wouldn't go out in leisure wear, but I wear it all the time at home.

Word 10: Designer (adjective)

Meaning: From a famous/expensive brand, either of clothing or accessories.

Synonyms: Branded (adjective)

Antonyms: Off-brand; Off-the-rack (adjectives)

Collocations: Designer clothes; Designer label; Designer + product (e.g. glasses, watch, bag)

Example Sentence: I would love to buy designer clothes but, sadly, they are usually out of my price range.



Advanced English Vocabulary – Communication

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Chew the fat (idiom, verb)

Meaning: To have a long, informal (and probably unimportant) conversation with someone close e.g. friend, family, colleague, classmate.

Synonyms: Chitchat; Shoot the breeze (both verbs)

Collocations: To hang around chewing the fat; To chew the fat with someone; To always find time to chew the fat

Example Sentence: I spend most of every Sunday chewing the fat with my friends.

Word 2: Beat around the bush (idiom, verb)

Meaning: To talk in a way that avoids getting to the point or crucial information. Often used in the negative.

Synonyms: To waffle; To ramble on (both verbs)

Antonyms: To get straight to the point; To get to it; To talk directly; To talk plainly; To cut to the chase (all verbs)

Collocations: Let's not beat around the bush; Stop beating around the bush and tell me; I don't want to beat around the bush; There's no sense beating around the bush; Someone never beats around the bush

Example Sentence: My old boss was a very direct communicator – he never beat around the bush, and he didn't accept other people beating around the bush either!

Word 3: Confrontational (adjective)

Meaning: An attitude or way of speaking that is direct and aggressive.

Word Family: To confront (verb); Confrontation (noun); Confrontationally (adverb)

Synonyms: Aggressive; Adversarial; Antagonistic; Belligerent (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Compromising; Gentle; Passive; Agreeable (all adjectives)



Collocations: A confrontational style of communicating/communication; (To be) Overly confrontational; Too confrontational for my tastes; Openly confrontational; A confrontational speech; A confrontational tone

Example Sentence: His confrontational style is often a little too direct for his colleagues.

Word 4: In your face (idiom, adjective, informal)

Meaning: Aggressive and direct manner of communicating or behaving.

Synonyms: Confrontational; Aggressive; Adversarial; Antagonistic; Belligerent (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Compromising; Gentle; Passive; Agreeable (all adjectives)

Collocations: To get in your face; Very in your face; Rather in your face; To be in your face; An in your face style of communicating; In your face approach

Example Sentence: My style of leadership could definitely be described as in your face.

Word 5: Passive-aggressive (adjective)

Meaning: Someone who is aggressive or confrontational in an indirect way.

Example – Person A dislikes your idea, but doesn't say it out loud. Instead, they say that they agree with it, but then work against your idea (e.g. by arriving late or deliberately failing to complete tasks)

Collocations: Annoyingly passive-aggressive; A passive-aggressive way of behaving; Passive-aggressive behaviour; (To have) A passive-aggressive relationship with someone; To be really passive-aggressive all the time

Example Sentence: I hate dealing with Sarah – she is always so passive-aggressive.

Word 6: Catch up (Verb)

Meaning: To meet someone after a period of time apart, and talk with them about what has happened since the last meeting. Usually used by friends/family, but can also be in business.

Word Family: A catch-up (noun)



Synonyms: A reunion (noun)

Collocations (verb): To catch up with + person; Let's catch up soon; We need to catch up; I'll catch up with you later

Collocations (noun): I'd love to find time for a catch-up; A good old catch-up; A nice catch-up; To have a catch-up with someone

Example Sentence: I try to find time for a catch-up with my old high-school friends whenever I visit my hometown.

Word 7: Interpersonal relationships (noun)

Meaning: A relationship between two people. Can be family/friends/colleagues/other situations. Usually used in plural to describe someone's relationships in general.

Synonyms: Social relationships (noun)

Collocations: To handle/manage interpersonal relationships; To be adept at handling interpersonal relationships; To struggle with interpersonal relationships; To be great at interpersonal relationships; To be open in one's interpersonal relationships; To be reserved/closed in one's interpersonal relationships; To improve one's interpersonal relationships

Example Sentence: Communication is a critical tool in managing and improving your interpersonal relationships.

Word 8: Body language (noun)

Meaning: The use of physical signs and signals as a form of communication. Can be deliberate or unintentional.

Synonyms: Mannerisms; Gestures; Subtle physical movements (all nouns)

Antonyms: Verbal communication; Oral communication; Written communication; The spoken word; The written word (all nouns)

Collocations: To rely on body language; To use body language; To struggle with body language; To understand body language; To relay a message through body language; To communicate through body language; To pay attention to someone's body language; To ignore someone's body language; To tell something from someone's body language; To tell from someone's body language that + logical conclusion



Example Sentence: He said that he agreed with the idea, but I could tell from his body language that he was disappointed.

Word 9: Drop someone a line (phrasal verb, informal)

Meaning: To contact someone, often after a period of no contact (or for the first time)

Synonyms: To reach out to someone; To make contact with someone (both verbs)

Collocations: Drop me a line when + specific time (e.g. you arrive); Drop me a line if + specific situation (e.g. you need help); To try to drop someone a line; To forget to drop someone a line

Example Sentence: I like to keep in touch with my old friends, so I try to drop them a line whenever I have free time.

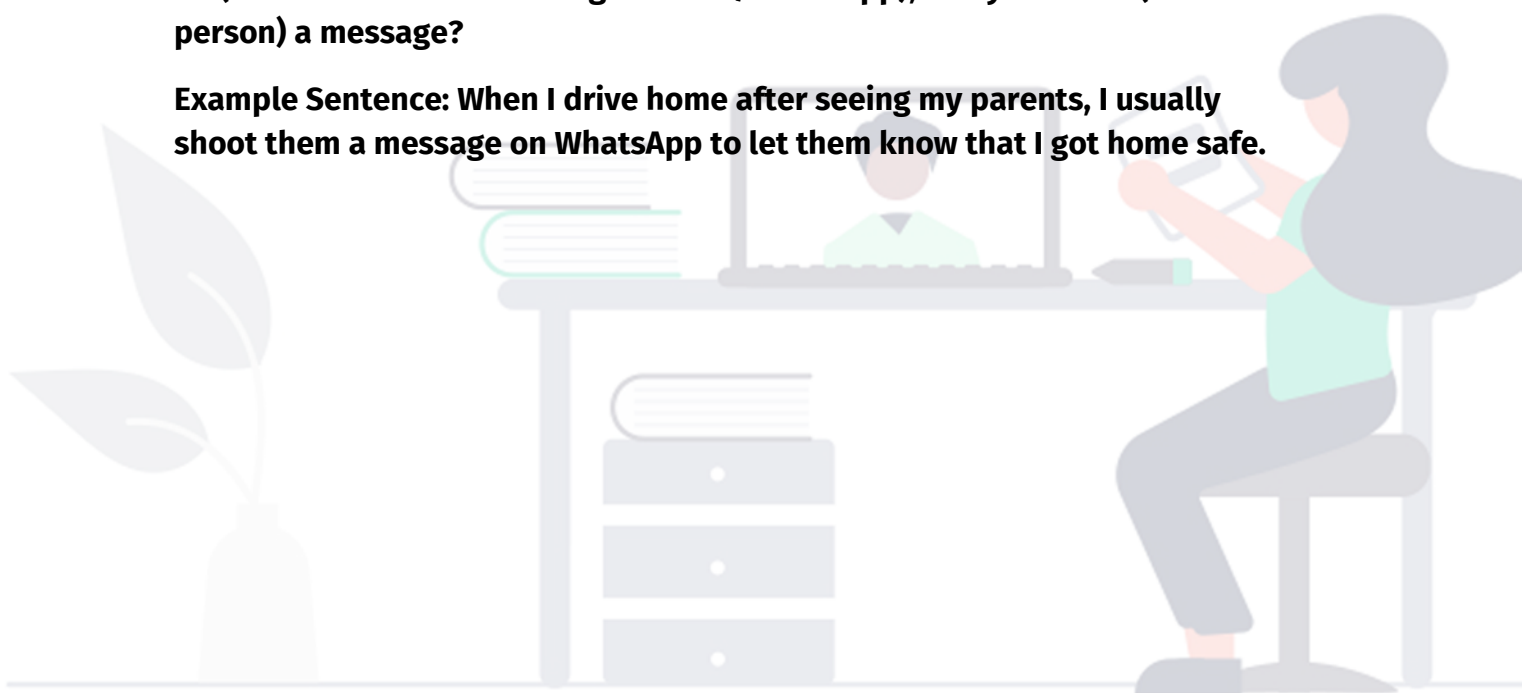
Word 10: Shoot someone a message (phrasal verb, informal)

Meaning: Send a message to someone (by email or social media). Usually done casually or quickly, without lots of planning.

Synonyms: Send someone a message; Contact someone (both verbs)

Collocations: I'll just shoot (+ person) a message; Shoot someone a message on (+name of social media e.g. WeChat/WhatsApp); Can you shoot (+ person) a message?

Example Sentence: When I drive home after seeing my parents, I usually shoot them a message on WhatsApp to let them know that I got home safe.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Cooking

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Fussy eater (noun)

Meaning: Someone who chooses what they eat very carefully and doesn't like/won't eat a lot of different food types.

Synonyms: Picky; Particular; Selective; Choosy; Fastidious (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Easy-to-please, indiscriminate (both adjectives)

Example Sentence: I'm not a fussy eater at all – I'll eat anything!

Word 2: Repertoire (noun)

Meaning: A selection of skills that someone has, for example in which dishes they can cook.

Synonyms: Wheelhouse; Range (both nouns)

Collocations: A wide/extensive repertoire; A narrow/limited repertoire; Something is/isn't in my repertoire; To add (something) to one's repertoire.

Example Sentence: I like cooking but I have a pretty limited repertoire of dishes that I can cook.

Word 3: Ready meal (noun)

Meaning: A meal prepared by the manufacturer and sold with only reheating needed before eating.

Synonyms: Microwave meal; TV dinner (both nouns)

Antonyms: To cook something from scratch (phrasal verb)

Collocations: Pop a ready meal in the microwave

Example Sentence: Many people don't have the energy to cook their dinner from scratch, and choose ready meals instead.

Word 4: Follow a recipe (Phrasal verb)



Meaning: To make a meal by reading a cooking recipe and following the steps.

Antonyms: To get creative; To make it up as I go along; To improvise (all verbs)

Collocations: To vaguely follow a recipe; To follow a recipe to the letter

Example Sentence: I generally tend to get creative in the kitchen, because I can't stand following recipes.

Word 5: Fry (verb)

Meaning: Cook in oil/fat, usually at a high heat.

Word Family: Fried (adj)

Synonyms: Sautee (verb)

Collocations: To deep-fry; To shallow-fry; To pan-fry; To stir-fry

Example Sentence: The first step is always to shallow-fry some onions and garlic.

Word 6: Chop (verb)

Meaning: To cut something into pieces with a knife

Word Family: Chopped (passive verb, adjective)

Synonyms: Dice; Cut up (both verbs)

Collocations: To roughly chop; To finely chop; To chop something into pieces/cubes/chunks; To chop up something

Example Sentence: The next step is to roughly chop some carrots and other vegetables.

Word 7: Cuisine (noun)

Meaning: A type of food or cooking, usually specific to a place. e.g. Indian cuisine.

Synonyms: Cooking style (noun)



Collocations: The local cuisine; To be famous/renowned for one's cuisine;
Nationality + cuisine (e.g. French cuisine; Chinese cuisine)

Example Sentence: The local cuisine in my area includes a lot of deep-fried food.

Word 8: Specialty (noun)

Meaning: A special dish or cuisine you can cook well, or the dish you cook best.

Synonyms: Forte; Strong suit (both nouns, but only used when talking about a cuisine or style of cooking, not a specific dish)

Antonyms: Weak point; Weakness (both nouns); Not my strong suit (adjective)

Collocations: Something is someone's specialty; Someone's specialty is...

Example Sentence: When it comes to cooking, my specialty is definitely Chinese food, specifically stir-fries.

Word 9: Boil (verb)

Meaning: Cook something in water at a high heat, usually at the temperature that causes the water to bubble and turn into steam.

Antonyms: To simmer (verb)

Collocations: Bring something to the boil; To begin to boil; Put something on to boil; To boil something gently; To leave something boiling

Example Sentence: The third step is to put the vegetables into a pot of water and bring it to the boil.

Word 10: Home-cooked meals (noun)

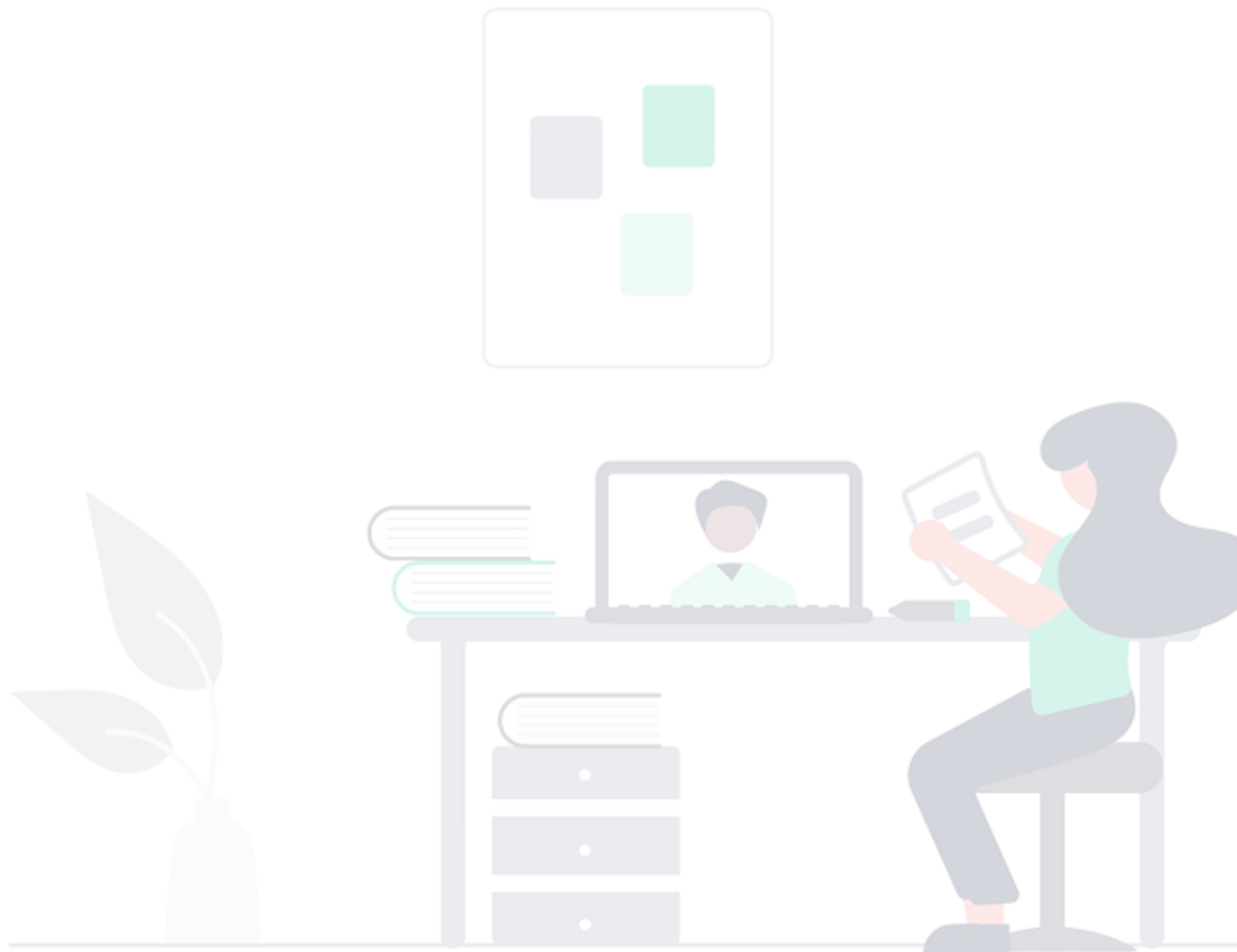
Meaning: A meal cooked at home (this phrase has very positive connotations in English)

Synonyms: Home cooking; Home-cooked food; My mum's/dad's cooking (all nouns)

Antonyms: Restaurant meals; Fast food; Take-out; Takeaway (all nouns); To eat out (verb)

Collocations: There's nothing like home-cooked meals/food

Example Sentence: I like to eat out occasionally, but for me, there's nothing like home-cooked meals, particularly if my grandma is cooking!





Advanced English Vocabulary– Crime and Punishment

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Lock someone up and throw away the key (phrasal verb)

Meaning: Put a criminal in prison for a long time, possibly forever.

Synonyms: A life sentence; Life in prison; A harsh sentence (all nouns)

Antonyms: A lenient sentence; A slap on the wrist (both nouns)

Example Sentence: I think we should lock drug dealers up and throw away the key.

Word 2: Rehabilitate (verb)

Meaning: Educate people to allow them to re-enter society successfully or become useful members of society.

Word Family: Rehabilitation (noun); Rehabilitated (adjective, passive verb)

Synonyms: Re-educate; Reintegrate (both verbs); Re-education; Reintegration (both nouns)

Collocations: To try/attempt to rehabilitate someone; Programmes to rehabilitate someone; To rehabilitate prisoners.

Example Sentence: Many people believe that we should rehabilitate prisoners to help them escape a life of crime in the future.

Word 3: Premeditated (adjective)

Meaning: Planned in advance, usually related to a crime or negative action.

Word Family: Premeditation (noun)

Synonyms: Planned; Deliberate; Intentional; Calculated; Cold-blooded (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Unintentional; Accidental (both adjectives)

Collocations: Premeditated murder; A premeditated crime; A premeditated assault

Example Sentence: We should have extremely strong sentences for premeditated crimes.



Word 4: A crime of passion (noun)

Meaning: A crime committed because of sudden strong emotions, and without planning.

Synonyms: Hot-blooded (adjective)

Antonyms: Premeditated; Deliberate; Intentional; Calculated; Cold-blooded (all adjectives)

Collocations: A deadly crime of passion; A violent crime of passion

Example Sentence: It is understandable to look differently on crimes of passion compared to deliberate and cold-blooded criminal acts.

Word 5: Commit + name of crime/negative action (phrasal verb)

Meaning: The official word for 'doing' a crime.

Synonyms: To carry out; To perpetrate (both verbs)

Collocations: Commit murder; Commit theft; Commit suicide; Commit assault; Commit fraud; Commit a white-collar crime; Commit arson; Commit bribery; Commit cyberbullying; Commit rape; Commit embezzlement; Commit blackmail

Example Sentence: He committed fraud and several white collar crimes, but escaped a harsh sentence.

Word 6: Convicted (adjective/passive verb)

Meaning: To be found guilty of a crime by a court

Word Family: A convict (noun, person); To convict (verb)

Synonyms: To be found guilty; To be guilty of something (both passive verbs)

Antonyms: To be cleared; To be acquitted; To be found not guilty (all passive verbs)

Collocations: To be convicted of + name of crime;

Example Sentence: People who are convicted of non-violent crimes often avoid serving time in prison.



Word 7: Organised crime (noun)

Meaning: Organisations formed/operated with the goal of breaking the law, usually in order to make money.

Synonyms: Mafia; Gangs; The underworld; The mob (noun)

Collocations: A part of organised crime; To fight/combat organised crime; To get involved in organised crime; To clamp down on organised crime; To be linked to organised crime

Example Sentence: In some countries, local politicians have been linked to organised crime.

Word 8: Community service (noun)

Meaning: An official punishment for crimes, where the convict helps in the community rather than going to prison.

Antonyms: Jail-time; Incarceration (both nouns)

Collocations: To be sentenced to (+ numbers of hours of) community service; To be ordered to perform (+ numbers of hours of) community service; To be given community service

Example Sentence: People guilty of minor crimes are often given community service instead of jail-time.

Word 9: Deterrent (noun)

Meaning: A way of discouraging or scaring people to stop them committing crimes.

Antonyms: An incentive; An encouragement; A reward (all nouns)

Collocations: Useful as a deterrent; An effective deterrent; A deterrent to others; To act as a deterrent to someone; To work as a deterrent

Example Sentence: The death penalty is rarely used, but acts as a useful deterrent to potential criminals.

Word 10: Juvenile detention center (noun)

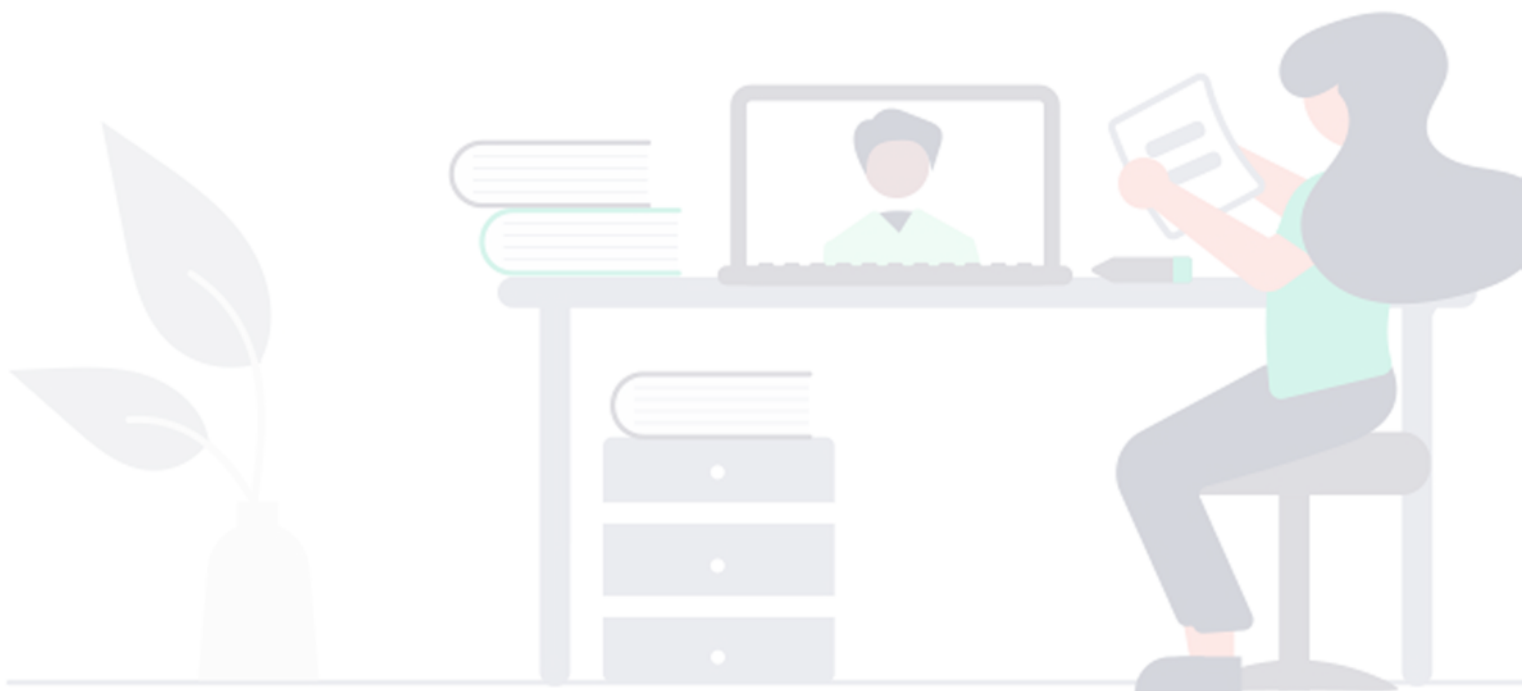


Meaning: A place that underage criminals are sent instead of going to an adult prison.

Synonyms: Youth detention center; Juvenile detention; Juvenile hall (all nouns)

Collocations: Shipped off to a juvenile detention center; To be sent to a juvenile detention center

Example Sentence: I don't think it's right to send underage criminals to prison alongside hardened adult prisoners. Instead, they should be sent to a juvenile detention center, where they can be rehabilitated.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Culture

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Globalization (noun)

Meaning: The spread of companies, products and cultures across the world.

Synonyms: Globalism (noun)

Antonyms: Localism; Nationalization; Protectionism (all nouns)

Example Sentence: Globalization has reduced the cultural differences between once-distant countries.

Word 2: Multicultural (adjective)

Meaning: A society or situation that includes people from several different ethnic or cultural backgrounds.

Synonyms: Multi-ethnic; Diverse; Heterogenous (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Monocultural; Homogenous (both adjectives)

Collocations: Multicultural society; Multicultural community; Multicultural perspective;

Example Sentence: One of the challenges of living in a multicultural society is learning to accept and tolerate very different lifestyles and customs.

Word 3: Integrate (verb)

Meaning: To join something (e.g. society/group) and adapt to the culture of the new situation.

Word Family: Integrated (adjective); Integration (noun)

Synonyms: To blend in; To assimilate (both verbs)

Antonyms: To stand out; To remain separate from (both verbs)

Collocations: To integrate into a society; To integrate with someone

Example Sentence: Some people are able to integrate into new societies, whereas others find it very difficult.



Word 4: Culture shock (noun)

Meaning: A feeling of anxiety, depression or confusion from being in a very different culture.

Collocations: To get/experience culture shock; To suffer from culture shock; A bit of a culture shock; Initial culture shock; A symptom of culture shock

Example Sentence: People who move abroad often suffer from culture shock in the first few weeks or months.

Word 5: Values (noun)

Meaning: The ethical or behavioural beliefs of a person, place or society.

Synonyms: Ethics; Beliefs; Morals; Standards (both nouns)

Collocations: To (dis)respect someone's values; To reject someone's values; To mock someone's values; A set of values; Defending one's values; Traditional family values

Example Sentence: The older generations in my country generally share a different set of values to the younger generations.

Word 6: Ritual (noun, adjective)

Meaning: An action or set of actions that is culturally or traditionally important.

Synonyms: Custom; Practice; Ceremony (all nouns)

Collocations: To perform a ritual; An elaborate ritual; A sacred ritual; An ancient ritual; Go through the ritual of + action (e.g. preparing/eating/creating); An important ritual; A daily ritual

Example Sentence: Older people often perform elaborate rituals when inviting guests into their homes.

Word 7: Heritage (noun)

Meaning: A series of traditions, values or customs shared by a group of people e.g. a country.

Synonyms: Traditions; Culture; History (both nouns)



Collocations: Something is part of our/that country's heritage; Chinese heritage (or British/American/other nationality heritage); Rich heritage; Our common heritage; Our national heritage; To take pride in one's heritage

Example Sentence: I believe that we should take pride in our heritage rather than trying to adopt the customs of other countries.

Word 8: Stereotype (noun)

Meaning: An oversimplified or completely incorrect idea about a group of people, usually negative and offensive.

Word Family: Stereotypical (adjective); Stereotypically (adverb); To be stereotyped (passive verb)

Antonyms: An accurate portrayal; A factual portrayal; An accurate representation (all nouns)

Collocations: To challenge a stereotype; To perpetuate a stereotype; A negative stereotype; A common stereotype; A harmful stereotype; An offensive stereotype

Example Sentence: People who live in the countryside are often portrayed as being backwards, but this is actually a rather offensive stereotype.

Word 9: Vibrant (adjective)

Meaning: Full of life, energy and activity.

Synonyms: Lively; Animated; Dynamic; Full of life (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Dull; Colourless; Lifeless; Lethargic (all adjectives)

Collocations: Vibrant society; Vibrant culture; Vibrant personality; Vibrant city

Example Sentence: Many of the cities across Latin American are really vibrant and full of life.

Word 10: Taboo (noun, adjective)

Meaning: An action that is considered completely unacceptable by a society.

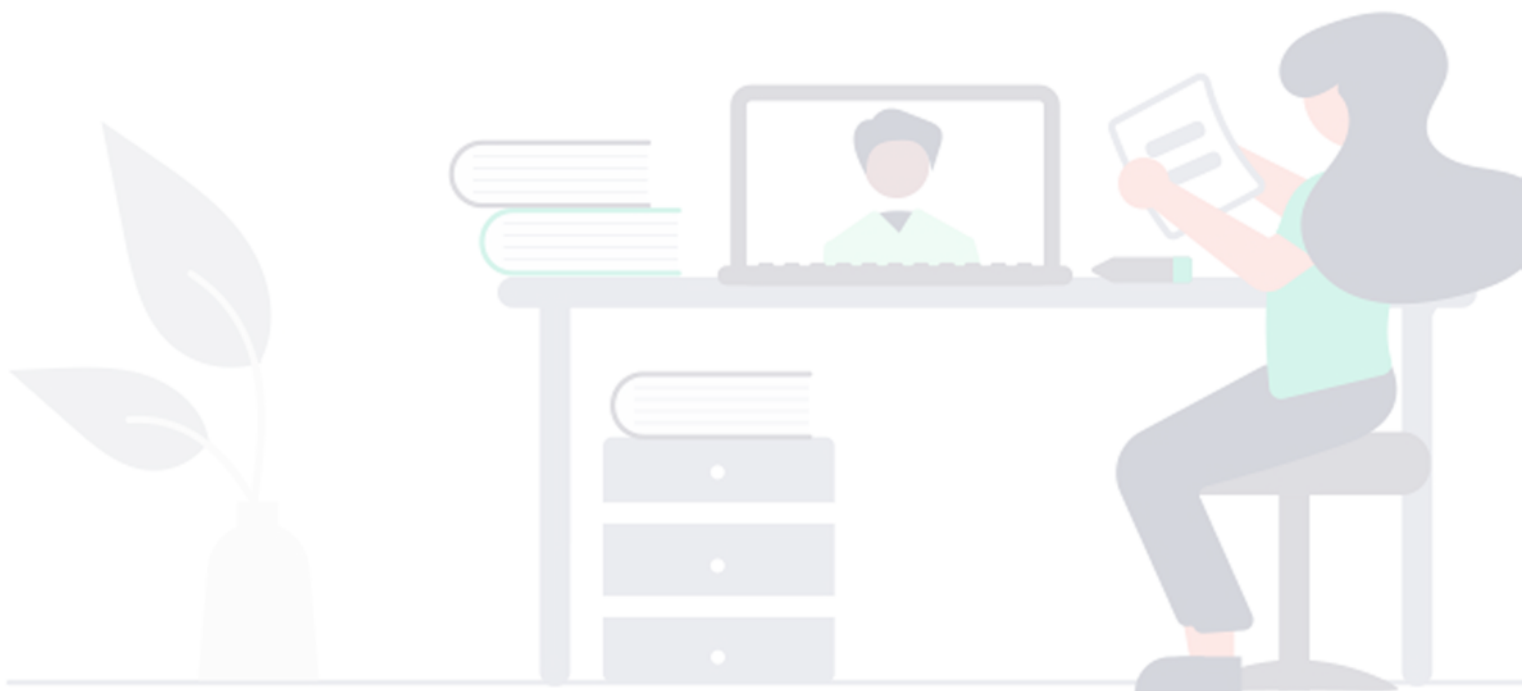


Synonyms: Faux-pas (noun, less strong feeling); Illicit; Forbidden (both adjectives)

Antonyms: Acceptable; Permitted (both adjectives)

Collocations: Something is considered taboo; To be/to remain something of a taboo; A taboo subject; Strictly taboo

Example Sentence: Actions that are considered taboo in some societies, like unmarried women having children, are perfectly acceptable in other parts of the world.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Daily Routine

Vocabulary List

Word 1: A morning person (noun)

Meaning: Someone who finds it easy and/or enjoyable to wake up early in the morning.

Synonyms: An early riser; An early bird (both nouns)

Antonyms: A night owl; A night person (all nouns)

Example Sentence: I'd love to be a morning person, but I'm actually more of a night owl.

Word 2: Get something out of the way (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To finish a task that is either difficult or unpleasant.

Synonyms: To finish something; To tackle something head on; To take care of something; To break the back of something (all phrasal verbs)

Antonyms: To let something hang over one (phrasal verb)

Example Sentence: When I know I've got something difficult to do, I like to get it out of the way as early as possible, because then I can relax and enjoy the day.

Word 3: Procrastinator (noun)

Meaning: A person who avoids necessary tasks and wastes time rather than completing the tasks.

Word Family: Procrastination (noun); To procrastinate (verb)

Synonyms: A dawdler; A dilly-dallier (both nouns, slightly old-fashioned)

Antonyms: A man/woman of action (noun); Self-disciplined (adjective)

Collocations: A chronic procrastinator

Example Sentence: I used to be a chronic procrastinator, but recently I've been controlling myself a lot better and getting tasks out of the way much earlier.



Word 4: Fit something in (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To find the time in the day to do something.

Synonyms: To squeeze something in; To make time for something; To find time for something (all phrasal verbs)

Antonyms: To run out of time (phrasal verb)

Collocations: To try to fit something in; To struggle to fit something in

Example Sentence: I'd like to find the time to exercise every day, but I really struggle to fit it into my schedule.

Word 5: (Take) a nap (noun)

Meaning: Have a short sleep in the middle of the day.

Synonyms: Have a (quick) snooze; Grab 40 winks (both verbs)

Antonyms: Power through; Push on (both verbs)

Collocations: A power nap; A well-earned nap; An afternoon nap; Put a baby down for their nap; A post-lunch nap

Example Sentence: I try to fit in a nap in the afternoon, but often I just have to power through.

Word 6: Pull an all-nighter (phrasal verb)

Meaning: Working or studying all through the night, usually to meet a deadline.

Synonyms: Burn the midnight oil; To stay up all night working/studying (both verbs)

Antonyms: Go to bed on time; Go to bed at a reasonable hour (both verbs)

Example Sentence: I usually try to get everything out of the way before bedtime, but occasionally I do have to pull an all-nighter.

Word 7: Multitask (verb)

Meaning: To do several tasks at the same time.



Word Family: Multitasker (noun, person); Multitasking (noun, action)

Synonyms: Juggle several things at once; Balance a number of things; Do things simultaneously (all verbs)

Antonyms: Focus on one thing (verb)

Collocations: To be good/bad at multitasking; The ability to multitask; To be able to multitask

Example Sentence: I'm not very good at multitasking so I generally tend to focus on one thing and try to finish it before moving onto the next one.

Word 8: Prioritize (verb)

Meaning: To consider one task more important than another, and/or do one task before another.

Word Family: Prioritization (noun, act of deciding which task is important); Priority (noun, the task that is important)

Synonyms: To arrange something in order of importance (phrasal verb)

Collocations: To learn to prioritize; To prioritize one's time; To prioritize the needs of someone; To prioritize one's goals; Something is someone's first priority

Example Sentence: I find that if I prioritize tasks that don't have a deadline, I still manage to fit in the tasks that do have a deadline as well. That way, I am able to finish everything.

Word 9: Crawl out of bed (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To find it difficult to wake up and get out of bed in the morning.

Synonyms: To struggle to wake up; To drag oneself out of bed; To force oneself to get up (all verbs)

Antonyms: To attack the day; To bounce out of bed (both verbs)

Example Sentence: Some people are able to bounce out of bed and attack the day, but as a night-owl, I always end up crawling out of bed and hating the world!

Word 10: Frame of mind (noun)

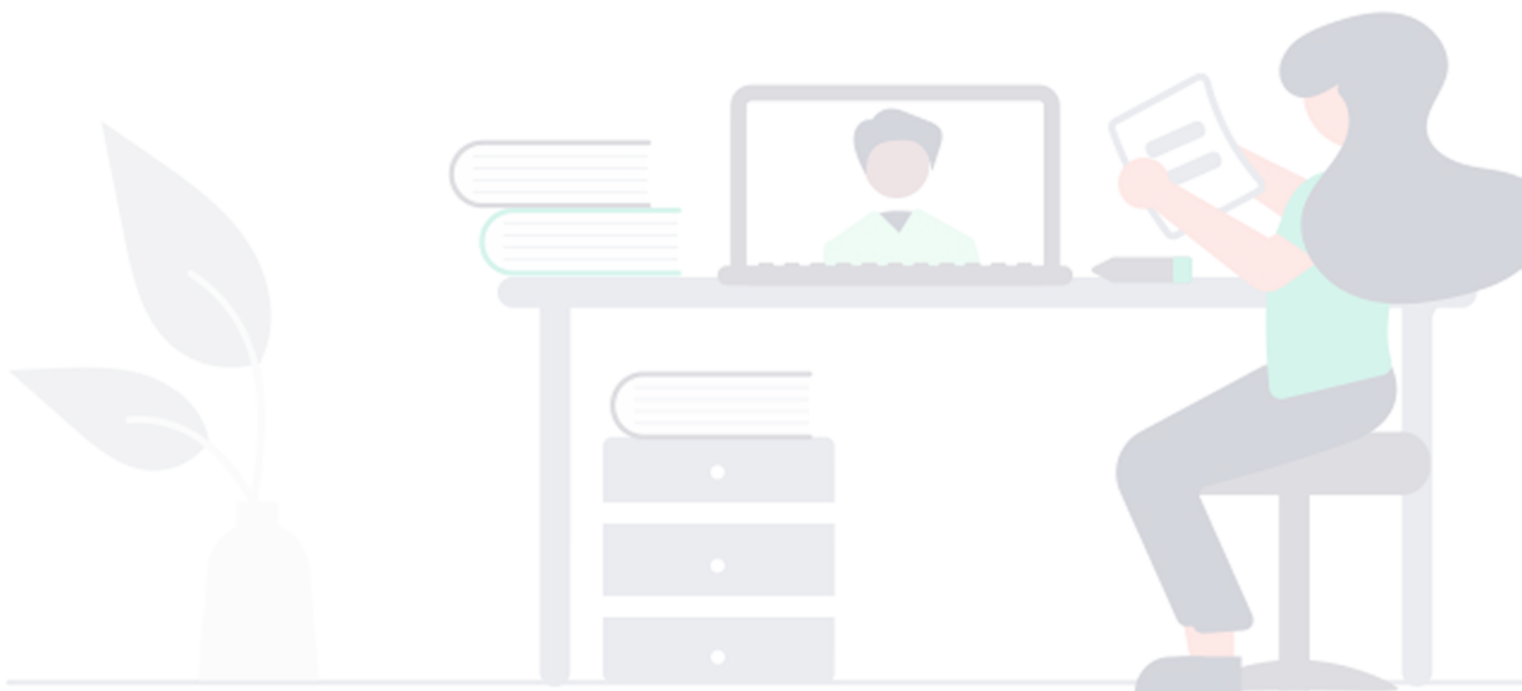


Meaning: A person's mental attitude at a particular time – neutral meaning.

Synonyms: Mindset; Mood (both nouns)

Collocations: Positive frame of mind; Negative frame of mind; The right frame of mind to do something; The wrong frame of mind to do something; A better/worse/happier frame of mind

Example Sentence: I find that spending ten minutes in the morning meditating always puts me in a positive frame of mind.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Economy

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Disposable income (noun)

Meaning: The money that people have left once they have paid for all their necessities.

Synonyms: Spending money; Spare cash; Discretionary income; Disposable personal income (all nouns)

Antonyms: Gross income (noun)

Example Sentence: The more disposable income people have, the more they will go out and spend money on luxuries.

Word 2: Public Spending (noun)

Meaning: The money spent by the government on public-related items e.g. hospital, roads, schools, military.

Synonyms: Government spending; Government expenditure; Public expenditure (all nouns)

Collocations: To increase public spending (on something); To cut/reduce public spending (on something); Limits on public spending; Public spending cuts; Total public spending; x% of public spending; Wasteful public spending; Crucial public spending; Massive public spending

Example Sentence: Many governments are considering increasing public spending on environmentally-friendly technology and projects.

Word 3: (The) Unemployment rate (noun)

Meaning: The number of people who don't have a job in a country.

Word Family: Unemployed (adjective)

Synonyms: The number of jobless; The total number of unemployed; The percentage of unemployed (all nouns)

Antonyms: Employment rate (noun)



Collocations: The unemployment rate rises/increases; The unemployment rate falls/decreases; Low unemployment rate; High unemployment rate

Example Sentence: One of the key responsibilities of any government is to maintain a low unemployment rate.

Word 4: Stimulate the economy (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To promote or encourage growth in the economy.

Word Family: Economic stimulus (noun)

Synonyms: To boost the economy; To stimulate growth (all phrasal verbs)

Antonyms: To discourage growth; To dampen growth; To damage the economy; To depress growth (all phrasal verbs)

Collocations: To try to stimulate the economy; A method of stimulating the economy; Something is likely/unlikely to stimulate the economy

Example Sentence: Some people claim that lower corporation tax rates can stimulate the economy by encouraging companies to make investments.

Word 5: Tax (noun, verb)

Meaning: Money paid to the government by individuals or companies.

Word Family: Taxation (noun – the level or action of taxing); Taxable (adjective – income or property that could be taxed)

Synonyms: Levy; Duty; Tariff (all nouns)

Types of Tax: Income tax (from a person's salary); Road tax (for people who drive cars); Corporation tax (tax paid on profits of a company); Inheritance tax (when parents pass down money or property to their children); Council tax / Local income tax (Tax paid to the local government for services like removing garbage); Capital Gains tax (tax paid by companies or individual when selling an asset that has increased in value); Wealth tax (tax paid by very rich individuals based on their overall level of wealth)

Collocations: A tax rise/increase; A tax cut; Tax evasion; Higher/lower rate of tax; An increase/decrease in _____ tax; Introduce a _____ tax

Example Sentence: One solution could be to pay for the necessary services by introducing a wealth tax on the richest 1% of the population.



Word 6: Recession (noun)

Meaning: A period of time when the economy of a country stops growing and/or starts to shrink.

Synonyms: Economic contraction; Economic downturn; Economic slowdown; Bear market

Antonyms: Bull market; Period of growth; Economic boom; Economic upturn

Example Sentence: Poor economic decisions by a government can lead to a recession.

Word 7: Tax avoidance (noun)

Meaning: Reducing the tax you have to pay through legal methods.

Word Family: To avoid taxes (verb)

Synonyms: Tax dodging (noun, legal or illegal); Tax fraud; Tax evasion (both nouns, illegal)

Antonyms: Paying tax (verb); Tax contributions (noun)

Collocations: To prevent tax avoidance; To discourage tax avoidance; To tackle tax avoidance; (To employ) A tax avoidance strategy

Example Sentence: Large multinational corporations like Amazon are particularly good at employing tax avoidance strategies.

Word 8: Live beyond one's means (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To spend more money than you make.

Synonyms: A spendthrift (noun)

Antonyms: To live within one's means (phrasal verb)

Example Sentence: People who live beyond their means run the risk of getting into inescapable debt.

Word 9: Live hand to mouth (phrasal verb)

Meaning: Having just enough money to live and nothing extra, no disposable income.



Synonyms: (To struggle) To make ends meet; Living from day to day; To live a subsistence lifestyle (all phrasal verbs)

Antonyms: Financially secure; Financially stable (adjectives)

Example Sentence: The government should attempt to help people who are living hand to mouth to become more financially secure.

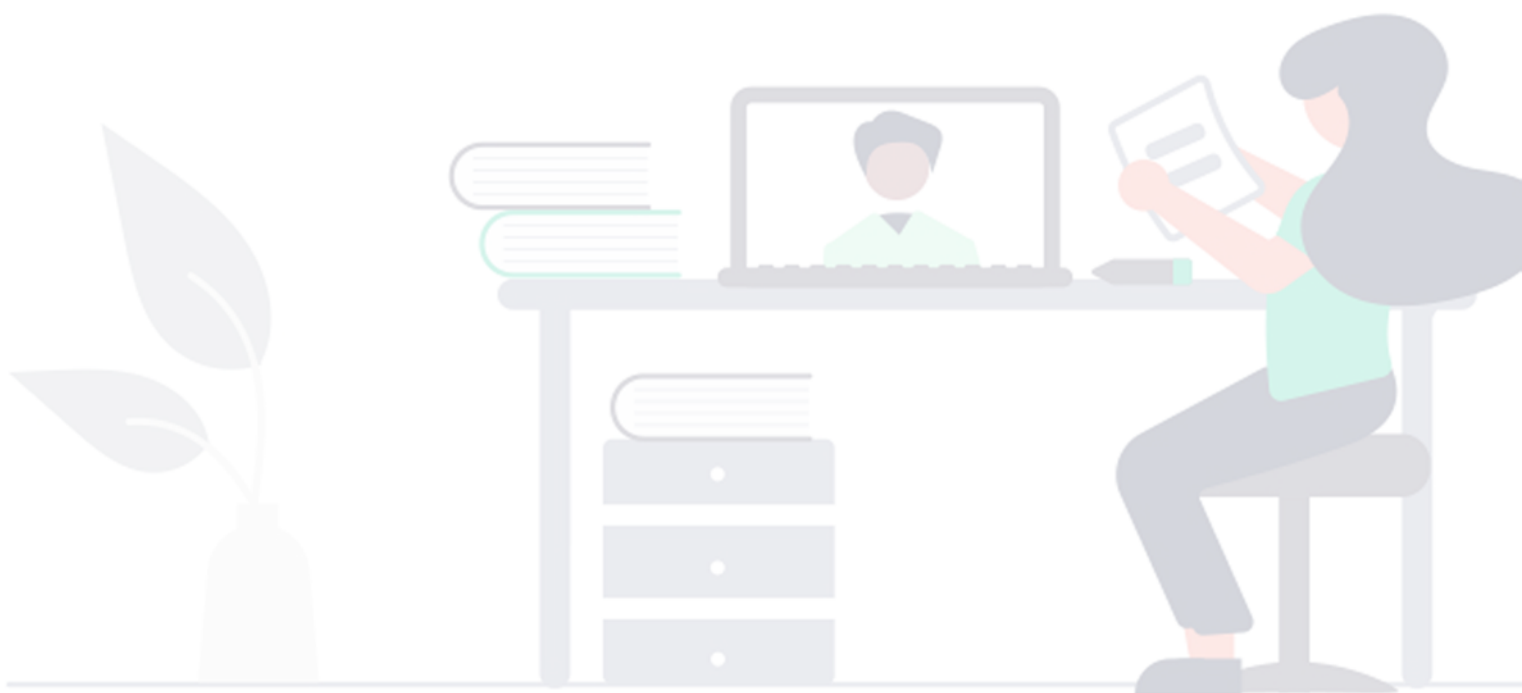
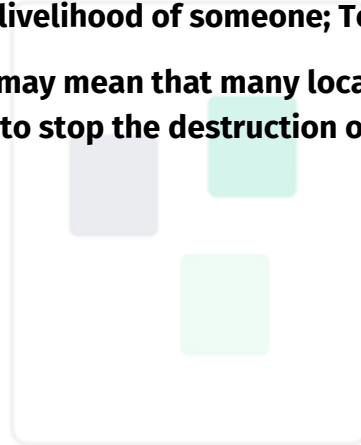
Word 10: Livelihood (noun)

Meaning: A person's job or the way they provide the basic necessities for themselves.

Synonyms: Income; Job; Occupation (all nouns)

Collocations: Main source of livelihood; Someone's livelihood depends on something; To threaten the livelihood of someone; To lose one's livelihood;

Example Sentence: While it may mean that many local people lose their livelihoods, it is still crucial to stop the destruction of the Amazon rainforest.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Education

Vocabulary List

Note: Make sure you know the names and pronunciation of the most common school subjects and your own university major!

Word 1: Cram (verb)

Meaning: Study very hard, usually memorizing lots of facts, to prepare for an exam. Often with only a short-time left.

Word Family: Cramming (noun/verb in continuous form)

Synonyms: Pull an all-nighter; Swot/Swot up (all adjectives)

Collocations: To cram for + name of test/exam/activity (e.g. cram for a history exam); To spend all night cramming; To spend the whole night cramming

Example Sentence: Whenever I have an exam, I tend to leave everything till the last minute and then spend the whole night cramming.

Word 2: Theoretical Knowledge (noun)

Meaning: Information about something without doing it in practice.

Synonyms: Abstract knowledge (noun)

Antonyms: Practical skills; Practical experience (both nouns)

Collocations: To have theoretical knowledge of something (e.g. farming, medicine); The limitations of theoretical knowledge; The importance of theoretical knowledge; The combination of/To combine theoretical knowledge and practical skills

Example Sentence: I believe that schools should attempt to combine theoretical knowledge and practical skills when educating children.

Word 3: Practical skills (noun)

Meaning: The ability to do a task in the real world, not just knowing the theory of it.



Synonyms: Practical Experience; Real-life know-how; Hands-on experience; Technical skills (all nouns)

Antonyms: Theoretical knowledge (noun); (To be) book-smart (adjective)

Collocations: To teach someone practical skills; To possess practical skills; To develop/acquire practical skills;

Example Sentence: Students who are able to develop practical skills as well as theoretical knowledge are far more employable after they graduate.

Word 4: Due date (noun)

Meaning: The day on which an assignment or piece of work must be finished and submitted.

Word Family: To be due (passive verb/adjective)

Synonyms: Deadline; Finishing date; Submission date (all nouns)

Collocations: To do something before/by the due date; To do something on the due date; To hand something in/submit something on the due date; To miss the due date; To forget the due date; To meet the due date

Example Sentence: I remember that I almost missed the due date for my final coursework at university, but in the end I managed to submit it just in time.

Word 5: Rote learning (noun)

Meaning: Learn facts by memorizing them and reviewing them repeatedly.

Word Family: To learn by rote (verb)

Synonyms: Memorizing; Recalling facts (both verbs); Frequent repetition (noun)

Antonyms: Active learning; Meaningful learning; Problem-solving (all nouns)

Collocations: Endless rote learning; Repetitive rote learning; To rely on rote learning; To avoid rote learning; The value of rote learning; The over-emphasis on rote learning; To be accustomed to rote-learning

Example Sentence: Many schools still rely on endless rote learning rather than using other methods of education, such as meaningful learning or problem solving.



Word 6: Qualification (noun)

Meaning: An official record showing the completion of certain course or acquisition of a skill.

Word Family: Qualified (adjective); To qualify (verb)

Synonyms: Skill; Accomplishment (both nouns)

Collocations: A recognized qualification; A basic qualification; An advanced qualification; A further/additional qualification; To gain/obtain/acquire/achieve/complete a qualification in something; Academic qualification; Professional qualification; To hold/have a qualification in something; The minimum qualification; The necessary qualifications; A specific qualification; To need/require a qualification (in something)

Example Sentence: Without the necessary qualifications, it is very difficult to get a good job.

Word 7: Distance learning (noun)

Meaning: Studying something outside of the traditional classroom, usually online. Usually still done through a recognized institution e.g. university.

Synonyms: Online learning; E-learning; Distance education; Virtual learning (all nouns)

Antonyms: Classroom learning; Classroom-based learning; Face-to-face classes (all nouns)

Collocations: To provide distance learning; To prefer distance learning; To consider distance learning; The flexibility of distance learning; A distance learning programme; Distance learning methods

Example Sentence: The coronavirus pandemic led to the increasing popularity of distance learning programmes over traditional classroom-based learning.

Word 8: Burnout (noun)

Meaning: Exhaustion or complete lack of motivation as the result of too much work/stress.



Synonyms: Exhaustion; Fatigue; Nervous exhaustion (all nouns); To collapse; To crack up (both verbs)

Antonyms: To live a balanced lifestyle (phrasal verb); Refreshed; Motivated; Revitalized (all adjectives)

Collocations: To suffer from burnout; To lead to/cause burnout; To prevent burnout; Severe burnout; To avoid burnout; A high rate of burnout amongst + group of people

Example Sentence: There is an increasingly high rate of burnout amongst both students and teachers.

Word 9: Stickler (noun)

Meaning: Someone who has very strict standards or requirements about behaviour.

Synonyms: Disciplinarian; Authoritarian; Taskmaster (all nouns)

Antonyms: Laid-back; Lenient; Chilled-out (all adjectives)

Collocations: To be a stickler for something (usually rules or types of behaviour)

Example Sentence: I remember that our school principal was a real stickler for punctuality. Anyone who arrived late to school always got a really strict punishment.

Word 10: Corporal Punishment (noun)

Meaning: A punishment involving some physical pain, for example being hit with a stick or a hand. Usually related to children at home or in school.

Synonyms: Physical punishment (noun – same level of severity); To spank (verb – same level of severity); A beating (noun – much stronger meaning)

Antonyms: Detention (noun – a punishment of spending time at school at the end of the day)

Collocations: To inflict corporal punishment on someone; To ban/abolish corporal punishment; To use corporal punishment; To support corporal punishment; To oppose corporal punishment

Example Sentence: Although corporal punishment is banned in the UK, many people still support the use of it in schools.



Advanced English Vocabulary – Employment

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Perks (noun)

Meaning: Additional good points included in a job or provided by a company, other than salary. For example – a season ticket for the subway; free lunches; discounts on products; flexible working hours.

Synonyms: Extra benefits; Little extras; Fringe benefits (all nouns)

Collocations: Some great perks; One of the perks of the job is (+ details e.g. discounts on products); Something is one of the perks of the job; To enjoy the perks; (Something is) One of the perks of being (+ role e.g. a CEO); The perks that come with the job; Something is one of the perks of (+ situation e.g. living in New York)

Example Sentence: One of the perks of being self-employed is that you can choose your own hours.

Word 2: Corporate ladder (noun)

Meaning: The hierarchy of employment in a company, from the lowest employee to the owner or CEO.

Synonyms: Corporate hierarchy; Company structure (both nouns)

Collocations: To climb the corporate ladder; To be at the bottom of the corporate ladder; To be at the top of the corporate ladder; To rise up the corporate ladder; To work one's way up the corporate ladder; To be fast-tracked up the corporate ladder

Example Sentence: I think that climbing the corporate ladder is one of the things that causes people the most stress in their jobs.

Word 3: Sellable skill (noun)

Meaning: A skill that is considered very valuable by a company or client. For example, computer coding or speaking a second language.

Synonyms: Valuable skill; Useful skill; Desirable skill (all nouns)



Antonyms: Useless skill; Valueless skill (both nouns)

Collocation: To have lots of sellable skills; To mention one's sellable skills; A really sellable skill; A very useful sellable skill; The importance of sellable skills; To develop a sellable skill; To learn a sellable skill

Example Sentence: The importance of having sellable skills when applying for a job shouldn't be underestimated.

Word 4: Fulfilling (adjective)

Meaning: A job that makes an employee satisfied and happy.

Word Family: To fulfil (verb); To be fulfilled (adjective, describes person); Fulfilment (noun)

Synonyms: Enjoyable; Worthwhile (both adjectives); A sense of satisfaction; A sense of fulfilment (both nouns)

Antonyms: Soulless; Meaningless (both adjectives)

Collocations: (Something is) A fulfilling job; Quite fulfilling; Very fulfilling; Not that fulfilling; To find one's work fulfilling; A fulfilling career

Example Sentence: For many people, choosing a job that they find fulfilling is more important than getting a high salary.

Word 5: Work ethic (noun)

Meaning: A person's attitude towards work, and their ability to work hard.

Note – this is a neutral word. Someone could have a good or bad work ethic.

Synonyms: Attitude to work; Self-discipline; Commitment; Perseverance (all nouns)

Collocations: A strong work ethic; A poor work ethic; To have no work ethic at all; To be impressed by someone's work ethic; To mention someone's work ethic; To develop a good work ethic; To instil a strong work ethic in someone (e.g. children); A ferocious work ethic; To look for someone with a good work ethic; To hire someone with a good work ethic; To fire someone with a poor work ethic

Example Sentence: One thing that employers always look for in a candidate is a strong work ethic.



Word 6: Join the workforce (verb)

Meaning: To get a job when you previously didn't have one. Usually used when graduating from school or university.

Synonyms: To go out and find a job; To join the working world (both verbs)

Antonyms: To leave the workforce; To retire (both verbs)

Collocations: To be ready to join the workforce; To look forward to joining the workforce; To want to join the workforce; To be able to join the workforce; To be unable to join the workforce; To be worried about joining the workforce; The qualifications required to join the workforce

Example Sentence: The main goal of the final year of university is to get students ready to join the workforce, but many graduates still end up with few sellable skills.

Word 7: Get your foot in the door (idiom, verb)

Meaning: Find a way to get an opportunity or enter an organisation. Sometimes done by entering the organisation at a lower level and trying to rise up the corporate ladder.

Synonyms: The first step; Get a break (noun)

Collocations: To try to get your foot in the door; To need to get your foot in the door; To find a way to get your foot in the door; To find it difficult to get your foot in the door; The importance of getting your foot in the door

Example Sentence: For new graduates fresh out of university, doing an unpaid internship is one way to get your foot in the door.

Word 8: Corporate culture (noun)

Meaning: The culture inside a company, including the way employees interact with managers, the working hours, the attitude to work, and how the company interacts with other companies.

Synonyms: Company culture; Corporate values; Corporate philosophy (all nouns)

Collocations: A terrible corporate culture; A great corporate culture; To have a good corporate culture; To change the corporate culture of a company; To be influenced by the corporate culture; A distinctive corporate



culture; A harmonious corporate culture; To get the corporate culture right; To get the corporate culture wrong; To enjoy a company's corporate culture; To hate a company's corporate culture

Example Sentence: How much an employee enjoys their job is often heavily influenced by their company's corporate culture.

Word 9: Soft skills (noun)

Meaning: Skills related to handling people and relationships. For example, the ability to run a meeting, to criticize someone in a controlled way, or to motivate someone.

Synonyms: People skills; Communication skills (both nouns)

Antonyms: Hard skills; Technical skills (both nouns)

Collocations: The importance of soft skills; To have great soft skills; To mention one's soft skills in an interview; To only have soft skills; A lack of soft skills; To develop soft skills; Useful soft skills

Example Sentence: Quite often, graduates from technical courses like physics lack the soft skills needed to thrive in a company.

Word 10: Laid off (adjective/passive verb)

Meaning: To lose one's job, usually as a result of the company not needing the employee anymore, or having financial trouble.

Word Family: To lay someone off (active verb)

Synonyms: To be made redundant; To be let go; To be axed (all verbs)

Antonyms: To be hired; To be given a job; To be made part of the team (all verbs)

Collocations: To get laid off; Someone was laid off; The shock of being laid off; Someone expected to be laid off in the near future; To be laid off as part of (+ activity e.g. a cost-cutting drive); To be laid off because of (+ reason e.g. a drop in sales); To express anger at being laid off; To be laid off immediately; To be laid off by someone (e.g. the company)

Example Sentence: Workers who are laid off as part of a restructuring effort should receive some form of compensation.



Advanced English Vocabulary - Entertainment

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Dopamine (noun)

Meaning: A chemical released in the brain that makes you feel happy and fulfilled.

Collocations: To release dopamine; To stimulate the release of dopamine; To trigger a dopamine hit; The level of dopamine; To boost dopamine levels;

Example Sentence: One reason that video games are so popular is that they are designed to stimulate the release of dopamine, meaning that players start to associate the game with feeling happy.

Word 2: Absorbing (adjective)

Meaning: Something that takes and keeps all of our attention.

Word Family: Absorb (verb); Absorption (noun)

Synonyms: Fascinating; Interesting; Captivating; Gripping; Engrossing; Compelling; Riveting (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Boring; Uninteresting; Dull (all adjectives)

Collocations: Completely/Totally absorbing; An absorbing activity; An absorbing hobby; To find something absorbing

Example Sentence: Many people find painting quite dull, but for me, it's absolutely absorbing. I can pass hours with just my brush and easel for company.

Word 3: Extracurricular activities (noun)

Meaning: Activities done for fun or interest, not for work or study.

Synonyms: Hobbies; Interests; Pastimes (all nouns)

Collocations: To be/get involved in extracurricular activities; To avoid extracurricular activities; To look for extracurricular activities; To enjoy extracurricular activities; To take an active role in extracurricular activities



Example Sentence: When I was growing up, my parents encouraged me to get involved in extracurricular activities at school, but I was mostly interested in playing video games by myself.

Word 4: Unwind (verb)

Meaning: To relax.

Synonyms: To relax; To chill out; To let off steam (all verbs)

Antonyms: To get stressed; To lose one's cool (both verbs)

Collocations: (Something is) A good way to unwind; A chance/opportunity to unwind; Someone needs to unwind; To try to unwind; To unwind after (+ an event e.g. a busy day at work); I like to (+ activity e.g. watch TV) + to unwind; To find it hard to unwind

Example Sentence: No matter how busy my day has been, I try to find time before I go to bed to unwind.

Word 5: Mind-numbingly dull (phrasal adjective)

Meaning: Extremely boring.

Synonyms: Dull; Tedious; As dull as dishwater; Boring (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Thrilling; Exciting; Interesting; Engrossing; Absorbing (all adjectives)

Collocations: To find something mind-numbingly dull

Example Sentence: Many of my friends love watching shopping livestreams, but I must admit that I find them mind-numbingly dull.

Word 6: Binge-watch (verb)

Meaning: To watch something for multiple hours in one sitting. Often used when talking about a particular TV show. Also sometimes expressed simply as 'binge'.

Synonyms: To do a + name of TV show + marathon (verb)

Antonyms: To space something out; To leave time to digest something



Collocations: To spend (+day of the week e.g. Sunday) + binge-watching something; To spend (+length of time e.g. 6 hours) + binge-watching something; Someone can't help binge-watching something; To try not to binge-watch something; Something is good to binge-watch; To be in the habit of binge-watching things

Example Sentence: I try not to binge-watch shows that are very high quality, because it's good to leave time to digest them fully before watching the next episode.

Word 7: Amusement park (noun)

Meaning: A large park with many attractions including rollercoasters and other types of rides.

Synonyms: Theme park (noun)

Collocations: A trip to an amusement park; To visit an amusement park; To spend time in an amusement park; A world-famous amusement park; A fantastic amusement park; (Something is) An amusement park for children; (Something is) An amusement park for adults; (Something is) An amusement park for the whole family/for all ages

Example Sentence: I've always loved going to amusement parks, although sadly there aren't any good ones close to me.

Word 8: Work-life balance (noun)

Meaning: The relationship between time spent working (or studying) and relaxing or having fun.

Synonyms: Song; Ditty; Tune (all are more general music words but can be used in place of jingle).

Collocations: A good work-life balance; The importance of a good work-life balance; To struggle with one's work-life balance; To improve one's work-life balance; A poor work-life balance; A perfect work-life balance; Achieving a good work-life balance; To harm one's work-life balance

Example Sentence: I think that the internet has brought many benefits, including the opportunity to play video games against people from across the world, but it has also harmed our work-life balance in some ways.



Word 9: Board game (noun)

Meaning: A game played with physical pieces, often on a table, and usually with other people.

Synonyms: Role-playing game; Parlour game (both nouns)

Collocations: To unwind by playing a board game; A fun board game; A board game suitable for (+ type of person e.g. the whole family); A new board game; To borrow a board game; To buy a board game; To get a new board game as a gift

Example Sentence: When I was young, I used to play board games with my family all the time – my favorite was Werewolves of Miller's Hollow.

Word 10: Livestream (noun)

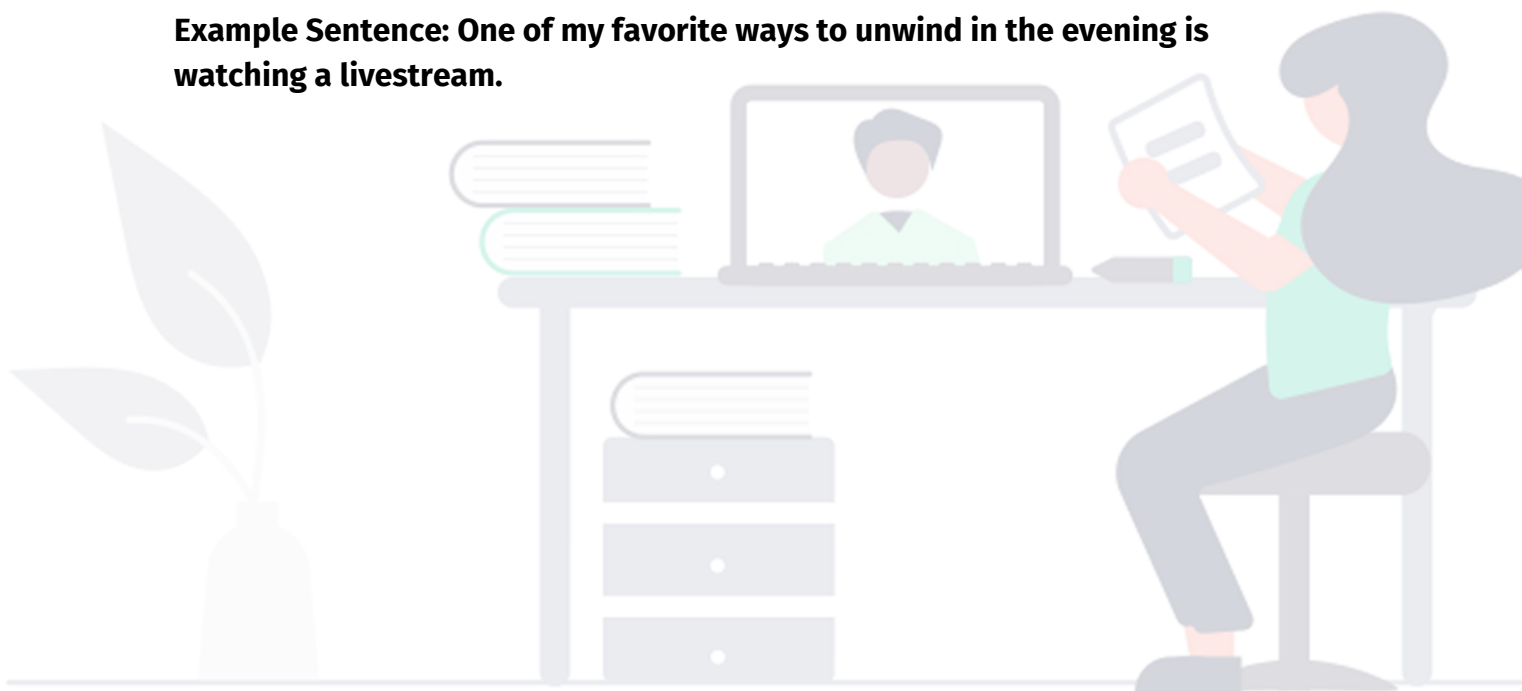
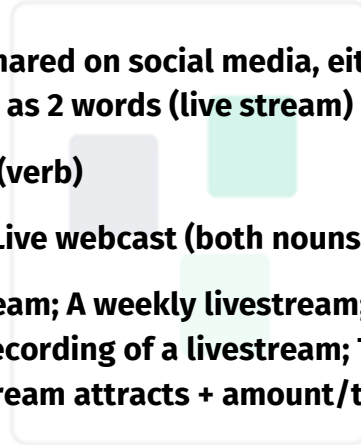
Meaning: A live broadcast shared on social media, either by a celebrity or normal person. Also written as 2 words (live stream)

Word Family: To livestream (verb)

Synonyms: Live broadcast; Live webcast (both nouns)

Collocations: A daily livestream; A weekly livestream; A one-off livestream; A popular livestream; The recording of a livestream; To do a livestream; To watch a livestream; A livestream attracts + amount/type of viewers; To miss a livestream

Example Sentence: One of my favorite ways to unwind in the evening is watching a livestream.





Advanced English Vocabulary - Ethics

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Dilemma (noun)

Meaning: A difficult choice, or situation that requires a choice.

Synonyms: Predicament (noun)

Antonyms: An obvious choice; A clear choice; An easy decision (all nouns)

Collocations: To face a dilemma; To be in a dilemma; A moral dilemma; An ethical dilemma; An impossible dilemma

Example Sentence: The question of whether to execute or rehabilitate violent prisoners is a moral dilemma.

Word 2: Justice (noun)

Meaning: A fair or morally right result, particularly after something bad has happened or people have been in conflict about something.

Synonyms: Fairness (noun)

Antonyms: Unjust (adjective); Injustice (noun)

Collocations: To face justice; To deliver/ensure justice; To demand/seek justice; To get justice (for someone); To deny justice (to someone); Justice has been done; To bring someone to justice

Example Sentence: One issue with modern society is that the richest and most powerful people very rarely face justice, even if they have committed terrible crimes.

Word 3: Compassion (noun)

Meaning: To recognize the suffering of other people and want to or try to help.

Word Family: Compassionate (adjective); Compassionately (adverb)

Synonyms: Sympathy; Empathy; Pity; Brotherly love (all nouns)

Antonyms: Indifference; Heartlessness (both nouns)



Collocations: To show compassion (for someone); To feel compassion (for someone); To have compassion; A lack of compassion; To be devoid of compassion; Love and compassion; To need compassion; Great/deep/heartfelt/genuine compassion; A sense of compassion; An act of compassion

Example Sentence: If people could show compassion for each other rather than constantly judging, the differences between cultures and generations would be far easier to solve.

Word 4: Integrity (noun)

Meaning: Being honest and having the habit of acting in a moral way.

Synonyms: Honesty; Honour; Moral fortitude; Righteousness (all nouns)

Antonyms: Dishonesty (noun)

Collocations: (To be someone of) The highest integrity; To show integrity; To act/behave with integrity; To lack integrity; A lack of integrity; Absolute/complete integrity; A man/woman of integrity; To keep one's integrity; To question someone's integrity

Example Sentence: I believe that, by acting with integrity, we can improve our relationships with everyone we encounter.

Word 5: Morally bankrupt (adjective)

Meaning: Completely without morals, acting in an immoral way. Describes a person or organisation.

Synonyms: Morally wrong; Reprehensible (adjectives, describe an action or decision)

Antonyms: Morally upstanding; Morally right (both adjectives)

Example Sentence: Some people would argue that big tech companies like Facebook are morally bankrupt and, as such, can't be trusted to make ethical decisions.

Word 6: Conscience (noun)

Meaning: Your own personal sense of right and wrong, plus your feelings about your own past behaviour.



Synonyms: The little voice in one's head; (One's) sense of right and wrong; Moral sense; Personal values; Inner voice (all nouns)

Collocations: (To have) A guilty/troubled conscience; (To have) A clear conscience; To clear one's conscience; To have something on one's conscience; A crisis of conscience; To follow one's conscience

Example Sentence: I always try to follow my conscience when making moral decisions, but it isn't an easy thing to do!

Word 7: Intolerant (adjective)

Meaning: Unwilling to accept differences, for example in behaviour or appearance.

Word Family: Intolerance (noun); Intolerable (adjective, describes an annoying person or situation)

Synonyms: Bigoted; Narrow-minded; Small-minded; Blinkered; Rigid (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Tolerant; Easy-going; Broad-minded; Liberal (all adjectives)

Collocations: To be intolerant of someone/something; To become increasingly intolerant of something

Example Sentence: Although many older people can be intolerant of different lifestyle choices, society in general is becoming more liberal.

Word 8: Prejudiced (adjective)

Meaning: To be intolerant of a specific group of people or ideas.

Word Family: Prejudice (noun)

Synonyms: Bigoted; Set against; Biased; Discriminatory (all adjectives); Racist (adjective – prejudiced against other races); Sexist (adjective – prejudiced against the other gender, usually against women); Homophobic (adjective – prejudiced against homosexuals); Transphobic (adjective – prejudiced against transgender people)

Antonyms: Impartial; Unbiased; Fair (all adjectives)

Collocations: To be prejudiced against someone; Racially prejudiced



Example Sentence: Despite society becoming more liberal, there are still significantly large groups of people who are racially prejudiced.

Word 9: Moral Grey Area (noun)

Meaning: An action/decision/situation that is neither completely morally right (white) or morally wrong (black).

Synonyms: A dilemma (noun)

Antonyms: Morally right; Morally wrong (both adjectives)

Example Sentence: I think that the choice between protecting the environment and promoting economic growth is something of a moral grey area.

Word 10: Code of Ethics (noun)

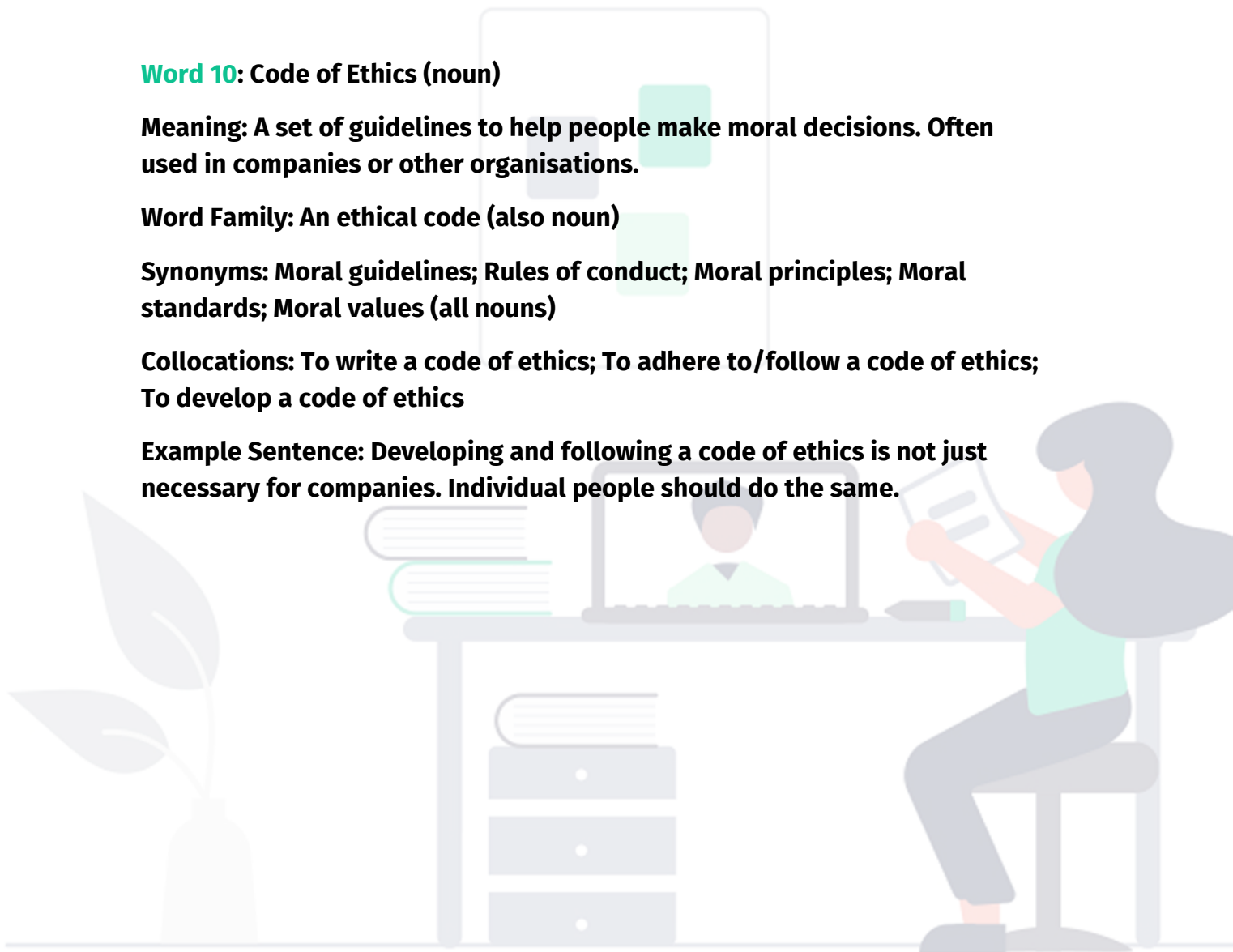
Meaning: A set of guidelines to help people make moral decisions. Often used in companies or other organisations.

Word Family: An ethical code (also noun)

Synonyms: Moral guidelines; Rules of conduct; Moral principles; Moral standards; Moral values (all nouns)

Collocations: To write a code of ethics; To adhere to/follow a code of ethics; To develop a code of ethics

Example Sentence: Developing and following a code of ethics is not just necessary for companies. Individual people should do the same.





Advanced English Vocabulary - Exercise

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Strenuous (adjective)

Meaning: An activity that takes a large amount of effort.

Synonyms: Taxing; Demanding; High-octane; Exacting; Gruelling (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Casual; Gentle; Easy (all adjectives)

Collocations: Strenuous exercise; Strenuous activity; Not too strenuous; Overly strenuous; A strenuous effort

Example Sentence: Medical professionals suggest that people should do strenuous exercise 4-5 times per week in order to stay healthy and avoid illness.

Word 2: Break a sweat (verb)

Meaning: To exercise enough to start sweating.

Synonyms: To sweat (verb)

Collocations: To do something without breaking a sweat; To cause one to break a sweat; Without having to break a sweat; Someone didn't even break a sweat; To have to break a sweat in order to + action e.g. lose weight.

Example Sentence: My friend can climb twenty flights of stairs without breaking a sweat, but I'm soaked after climbing two flights!

Word 3: An uphill struggle (noun)

Meaning: A task or activity that is fairly difficult or challenging from the start, and stays difficult.

Synonyms: A challenge; Hard work; A tough assignment; A tall order (all nouns)

Antonyms: A piece of cake; Nothing; A cakewalk (all nouns)



Collocations: Something is/was/will be an uphill struggle; Something sounds like an uphill struggle; Something is an uphill struggle for someone; To face an uphill struggle; To find something an uphill struggle

Example Sentence: I've always found sticking to exercise an uphill struggle. I do it for a few days, and then give up!

Word 4: Push yourself to the limit (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To put in as much energy and effort as you possibly can in order to achieve something.

Synonyms: To make an effort; To leave it all out on the field; To sweat blood (all verbs)

Antonyms: To take it easy (verb); Half-hearted (adjective)

Collocations: To always push yourself to the limit; To avoid pushing yourself to the limit; To try to push yourself to the limit; To want to push yourself to the limit; To push yourself to the limit of your abilities

Example Sentence: You don't have to push yourself to the limit every single day when you exercise, but at least try to do something rather than sitting on the sofa all day.

Word 5: Six-pack (noun)

Meaning: Strong stomach muscles that can be clearly seen as six individual parts.

Synonyms: Abs; Abdominal muscles (both nouns)

Antonyms: Belly fat; Flab (both nouns)

Collocations: To get a six-pack; To want a six-pack; To wow someone with your six-pack; To lose your six-pack; A nice six-pack; An awesome six-pack

Example Sentence: I've always wanted to have a six-pack, but I can't seem to lose my love handles.

Word 6: Love handles (noun)

Meaning: Excess fat on either side of a person's hips, above the waistline.

Synonyms: Muffin-top; Spare tire; Bulging waistline (all nouns)



Antonyms: Tight abs; Six-pack; A flat stomach (all nouns)

Collocations: To get rid of one's love handles; To want to lose one's love handles; To accept one's love handles; To hide one's love handles; To hate one's love handles; To be embarrassed about one's love handles; To keep love handles in check

Example Sentence: I'm not too motivated to exercise, but I do want to keep my love handles in check.

Word 7: Burpee (noun)

Meaning: A strenuous exercise involving a push-up and a jump. Usually done in sets of 10+ as a way to improve cardiovascular fitness or lose weight.

Collocations: The dreaded burpees; A set of 10 burpees; To do burpees every morning; To do several burpees in a row; The benefits of doing burpees; To love doing burpees; To hate doing burpees; Get down and give me 20 burpees!

Example Sentence: Many people dread doing high-intensity exercises like burpees, but they are a very effective way of losing weight.

Word 8: Cardiovascular (adjective)

Meaning: Related to the heart's ability to pump blood (and oxygen) to the different muscles around the body.

Word Family: Cardio (noun, shortened version related to exercise that works the heart e.g. jogging); To do cardio (verb, doing exercise that works the heart)

Synonyms: Heart; Coronary (but only used related to the problems, not exercises)

Collocations: To improve one's cardiovascular fitness; To improve one's cardiovascular health; Cardiovascular activity; Cardiovascular exercise; Cardiovascular disease; Cardiovascular illness; Cardiovascular problems

Example Sentence: Many doctors say that thirty minutes of cardiovascular exercise a day can make a big difference to a person's quality of life and general health.



Word 9: Lactic acid (noun)

Meaning: A chemical released in the body as the result of intense exercise, which gives the temporary feeling of tiredness or burning in the muscles.

Synonyms: Lactate (noun)

Collocations: To release lactic acid; The build-up of lactic acid in the muscles; The presence of lactic acid; To produce more lactic acid; To remove the lactic acid build-up in the muscles; The feeling of lactic acid

Example Sentence: I don't like doing really strenuous exercise because I hate that feeling of lactic acid in my muscles.

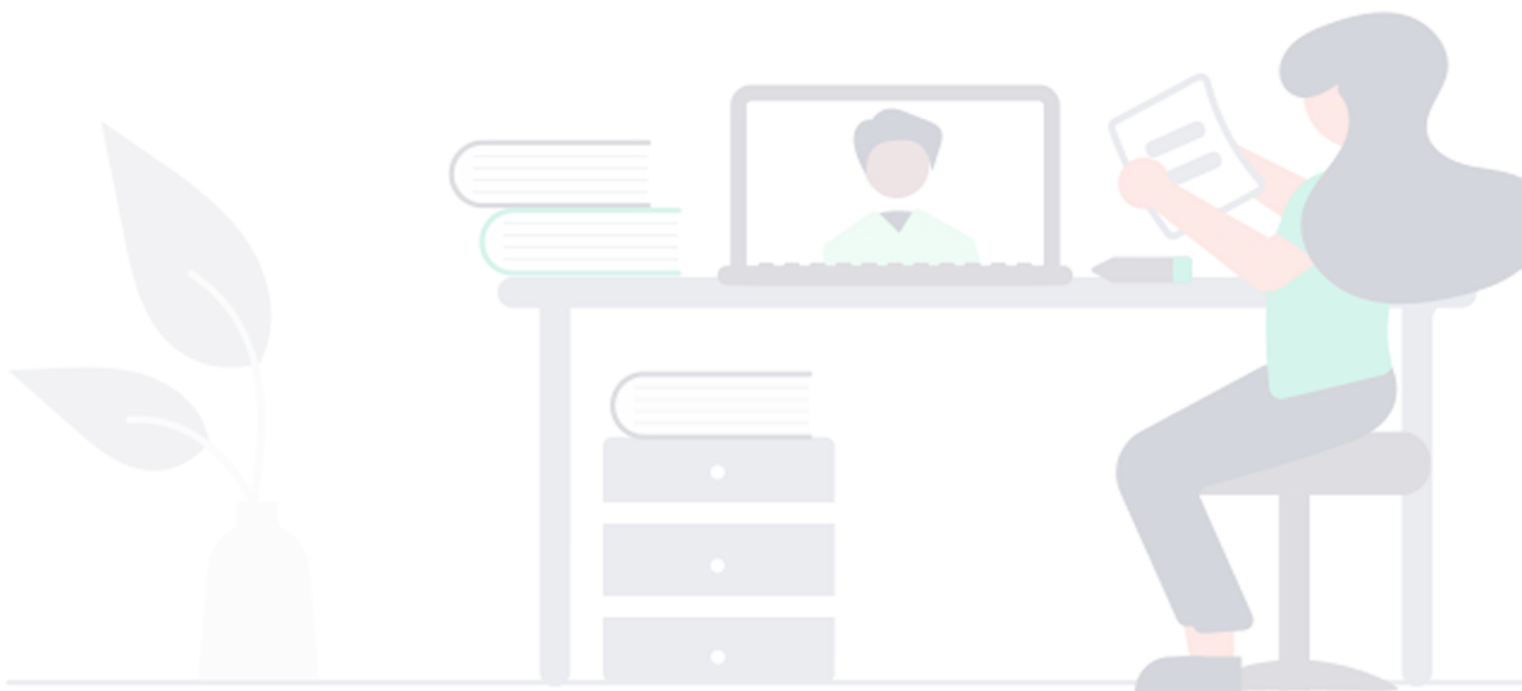
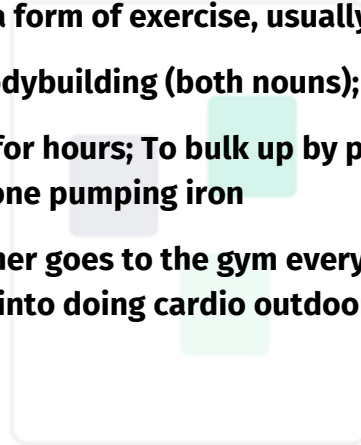
Word 10: Pump iron (verb)

Meaning: To lift weights as a form of exercise, usually at a gym.

Synonyms: Weightlifting; Bodybuilding (both nouns); To lift weights (verb)

Collocations: To pump iron for hours; To bulk up by pumping iron; To love pumping iron; To see everyone pumping iron

Example Sentence: My brother goes to the gym every day and loves pumping iron, but I'm more into doing cardio outdoors.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Family

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Run in the family (phrasal verb)

Meaning: Used to describe a characteristic, trait or health condition of someone that is shared by other members of the family

Synonyms: Hereditary; Inherited (both adjectives); To get it from someone (phrasal verb, the 'it' refers to a trait)

Collocations: (Name of disease/condition e.g. asthma) + runs in the family; It often runs in the family; I guess it runs in the family

Example Sentence: My grandad and dad also love extreme sports. I guess it runs in the family!

Word 2: Take after someone (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To be similar to or copy the behaviour of another family member, usually older.

Collocations: People say I take after + name of family member; I'm told I take after + name of family member; Someone doesn't take after someone else at all; Someone takes after their + mother's/father's side of the family; Who does your son/daughter take after?

Example Sentence: People always say I take after my father, because we look alike, but personality-wise, I think I'm actually closer to my mother.

Word 3: Stay-at-home mum/dad (noun)

Meaning: A parent who doesn't work, and instead is responsible for looking after the children and the home.

Synonyms: A full-time mum/dad; Housewife/Househusband; Homemaker (all gender-neutral); Domestic goddess (only for women)

Antonyms: A working mum/dad; A career man/woman

Example Sentence: It's still pretty unusual to be a stay-at-home dad in my country, as we are quite traditional.



Word 4: Black Sheep (noun)

Meaning: A member of a family who is considered very different to the rest, and/or a source of shame for the family.

Synonyms: Prodigal son; Pariah; Bad apple (all nouns)

Antonyms: The favorite; The family favorite; The golden child (all nouns)

Collocations: (Someone is) the black sheep of the family; To be regarded as the black sheep of the family; Someone has always been the black sheep of the family

Example Sentence: I even get on well with my cousin, who has always been the black sheep of the family.

Word 5: Dysfunctional family (noun)

Meaning: A family which has serious problems including behaviour and conflict.

Synonyms: A broken family; An unstable family; A dysfunctional household

Antonyms: A happy family; A healthy family; A stable family

Example Sentence: For children who come from dysfunctional families, it can be harder to fit in with their schoolmates.

Word 6: Sibling rivalry (noun)

Meaning: The feeling of competition and/or jealousy between brothers and sisters (and can also be used for cousins).

Synonyms: Sibling conflict; Conflict between siblings; Ill-feeling between siblings (all noun phrases)

Antonyms: Brotherly/sisterly love; Sibling harmony (both nouns)

Collocations: An instance of sibling rivalry; The existence of sibling rivalry; Bitter sibling rivalry; To cause sibling rivalry; To inflame sibling rivalry

Example Sentence: I must admit that there is a pretty strong amount of sibling rivalry between me and my brother.

Word 7: Follow in someone's footsteps (phrasal verb)



Meaning: To take the same path (e.g. in studies or career) as an older member of the family.

Synonyms: To copy someone; To emulate someone; To follow the example of someone (all verbs)

Antonyms: To find one's own path/way; To be one's own person; To strike out on one's own

Example Sentence: My mother is a successful research scientist and I plan to follow in her footsteps.

Word 8: Patriarch (noun)

Meaning: The male leader of a family (or group)

Synonyms: The head of the family (noun, either male or female)

Antonyms: Matriarch (female)

Example Sentence: Many families in my country are still dominated by a patriarch, although this is gradually starting to change.

Word 9: Extended family (noun)

Meaning: A word that includes people like grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins, but not close family like parents or siblings.

Synonyms: Relatives; Distant relatives (both nouns)

Antonyms: Immediate family; Nuclear family; Close family (all nouns)

Collocations: A large extended family; A member of my extended family; The role of the extended family; The responsibilities of the extended family; To be/not be on speaking terms with one's extended family; To get on well with one's extended family

Example Sentence: I usually spend New Year with my extended family, even though I'm not on speaking terms with all of them!

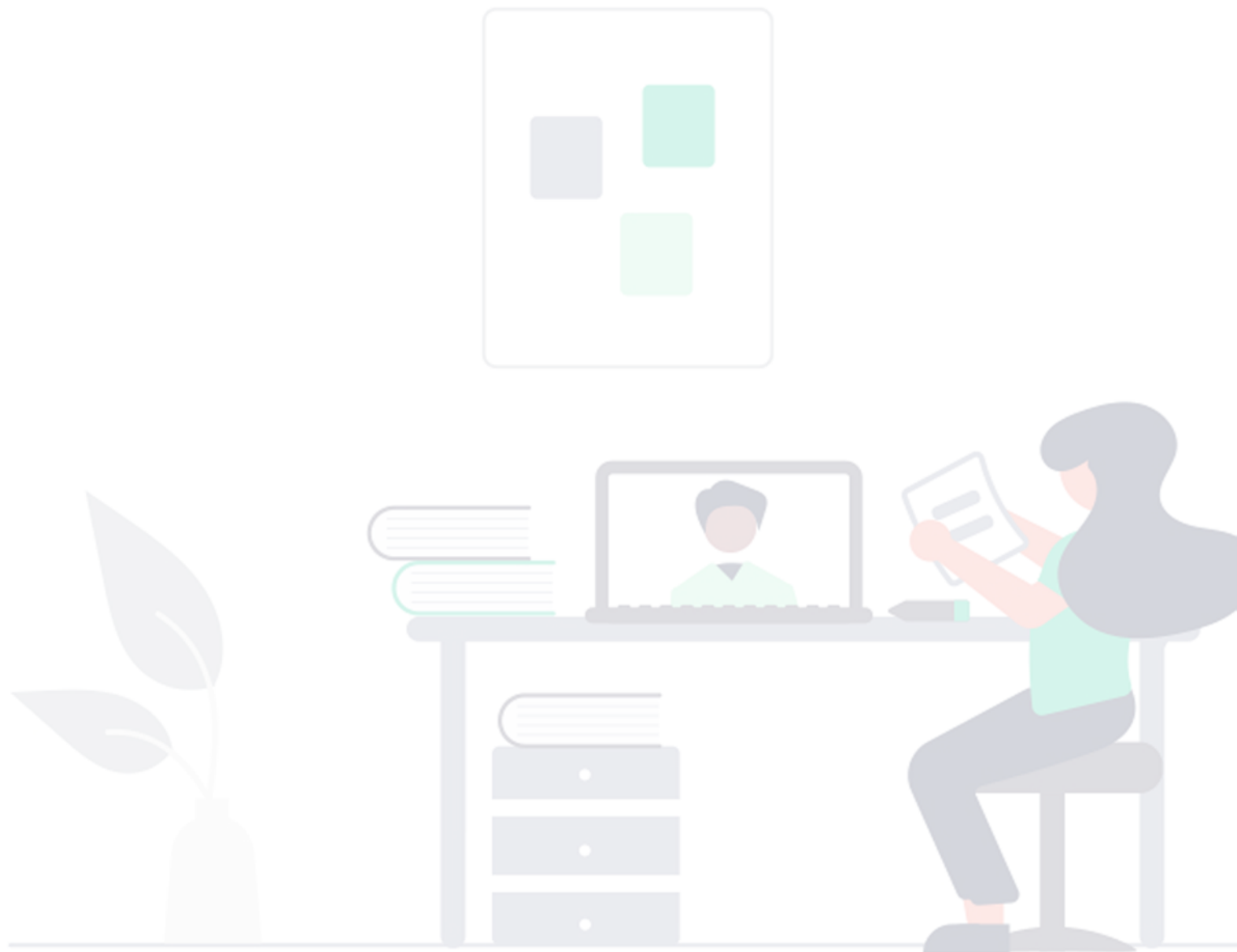
Word 10: Own flesh and blood (noun)

Meaning: A member of someone's family, usually close family.

Synonyms: Blood relative; Blood relation; Kin (all nouns)

Collocations: Someone is someone's own flesh and blood; To treat one's own flesh and blood well/badly/this way

Example Sentence: People often behave differently towards their own flesh and blood, in both good and bad ways.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Food and Diet

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Dietary requirements (noun)

Meaning: Foods that a person cannot eat or must eat, usually for health reasons.

Collocations: Special dietary requirements; A range of dietary requirements; To consider someone's dietary requirements; To ignore someone's dietary requirements; To enquire about a person's dietary requirements

Example Sentence: It's always polite to enquire about your guest's dietary requirements when hosting a dinner party.

Word 2: Staple (adjective)

Meaning: An item (usually a type of food) that is used (eaten) very regularly by people in a certain place. For example: Rice; Bread; Potatoes; Corn

Antonyms: Luxury food; Luxury item; Occasional treat (all nouns)

Collocations: Staple foods; A staple of someone's diet; A country's staple food; A staple diet; A staple crop; A staple ingredient; Staple goods

Example Sentence: A staple crop of many Asian countries is rice.

Word 3: Delicacy (noun)

Meaning: A popular and/or expensive food, which is usually special in some way.

Synonyms: A treat; A specialty (both nouns)

Collocations: (Something is) considered a delicacy in + name of place; A local delicacy; A famous delicacy; A rare delicacy; An exotic delicacy; To try/sample a delicacy

Example Sentence: In many countries, guinea pigs are kept as pets, but they are considered a delicacy in Peru.



Word 4: Seasonal vegetable/fruit (nouns)

Meaning: A fruit or vegetable that grows at certain times of the year, but not all year. Also used as a way of saying, 'The fruits and vegetables that are growing now in this part of the world.'

Synonyms: (To be) In season (adjective)

Antonyms: (To be) out of season (adjective); Year-round vegetables (noun)

Collocations: Local seasonal vegetables; Fresh seasonal vegetables

Example Sentence: Eating seasonal fruits and vegetables is a great way to both stay healthy and protect the environment.

Word 5: Organic (adjective)

Meaning: Food that has been produced without the use of chemicals such as pesticides.

Word Family: Organically (adverb)

Synonyms: Natural; Chemical-free; Pesticide-free (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Artificial; Non-organic; Processed (all adjectives)

Collocations: Organic food; Organic produce (*specifically for fruit and veg*); Organic farming; Organic products (*Can include other products, not just fruit and veg*); Organic farmer; Organic gardener; Organic methods; To go/become organic; Totally/fully organic

Example Sentence: Some believe that the government should support organic farmers and encourage everyone to eat only organic produce.

Word 6: Count calories (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To carefully monitor the number of calories a person eats, often by using an app. Usually done in order to lose weight.

Word Family: Calorie counting (noun)

Synonyms: To watch what you eat; Go on a diet; To cut down on something; To follow a diet (all verbs)

Antonyms: To indulge oneself; To gorge oneself on something (both verbs)



Example Sentence: Many people believe that counting calories is a good way to lose weight, but not all doctors agree.

Word 7: Resist temptation (phrasal verb)

Meaning: Try to avoid doing something that you want to do but know is not a good choice. Often used in the negative. Example – Eating a chocolate cake when you are trying to lose weight.

Synonyms: To say no; To stay strong; To refrain from something/doing something; To abstain from something; To steer clear of something; To stop oneself from doing something (all verbs)

Antonyms: To give into temptation; To submit to temptation; To indulge in something (all verbs)

Collocations: I couldn't resist temptation; I find it hard to resist temptation; I was/wasn't able to resist temptation; I have to resist temptation

Example Sentence: I always find it hard to resist temptation when I pass by a bakery and see all the desserts in the window.

Word 8: Packed with flavour (adjective)

Meaning: A food that has a lot of flavour.

Word Family: To pack something with flavour (verb)

Synonyms: Full of flavour; Flavourful; Strong (all adjectives); Full-bodied (adjective, usually used for wine)

Antonyms: Bland; Tasteless; Flavourless; Watery (all adjectives)

Example Sentence: I love foods that are packed with flavour, particularly if they are also a little spicy.

Word 9: You are what you eat (idiom)

Meaning: The food you eat has a strong relationship with your health. Usually used in relation to eating healthily. Often used in a sentence by itself.

Collocations: People say, 'You are what you eat!'; I really believe that you are what you eat; People are always telling me, 'You are what you eat,' but I ...



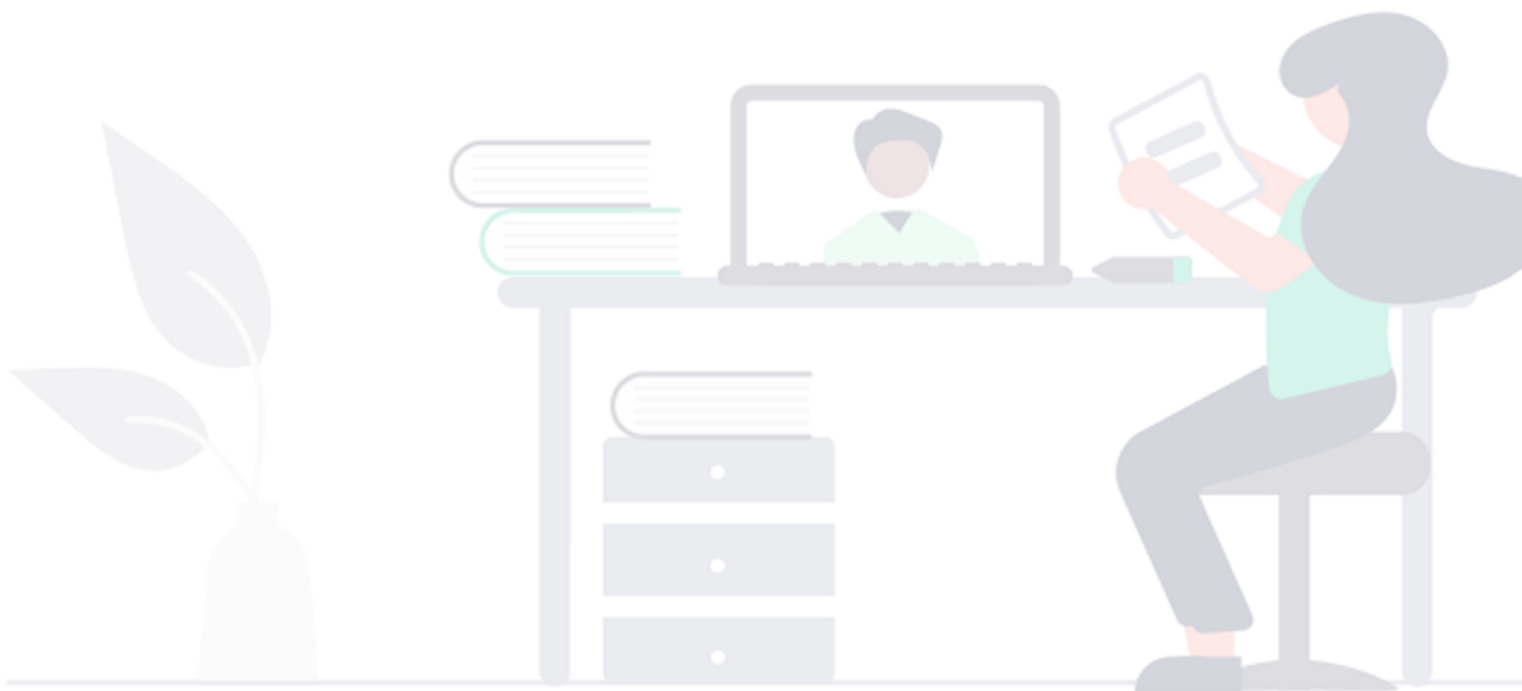
Example Sentence: People are always telling me, 'You are what you eat,' but I think life's too short so I tend to eat whatever I want.

Word 10: Nutritional benefits (noun)

Meaning: The benefit that someone can get from eating or drinking a certain item.

Collocations: To forget about the nutritional benefits; To focus on the nutritional benefits; To find out about the nutritional benefits of something; To care about the nutritional benefits; A whole host of nutritional benefits; Hardly any nutritional benefits; Virtually devoid of nutritional benefits; Packed full of nutritional benefits; To read about the nutritional benefits

Example Sentence: If people understood more about the nutritional benefits of different products, they could make better dietary decisions.





Advanced English Vocabulary - Friendship

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Two peas in a pod (Metaphor, noun)

Meaning: Two people who are very similar in looks or personality, and (usually) have a very close relationship.

Synonyms: The spitting image of someone; Someone's doppelganger (both nouns, only used for physical appearance)

Antonyms: The polar opposite of someone; The antithesis of someone (both nouns, refer to appearance and/or personality)

Collocations: We have always been like two peas in a pod; When they were young, they were like two peas in a pod.

Example Sentence: My younger sister Sarah and I have always been like two peas in a pod.

Word 2: A fair-weather friend (noun)

Meaning: Someone who is only your friend in good times, and disappears or won't help you during bad times.

Synonyms: Flaky; Unreliable (both adjectives)

Antonyms: A friend in need is a friend indeed! (Idiom, full phrase, used to describe someone who helps you during hard times); A true friend (noun)

Collocations: Someone is such a fair-weather friend; It turned out he was nothing but a fair-weather friend; He is something of a fair-weather friend; I hope he isn't just a fair-weather friend

Example Sentence: It's important to be able to tell the difference between a true friend and a fair-weather friend.

Word 3: To get on like a house on fire (idiom, verb)

Meaning: To get on well, have a really good relationship. Usually used for friends/family rather than romantic relationships.



Synonyms: To get on well with; To enjoy someone's company; To get along well with; To have a good relationship with; To be on good terms with (all verbs)

Antonyms: To dislike; To not get on well with; To despise; To loathe; To hate spending time with (all verbs)

Collocations: We have always gotten on like a house on fire; They seem to get along like a house on fire; Don't worry, I'm sure they'll get along like a house on fire

Example Sentence: I love hanging out with John. We get on like a house on fire.

Word 4: To hit it off (Idiom, verb)

Meaning: Get on well with someone the first time you meet that person.

Antonyms: Not hit it off; Get off on the wrong foot (both verbs)

Collocations: To hit it off with someone; We/they hit it off straight away; To not really hit it off with someone; I knew you'd hit it off straight away; To hit it off immediately

Example Sentence: I was worried about whether I would get on well with my girlfriend's father, but we hit it off straight away.

Word 5: Ups and downs (noun)

Meaning: To have good periods and bad periods in a friendship or romantic relationship. It can also refer to good and bad periods in someone's life.

Antonyms: A stable relationship (noun)

Collocations: We've had our ups and downs; Everyone has their ups and downs; Having ups and downs is normal; A lot of ups and downs; All life's ups and downs; To go through some ups and downs together

Example Sentence: My friend Jimmy and I have definitely been through some ups and downs together, but whenever we do fall out, we bury the hatchet very quickly and move on.

Word 6: Bury the hatchet (idiom, verb)



Meaning: To forgive someone for doing something wrong, and try to be friends/partners again.

Synonyms: To forgive someone; To let bygones be bygones; To kiss and make up; To wipe the slate clean; To let it go (all verbs)

Antonyms: To hold a grudge; To bear a grudge; To never let it go (all verbs)

Collocations: I hope they bury the hatchet; I find it hard to bury the hatchet; Let's try to bury the hatchet; They buried the hatchet and moved on; To decide to bury the hatchet; To want to bury the hatchet; To be willing to bury the hatchet; To be unwilling to bury the hatchet; To be unable to bury the hatchet

Example Sentence: I think being able to bury the hatchet when you have a falling out is one of the key parts of a strong relationship.

Word 7: A shoulder to cry on (idiom, noun)

Meaning: A friend that can comfort you when you are sad.

Antonyms: Unsympathetic; Cold (both adjectives)

Collocations: Someone is a shoulder to cry on; To see someone as a shoulder to cry on; Nothing more than a shoulder to cry on; To offer someone a shoulder to cry on; To need a shoulder to cry on; To be looking for a shoulder to cry

Example Sentence: She's always very sympathetic and is a shoulder to cry on whenever I need it.

Word 8: Confidante (noun)

Meaning: Someone that you trust deeply and can tell secrets to, knowing that they will keep those secrets.

Word Family: To confide in someone (verb, meaning to tell someone a secret)

Synonyms: A trusted friend (noun)

Antonyms: A gossip (noun)

Collocations: A trusted confidante; Someone is a close friend and confidante; A close confidante



Example Sentence: One of the key attributes of a friend is someone who you can trust to be your confidante.

Word 9: Acquaintance (noun)

Meaning: Someone you know but who isn't a friend. It could be that you don't like them, or you just don't know them very well yet.

Word Family: To become acquainted with someone/something (verb)

Synonyms: A contact; An associate (noun)

Antonyms: A stranger (noun)

Collocations: Someone is more of an acquaintance than a friend; A new acquaintance; A casual acquaintance

Example Sentence: You wouldn't tell your deepest secrets to someone who is just an acquaintance, but you should be able to tell your best friend.

Word 10: To fall out with (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To argue with a friend/partner and damage your relationship, either temporarily or permanently.

Word Family: (To have) A falling-out (noun)

Synonyms: To fight; To have an argument; To have a big blow up; To lock horns (all verbs)

Antonyms: To move on; To get past it; To bury the hatchet; To make up (all verbs)

Collocations: To fall out over something (e.g. money, a boyfriend); To fall out with someone

Example Sentence: One challenging thing about friendships is being honest about a difficult topic without falling out with each other.



Advanced English Vocabulary - Geography

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Demographic (adjective)

Meaning: The details of a group of people, for example the population of a country. It includes age, level of education, family background and other details. It can also refer to a specific group of people (e.g. people aged 24-35)

Collocations: A demographic challenge; A demographic change; A demographic shift towards/away from something; A demographic timebomb; Demographic characteristics; Demographic factors; Demographic trends; Demographic data; Demographic information

Example Sentence: Countries with aging populations and low birth rates are generally considered to be sitting on a demographic timebomb.

Word 2: Altitude (noun)

Meaning: The height above the sea that a place is located. For example, Tibet is at a high altitude.

Synonyms: (Number e.g. 1500 metres) above sea level; Above ground level

Collocations: At high altitude; At this altitude; Altitude sickness; The challenges of living at high altitude; To live at high/low altitude; To maintain an altitude of (+ height e.g. 8000 metres- usually used for a plane); To reach an altitude of (+ height e.g. 1500 metres)

Example Sentence: One of the challenges of living at high altitude is that the air is thinner, leading to shortness of breath when exercising.

Word 3: Glacier (noun)

Meaning: A large body of ice that stays frozen for the whole year. Usually found on mountains or near the poles.

Word Family: Glacial (adjective)

Synonyms: Iceberg (noun, piece of ice that has broken off and is floating in the ocean)



Collocation: The melting of glaciers; To climb a glacier; To protect a glacier; To visit a glacier; A spectacular glacier; To study a glacier

Example Sentence: Scientists are concerned that the melting of glaciers is increasing as the world gets warmer.

Word 4: Hemisphere (noun)

Meaning: A large part of the world. Usually divided into northern and southern hemispheres (above and below the equator) and western and eastern hemisphere (the dividing line is in the UK).

Collocations: The western hemisphere; The eastern hemisphere; The southern hemisphere; The northern hemisphere; The wealth of the northern hemisphere; Conflict between countries from different hemispheres

Example Sentence: It's often said that the southern hemisphere is significantly less wealthy than the northern hemisphere.

Word 5: Desertification (noun)

Meaning: When a piece of dry land which previously was not a desert becomes a desert.

Word Family: Desert (noun)

Collocations: To be threatened by desertification; The challenges of desertification; The onset of desertification; To combat desertification; To tackle desertification; The prevention of desertification; Something is a major cause of desertification; To prevent desertification; To suffer from desertification

Example Sentence: One of the steps that countries can take to prevent desertification is to plant more trees.

Word 6: Deforestation (noun)

Meaning: The reduction in size or complete destruction of forests.

Synonyms: Logging (noun); Chopping down trees (verb)

Antonyms: Planting trees (verb); Reforestation (noun)



Collocations: The causes of deforestation; To contribute to deforestation; To protest against deforestation; To put pressure on countries guilty of deforestation; To support deforestation; To suffer from deforestation; The consequences of deforestation; The effect of deforestation on (+ place/people e.g. local communities); Large-scale deforestation; Widespread deforestation; To prevent deforestation; To avoid deforestation; To compensate for deforestation

Example Sentence: The Amazon rainforest has suffered enormously from deforestation in the past few decades, and has reduced in size by up to 20% according to some estimates.

Word 7: Floodplain (noun)

Meaning: The areas of low-lying land beside a river, at the same or similar altitude, which can be easily flooded.

Synonyms: Riverside (adjective); Valley floor (noun)

Antonyms: Mountainside; Areas at high altitude (both nouns)

Collocations: To live on a floodplain; To be located on a floodplain; To build on a floodplain; Above the floodplain; A wide floodplain; A narrow floodplain

Example Sentence: Houses built on a floodplain are more at risk of extreme weather events like flooding.

Word 8: Landslide (noun)

Meaning: A natural disaster in which a large amount of earth and rocks fall down the side of a mountain, usually as a result of heavy rainfall.

Synonyms: Rockfall; Mudslide; Avalanche (all nouns)

Collocations: To cause a landslide; (Something happened) as a result of a landslide; A huge landslide; A massive landslide; To be destroyed by a landslide; To be killed by a landslide

Example Sentence: A landslide can be a devastating natural disaster that causes a huge amount of damage and endangers lives.

Word 9: Body of water (noun)



Meaning: A generic word that includes seas, oceans, rivers, lakes, ponds, and streams.

Collocations: A large body of water; To cross a body of water; To live next to a body of water; A famous body of water; A notorious body of water; A polluted body of water; To pollute a body of water; To be separated by a body of water; To migrate from one body of water to another; To search for a body of water; The nearest body of water

Example Sentence: Elephants can travel for hundreds of miles in search of a body of water.

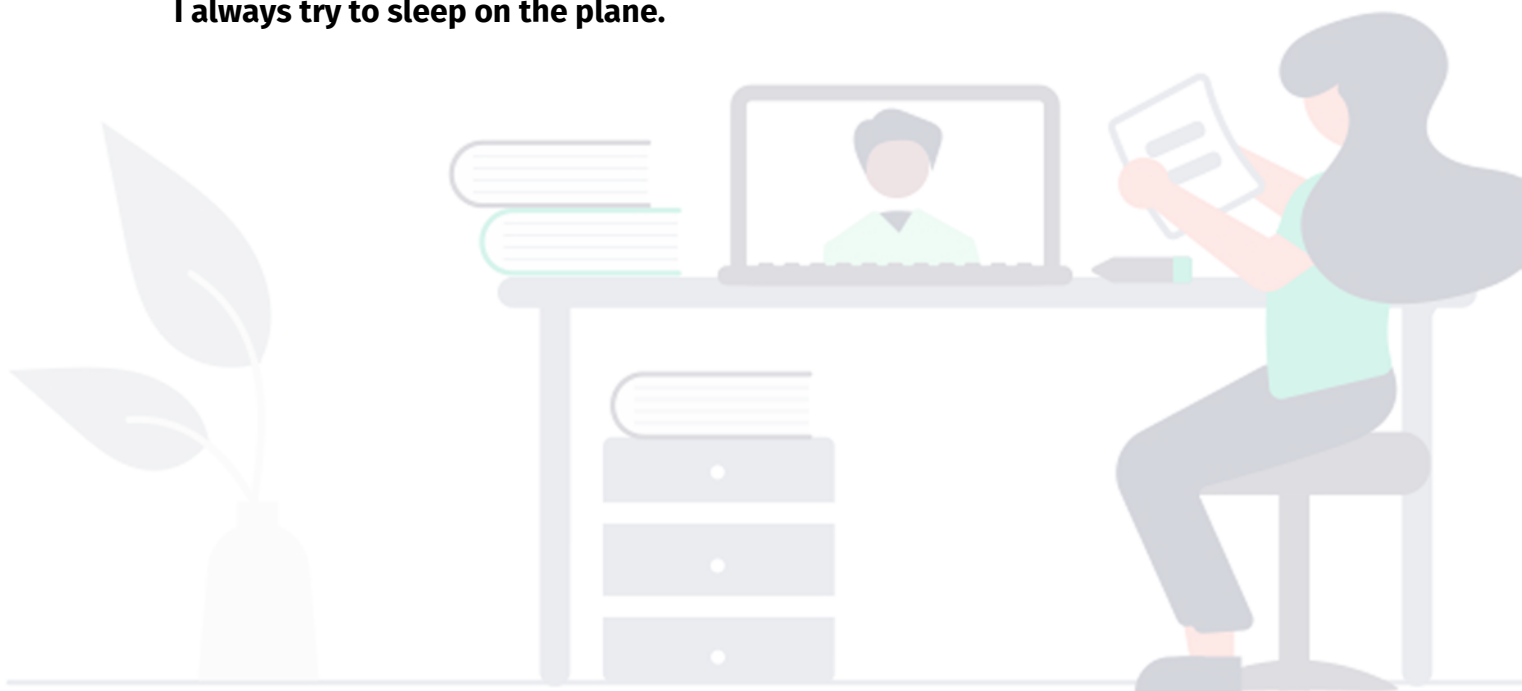
Word 10: Jetlag (noun)

Meaning: A temporary sleep disorder caused by traveling across many time zones. For example, someone who travels from China to the USA will most likely have trouble sleeping during the night and not be able to stay awake during the day during the first few days after arrival. Note – also written as jet lag.

Word Family: Jetlagged (adjective)

Collocations: To get jetlag; To suffer from jetlag; The cause of jetlag; The effects of jetlag; To be disoriented by jetlag; To have jetlag; To combat jetlag; To blame something on jetlag

Example Sentence: I suffer terribly from jetlag whenever I travel abroad, so I always try to sleep on the plane.





Advanced English Vocabulary– Globalisation

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Outsource (verb)

Meaning: Employ people in other countries to do the work previously done by employees in a company's home country. Usually done to cut costs, sending the jobs to countries with lower cost of labour.

Word Family: Outsourcing (noun); Outsourced (adjective)

Synonyms: Offshore; Sub-contract (verb)

Antonyms: In-house (adjective); Do something in-house (verb)

Example Sentence: An increasing number of multinational companies have outsourced production of their products to developing countries.

Word 2: Cost of labour (noun)

Meaning: The average price of hiring and paying employees in a city or country.

Synonyms: Labour costs; Staff costs (both nouns)

Collocations: High/higher cost of labour; Low/lower cost of labour; Increasing/soaring cost of labour; To consider the cost of labour; To increase/reduce the cost of labour

Example Sentence: A major reason that companies decide to outsource production to developing countries is the relatively high cost of labour in developed countries.

Word 3: Supply Chain (noun)

Meaning: The series of supplier companies who produce the various parts that go together to make a final product. For example, companies that make the chips and the screen for an iPhone are part of the supply chain.

Synonyms: Logistic network; Supply network; Supply channel

Collocations: Global supply chain; To disrupt one's supply chain; The whole supply chain



Example Sentence: Many companies rely on global supply chains for important parts of the products they sell.

Word 4: Sweatshop (noun)

Meaning: A factory where manual workers are employed, and usually paid very low wages working in poor/dangerous conditions.

Collocations: To be produced in a sweatshop; To use sweatshops; A sweatshop worker/labourer

Example Sentence: The concern that many people have about buying so-called 'fast fashion' is that many of the items they buy will have been produced in sweatshops.

Word 5: Fast Fashion (noun)

Meaning: Low-quality but good-looking clothes which are produced at low cost and are kept for a short period of time before being thrown away.

Antonyms: Ethically-produced clothing; Sustainable brands; Luxury brands; Luxury items

Collocations: The culture of fast fashion; To reject fast fashion; To accept fast fashion; The fast fashion industry; To focus on fast fashion

Example Sentence: Globalization made the rise of the fast fashion industry possible.

Word 6: Self-sufficient (adjective)

Meaning: To be able to rely on oneself, for example emotionally or for the things needed to survive.

Word Family: Self-sufficiency (noun)

Synonyms: Autonomous; Self-reliant; Independent (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Dependent; Reliant on others (both adjectives)

Collocations: To become self-sufficient; To make someone/something/somewhere self-sufficient; Completely/wholly/totally/fully self-sufficient; Almost entirely self-sufficient; Virtually self-sufficient; Financially/Economically self-sufficient;



Emotionally self-sufficient; To be self-sufficient in something (e.g. energy production); A self-sufficient economy

Example Sentence: The global pandemic led to a rise in countries aiming to become self-sufficient in many areas, including medical technology and energy production.

Word 7: Ubiquitous (adjective)

Meaning: Something that exists or can be seen everywhere.

Word Family: Ubiquity (noun)

Synonyms: All over; Ever-present; Pervasive; Universal; Inescapable (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Bespoke; Unique; Rare; Scarce (all adjectives)

Collocations: Something (e.g. smart phones) are ubiquitous nowadays/these days; To be ubiquitous in + place/situation (e.g. Silicon Valley; China)

Example Sentence: Given how ubiquitous American brands like McDonald's and Disney are, it's no surprise that America is still a very influential country.

Word 8: Integration (noun)

Meaning: Several groups becoming one group, or one smaller group joining a larger group.

Word Family: Integrate (verb); Integrated (adjective)

Synonyms: Unification; Incorporation; Amalgamation; Meshing; Homogenization (all nouns)

Antonyms: Separation (noun, neutral meaning); Segregation (noun, often very strong meaning related to racial segregation)

Collocations: Cultural integration; Economic integration; Political integration; Social integration; Racial integration; To promote + adjective (e.g. social) + integration; The integration of something and something else; To move towards integration; Further/Closer/Improved + adjective + integration; Integration + into + group (e.g. the local community)



Example Sentence: While many people do live abroad nowadays, they still face challenges regarding cultural integration into the local community.

Word 9: Cultural convergence (noun)

Meaning: Many cultures becoming less different and moving closer to each other.

Synonyms: Cultural integration; Social integration; Cultural merging (all nouns)

Antonyms: Cultural isolation; Cultural distinctiveness; Nationalism (all nouns)

Example Sentence: Many people see cultural convergence as a good thing, as it tends to result in people from one country feeling closer to people from another country.

Word 10: Diversity (noun)

Meaning: To include or have a range of differences in a group or situation. For example, people from many ethnic backgrounds and nationalities living in one big city.

Word Family: Diverse (adjective); Diversify (verb)

Synonyms: Variety; Distinctiveness (both adjectives)

Collocations: Cultural/ethnic/ideological/social/linguistic diversity; The (wide) diversity of something (e.g. sea creatures); Considerable diversity (between two things); A lack of diversity; Rich/tremendous/extraordinary/remarkable diversity; To celebrate/encourage diversity; To oppose diversity; Greater/less diversity

Example Sentence: It is often believed that a lack of diversity in a company's employees leads to less creativity than in companies with greater diversity.



Advanced English Vocabulary– Government

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Pass legislation (phrasal verb)

Meaning: Write and pass a law or series of laws.

Word Family: Legislate (verb); Legislator (noun, person who passes law)

Synonyms: To put into law; To pass a law; To make a law (all verbs)

Collocations: Pass legislation that (+ result e.g. outlaws hunting); To try to pass legislation; To hope to pass legislation; To fail to pass legislation; It's necessary to pass legislation to (+ result e.g. prohibit gambling)

Example Sentence: The government recently passed legislation that allows the use of guns for certain activities in rural areas.

Word 2: Prohibit (verb)

Meaning: To ban something or make it illegal.

Word Family: Prohibition (noun); Prohibitive (adjective); To be prohibited (passive verb)

Synonyms: To ban; To make something illegal; To outlaw; To legislate against (all verbs)

Antonyms: To permit; To allow; To authorize (all verbs)

Collocations: To expressly prohibit something; To specifically prohibit something; Something is prohibited by law; To decide to prohibit something; To try to prohibit something; A proposal to prohibit something; To pass legislation to prohibit something

Example Sentence: In the 1920s, the American government prohibited the production and sale of alcohol.

Word 3: Public sector (noun)

Meaning: All organisations that are owned by the government, including public hospitals, public schools, and government departments.

Synonyms: State-run; Nationalised; State-owned (all adjectives)



Antonyms: Private sector; Private enterprise (nouns); Privatized; For-profit (adjectives)

Collocations: A public sector job; A public sector worker/employee; A career in the public sector; Public sector spending; Public sector funding; Public sector employment; A public sector pay cut/pay freeze/pay rise; To leave the public sector; To stay in the public sector; Public sector companies; Public sector organisations

Example Sentence: One of the government's biggest responsibilities is making decisions about the levels and allocation of public sector funding.

Word 4: Social security (noun)

Meaning: System of financial protection for citizen, including pension and disability benefits. Usually paid for by the government, using money taxed from citizens or businesses.

Synonyms: Social insurance; The social safety net; Government welfare (all nouns)

Collocations: To cut social security; To fund social security; Social security payments; To claim social security; To receive social security; To be entitled to social security; The social security system

Example Sentence: An important role that the social security system plays is to provide a safety net for the most vulnerable people in society.

Word 5: Anarchy (noun)

Meaning: A situation in which society has broken down and laws are no longer being enforced, often due to the lack of a controlling power e.g. a central government.

Word Family: Anarchic (adjective); An anarchist (noun, someone who promotes anarchy)

Synonyms: Chaos; Disorder; Instability (all nouns)

Antonyms: Order; Stability; Peace; Law and order (all nouns)

Collocations: A state of anarchy; To fall into anarchy; To attempt to avoid anarchy; (Somewhere is) Close to anarchy; To put an end to this anarchy; To descend into anarchy; A perpetual state of anarchy; There would be anarchy if (+ situation e.g. the police were disbanded); A period of anarchy



Example Sentence: It's important to enforce the law, in order to avoid sliding into anarchy.

Word 6: Equality of opportunity (noun)

Meaning: The idea that all people should have an equal chance to be successful in life, and that their success should be based on their own work and performance rather than inherited wealth or other unequal factors.

Synonyms: A fair shake; Fair treatment; Equal rights; Social justice; A level playing field (all nouns)

Antonyms: Inequality (noun)

Collocations: To guarantee equality of opportunity; To provide equality of opportunity; To support equality of opportunity; To disagree with equality of opportunity; The right to equality of opportunity; (Something is) The key to equality of opportunity

Example Sentence: Most people agree that equality of opportunity is something that every government should strive for, but how it can be achieved is more contentious.

Word 7: Crime rate (noun)

Meaning: The amount of crime recorded in a city or country.

Synonyms: Crime levels; Crime figures; Levels of criminality (all nouns)

Collocations: The crime rate is rising/falling; To reduce the crime rate; An increase in the crime rate; A decrease in the crime rate; A sky-high crime rate; The urban crime rate; To keep the crime rate low

Example Sentence: Keeping the crime rate as low as possible is one of the biggest responsibilities of any government.

Word 8: Top-down approach (noun)

Meaning: To make decisions at a high or central level, rather than making them individually at lower levels.

Synonyms: Centralized decision-making (noun)

Antonyms: Bottom-up approach (noun)



Collocations: To take a top-down approach; To support a top-down approach; To disagree with a top-down approach; A top-down approach to something (e.g. running the country)

Example Sentence: When governments take a top-down approach to tackling a problem, they can coordinate their approach across multiple regions of a country.

Word 9: Policy (noun)

Meaning: A government's (or company's) approach or attitude towards a particular problem or situation.

Synonyms: Strategy; Approach; Blueprint; Plan (all nouns)

Collocations: To decide on a policy; To have a policy on something (e.g. crime); A clear policy; A specific policy; A deliberate policy; A strict policy; A domestic policy; A foreign policy; An economic policy; An environmental policy; A social policy; A controversial policy; An open-door policy; A policy aimed at (+ goal e.g. reducing unemployment); To launch/introduce a new policy; To support/oppose a policy

Example Sentence: The German government's open-door policy on immigration led to a loss of support.

Word 10: Rhetoric (noun)

Meaning: Words spoken about a topic. For example, in a speech.

Word Family: Rhetorical (adjective); Rhetorically (adverb)

Synonyms: Words; Language; Oratory (all nouns)

Antonyms: Action (noun)

Collocations: Mere rhetoric; Empty rhetoric; To engage in rhetoric; To use rhetoric; Beautiful rhetoric; Effective rhetoric; The smart use of rhetoric; Behind the rhetoric

Example Sentence: The speaker used some beautiful rhetoric, but now we need to see action.



Advanced English Vocabulary – Mental Health

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Stigma (noun)

Meaning: A feeling of shame or disgrace connected to a situation e.g. having a mental health condition.

Word Family: To stigmatize (verb)

Synonyms: Disgrace; Dishonour; Shame (all nouns)

Antonyms: Pride; Honour (both nouns)

Collocations: A social stigma; The stigma of being (+ adjective/condition e.g. a single mother); To remove the stigma from something; To carry the stigma of something; To have a lot of stigma attached to it; There is no longer any stigma attached to (+ action/situation e.g. getting divorced); There is less stigma associated with (+ action/situation e.g. getting divorced); To suffer the stigma of (+ situation e.g. being homeless); To overcome the stigma of something

Example Sentence: Although there is no longer much stigma associated with things like getting divorced and being a single parent, mental health issues still have a lot of stigma associated with them.

Word 2: Destructive behaviour (noun)

Meaning: Unacceptable behaviour that causes damage to oneself or others. The damage can be both physical and emotional. For example, illegal drug abuse.

Synonyms: Self-destructive behaviour; Destructive habits; Damaging behaviour; Poor life choices (all nouns); To self-destruct (verb)

Antonyms: To stay on the straight and narrow (idiom, verb)

Collocations: A tendency towards destructive behaviour; To control one's destructive behaviour; To avoid destructive behaviour

Example Sentence: Destructive behaviour is often, but not always, the direct result of childhood traumas.



Word 3: Trauma (noun)

Meaning: A very unpleasant or disturbing experience, which can cause mental health issues in the future.

Word Family: To traumatize (verb); To be traumatized (passive verb); Traumatic (adjective); Traumatically (adverb)

Synonyms: Shock; Ordeal (both nouns)

Collocations: Childhood trauma; Something is the result of + type of trauma (e.g. childhood trauma); Severe/major trauma; Psychological trauma; Emotional trauma; To suffer trauma; To recover from trauma; To undergo a trauma/something traumatic; To inflict trauma on + person; To avoid/prevent the trauma of something; To reduce/minimize the trauma of something

Example Sentence: To attempt to avoid the trauma of killing someone, soldiers in execution squads are usually not told whether their guns are loaded.

Word 4: Alzheimer's disease (noun)

Meaning: A condition in which the patient's brain gradually stops functioning. Symptoms can include memory loss and confusion. Often referred to as simply Alzheimer's.

Synonyms: Dementia (noun)

Collocations: The onset of Alzheimer's disease; The causes of Alzheimer's disease; To suffer from Alzheimer's disease; The symptoms of Alzheimer's disease include (+ symptoms); Someone has Alzheimer's; The treatment of Alzheimer's disease; (To search for) A cure for Alzheimer's disease; An Alzheimer patient; (Something happens) In the brain of Alzheimer patients; To guard against Alzheimer's disease; To fear/dread getting Alzheimer's disease

Example Sentence: A cure for Alzheimer's disease will be hard to find, but is very necessary to improve the quality of life of many elderly people.

Word 5: ADHD (noun)

Meaning: The acronym for Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder. A psychological condition, which affects both children and some adults,



which causes the patient to have lots of energy, to have trouble focusing and to often make poor decisions without thinking first.

Synonyms: ADD (noun – Attentive Deficit Disorder – an older term for the same condition)

Collocations: To have ADHD; To suffer from ADHD; People with ADHD; The symptoms of ADHD include (+ symptoms); To take medication for ADHD; To treat ADHD

Example Sentence: In America, more and more children are taking medication for ADHD.

Word 6: To be out of one's mind (informal idiom, adjective)

Meaning: To be insane. Usually used in informal situations. For example, friends making fun of each other, or two people arguing.

Synonyms: To be crazy; To be losing it; To be mad; To be mad as a hatter; To be off one's rocker; To not be in one's right mind; To not be all there (all adjectives)

Antonyms: To be sane; To be in one's right mind; To be all there (all adjectives)

Collocations: I think you're out of your mind; You must be out of your mind if you think that (+ details e.g. I'm going to help you); You're out of your mind; Are you out of your mind?

Example Sentence: I said to him, 'You must be out of your mind if you think that I'm going to lend you money!'

Word 7: Ticking time-bomb (noun)

Meaning: A situation that doesn't appear too serious now but will have serious consequences in the future if not dealt with.

Synonyms: Powder keg; A disaster waiting to happen (both nouns)

Collocations: Something is a ticking time-bomb; Someone thinks something is a ticking time-bomb; To create a ticking time-bomb

Example Sentence: Psychologists say that the emotional impact of the coronavirus pandemic is a ticking time-bomb, and that we will see a big increase in mental disorders in the future.



Word 8: Panic attack (noun)

Meaning: A sudden feeling of intense fear, including symptoms like difficulty breathing and chest pain.

Collocations: To have a panic attack; To suffer from panic attacks; The symptoms of a panic attack include (+ symptoms); To trigger a panic attack; A full-blown panic attack; To provoke a panic attack

Example Sentence: I tend to get stressed in certain situations, but luckily, I've never had a full-blown panic attack.

Word 9: Depression (noun)

Meaning: A feeling (or psychological condition) where a person feels very sad.

Word Family: To be depressed (passive verb/adjective); To depress (verb); Depressing (adjective, describes something that influences us)

Synonyms: Misery; Sadness; Sorrow; Woe; Despondency (all nouns)

Antonyms: Happiness; Delight; Joy; Cheerfulness (all nouns)

Collocations: To suffer from depression; A deep depression; To overcome depression; A bout/period of depression; To sink/fall into depression; To treat depression; Someone's depression has deepened; Someone's depression has lifted; To be in the depths of depression; A feeling of depression; The symptoms of depression; The causes of depression; Clinical depression; Chronic depression; A mild case of depression; A severe state of depression; A state of depression; To trigger depression; To experience depression; To undergo counselling for depression

Example Sentence: People who suffer from chronic depression often have to battle with it for their whole lives.

Word 10: Counselling (noun)

Meaning: To talk to a professional psychiatrist or other qualified professional about mental health issues or other challenges e.g. marital problems.

Synonyms: To seek help; To get help (both nouns); Therapy (noun)



Collocations: To seek counselling; To undergo counselling; To benefit from counselling; To consider counselling; Group counselling; Individual counselling; Counselling can help someone through something; Marriage counselling; Counselling services

Example Sentence: Even though many people suffer from mental health conditions, the stigma that is still attached to them often prevents people from undergoing counselling.

Advanced English Vocabulary – Physical Health

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Check-up (noun)

Meaning: To visit a doctor for a general health check, without having any symptoms.

Synonyms: Health check; Health inspection; Health exam; Health evaluation (all nouns)

Collocations: A medical check-up; A dental check-up; A regular check-up; An annual check-up; A routine check-up; A thorough check-up; A quick check-up; To detect something (e.g. an illness) during a routine check-up; To go for a check-up

Example Sentence: I think it's important for everyone to go to the doctor for a regular check-up, because you never know what they might find.

Word 2: Chronic disease (noun)

Meaning: A long-lasting disease that cannot be cured but isn't necessarily fatal e.g. diabetes.

Synonyms: Chronic illness; Chronic condition; Persistent condition; Uncurable illness/condition (all nouns)

Antonyms: Acute illness; Curable illness/disease (all nouns)

Collocations: To develop a chronic disease; Risk of chronic disease; A common chronic disease

Example Sentence: Obesity is a major cause of people developing chronic diseases like diabetes.



Word 3: As fit as a fiddle (idiom, adjective)

Meaning: In very good physical health

Synonyms: Perfectly healthy; In good health; In good shape (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Sick; Unwell; Under the weather; In bad shape (all adjectives)

Example Sentence: My dad was always as fit as fiddle, so we were shocked when he developed a chronic condition.

Word 4: Under the weather (idiom, adjective)

Meaning: To feel ill, but not seriously ill.

Synonyms: Sick; Unwell; Out of sorts; Peaky (all adjectives)

Antonyms: A picture of health (noun); In good health; In fine fettle (both adjectives)

Collocations: To feel a bit under the weather; To look a bit under the weather; To be a bit under the weather

Example Sentence: I generally stay in bed and drink plenty of fluids whenever I feel under the weather.

Word 5: Immune system (noun)

Meaning: A body's ability to fight off diseases, infections, bacteria, viruses.

Synonyms: Natural defences; Natural resistance; Body's defences (all nouns)

Collocations: A strong immune system; A weak immune system; To strengthen one's immune system; To weaken one's immune system; To attack one's immune system; To boost one's immune system; To rely on one's immune system

Example Sentence: We can strengthen our immune system by eating healthily and avoiding smoking and drinking alcohol.

Word 6: Medication (noun)

Meaning: The drugs or medicine that a person is given.

Word Family: To medicate (verb)



Synonyms: Medicine; Drugs; Treatment (all nouns)

Collocations: To take medication; To prescribe medication; Side effects of medication; To need medication; To be on medication; To manage without medication; Pain medication; To be addicted to medication

Example Sentence: A serious danger for patients with chronic conditions is that they can become addicted to their pain medication.

Word 7: Prescription (noun, adjective)

Meaning: The medicine recommended by a doctor, including an official piece of paper giving the patient the right to buy the medicine.

Word Family: To prescribe (active verb); To be prescribed by a doctor (passive verb); Prescribed (adjective)

Synonyms: Medication; Treatment; Remedy (all nouns)

Antonyms: Over-the-counter (adjective)

Collocations: A repeat prescription; To fill out a prescription; (Not) Available without a prescription; A prescription for + type of medicine (e.g. painkillers); Prescription medication/medicine/drugs; To give someone a prescription for something; To pick up a prescription

Example Sentence: The doctor gave me a prescription for some strong painkillers, and that helped a lot.

Word 8: Over-the-counter (adjective, also written as 'over the counter' when used as a location)

Meaning: Something that is available to buy without a prescription.

Synonyms: Available without prescription (adjective)

Antonyms: Prescription; Restricted; Controlled (all adjectives)

Collocations: Over-the-counter + type of medicine (e.g. painkiller); Over-the-counter remedy/treatment; Over-the-counter medicine/drugs/medication/cream; To buy/sell something over the counter; To be available over the counter

Example Sentence: When I'm a little bit under the weather, I usually just try to buy some over-the-counter medication rather than going to see a doctor.



Word 9: Physical well-being (noun)

Meaning: A person's health, including whether they get diseases as well as their lifestyle choices. **Note:** This is a neutral word – it doesn't mean someone is healthy.

Synonyms: Physical condition; Physical fitness; Physical state (all nouns)

Antonyms: Mental well-being; Emotional well-being (both nouns)

Collocations: The physical well-being of someone; To pay attention to one's physical well-being; (To understand) the importance of one's physical well-being; To promote one's physical well-being; To threaten the physical well-being of someone; To sacrifice one's physical well-being

Example Sentence: One role of the government should be to make people aware of the importance of their physical well-being, as this can prevent costly treatments down the line.

Word 10: To put in the hard yards (phrasal verb, idiom)

Meaning: To work hard in order to achieve something that isn't easy. For example – losing weight.

Synonyms: To sweat blood for something; To grind out something; To buckle down and do something; To put your back into something (all verbs)

Antonyms: To be workshy; To shirk away from something; To run away from something; To get out of something; To avoid something (all verbs)

Collocations: To be (un)willing to put in the hard yards; To be ready/prepared to put in the hard yards; To avoid putting in the hard yards; To relish putting in the hard yards; The requirement to put in the hard yards; The need to put in the hard yards; Someone isn't afraid to put in the hard yards

Example Sentence: When it comes to improving physical fitness, many people aren't willing to put in the hard yards.



Advanced English Vocabulary – Hometown and Cities

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Out in the sticks (idiom)

Meaning: The countryside, far from the city or central areas. Informal idiom.

Synonyms: Remote; Obscure; Isolated (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Downtown; Central; In the center; In a metropolitan area; In a built-up area (all adjectives referring to location)

Collocations: To live out in the sticks; To enjoy life out in the sticks; To look for a house out in the sticks

Example Sentence: I've always preferred to be based downtown rather than live out in the sticks.

Word 2: Urban sprawl (noun)

Meaning: The expansion or widening of a city and residential areas, usually further out into what was previously countryside.

Synonyms: Uncontrolled development; Urban spread (both nouns)

Collocations: To control urban sprawl; To avoid urban sprawl; To suffer from urban sprawl; Miles of urban sprawl; The results/consequences of urban sprawl; To be ravaged by urban sprawl

Example Sentence: Many areas of countryside have been ravaged by urban sprawl, and as a result, are suffering from a number of environmental issues.

Word 3: Dilapidated (adjective)

Meaning: In very bad condition, usually referring to a building or whole area.

Synonyms: Run-down; Derelict; Shabby; Decayed; Neglected; Deteriorating (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Smart; Rebuilt (both adjectives)



Example Sentence: While some parts of my hometown are a bit dilapidated, other areas have been recently developed and look fantastic.

Word 4: Green spaces (noun)

Meaning: Parts of a city that include nature, such as parks and gardens. Often maintained by the government for use by local people.

Synonyms: Green areas; Recreational areas (both nouns, similar size and location); Nature reserve (noun, usually a large area not in the center of the city)

Antonyms: Concrete jungle; Built-up areas (both nouns)

Collocations: The availability of green spaces; The absence of green spaces; The need for green spaces; The use of green spaces; The maintenance of green spaces; Lots of green spaces; Very few green spaces

Example Sentence: Residents of cities consistently say that the availability of green spaces is one of the biggest factors that affect the liveability of a city.

Word 5: Liveable (adjective)

Meaning: A place that is enjoyable and comfortable to live in. Also, a way to judge a city's suitability for residents. Usually focused on factors including green spaces, pollution, cost of living, transport and other local facilities.

Word Family: Livability (noun)

Synonyms: Comfortable (adjective)

Collocations: The most liveable city; The least liveable city; A very liveable city; To make somewhere more liveable

Example Sentence: Except for the cost of buying a house, my hometown is considered one of the most liveable cities in my country.

Word 6: Gentrification (noun)

Meaning: A change where a previously poorer part of a city becomes more prosperous and expensive. Can be a positive or negative thing.

Word Family: Gentrify (verb); Gentrified (adjective)



Synonyms: Urban renewal (noun)

Example Sentence: The gentrification of once-poor neighbourhoods can lead to new economic opportunities, but also make it hard for existing residents to make ends meet.

Word 7: Nightlife (noun)

Meaning: A collection (or the availability) of bars, nightclubs and other night-time activities. Often used as a way of judging a city.

Synonyms: Bar scene; Club scene (both nouns)

Collocations: The nightlife in + name of place + is great; (Somewhere is) known/famous for its great nightlife; Not much in the way of nightlife; To sample the local nightlife

Example Sentence: My hometown doesn't have much in the way of nightlife, but there are plenty of other things to do.

Word 8: Small-town vibe (noun)

Meaning: The special or unique feeling from being in a small town compared to a big city.

Antonyms: Big-city vibe (noun)

Collocations: To enjoy the small-town vibe; To soak up the small-town vibe; To get sick of the small-town vibe; To have a real small-town vibe; To be looking for that small-town vibe

Example Sentence: Many people eventually move out of cities because they miss the small-town vibe that they enjoyed growing up.

Word 9: Upmarket (adjective)

Meaning: Something that is expensive and luxurious, designed to appeal to wealthier people.

Synonyms: High-end; Exclusive; Upscale; Posh; Fancy (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Low-end; Simple; Inexpensive (all adjectives)

Collocations: An upmarket area; An upmarket restaurant; An upmarket shopping district; (Somewhere is) rather upmarket



Example Sentence: As a result of gentrification, my hometown has a few new upmarket areas which, twenty years ago, were rather dilapidated.

Word 10: Spring up (verb)

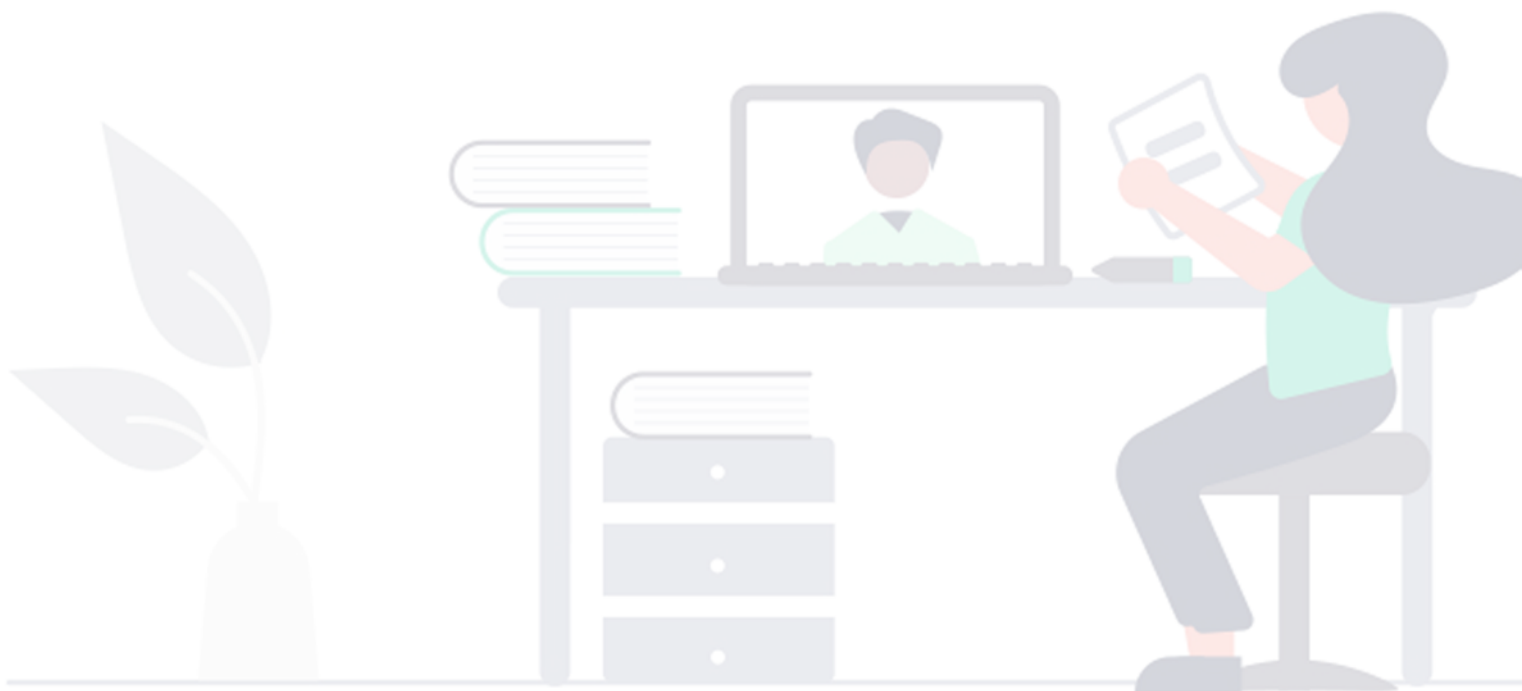
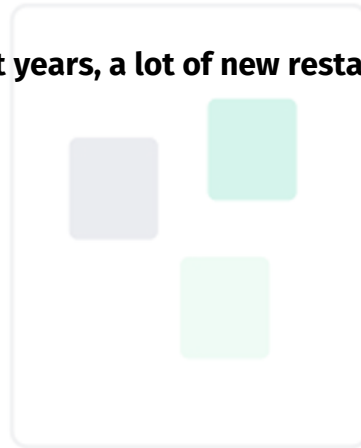
Meaning: To appear suddenly or unexpectedly. Often used for new buildings, businesses or other developments.

Synonyms: To appear; To get started (both verbs)

Antonyms: To suddenly disappear (verb)

Collocations: Something is starting to spring up; A lot of new + thing + have sprung up recently; To spring up all over the city/country; To spring up almost overnight; To spring up like mushrooms; To spring up out of nowhere

Example Sentence: In recent years, a lot of new restaurants and bars have sprung up all over the city.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Housing

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Minimalist (noun, adjective)

Meaning: Someone who prefers to have few possessions, including clothes and furniture.

Word Family: Minimalism (noun, the idea); Minimalize (verb); Minimalized (adjective)

Antonyms: A hoarder (noun, someone who never throws anything away); Profligate (adjective, someone who spends money without control)

Collocations: A minimalist approach; A committed minimalist; A minimalist attitude; To become a minimalist; To find it difficult to be a minimalist; A minimalist style of living; To consider oneself to be a minimalist

Example Sentence: I consider myself to be a minimalist, but I still would like to get a really nice coffee machine for my house!

Word 2: Get on the property ladder (phrasal verb)

Meaning: The first time that someone buys their own home.

Synonyms: Get a foot on the property ladder; To buy your first house/apartment (both verbs); A first-time buyer (noun)

Antonyms: To rent an apartment (verb)

Collocations: To try to get on the property ladder; To struggle to get on the property ladder; To want to get on the property ladder; To need to get on the property ladder; The first rung of the property ladder

Example Sentence: Due to rising house prices, it is increasingly difficult for my generation to get on the property ladder.

Word 3: Downsize (verb)

Meaning: To move from a larger to a smaller home. Often done by older people whose children have left home.

Word Family: Downsizing (noun)



Collocations: To plan to downsize; To be (un)willing to downsize; To be forced to downsize; (When) The time is right to downsize

Example Sentence: Many older people are willing to downsize in order to free up some of the value of their larger home.

Word 4: Renovate (verb)

Meaning: To significantly improve something old and in poor condition, in order to make it like new again.

Word Family: Renovation (noun); To do renovations (verb)

Synonyms: To refurbish; To redecorate; To modernize; To revamp; To remodel (all verbs)

Antonyms: To demolish; To destroy (both verbs)

Collocations: To completely/totally renovate something; To partially renovate something; To plan to renovate something; To be recently renovated; To decide to renovate something

Example Sentence: I like to keep things modern, so my ideal home would have to be recently renovated.

Word 5: Natural light (noun)

Meaning: Light from the sun that enters a building from windows, rather than from electric lights.

Synonyms: Sunlight; The sun's rays (both nouns)

Antonyms: Lamplight; Artificial light; Electric light; Candlelight (all nouns)

Collocations: Plenty of natural light; Full of natural light; Very little natural light; The importance of natural light; To allow natural light to enter; To incorporate natural light; To block natural light

Example Sentence: My house is south-facing, so we get plenty of natural light.

Word 6: Mortgage (noun, verb)

Meaning: A loan given by a bank to allow someone to buy a house.



Synonyms: House loan; Homeowner's loan (both nouns)

Antonyms: To buy in cash (verb)

Collocations: To take out a mortgage; To repay a mortgage; To pay off a mortgage; Monthly mortgage payments; A 15/20/25/30-year mortgage; To get a mortgage (on a property); To be rejected for a mortgage; A mortgage lender; A big mortgage; To fall behind with one's mortgage repayments; To miss a mortgage payment

Example Sentence: Many people who don't have a steady income are unable to take out a mortgage, and as such, cannot buy their own home.

Word 7: House-hunting (noun)

Meaning: Searching for a house to buy or rent.

Collocations: To go house-hunting; To enjoy house-hunting; To hate house-hunting

Example Sentence: I'm not a big fan of house-hunting, so I prefer to stay in my current apartment rather than moving house.

Word 8: Generation Rent (noun)

Meaning: A generation of people who can't afford to get on the property ladder due to high house prices.

Synonyms: Non-homeowner (noun)

Antonyms: Homeowner (noun)

Collocations: The so-called Generation Rent; (Someone is) known as Generation Rent; To be part of Generation Rent; (To be) A member of Generation Rent.

Example Sentence: The prospect of owning a home is very low for members of Generation Rent.

Word 9: To feel at home (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To have a comfortable and safe feeling. Not always in a person's own home – it can also be in a different place e.g. university, a new job, a friend's house.



Antonyms: To feel out of place; To feel like a fish out of water (both verbs, mean not feeling comfortable in a place); To be homesick (verb, to miss one's home)

Collocations: To make yourself feel at home; To make someone feel at home; To always feel at home somewhere; To never feel at home; To start to feel at home

Example Sentence: One of the key requirements for a house is that you can always feel at home there.

Word 10: Home is where you hang your hat (phrasal verb, informal)

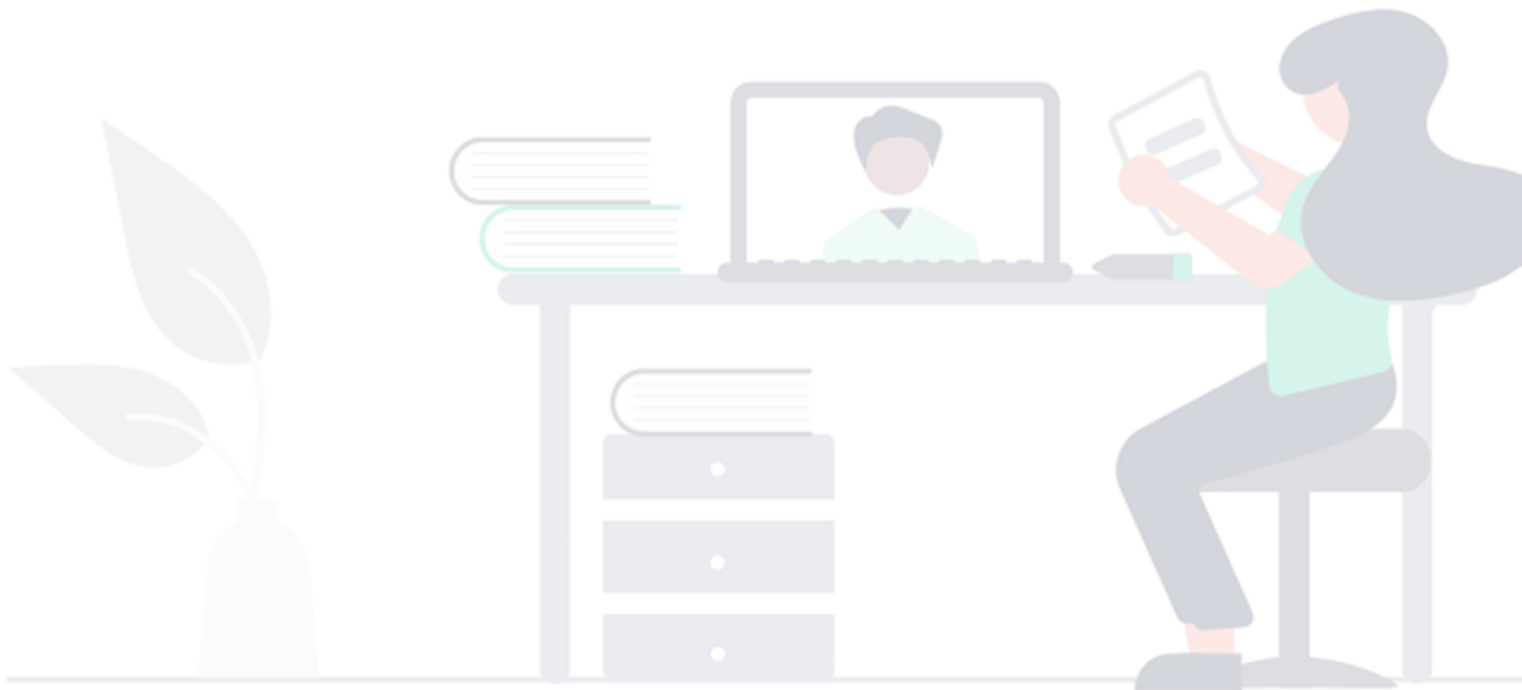
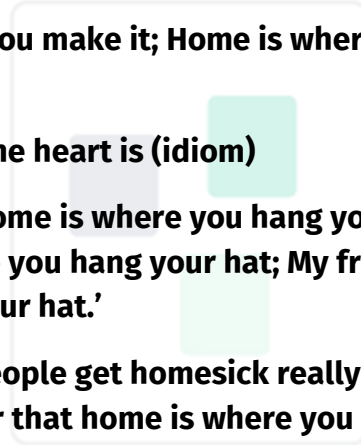
Meaning: You can feel at home and accept being anywhere, instead of missing your family home.

Synonyms: Home is where you make it; Home is wherever I'm with you (both idioms)

Antonyms: Home is where the heart is (idiom)

Collocations: As they say, home is where you hang your hat; I'm a big believer that home is where you hang your hat; My friend always says that, 'Home is where you hang your hat.'

Example Sentence: Some people get homesick really easily when they move house, but I'm a big believer that home is where you hang your hat.





Advanced English Vocabulary– International Aid

Vocabulary List

Word 1: A helping hand (noun)

Meaning: To give aid to someone or something e.g. a country.

Synonyms: To give aid; To give assistance; To assist (all verbs)

Collocations: To lend (someone) a helping hand; To offer (someone) a helping hand; To give (someone) a helping hand; To need a helping hand; To receive/get a helping hand

Example Sentence: Sometimes all that poorer countries need in order to achieve success is an initial helping hand.

Word 2: Charity begins at home (idiom)

Meaning: Make sure that your own house, city or country is without problems before giving aid to others.

Collocations: It's often claimed that 'charity begins at home'; As is well-known, charity begins at home

Example Sentence: The old saying, 'charity begins at home', is a good guide to dealing with the difficult decision of whether to offer other countries a helping hand.

Word 3: The global north (noun)

Meaning: A term that refers to the main group of rich, Western countries including USA, UK, France, Germany and others. Note – not 'geographical' north as it includes countries such as Australia and New Zealand.

Synonyms: The developed world (noun)

Antonyms: The developing world; The global south (both nouns)

Collocations: Countries in the global north; Workers in the global north; The attitudes of people in the global north; The wealth of the global north

Example Sentence: Countries in the global north have a moral responsibility to act in support of those in the global south, particularly when it comes to issues such as global warming.



Word 4: Plight (noun)

Meaning: Trouble or difficulties.

Synonyms: Trouble; Difficulties; Challenges; Predicament (all nouns)

Antonyms: Good fortune (noun)

Collocations: To understand the plight of (+ someone e.g. countries in the global south); To be moved by the plight of (+ someone e.g. refugees); Desperate plight; Terrible plight; To be sympathetic to someone's plight; To draw attention to the plight of someone

Example Sentence: It is hard not to be moved by the plight of refugees made homeless by war, famine or climate instability.

Word 5: Famine (noun)

Meaning: A situation in which food has run out and many people are starving to death.

Synonyms: Starvation; Food scarcity; Food shortages (all nouns)

Collocations: A severe famine; A terrible famine; The onset of famine; The causes of famine; An imminent/impending famine; When famine strikes, (+ result e.g. children and old people tend to suffer the most); To be plagued by famine; Victims of famine; Famine relief; Months/years of famine

Example Sentence: Countries that have recently been at war are far more likely to be plagued by famine as a result.

Word 6: Skim off the top (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To illegally and secretly take a percentage of money that one hasn't earned. For example, secretly taking 10% from the donations made to a charity.

Synonyms: Fraud; Corruption (both nouns); To fleece; To rip off (both verbs)

Collocations: To catch someone skimming off the top; To prevent someone skimming off the top; To get away with skimming off the top

Example Sentence: A fear that many people have about providing aid to other countries is whether there are middle-men skimming off the top.



Word 7: Slash spending (verb)

Meaning: To cut spending on something (e.g. international aid) in a big or severe way.

Synonyms: To cut spending; To decrease spending; To reduce spending (all verbs)

Antonyms: To boost spending; To increase spending (both verbs)

Collocations: To intend to slash spending on (+ something e.g. social security); To want to slash spending on something; To try to slash spending on something

Example Sentence: There is often disagreement amongst people about whether the government should boost or slash spending on foreign aid.

Word 8: Extremism (noun)

Meaning: Ideologies that are very strong or extreme, including terrorism and other violent acts.

Word Family: Extremist (noun, the person); Extreme (adjective)

Synonyms: Terrorism; Radicalism; Fanaticism; Fundamentalism (noun)

Antonyms: Moderate; Law-abiding; Centrist (all adjective); Moderation (noun)

Collocations: To combat extremism; To fight against extremism; The rise of extremism; The fight against extremism; To counteract extremism; To support extremism; The danger of extremism

Example Sentence: One big benefit of international aid is that, by supporting local communities in vulnerable countries, it can aid the fight against extremism.

Word 9: Vulnerable (adjective)

Meaning: Being in a situation of danger or without protection.

Word Family: Vulnerability (noun)

Synonyms: Endangered; In peril; Unprotected; Insecure; Defenceless (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Secure; Protected; Resilient (all adjectives)



Collocations: To make someone/something vulnerable; To appear vulnerable; To be vulnerable to something (e.g. attack); To be more/particularly vulnerable to something (e.g. extremism); To feel vulnerable

Example Sentence: Countries with limited rainfall and no access to reliable sources of fresh water are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

Word 10: Multilateral (adjective)

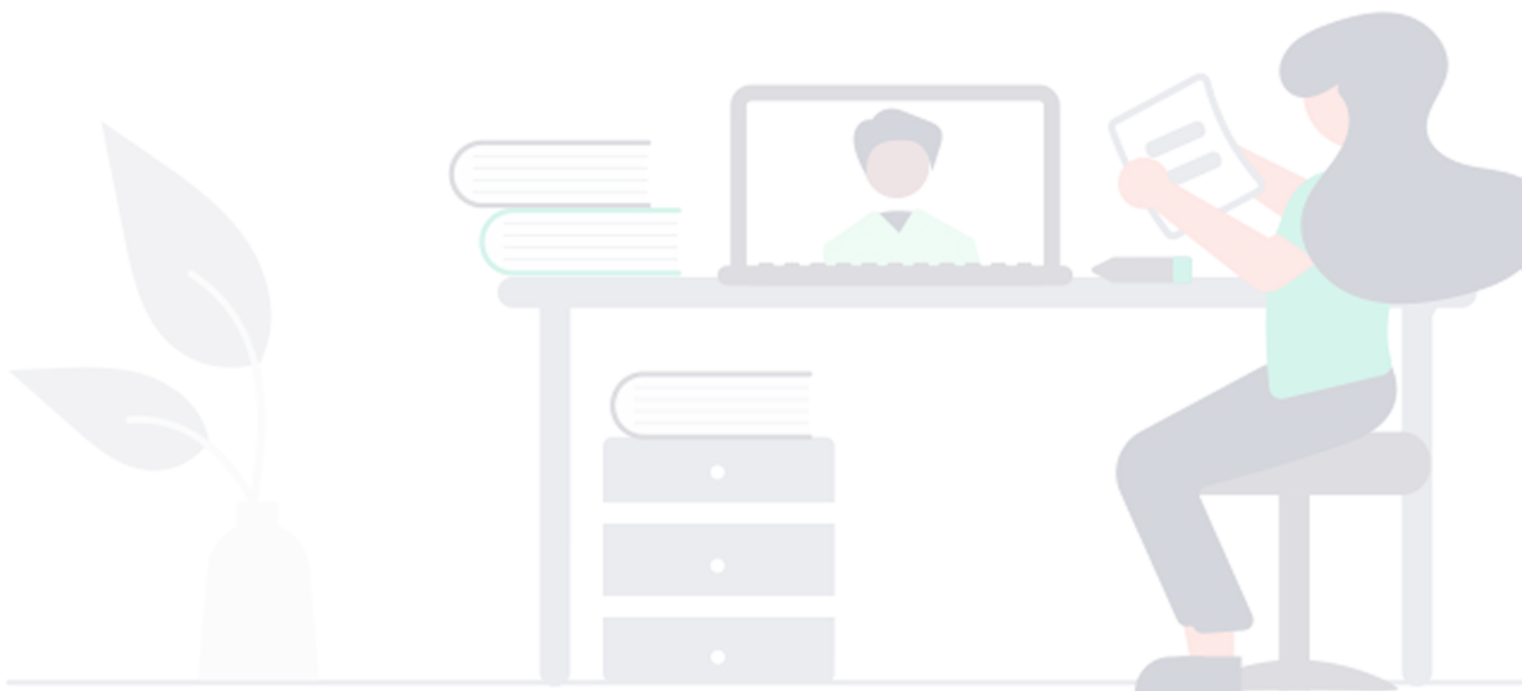
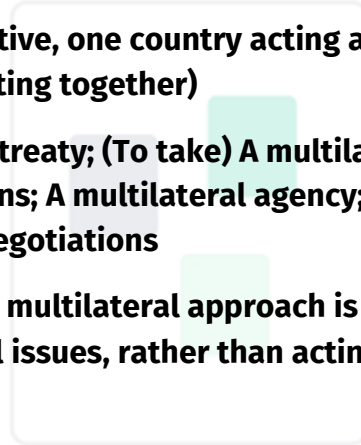
Meaning: Associated with a number of countries, not just one or two countries. For example, political alliances or specific actions taken.

Word Family: Multilateralism (noun); Multilaterally (adverb)

Antonyms: Unilateral (adjective, one country acting alone); Bilateral (adjective, two countries acting together)

Collocations: A multilateral treaty; (To take) A multilateral approach; Multilateral talks/discussions; A multilateral agency; A multilateral organisation; Multilateral negotiations

Example Sentence: Taking a multilateral approach is usually a better way to solve pressing international issues, rather than acting unilaterally.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Language

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Nuance (noun)

Meaning: The very subtle or specific meanings that words or phrases can have.

Word Family: Nuanced (adjective)

Synonyms: Niceties; Subtleties (both nouns)

Antonyms: The gist; The general idea (both nouns)

Collocations: A nuanced approach; To understand the nuances of something; To notice every nuance in something; (To have) Layers of nuance; Specific nuance; Every little nuance; To be sensitive to the slightest nuance in something; The subtle nuances of something; Cultural nuances;

Example Sentence: Even for advanced speakers of a second language, it can be hard to understand all the nuances of the language.

Word 2: Polyglot (noun)

Meaning: Someone who can speak several languages well (usually at least 4 languages).

Synonyms: Polylingual (adjective)

Antonyms: Monolingual (adjective)

Example Sentence: I would love to be a polyglot, but learning English was hard enough by itself!

Word 3: Make oneself understood (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To use simple words in a second language to communicate with someone and allow the person to understand your meaning.

Collocations: I can make myself understood; Can you make yourself understood; It's important to be able to make yourself understood

Example Sentence: I am far from fluent in French, but I can make myself understood when I talk to people on the street.



Word 4: Get the gist (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To understand the general meaning of what someone is saying, without being clear about all the details.

Synonyms: To get the point; To get the idea; To get the picture (all verbs)

Antonyms: To misunderstand; To have no idea (both verbs)

Collocations: To only get the gist; To always get the gist; To struggle to even get the gist; To get the gist of something; To get the gist of what someone is saying

Example Sentence: A person who struggles with listening might only get the gist of what other people are saying, and miss a lot of the nuances.

Word 5: Immerse oneself (verb)

Meaning: To put oneself in a situation with almost complete exposure to a new language. For example, someone from China going to Japan and only using Japanese, not Chinese.

Word Family: Immersion (noun); Immersive (adjective)

Synonyms: To commit oneself to something; To bury oneself in something; To throw oneself into something (all verbs)

Antonyms: To dip in and out of something; To casually study something (both verbs)

Collocations: To immerse yourself in a new language; To totally/completely immerse yourself; To be deeply immersed in something

Example Sentence: Immersing yourself in a language is definitely the quickest and most effective way to see big improvements quickly.

Word 6: Proficient (adjective)

Meaning: Have a good (but not perfect) level of ability in something, such as speaking another language.

Synonyms: (To be a) Capable something; (To be a) Skilful something; To be adept at something (adjective); (To be) Skilled at something (all adjectives); To have a command of something (verb)



Antonyms: Beginner (noun); (To be) Incapable of something (adjective)

Collocations: To be proficient at + verb (e.g. speaking English); To be proficient in + noun (e.g. English); To be a proficient speaker of + language; Fairly/reasonably proficient

Example Sentence: He is a proficient speaker of several European languages including Portuguese and Italian.

Word 7: Eloquent (adjective)

Meaning: Someone who can talk very well, talks in an impressive way.

Word Family: Eloquence (noun); Eloquently (adverb)

Synonyms: Articulate (adjective)

Antonyms: Incoherent; Inarticulate (both adjectives)

Collocations: An eloquent speaker; An eloquent speech; To be quite eloquent on + a subject/topic; An eloquent response (to something)

Example Sentence: There is a big difference between making yourself understood in another language, and being eloquent in that language.

Word 8: Tongue-tied (adjective)

Meaning: A feeling in which you feel nervous and find it difficult to say anything.

Synonyms: Dumbstruck; Lost for words; Speechless (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Eloquent; Talkative; Communicative; Articulate (all adjectives)

Collocations: To get tongue-tied; (To be) self-conscious and tongue-tied; To feel tongue-tied; To become tongue-tied

Example Sentence: I always get tongue-tied when speaking a foreign language with native speakers, even when I know the language well.

Word 9: Sentence structure (noun)

Meaning: The order or way in which sentences are created in a language.

Word Family: To structure a sentence (verb)



Synonyms: Sentence order; Word order (both nouns)

Collocations: A similar sentence structure; A completely different sentence structure; To learn a new sentence structure; To struggle with a sentence structure; To use a different sentence structure; To add variety to your sentence structure; The rules of sentence structure

Example Sentence: One of biggest challenges for English native speakers learning Chinese is the completely different sentence structure.

Word 10: Linguistic (adjective)

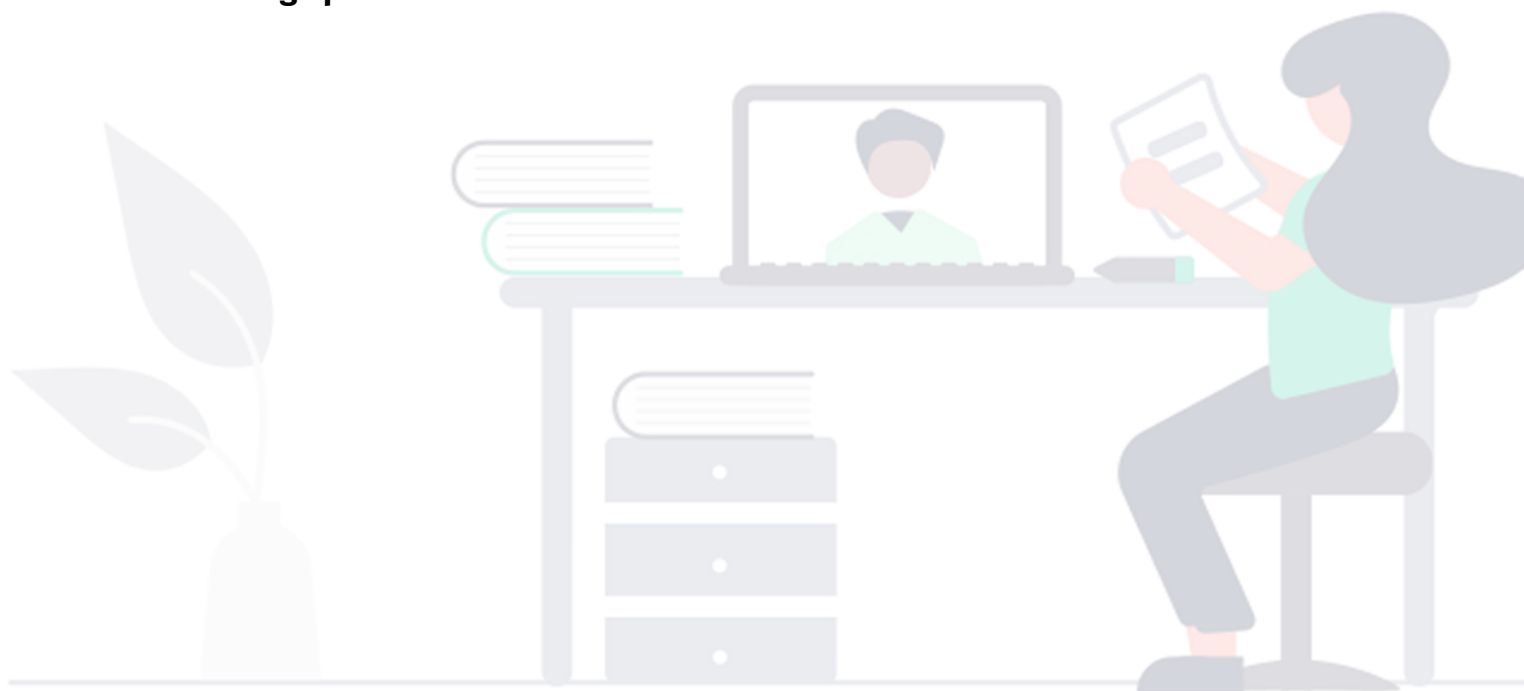
Meaning: Related to language.

Word Family: Linguist (noun, a person who studies languages); Linguistically (adverb)

Synonyms: Lingual (adjective)

Collocations: Linguistic development; A linguistic challenge; Linguistic matters; Linguistic diversity; Linguistic knowledge; Linguistic research; To divide people along linguistic lines; Linguistic techniques; Linguistic neighbour; A linguistic point of view; The same linguistic family; A different linguistic family; Linguistic groups

Example Sentence: It's much easier to learn new languages that come from the same linguistic family as your mother tongue, such as French people learning Spanish.





Advanced English Vocabulary - Love

Vocabulary List

Word 1: A romantic gesture (noun)

Meaning: A romantic action taken by someone. For example, buying roses, or making someone's favorite meal.

Synonyms: A loving gesture (noun); Doing something romantic for someone (verb)

Collocations: An unexpected romantic gesture; To make a romantic gesture; To love romantic gestures; To feel awkward about romantic gestures; To try to make a romantic gesture; To avoid romantic gestures; A grand romantic gesture

Example Sentence: A grand romantic gesture can be very effective if chosen and planned well, but can also backfire horribly!

Word 2: Plenty more fish in the sea (Idiom, noun)

Meaning: A kind and comforting phrase meaning that there are other potential romantic partners in the world. Usually said to someone who has just broken up with a romantic partner.

Collocations: Don't worry, there are plenty more fish in the sea; I said to him, 'There are plenty more fish in the sea'

Example Sentence: People often say 'plenty more fish in the sea' when a relationship ends, but it isn't always what the person wants to hear.

Word 3: Single and ready to mingle (adjective)

Meaning: Informal phrase used by people who are single but would like to find a romantic partner, either for a long- or short-term relationship.

Synonyms: On the market; Unattached; Available (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Taken; Married; In a relationship; Spoken for; Unavailable (all adjectives)

Example Sentence: My friend told me that she was single and ready to mingle, so I set her up with my classmate.



Word 4: To set someone up (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To arrange for two people to go on a date together or start a romantic relationship.

Word Family: To be set up by someone (passive verb)

Antonyms: Break up a couple; Sabotage a relationship (both verbs)

Collocations: To be set up by one's parents; To be set up by one's friend; To set someone up with someone else

Example Sentence: I set up my best friend with a lady that I work with, and now they are happily married.

Word 5: Exclusive (adjective)

Meaning: When two people in a romantic relationship decide that they won't have relations with anyone else. Considered by some people to be automatic at the start of a relationship, but sometimes by others as something that has to be verbally agreed by both parties.

Antonyms: An open relationship (noun)

Collocations: They/We are exclusive; We never agreed that we were exclusive; To want to be exclusive; To not want to be exclusive; To agree to be exclusive

Example Sentence: One complication that can arise between new partners is the question of whether the relationship is exclusive or not.

Word 6: Engaged (adjective)

Meaning: To have agreed to marry someone, but not be married yet.

Synonyms: Betrothed (adjective); Fiancé (noun, an engaged man); Fiancée (noun, an engaged woman)

Antonyms: Single; Unattached; Available (all adjectives)

Collocations: Someone is engaged; Someone was engaged; To get engaged; To want to be engaged; To not want to be engaged; To have expected to be engaged by (+ time e.g. now/age 25); To have been engaged for (+ length of time e.g. 2 years); To be engaged to someone



Example Sentence: Some couples get married shortly after getting engaged, whereas others opt for a long engagement and take their time over their wedding plans.

Word 7: Significant other (noun)

Meaning: Someone's romantic partner. This can include a boyfriend/girlfriend, fiancé(e), or husband/wife.

Synonyms: Partner; Boyfriend/Girlfriend; Husband/Wife; Fiancé/Fiancée; Spouse (all nouns)

Collocations: To have a significant other; Someone's significant other; Someone is someone's significant other; Is your significant other coming; To meet someone's significant other; To bring one's significant other to (+ event e.g. a party); Does someone have a significant other in their life?; To spend time with a significant other

Example Sentence: Grandparents will often put pressure on their grandchildren by asking why they don't yet have a significant other.

Word 8: Childhood sweetheart (noun)

Meaning: Someone that you were in a relationship with in high-school or earlier. The relationship could have continued, or ended. Someone met during university does not count as a childhood sweetheart.

Synonyms: Long-term partner (noun)

Antonyms: New partner/boyfriend/girlfriend (noun)

Collocations: They were childhood sweethearts; To marry one's childhood sweetheart; To get back together with one's childhood sweetheart; Someone is someone's childhood sweetheart

Example Sentence: As people travel more for university and migrate to bigger cities, marrying one's childhood sweetheart is far less common than it used to be.

Word 9: Date (noun)



Meaning: A meeting with someone that has the potential of being (or is already) one's romantic partner. Classic examples include going to the cinema or to a restaurant.

Word Family: To date someone (verb); To be dating (adjective)

Synonyms: To go out with someone; To be seeing someone (both verbs)

Collocations: To go on a date with someone; A first date; A second date; A lunch date; A big date; To be out on a date with someone; A blind date; To set someone up on a date; To have a date; A hot date

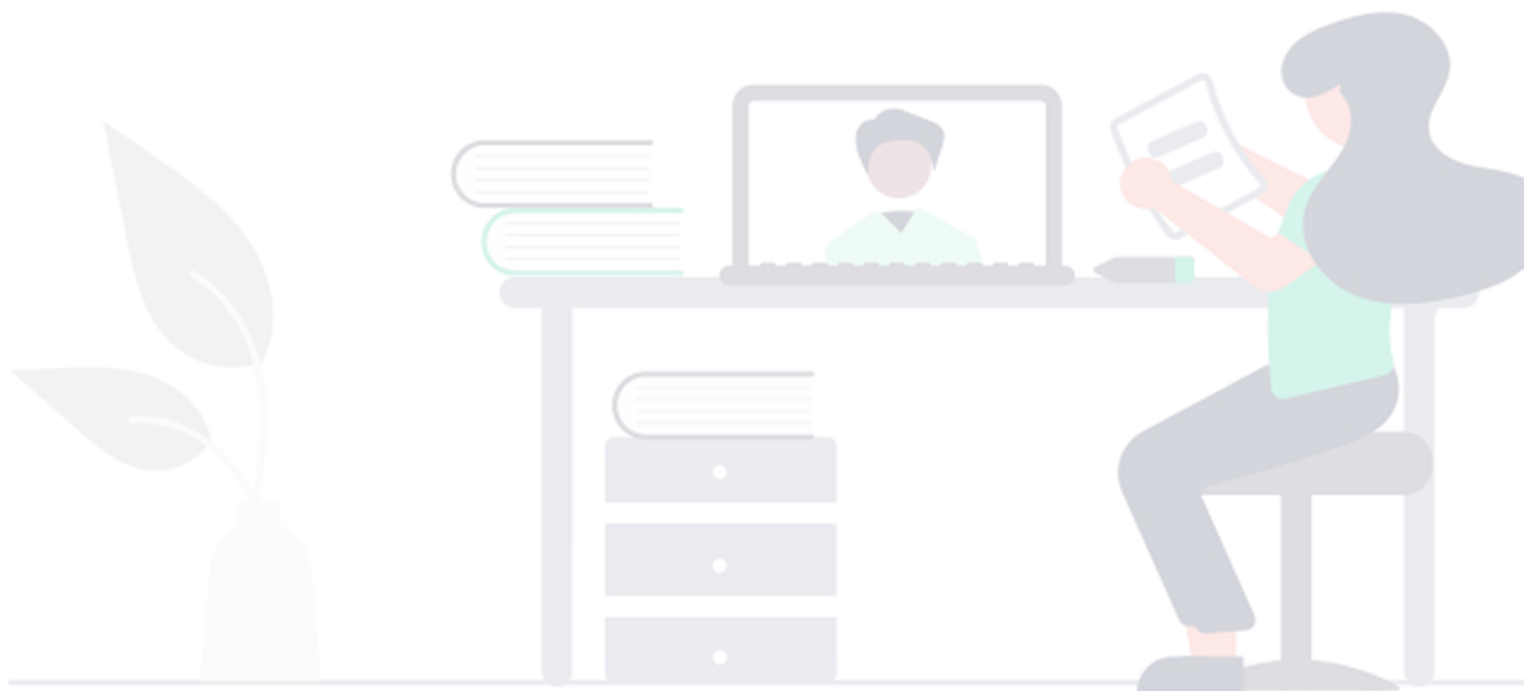
Example Sentence: Going on a first date can be nerve-racking experience!

Word 10: It's better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all (common expression)

Meaning: Having a good relationship which ends for some reason is better than not having a relationship. Often used to console people who have broken up with their partner.

Collocations: People say, 'It's better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all'; I really believe it's better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all

Example Sentence: A good friend will remind you that it's better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Media and Fame

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Limelight (noun)

Meaning: The state of fame or being famous, or the focus of public attention.

Synonyms: Fame (noun); In the public eye (adjective)

Antonyms: Out of the limelight (adjective)

Collocations: In the limelight; To be thrust into the limelight; To enjoy the limelight; To enjoy being in the limelight; To crave the limelight; To miss the limelight; To hate the limelight; To steal the limelight; To stay out of the limelight; To share the limelight

Example Sentence: He always hated the limelight and only wanted to make music for its own sake, not to become famous.

Word 2: Paparazzi (plural noun)

Meaning: Photographers who follow celebrities and take photos of them during their normal life.

Word Family: Paparazzo (single noun, one photographer)

Synonyms: Photographers (nouns)

Collocations: To be pursued/followed by the paparazzi; To escape the paparazzi

Example Sentence: Famous people often find that being pursued by the paparazzi is one of the curses of fame.

Word 3: Opulent (adjective)

Meaning: Very luxurious, elaborate or expensive. Often used as a negative word.

Word Family: Opulently (adverb); Opulence (noun)

Synonyms: Elaborate; Luxurious; Lavish (all adjectives)



Antonyms: Simple; Straightforward; Plain; Spartan; Restrained (all adjectives)

Collocations: To live/lead an opulent lifestyle; (Something is/would be) Pure opulence; An opulent meal; An opulent palace/mansion; An opulent appearance

Example Sentence: Ordinary people often both envy and despise the opulent rich.

Word 4: Get one's big break (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To have the opportunity to become famous and/or successful.

Synonyms: To make it; To make your name (both verbs)

Collocations: Get her/his big break in Hollywood; Get his/her big break in the music industry; Get his/her big break in television; To wait for your big break

Example Sentence: Many people work hard for years searching and waiting for their big break, but never quite find it.

Word 5: Household name (name)

Meaning: A situation of fame when almost everyone in a country knows a particular famous person.

Synonyms: Famous; Well-known (both adjectives)

Antonyms: Anonymous; Unknown (both adjectives)

Collocations: To become a household name; To want to be a household name

Example Sentence: People who become household names find it hard to live a normal life, because they are constantly in the limelight.

Word 6: Speculation (noun)

Meaning: Unconfirmed information about a topic that is spread around and widely discussed.

Word Family: To speculate (verb)



Synonyms: Rumours; Whispers; Gossip; Hearsay; The word on the street (all nouns)

Antonyms: Facts; Truth (both nouns)

Collocations: To deal with speculation; To face speculation; To be the subject of speculation; To avoid speculation; To hate speculation; (There is) Considerable speculation; Widespread speculation; Renewed speculation; Wild speculation; Intense speculation; To encourage speculation; To lead to speculation; To invite speculation; The subject of speculation; To end speculation; To discourage speculation; Speculation is rife that + action; To dismiss something as speculation

Example Sentence: Famous people often find that their private lives are the subject of considerable speculation.

Word 7: Wholesome (adjective)

Meaning: Someone who has a very family-friendly, innocent public image, and usually behaves in a legal and respectable way. Can be used as a positive adjective, but also can mean 'boring'.

Synonyms: Clean-living; Respectable (both adjectives)

Antonyms: A hellraiser; A wild child (both nouns)

Collocations: Nice and wholesome; A wholesome appearance

Example Sentence: Disney likes their child stars to be wholesome, family-friendly products they can easily package and sell, but quite often they grow up to be hellraisers!

Word 8: Authenticity (noun)

Meaning: The level to which something is (or seems) real, rather than manufactured or acted. Often used about the way in which celebrities or social media creators behave on camera.

Word Family: Authentic (adjective); Authenticity (adverb)

Synonyms: Real; Legitimate; Genuine (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Manufactured; Fake; Artificial (all adjectives)

Collocations: The value of authenticity; The appeal of authenticity; The lack/absence of authenticity



Example Sentence: Authenticity is one of the biggest factors today in deciding whether a social media channel becomes popular or not.

Word 9: A flash in the pan (noun)

Meaning: Someone/something that was famous and/or successful for a very short period of time.

Synonyms: A one-hit wonder (noun, used about musicians with one successful song); Someone's 15 minutes of fame (noun)

Collocations: Something is/was a flash in pan; To prove one isn't a flash in pan; To prove something (e.g. success) wasn't a flash in the pan; Just another flash in the pan

Example Sentence: That TV show seemed like it would be very successful and continue for a long time, but in the end that first season was just a flash in the pan.

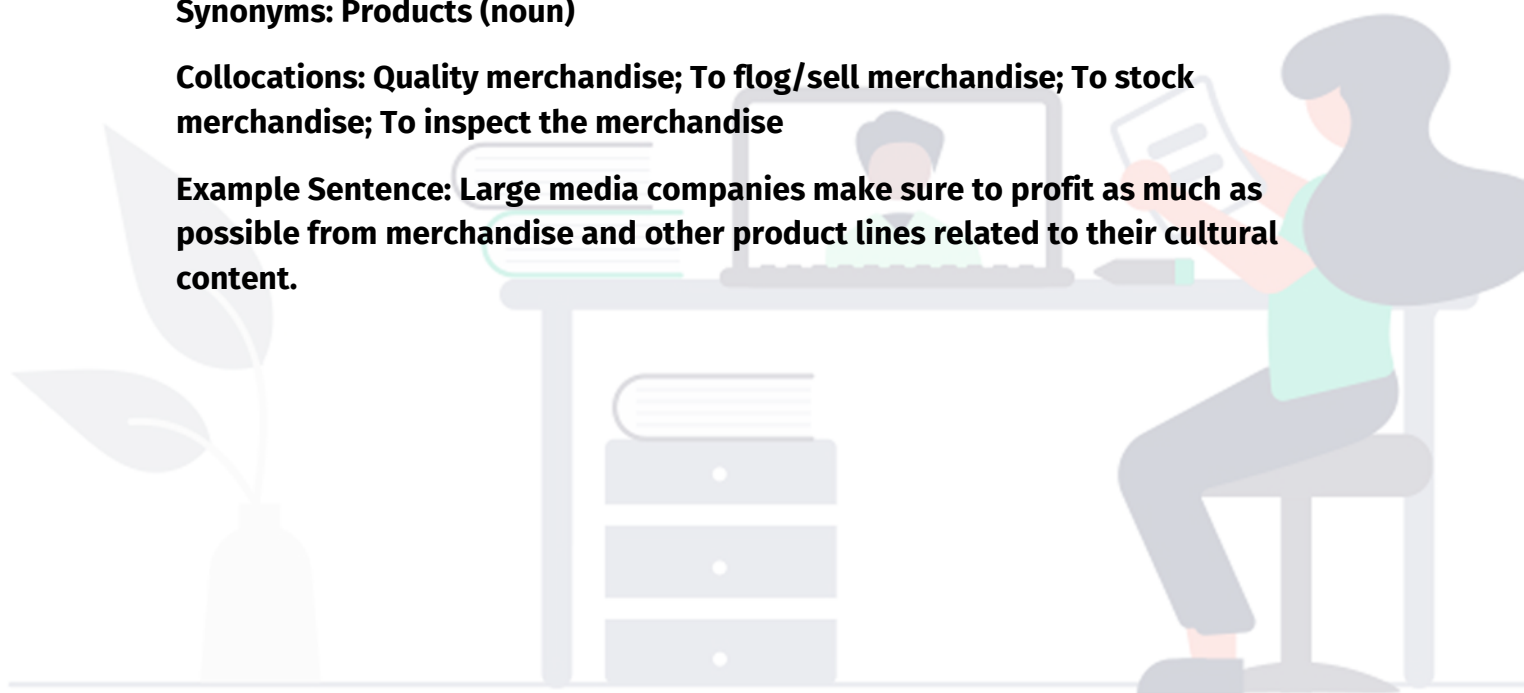
Word 10: Merchandise (noun)

Meaning: 1) General meaning = Products created and sold by a company; 2) Media/Fame meaning = Products created by a company that are related to a piece of popular culture. For example, T-shirts from a band or lunchboxes with a Disney princess on the cover.

Synonyms: Products (noun)

Collocations: Quality merchandise; To flog/sell merchandise; To stock merchandise; To inspect the merchandise

Example Sentence: Large media companies make sure to profit as much as possible from merchandise and other product lines related to their cultural content.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Money

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Frugal (adjective)

Meaning: Someone who controls the money they spend very carefully.

Synonyms: Tight-fisted (negative adjectives); Thrifty; Cautious; Prudent (all neutral adjectives)

Antonyms: Extravagant; Lavish; Profligate; Wasteful (all adjectives)

Collocations: To live/lead a frugal life; To be frugal and hard-working; A frugal existence; A frugal diet

Example Sentence: While it's important to be frugal most of the time, there are times in which it is wise to loosen the purse strings a little.

Word 2: To loosen the purse strings (idiom, verb)

Meaning: To spend more money than usual, to be less frugal than usual. Often related to making a large or luxurious purchase.

Synonyms: To throw caution to the wind (idiom, verb)

Antonyms: To tighten one's belt (idiom, verb)

Collocations: We should loosen the purse strings a little; It's time to loosen the purse strings; To refuse to loosen the purse strings

Example Sentence: My dad was always very cautious with money, and would only loosen the purse strings once a year at Christmas.

Word 3: To tighten one's belt (idiom, verb)

Meaning: Describes a change in behaviour - spending less money and living a less luxurious and expensive lifestyle than in the past.

Synonyms: To cut back on something; To live within one's means (both verbs)

Antonyms: To loosen the purse strings; To throw caution to the wind (both idioms, verbs)



Collocations: To have/need to tighten one's belt; To be forced to tighten one's belt; To avoid tightening one's belt; To want to tighten one's belt

Example Sentence: When my grandpa was a young farmer, he would have to tighten his belt every time there was a bad harvest or money was short.

Word 4: Impulse purchase (noun)

Meaning: Something you buy suddenly without having had a plan to buy it.

Synonym: Impulse buying (noun, the action in general); Impulse buy (noun, a specific purchase)

Antonyms: A planned purchase (noun)

Collocations: To make an impulse purchase; To encourage impulse purchasing; To avoid impulse purchases

Example Sentence: One good way to save money is to plan all your spending and avoid impulse purchases.

Word 5: Breadwinner (noun)

Meaning: The person in a household who earns money for the family.

Synonyms: Earner; Provider (both nouns)

Collocations: The primary breadwinner; The main breadwinner; The sole breadwinner; To have two breadwinners; The breadwinner in a family; To become the breadwinner of the family

Example Sentence: In families with two breadwinners, domestic tasks are often divided more equally.

Word 6: Mouths to feed (idiom, noun)

Meaning: The number of people, usually children, in a family, who have to be provided for in terms of earning money, buying food as well as other necessary items like clothes.

Synonyms: Dependents (noun)

Collocations: Hungry mouths to feed; A lot of mouths to feed; That's one more mouth to feed; Another mouth to feed



Example Sentence: Large families with a lot of hungry mouths to feed often struggle to save money or make investments.

Word 7: Consumerism (noun)

Meaning: The idea or trend of people putting a lot of emphasis and importance on buying goods and spending money. Usually used as a negative.

Word Family: Consumerist (adjective)

Synonyms: Materialism (noun); Materialist; Shopaholic (both adjectives)

Collocations: Western consumerism; A palace of consumerism; The ideology of consumerism; The rise of consumerism; Mass consumerism; Mindless consumerism

Example Sentence: The rise of mass consumerism is a direct threat to the environment.

Word 8: Investment (noun)

Meaning: Money (or another resource) used in a way that has a chance of showing a reward or return in the future.

Word Family: To invest (verb); Investing (noun, the action of making an investment)

Collocations: To make an investment; A smart/wise/sound investment; An attractive investment; An investment opportunity; A risky investment; A safe investment; A poor/unwise investment; A long-term investment; A short-term investment; An investment in yourself; An investment in something (e.g. stocks, property); An emotional investment; A time investment; A significant/substantial investment; A massive investment; To make a return/profit on an investment; To make a loss on an investment; An initial investment; An investment strategy

Example Sentence: Making smart investments means that you make your money work for you, instead of you working for money.

Word 9: Make ends meet (idiom, verb)



Meaning: To make enough money to cover basic living costs like food and housing, but without much money for luxuries.

Synonyms: To get by; To live paycheck to paycheck (both verbs)

Collocations: To struggle to make ends meet; To have to make ends meet; To find it difficult/impossible to make ends meet; To do something to make ends meet; To make ends meet, he/she + action (e.g. works two jobs); Someone can barely make ends meet; (Something is) A way to make ends meet; Someone makes just enough to make ends meet

Example Sentence: Many families with only a single breadwinner struggle to make ends meet.

Word 10: To splash the cash (informal idiom, verb)

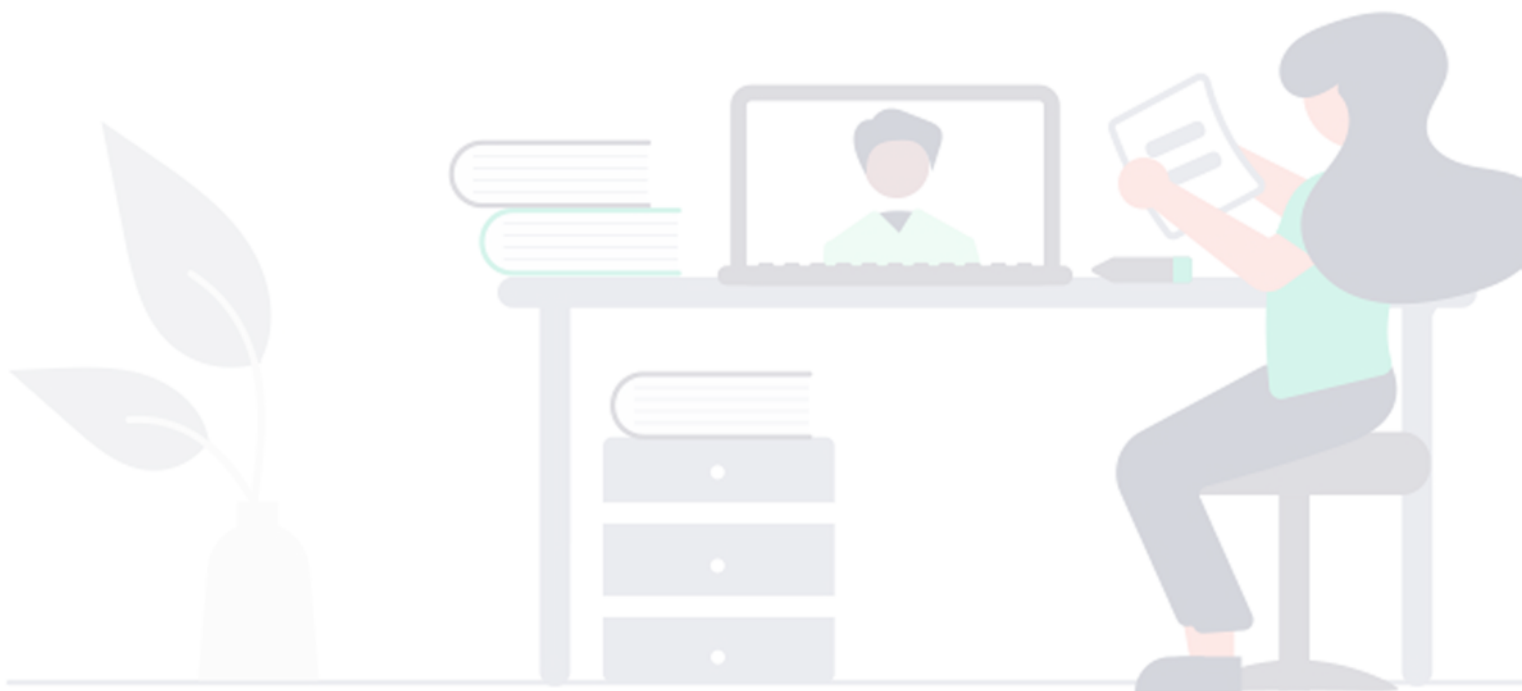
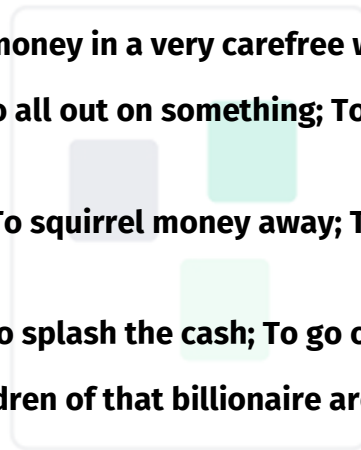
Meaning: To spend a lot of money in a very carefree way.

Synonyms: To splurge; To go all out on something; To splash out on something (all verbs)

Antonyms: To save money; To squirrel money away; To save it for a rainy day (all verbs)

Collocations: To be willing to splash the cash; To go out and splash the cash

Example Sentence: The children of that billionaire are often seen out splashing the cash.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Movies

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Plot (noun)

Meaning: The story of the movie, what happens step by step

Synonyms: Storyline; Story (both nouns)

Collocations: A plot hole/A hole in the plot; A plot twist; A predictable plot; A believable plot; A complicated plot (*neutral feeling*); A convoluted plot (*negative feeling*); An exciting/amazing/gripping plot; The plot revolves around something (e.g. a murder on a train); The plot thickens (*a standalone phrase used for when a story becomes more complicated*)

Example Sentence: My main complaint about the movie is that it has several massive plot holes.

Word 2: Soundtrack (noun)

Meaning: The music included in a movie. Includes both the background music and any songs the characters sing.

Synonyms: Score; Musical score (both nouns)

Collocations: A great/fantastic soundtrack; A memorable soundtrack

Example Sentence: To be fair, the movie had a great soundtrack, but I couldn't get past the extremely predictable plot.

Word 3: Character (noun)

Meaning: A fictional person from a story or movie.

Synonyms: Role; Part (both nouns, often used by actors to describe their involvement in a movie)

Collocations: Main character; Supporting character; Minor character; Major character; A character actor; A believable character; A one-dimensional character; A well-rounded character

Example Sentence: One of the things I liked about the movie was how real the characters seemed, particularly the minor characters.



Word 4: Cinematography (noun)

Meaning: The art of camerawork in a movie. Simply, does a movie look very impressive?

Word Family: Cinematographer (noun, the person responsible for cameras and lights when making a movie)

Collocations: Unique cinematography; Fantastic cinematography; Beautiful cinematography; Cutting-edge cinematography; The quality of the cinematography; Breath-taking cinematography; To win an award/an Oscar for cinematography

Example Sentence: I generally judge movies based on the believability of the plot and the quality of the cinematography.

Word 5: Scene (noun)

Meaning: One period of time with continuous action in a movie, set in a specific place with specific characters.

Synonyms: Part; Bit (both nouns, used in the same way); Sequence (often used with 'action')

Collocations: The opening scene; A famous scene; The final scene; A climatic scene; In the previous/next scene; A funny scene; A dramatic scene; A sex/love scene; A romantic scene; A chase scene; A fight scene; To film/shoot a scene; To set a scene in + place; To be in a scene; To be in every scene; To only have a few scenes

Example Sentence: That movie is absolutely full of chase scenes, fight scenes and other action sequences.

Word 6: Cast (noun)

Meaning: The collection of actors who appear in a movie.

Word Family: To cast someone in a movie/role (verb)

Synonyms: Line-up (noun)

Collocations: An all-star cast; An amazing cast; A stellar cast; A star-studded cast; An unknown cast; A talented cast; A superb cast; A terrific cast; A member of the cast; To feature a (+positive adjective) cast



Example Sentence: The movie featured an amazing cast, but did very poorly at the box office.

Word 7: Box Office (noun)

Meaning: The money a movie makes from selling tickets.

Synonyms: Revenue; Ticket sales (both nouns, but not applicable to same collocations)

Collocations: At the box office; To do well at the box office; To do badly/poorly/terribly at the box office; To bomb at the box office; A box office success/hit; To smash box office records; To clean up at the box office; To gross (+ amount of money) at the box office

Example Sentence: What depresses me about modern movies is that they have to be set in an existing universe to stand a chance of doing well at the box office.

Word 8: Existing Universe (noun)

Meaning: When a movie is set in a world/situation that has been shown in previous movies/TV shows. Example- The Marvel Universe

Antonyms: A standalone movie; An independent movie

Collocations: To be set in an existing universe; To be part of an existing universe

Example Sentence: One reason I liked the movie is that it is set in an existing universe, so we got to see how the new characters interact with other characters from previous movies.

Word 9: Groundbreaking (adjective)

Meaning: To make a movie with something very new, in special effects, content of the story, or another area.

Synonyms: Innovative; Pioneering; Creative; Brand-new; Unconventional; Unprecedented; State-of-the-art (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Familiar; Unoriginal; Cookie-cutter; Unimaginative (all adjectives)



Example Sentence: I know that the special effects were groundbreaking when the movie came out, but now they look a little dated.

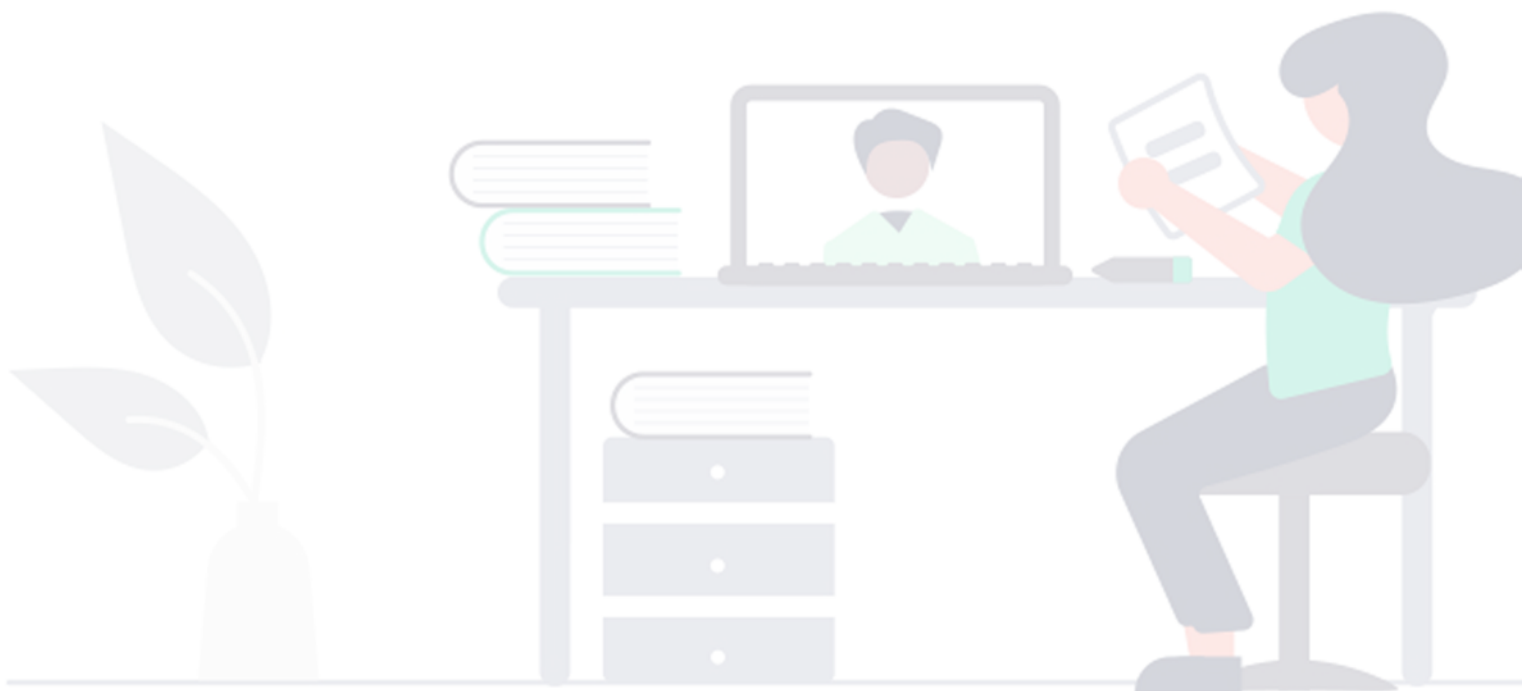
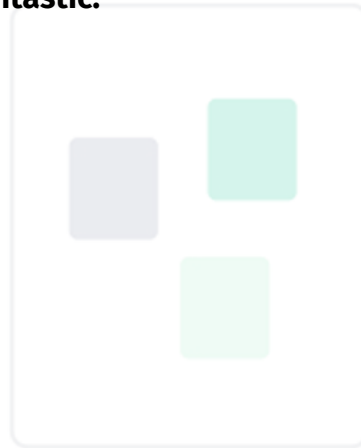
Word 10: To steal the show (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To attract the most attention, often surprisingly.

Synonyms: To grab the headlines; To get all the attention; To be the centre of attention; To outshine someone; To overshadow someone; To upstage someone (all verbs)

Antonyms: To be upstaged by someone; To be outshone by someone; To be overshadowed by someone (all verbs)

Example Sentence: The young girl who played the daughter completely stole the show – she was fantastic!





Advanced English Vocabulary – Music

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Lyrics (noun)

Meaning: The words sung in a song.

Word Family: Lyrical (adjective)

Synonyms: Lines (also noun)

Collocations: To write lyrics; To write one's own lyrics; To learn the lyrics of a song; Beautiful lyrics; Meaningful lyrics; Meaningless lyrics; Lyrics about + topic (e.g. love); Lyrics by + songwriter (e.g. John Lennon)

Example Sentence: I learned the lyrics of several English songs to help me improve my language ability.

Word 2: Chorus (noun)

Meaning: The part of a song that is repeated. Usually, the highest emotional point and often the most memorable part of the song.

Synonym: The hook; The refrain (both nouns)

Antonym: Verse (noun)

Collocations: To know the chorus (of a song); To sing along to the chorus; To join in the chorus; A catchy/memorable chorus; A fantastic chorus; To repeat the chorus (several times); The final chorus; A rousing chorus

Example Sentence: The whole crowd joined in the final chorus, and it was amazing to hear all those thousands of people singing together.

Word 3: Melody (noun)

Meaning: The musical notes that make a song.

Synonyms: Tune; Music (all nouns)

Collocations: A beautiful melody; A simple melody; A pleasant melody; To sing the melody; To play the melody; To hum the melody; A strong melody; A haunting melody; A familiar melody; To write/compose a melody; A catchy/memorable melody



Example Sentence: That's my favourite song because it has a beautiful melody and fantastic lyrics.

Word 4: Snob (noun)

Meaning: A negative word for someone who has very particular taste in something (for example, art or music), and believes their tastes are superior to other people. Also means someone from a higher social class who looks down on people from lower social classes.

Word Family: Snobbish (adjective); Snobbishly (adverb); Snobbery (noun, the action of being a snob)

Synonyms: Highbrow; Elitist; Pretentious (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Open-minded; Unpretentious (both adjectives)

Collocations: Don't be such a snob; A music snob; An art snob; A literature snob; The most awful snob; To sound like a snob; To come across as a snob; What a snob!

Example Sentence: People tell me that quite often I come across as a snob, but really I just have very specific taste in music.

Word 5: Taste in music (noun)

Meaning: The type of music or genre of music that a person likes.

Collocations: A great taste in music; A terrible taste in music; A specific taste in music; A wide-ranging taste in music; A narrow taste in music; An eclectic taste in music; To have a similar taste in music

Example Sentence: One thing that I have in common with my parents is that we have a similar taste in music.

Word 6: Soothing (adjective)

Meaning: To have a calm and gentle effect.

Word Family: Soothe (verb); Soothingly (adverb)

Synonyms: Calming; Relaxing (adjectives, used generally); Easy-listening (adjective, type of music)



Antonyms: Exhilarating; Exciting (positive adjectives); Agitating; Disturbing (negative adjectives)

Collocations: Put on some nice soothing music; To play soothing music; Nice and soothing; Calm and soothing; To find something (e.g. a song) very soothing

Example Sentence: The thing I like about classical music is that I find it very soothing.

Word 7: Mainstream (noun/adjective)

Meaning: Popular, well-known, and not artistically challenging or different. For example- music or movies.

Synonyms: Middle of the road; Conventional; Lamestream (negative adjectives); Current; Popular; Widespread (neutral adjectives)

Antonyms: Esoteric; Independent; Unconventional; Unorthodox; Obscure; Exotic (all neutral adjectives)

Collocations: Mainstream music; Mainstream pop music; To be in the mainstream; To come into the mainstream; To not be part of the mainstream; Fairly mainstream; Increasingly mainstream

Example Sentence: My brother only cares about mainstream music, but my taste in music is a lot more unconventional.

Word 8: Out of tune (adjective)

Meaning: To not be singing (or playing an instrument) at the right pitch or tone.

Synonyms: Dissonant; Off-pitch; Flat; Jarring (all adjectives)

Antonyms: In-tune; Pitch-perfect (both adjectives)

Collocations: Badly out of tune; Completely out of tune; Horribly out of tune; A bit out of tune; Always out of tune; To sing out of tune; To play (an instrument) out of tune;

Example Sentence: I love singing but my friends always tell me that I sing horribly out of tune!



Word 9: Go on tour (phrasal verb)

Meaning: When a musician or musical band/group travels to different places to play concerts.

Word Family: To tour (verb, same meaning); On tour (adjective, the situation of traveling for music)

Synonyms: To go on the road (verb)

Collocations: Plan to go on tour; Regularly go on tour; Never go on tour

Example Sentence: I plan to see my favourite band live next time they go on tour.

Word 10: Following (noun)

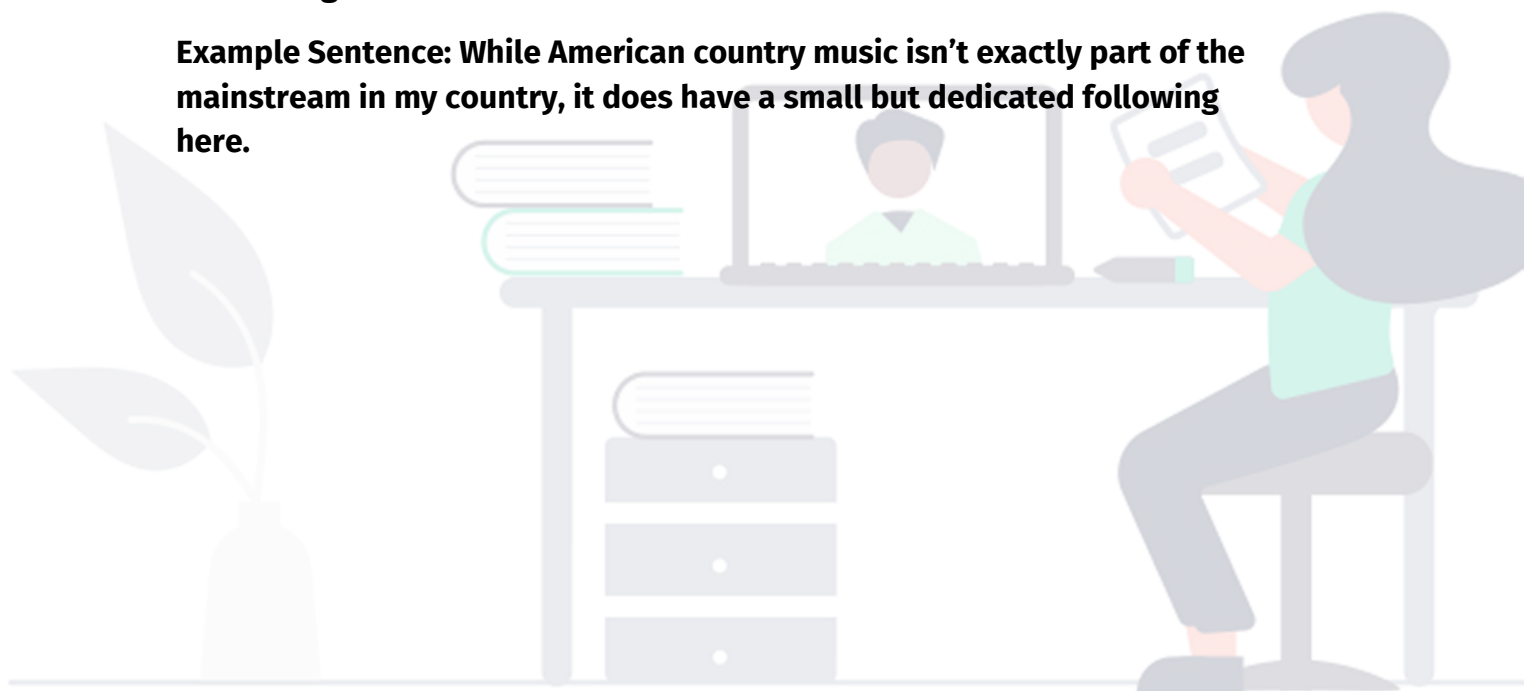
Meaning: The group of people who support something or often do something. For example, the people who like a particular band or genre of music.

Word Family: A follower (noun, individual person); To follow (verb)

Synonyms: Fanbase; Supporters; Aficionados; Devotees; Audience (all nouns)

Collocations: A tiny following; A dedicated following; A huge following; To build up a following; To develop a following; To attract a following; To have a following

Example Sentence: While American country music isn't exactly part of the mainstream in my country, it does have a small but dedicated following here.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Nature

Vocabulary List

Word 1: At one with nature (adjective)

Meaning: To have a good relationship with or feel a connection to nature.

Synonyms: In touch with nature (adjective)

Collocations: Someone is at one with nature; To try to be at one with nature; To aim to be at one with nature; To not care about being at one with nature; To feel at one with nature

Example Sentence: My friend loves sitting underneath trees – he says it makes him feel at one with nature.

Word 2: Desolate (adjective)

Meaning: A place that is empty of life, in a negative or unhappy way. For example, a desert, or abandoned house.

Word Family: Desolation

Synonyms: Deserted; Stark; Bare; Barren (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Full of life; Fertile; Alive (all adjectives)

Collocations: A desolate scene; Really desolate; A place feels desolate; To look bleak and desolate; A desolate landscape; A desolate downtown area; A desolate spot

Example Sentence: After the landslide, the whole area looked desolate, with hardly anything left standing.

Word 3: Pristine (adjective)

Meaning: Something in new and perfect condition. For example, the ground immediately after snow has fallen, but before anyone has stepped on it.

Synonyms: Perfect; Untouched; Virgin; Pure (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Damaged; Used; Soiled; Impure (all adjectives)



Collocation: To be in pristine condition; To look pristine; A pristine appearance; To remain pristine; To keep something in pristine condition; A pristine state; Pristine wilderness

Example Sentence: It's very unusual to find pristine wilderness in the modern world.

Word 4: Wilderness (noun)

Meaning: An area of completely wild nature, with no humans living there. Examples include parts of the Amazon rainforest, Alaska and Siberia. Usually describes somewhere that would be difficult for humans to live.

Synonyms: The wild (noun)

Antonyms: A populated area; A metropolis; Downtown (all nouns)

Collocations: To go into the wilderness; To explore the wilderness; To avoid the wilderness; The last great wilderness; To be stranded in the wilderness

Example Sentence: One of the great challenges left to humans is exploring the wilderness of space.

Word 5: To blossom (verb)

Meaning: When a plant produces flowers and/or fruits.

Word Family: Blossom (noun); In blossom (adjective)

Synonyms: To flower; To bloom; To open (all verbs)

Antonyms: To wither and die (verb)

Collocations: Something blossoms in spring; To watch a plant blossoming; To wait for a plant to blossom; To look forward to a plant blossoming; To miss a plant blossoming; To begin to blossom; To blossom once every (+ time e.g. 5 years)

Example Sentence: Something my parents always loved to do was to take me to the countryside in early spring when the plants were beginning to blossom.

Word 6: Savanna (noun)



Meaning: A type of flat, dry, grassy land in tropical areas that doesn't have many trees. Most famous in Africa as the home of the big mammals (lions, elephants, zebras etc).

Synonyms: Grassland; Plains; Prairie (both nouns, general); The Serengeti (a specific area in Tanzania, Africa famous for big mammals)

Collocations: The savanna is the home of + (animal e.g. lions); To live on the savanna; To roam across the savanna; To hunt on the savanna; To visit the savanna

Example Sentence: The African savannas have to be protected from poachers, as they are the home of many endangered species.

Word 7: Deciduous (adjective)

Meaning: The type of tree or other plant that loses its leaves in autumn and grow them again in spring.

Antonyms: Evergreen; Year-round (both adjectives)

Collocations: A deciduous tree; A deciduous plant; To plant a deciduous tree; The leaves of a deciduous tree; To watch the leaves change color on a deciduous tree; A deciduous forest; A deciduous wood

Example Sentence: One of the great joys of seasons is watching deciduous trees shed their leaves in autumn and grow fresh ones in spring.

Word 8: Conservation (noun)

Meaning: The culture of protecting and preserving nature. For example, protecting endangered animals or fighting against deforestation.

Synonyms: Preservation; Protection (both nouns); Safeguarding; Guarding (both verbs)

Antonyms: Exploiting; Misusing; Abandoning; Neglecting (all verbs)

Collocations: Conservation efforts; A culture of conservation; A commitment to conservation; The importance of conservation; The limits of conservation; A conservation area; The conservation of something (e.g. trees, endangered animals); To be interested in conservation; To promote conservation; To be known for one's conservation work



Example Sentence: Governments around the world need to make a commitment to conservation before we lose any more of the natural world.

Word 9: To coexist (verb)

Meaning: To be able to live side by side without one group damaging the other. Usually used for groups that find it hard to do this because of their different interests.

Synonyms: Exist together; Live side by side (both verbs)

Antonyms: Fight; Quarrel; Compete (all verbs)

Collocations: To be able to coexist; To try to coexist; To coexist peacefully alongside something/someone; To coexist in the same industry/area; To be allowed to coexist; To coexist in equilibrium

Example Sentence: One of the challenges of the 21st century for humans is re-learning how to coexist peacefully alongside animals.

Word 10: A green thumb (noun)

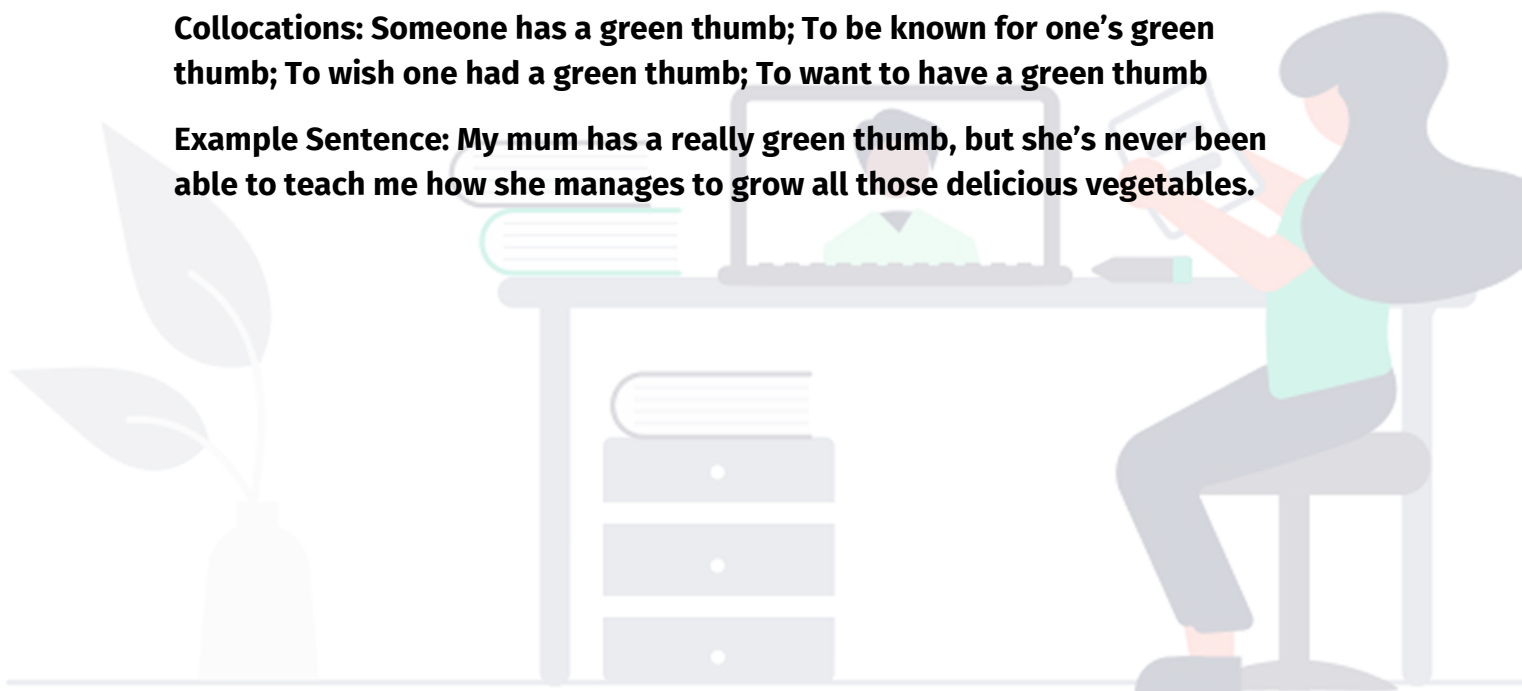
Meaning: Someone who has a strong natural ability to grow plants.

Synonyms: To have green fingers (verb); An expert gardener (noun)

Antonyms: A disaster in the garden (noun)

Collocations: Someone has a green thumb; To be known for one's green thumb; To wish one had a green thumb; To want to have a green thumb

Example Sentence: My mum has a really green thumb, but she's never been able to teach me how she manages to grow all those delicious vegetables.





Advanced English Vocabulary – News

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Human interest story (noun)

Meaning: A news story that is focused on an individual person (usually a normal person, not a celebrity).

Collocations: To cover human interest stories; To be interested in human interest stories; To lack human interest stories; To ignore human interest stories; To feature human interest stories

Example Sentence: I prefer to read news from websites that feature a lot of human interest stories.

Word 2: Tabloid (noun)

Meaning: A type of newspaper, traditionally of a smaller physical size, that focuses more on sensationalist news and less on quality reporting. Often uses simplistic language and concepts.

Synonyms: Rag (noun)

Antonyms: Broadsheet (noun)

Collocations: Tabloid journalism; The tabloid press; A tabloid reporter; A tabloid newspaper; To only read the tabloids; Tabloid hysteria about + topic; Tabloid headlines

Example Sentence: People who only read tabloid newspapers are less likely to understand the nuances of current affairs.

Word 3: Coverage (noun)

Meaning: The attention given to a story by a newspaper or other media outlet.

Word Family: To cover + a story (active verb); To be covered by + a newspaper/other media (passive verb)

Synonyms: Attention; Reporting; Analysis (all nouns)

Collocations: To receive coverage; To provide coverage; Widespread media coverage of something; Blanket coverage of something; In-depth coverage;



Limited coverage; Fawning coverage; Extensive coverage; 24-hour coverage; International coverage; Live coverage; Wall-to-wall coverage; Media coverage; Press coverage; Newspaper coverage; Television coverage; Exclusive coverage

Example Sentence: Natural disasters like floods and hurricanes always receive widespread media coverage.

Word 4: Exposé (noun, stress on last syllable)

Meaning: A story that reveals private information to the public. Usually about a public figure who has done something wrong or illegal.

Word Family: To expose (verb); To be exposed (passive verb)

Synonym: Disclosure; Uncovering; Revelation (all nouns)

Antonyms: A cover-up; A secret; A conspiracy (noun)

Collocations: To write an exposé; A shocking exposé; An exposé about + story; To feature an exposé

Example Sentence: We often read shocking exposés in newspapers about the illegal or morally reprehensible actions of major corporations.

Word 5: Impartial (adjective)

Meaning: Neutral, without any bias or prejudice. Used to describe media sources that can be more easily trusted.

Synonyms: Neutral; Objective; Non-partisan; Bipartisan; Dispassionate; Open-minded (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Biased; Prejudiced; Subjective; Partisan (all adjectives)

Collocations: Impartial observer; Impartial commentator; Impartial source; To remain impartial; An impartial judge (of something); Completely/totally impartial; Fairly/relatively impartial; Impartial advice; Impartial analysis; To be required to be impartial; Impartial treatment

Example Sentence: It's important for news sources to remain at least fairly impartial, as they have a responsibility to provide objective and non-partisan information to their audience.



Word 6: Proprietor (noun)

Meaning: The owner of a newspaper, media source, or other business.

Synonyms: Owner; Boss (both nouns)

Antonyms: Employee; Staff (both nouns)

Collocations: A newspaper's proprietor; The proprietor of + name of newspaper/media source; The sole proprietor

Example Sentence: The identity of a newspaper's proprietor can have a big influence on its political leaning and editorial focus.

Word 7: Keep up to speed (idiom, verb)

Meaning: To follow developments in something (e.g. a current news story) and avoid missing important new details or information.

Synonyms: Keep track of something; To follow something closely (both verbs)

Antonyms: To miss out on something; To lose track of something (both verbs)

Collocations: To be able to keep up to speed with something; To try to keep up to speed with something; To want to keep up to speed with something; To always keep up to speed with something

Example Sentence: A major advantage of reading news online is that people are able to keep up to speed with all the major developments in a breaking news story, instead of having to wait until the evening to hear about them.

Word 8: Doom and gloom (idiom, noun)

Meaning: Negative stories or information.

Synonyms: Despair; Hopelessness (both nouns)

Antonyms: A ray of sunshine; Light at the end of the tunnel (both idioms, nouns)

Collocations: It's all doom and gloom; It's nothing but doom and gloom; I'm not interested in doom and gloom; It's not all doom and gloom; Economic doom and gloom; Political doom and gloom; Full of doom and gloom



Example Sentence: I don't tend to read newspapers because they are always full of doom and gloom.

Word 9: Headline (noun)

Meaning: The title of a story in the news. Also used as a summary of the main news stories of the day.

Word Family: Headline (adjective)

Synonyms: Heading; Title (both nouns)

Collocations: Headline news; Newspaper headline; Shocking headlines; Dramatic headlines; Attention-grabbing headlines; Misleading headlines; Tabloid headlines; To scan the headlines; (To be) In the headlines; To make headline news; To hit the headlines; To dominate the headlines; Front-page headline; To carry/run the headline + "Title of story"

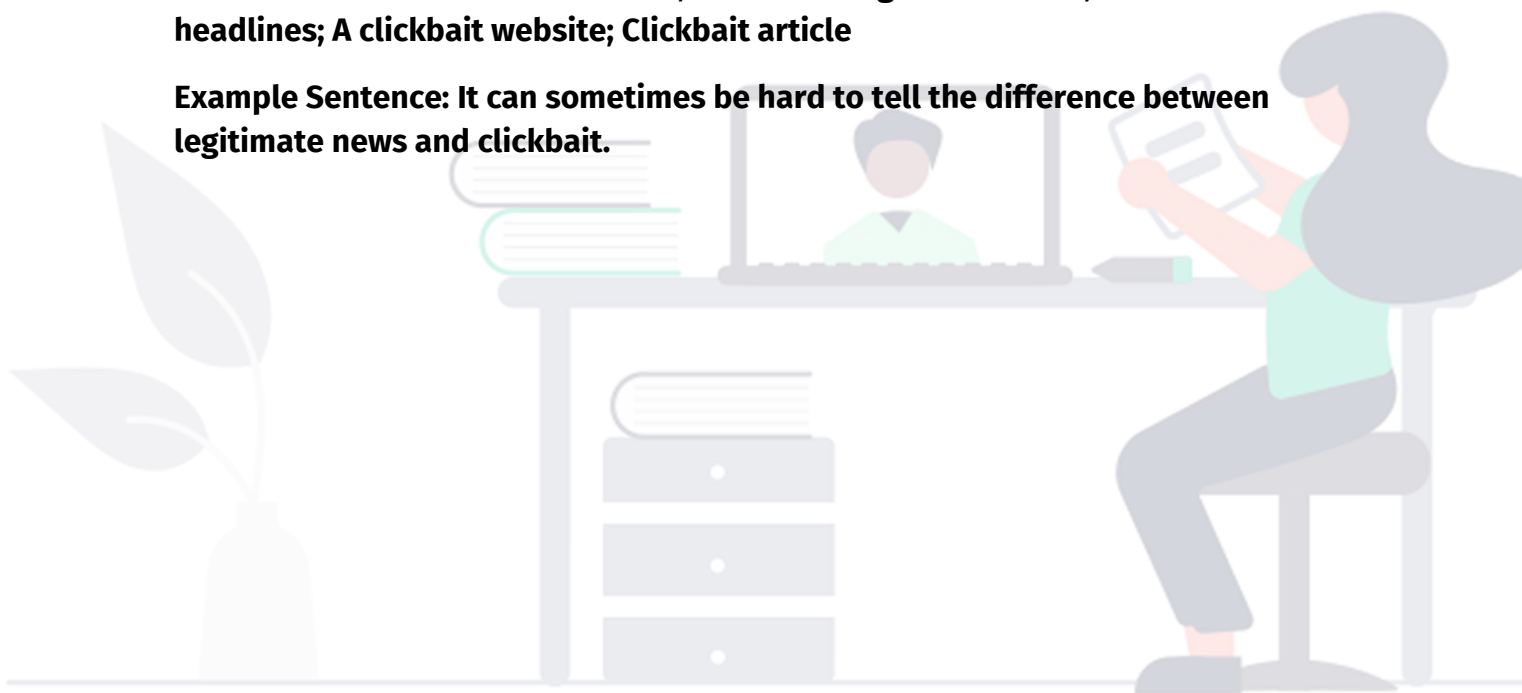
Example Sentence: More and more online news sources are using misleading headlines as click bait to attract readers.

Word 10: Clickbait (noun)

Meaning: A type of online advertising, often featuring a sensationalist news headline, that encourages people to click on it.

Collocations: To be full of clickbait; To be nothing but clickbait; Clickbait headlines; A clickbait website; Clickbait article

Example Sentence: It can sometimes be hard to tell the difference between legitimate news and clickbait.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Personality

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Have a short fuse (idiom, verb)

Meaning: Someone who loses their temper and gets angry very quickly and easily.

Synonyms: Short-tempered; Quick to anger; Quick-tempered; Irascible; Irritable (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Placid; Calm; Even-tempered; Easy-going (all adjectives)

Collocations: Someone has a short fuse; Someone has a really short fuse; Someone is known for having a short fuse; A notoriously short fuse

Example Sentence: Someone who has a short fuse would not make a great neighbour, in my opinion.

Word 2: Two-faced (adjective)

Meaning: Someone who behaves differently or says different things depending on who they are with. Used as a negative.

Synonyms: Insincere; Deceitful; Deceptive; Back-stabbing; Untrustworthy; Duplicitous (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Honest; Sincere; Genuine; Forthright (all adjectives)

Collocations: Someone is a bit two-faced; A two-faced liar; To be two-faced in one's dealings with someone; A two-faced attitude

Example Sentence: It's very hard to trust someone who has been two-faced in the past.

Word 3: Bend over backwards to help (idiom, verb)

Meaning: To always be willing to help people, even if it is difficult or costly to do so.

Synonyms: Generous; Helpful; Big-hearted; Considerate; Selfless (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Selfish; Self-centred; Inconsiderate; Self-serving (all adjectives)



Collocations: To bend over backwards to help someone; To be willing to bend over backwards to help; To always bend over backwards to help; To never bend over backwards to help

Example Sentence: A good friend is someone willing to bend over backwards to help you in your time of need.

Word 4: Self-deprecating (adjective)

Meaning: Someone willing to laugh at or make fun of themselves.

Synonym: Modest; Unpretentious; Humble; Down-to-earth; Unassuming (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Pompous; Egotistical; Arrogant; Self-important; Pretentious (all adjectives)

Collocations: A self-deprecating sense of humour; A self-deprecating joke; (To have) A self-deprecating manner; Self-deprecating charm

Example Sentence: I tend to get on better with people who have a self-deprecating sense of humour and are not too pretentious.

Word 5: Set in one's ways (adjective)

Meaning: Someone, usually older, who has a particular way of acting or behaving, and is not willing to change it.

Synonyms: Intractable; Rigid; Inflexible; Uncompromising; Unyielding (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Flexible; Malleable; Easy-going; Cooperative; Reasonable (all adjectives)

Collocations: To become set in one's ways; To have always been set in one's ways

Example Sentence: Older generations are usually more set in their ways, and as such, find it harder to adapt to societal changes.

Word 6: Comfortable in one's own skin (idiom, adjective)

Meaning: Someone who has confidence in themselves as a person. Used as a positive.



Synonyms: Self-assured; Self-confident; Secure; Sure of oneself (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Insecure; Self-doubting; Uncomfortable in one's own skin (all adjectives)

Collocations: To have always been comfortable in one's own skin; To stop being comfortable in one's own skin; To become comfortable in one's own skin

Example Sentence: I only really became comfortable in my own skin when I started my first job.

Word 7: Absent-minded (adjective)

Meaning: To often forget things or find it hard to pay attention to things happening around you. Usually negative

Word Family: Absent-mindedly (adverb); Absent-mindedness (noun)

Synonyms: Forgetful; Distracted; Preoccupied (all adjectives); To have one's head in the clouds (idiom, verb)

Antonyms: Alert; Attentive; Observant; Focused; On the ball (all adjectives)

Collocations: To become absent-minded; To try not to be so absent-minded; Hopelessly absent-minded; An absent-minded professor

Example Sentence: My father tends to be a bit absent-minded, but luckily my mother is always on the ball.

Word 8: On the ball (idiom, adjective)

Meaning: To be focused, ready to act and very competent. A positive adjective.

Synonyms: Alert; Attentive; Observant (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Lackadaisical; Forgetful; Distracted; Preoccupied (all adjectives); To have one's head in the clouds (idiom, verb)

Collocations: To be always on the ball; To try to be more on the ball; Really on the ball

Example Sentence: People who are always on the ball often make the best employees.



Word 9: A people person (noun)

Meaning: Someone who enjoys meeting and talking to others, including acquaintances and strangers.

Synonyms: Gregarious; Outgoing; Talkative; Warm; Extroverted; Sociable (all adjectives); The life and soul of the party (noun)

Antonyms: Reserved; Shy; Introverted; Solitary (all adjectives); A wallflower; A loner (both nouns)

Collocations: A total people person; A great people person; (Someone is) Not a people person

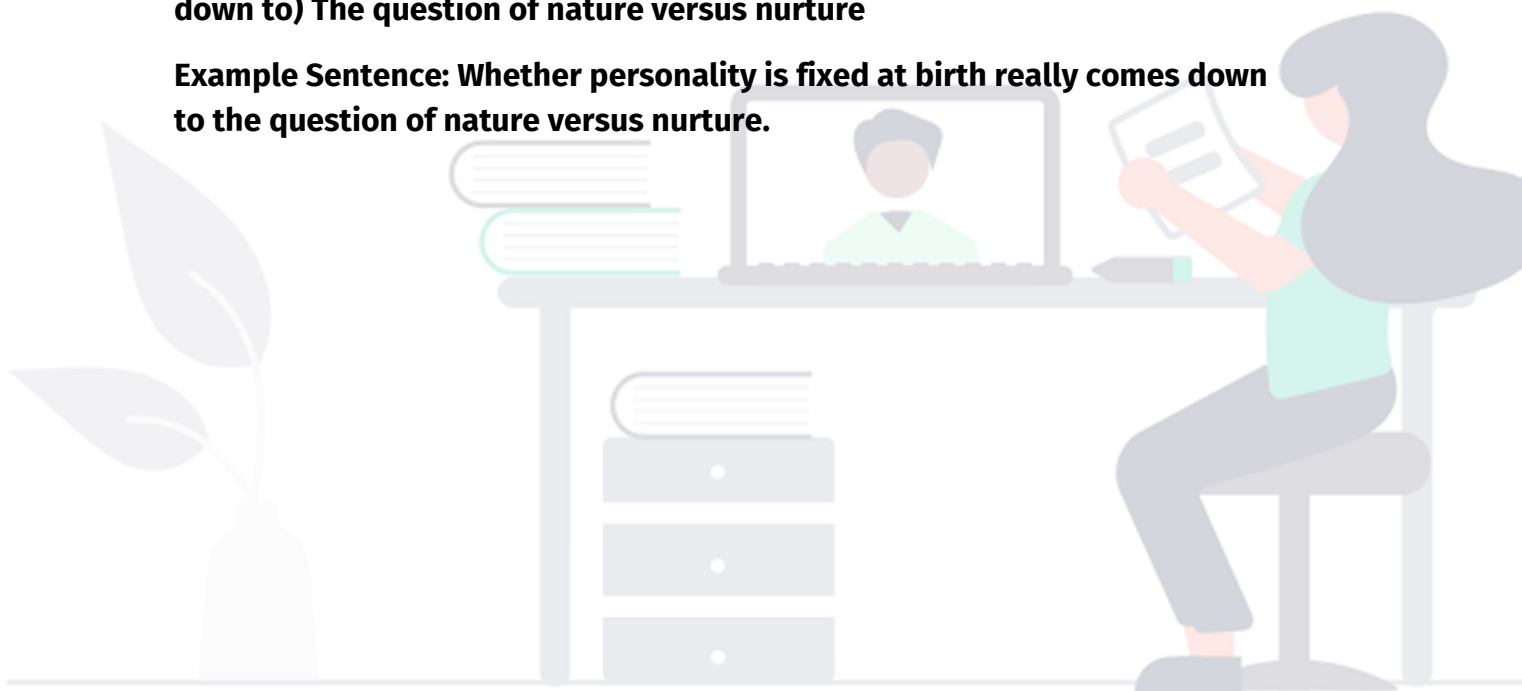
Example Sentence: I'd like to be more of a people person, but I always get tongue-tied when talking to strangers.

Word 10: Nature versus nurture (noun)

Meaning: A common theoretical discussion in psychology about whether someone is born with their personality and other traits (nature) or whether those traits are developed through their childhood by their parents, teachers and others (nurture). Used fairly commonly in daily English.

Collocations: A classic case of nature versus nurture; The nature versus nurture controversy; The nature versus nurture debate; (Something comes down to) The question of nature versus nurture

Example Sentence: Whether personality is fixed at birth really comes down to the question of nature versus nurture.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Pets

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Companionship (noun)

Meaning: The act or situation of being with someone else as a friend. Used as a positive word.

Word Family: Companion (noun, the person/animal)

Synonyms: Friendship; Fellowship; Togetherness; Closeness (all nouns)

Antonyms: Loneliness; Solitude (both nouns)

Collocations: To provide companionship; To need/require companionship; To want companionship; To be interested in companionship; The need for companionship; To turn to someone for companionship; To keep a dog/cat for companionship; The companionship that a pet provides

Example Sentence: One of the big appeals of having a pet is the companionship that they can provide, particularly for elderly people.

Word 2: Purebred (adjective)

Meaning: A pet or other animal that has been bred by humans with others of the same breed to create a specific breed of animal. Note – sometimes written as pure-bred.

Synonyms: Pedigree; Thoroughbred (both adjectives)

Antonyms: Mixed-breed; Mongrel (both nouns)

Collocations: A purebred (+ breed of dog e.g. Labrador); The appeal of purebred pets; The problem with purebred pets; The many health issues of purebred pets; The morality of buying a purebred pet

Example Sentence: Some people question the morality of buying a purebred pet, as they are more likely to suffer from a myriad of health issues.

Word 3: Affectionate (adjective)



Meaning: Willing to show love or affection to someone. For example, a dog towards its owner.

Word Family: Affection (noun); Affectionately (adverb)

Synonyms: Loving; Adoring; Devoted; Demonstrative (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Cold; Indifferent (both adjectives)

Collocations: To be affectionate towards someone; To be affectionate with someone; An affectionate pet; Extremely affectionate; Overly affectionate; An affectionate welcome

Example Sentence: People who prefer dogs to cats often mention how affectionate dogs are with their owners.

Word 4: Obedient (adjective)

Meaning: Someone or something that follows orders from its owner or superior.

Word Family: To obey (verb); Obedience (noun); Obediently (adverb)

Synonyms: Tractable; Amenable; Deferential (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Disobedient; Naughty; Uncontrollable (all adjectives); A bad dog! (noun, only for spoken English)

Collocations: An obedient cat/dog; To be obedient to (+ person e.g. one's master); Someone/something must be obedient; The importance of being obedient

Example Sentence: I think one characteristic that a good dog should have is to be obedient to its master.

Word 5: Possessive (adjective)

Meaning: To be demanding of the love and attention of someone, and jealous of sharing that person with others.

Word Family: Possessively (adverb)

Synonyms: Jealous; Overprotective; Clingy; Controlling (all adjectives)

Collocations: A possessive dog/cat; Overly possessive; To be possessive at times; To be possessive in certain situations; To be possessive of someone;



To be possessive towards someone; To be terribly possessive; To be possessive about something (e.g. toys)

Example Sentence: The downside of having an affectionate dog is that they can get overly possessive towards their owners, which results in misbehaviour in the presence of other people or other dogs.

Word 6: Unconditional love (noun)

Meaning: A type of love given regardless of any bad things that happen. For example, a parent towards their child, or a dog towards its owner.

Word Family: To love someone unconditionally (phrasal verb)

Synonyms: Absolute devotion; Infinite love (both nouns)

Collocations: To need unconditional love; To give/provide unconditional love; The appeal of unconditional love; The unconditional love of a pet for its owner; To feel unconditional love; To be searching for unconditional love; The absence of unconditional love

Example Sentence: Pets are a reliable source of unconditional love in a world where that resource is in short supply.

Word 7: To shed (verb)

Meaning: When an animal loses hair from its coat.

Synonyms: To lose hair (verb)

Collocations: To shed all over the carpet/furniture; To shed twice a year; To be constantly shedding; The challenge of owning a pet that sheds

Example Sentence: My parents never let us have a cat because they were worried about it shedding all over the furniture.

Word 8: A dog/cat person (noun)

Meaning: Someone who prefers one type of pet over the others. Can also include other types of pets e.g. snakes, rabbits, hamsters.

Synonyms: A dog/cat lover (noun)



Collocations: To be a dog person; To be a cat person; Someone is definitely a cat person; Someone is 100% a dog person; Someone is not really a cat person; Someone is absolutely not a dog person

Example Sentence: My parents are both cat people, but I'm 100% a dog person.

Word 9: Groom (verb)

Meaning: To look after and maintain the physical well-being and appearance of an animal, for example by brushing its coat and cleaning its teeth.

Word Family: To be groomed (passive verb); Grooming (noun, the action)

Synonyms: To brush; To rub down (both verbs)

Collocations: To be well-groomed; To need/require regular grooming; To be responsible for grooming; To help someone groom something (e.g. an animal); To groom each other

Example Sentence: Wild animals like monkeys tend to groom each other, but domesticated animals like dogs and cats require regular grooming.

Word 10: Breed (noun)

Meaning: A specific type of domesticated animal. Example – A Husky (breed of dog)

Word Family: To breed (verb); To be bred (passive verb)

Antonyms: A type (general noun); A genre (type of movie/book); A species (type of animal e.g. dog vs cat)

Collocations: A popular breed; A rare breed; An expensive breed; A sturdy breed; A breed prone to health issues; A breed of (+ type of animal e.g. dog/cat/cow); A dying breed; A tough breed; A strong breed

Example Sentence: As dog ownership becomes more popular, people see owning a rare breed of dog as a kind of status symbol.



Advanced English Vocabulary – Shopping

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Splurge (verb)

Meaning: Spend a lot of money on a particular item

Synonyms: To blow money on something; To spend lavishly; To go all out; To splash the cash; To go on a spending spree (all verbs); To be extravagant (adjective)

Antonyms: To scrimp and save; To hoard; To save up (all verbs)

Collocations: To splurge on something; To have the urge to splurge; Someone can afford to splurge a little

Example Sentence: I don't often go shopping, because when I do go, I always get the urge to splurge!

Word 2: Retail therapy (noun)

Meaning: To be depressed or sad, and make oneself feel better by going shopping.

Collocations: To engage/indulge in a little retail therapy; A bit/spot of retail therapy; A day/morning/afternoon of retail therapy

Example Sentence: My sister often engages in a spot of retail therapy when she is feeling down.

Word 3: Peruse (verb)

Meaning: To look through products in a shop one by one, but in a relaxed way. Not looking for a specific item.

Word Family: Perusal (noun)

Synonyms: To browse (verb)

Antonyms: To hunt for something in particular (verb)

Example Sentence: I know a lot of people like to go into shops and peruse the items, but that's not really my cup of tea.



Word 4: Shopaholic (noun)

Meaning: Someone who loves to shop / is addicted to shopping.

Synonyms: A big spender; A compulsive shopper (both nouns)

Antonyms: A miser (noun, person); Tight-fisted (adjective, describes a person who hates spending money)

Collocations: A self-confessed shopaholic; A true shopaholic; An absolute shopaholic

Example Sentence: I'm an absolute shopaholic – I just can't stop myself!

Word 5: To shop around (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To search for the same or similar products in different places, usually looking for a lower price or better deal.

Synonyms: To compare prices; To hunt for bargains (both verbs)

Collocations: To shop around a bit; To shop around for the best deal; To shop around for a better price; To take time to shop around

Example Sentence: Before deciding what to buy, I always take time to shop around, and usually end up saving a bit of money!

Word 6: Same-day delivery (noun)

Meaning: To have a product, usually one bought online, delivered to someone's house the same day as it was purchased.

Antonyms: Next-day delivery; Regular delivery (both nouns)

Collocations: To offer/provide same-day delivery; To expect same-day delivery; To choose same-day delivery

Example Sentence: One of the big developments in online shopping has been the rise in companies offering same-day delivery.

Word 7: Spoiled/spoilt for choice (adjective)

Meaning: To have a very large amount of choice, in a good way.

Synonyms: An embarrassment of riches (noun)



Collocations: To be spoiled for choice with + noun (e.g. ice-cream flavours); To be spoiled for choice when doing something (e.g. deciding on a restaurant); Absolutely spoiled for choice

Example Sentence: The good thing about shopping online is that you are spoiled for choice when choosing your products.

Word 8: Independent store (noun)

Meaning: A shop (usually fairly small) that only exists in 1-2 places, and isn't part of a large chain of shops/a larger company.

Synonyms: A family business (noun)

Antonyms: A chain store; A department store; A large retailer (all nouns)

Example Sentence: I love exploring independent stores when I go on holiday, but I must admit that I often end up buying everything cheaper in big department stores.

Word 9: On a tight budget (adjective)

Meaning: To have little money to spend on something.

Synonyms: To be strapped for cash; To be short of cash (both adjectives); To have a very limited budget (verb)

Antonyms: To have money to burn; To loosen the purse strings; To have deep pockets (all verbs)

Example Sentence: When I find myself on a tight budget, I usually shop around for bargains.

Word 10: Sales Assistant (noun)

Meaning: The member of staff who helps customers in a shop.

Synonyms: Shop assistant; Member of staff (noun, general meaning); Cashier (noun, specifically the person who takes the customer's money)

Collocations: To ask a sales assistant; To look for a sales assistant; To work as a sales assistant; To be bothered/harassed by a sales assistant

Example Sentence: I know that they are just doing their job, but I find it very annoying to be harassed by sales assistants when I walk into a shop.



Advanced English Vocabulary – Social Media

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Trolls (noun)

Meaning: People who send insulting or offensive messages on social media.

Word Family: To troll (verb); Trolling (noun, action); To be trolled (passive verb)

Synonyms: Cyberbully (noun, person); Cyberbullying (noun, action)

Collocations: Online trolls; Internet trolls; To attract the attention of trolls; To be attacked by trolls; The effects/consequences of trolling

Example Sentence: One of the problems of social media is that it is full of trolls, who take pleasure in insulting others and causing trouble.

Word 2: Derogatory (adjective)

Meaning: An action or message that is insulting, disrespectful or offensive.

Synonyms: Insulting; Offensive; Disrespectful; Disparaging; Belittling (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Complimentary; Flattering (both adjectives)

Collocations: A derogatory comment; A derogatory remark; A derogatory joke; To act in a derogatory fashion/manner/way; To be derogatory about something (e.g. someone's appearance)

Example Sentence: Internet trolls will often leave derogatory comments underneath a video to try to insult other viewers.

Word 3: Influencer (noun)

Meaning: Someone who has a large following on social media.

Synonyms: Content creator; Internet star (both nouns)

Collocations: A well-known influencer; A popular influencer; To become an influencer; Someone's career as an influencer; To want to be an influencer; The benefits/drawbacks of being an influencer



Example Sentence: The increasing popularity of social media means that being an influencer is now a legitimate career choice for some people.

Word 4: Instagrammable (adjective)

Meaning: A scene or situation that would look good in a video/photo and shared on social media. Example – an attractive meal in a restaurant.

Synonyms: Shareable (adjective)

Collocations: An instagrammable restaurant; To look for something instagrammable; To be very instagrammable; To not be at all instagrammable; To need to be more instagrammable

Example Sentence: A piece of advice that marketers often give their new clients is that their products have to be instagrammable to have a chance of success.

Word 5: News feed (noun)

Meaning: The main page on a social media website/app. Updated constantly and usually filled with suggested content e.g. videos or articles. Also written as newsfeed.

Synonyms: Homepage; Main page (both nouns)

Collocations: To be featured in one's newsfeed; To appear in one's newsfeed; To ignore one's newsfeed; To find something interesting in the newsfeed; To take a look at one's newsfeed; To scroll through one's newsfeed; To get lost in one's newsfeed

Example Sentence: One of the dangers of social media is getting lost in the different content that appears on the newsfeed and finding that an hour or more has passed.

Word 6: To monetize (verb)

Meaning: To find a way to make money from something – for example, a popular social media channel.

Word Family: Monetization (noun, action)

Synonyms: To make money from something; To make a profit from something; To earn from something (all verbs)



Collocations: To monetize a social media channel; A route to monetization; A way of monetizing; To want to monetize; To avoid monetizing; To need to monetize; To try to monetize; To monetize one's hobby; To monetize one's blog

Example Sentence: Many people dream of monetizing their hobby, but it takes a lot of dedication and isn't always possible.

Word 7: Meme (noun)

Meaning: A picture, gif or piece of text that is used in a funny way and passed quickly around the internet.

Collocations: A popular meme; A new meme; To share a meme; To send a meme to someone; The popularity of memes; To see a meme about (+ topic)

Example Sentence: One meme that was popular recently featured pictures comparing a person's situation in 2020 and 2021.

Word 8: To vlog (verb)

Meaning: Short for video blog/log. A video of someone talking to the camera about a specific topic. Topics can include recent news, daily activities, a review of a product or others.

Word Family: Vlogger (noun, the person); Vlogging (noun, the action); Vlog (noun, the video itself)

Antonyms: A blog (noun, usually a written article)

Collocations: To start vlogging; To vlog from (+ name of place e.g. a gym, a shop); A viral vlog; A popular vlog; To record a vlog

Example Sentence: People who vlog regularly are often able to quickly grow their channel.

Word 9: Filter (noun)

Meaning: A piece of software or app function that changes the physical appearance of the person on camera. For example, by making their skin clearer and their eyes bigger.

Synonyms: To alter one's appearance (verb)



Collocations: To use filters; To avoid filters; To need filters; To love using filters; To hate using filters; To always use filters; The unrealistic results given by filters

Example Sentence: Many influencers rely so much on filters that they are virtually unrecognisable without them.

Word 10: Go viral (verb)

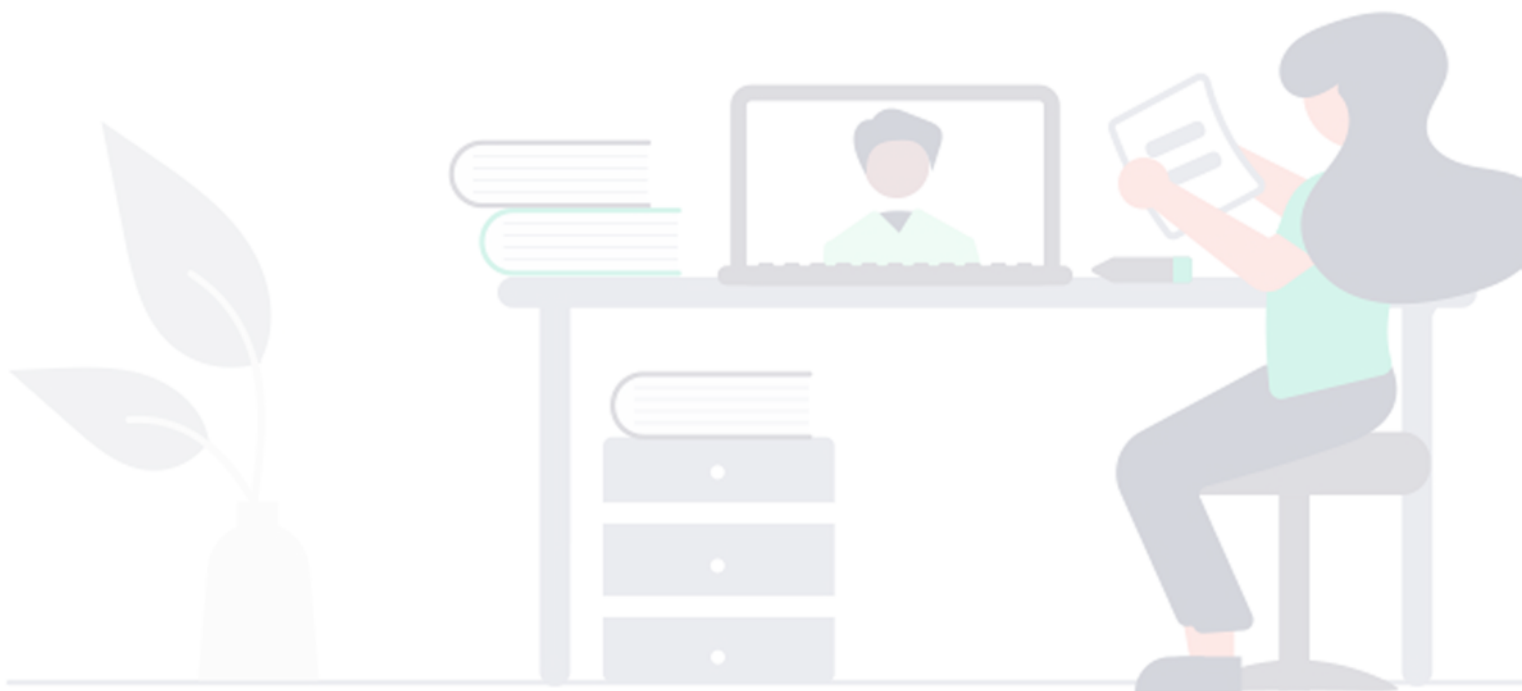
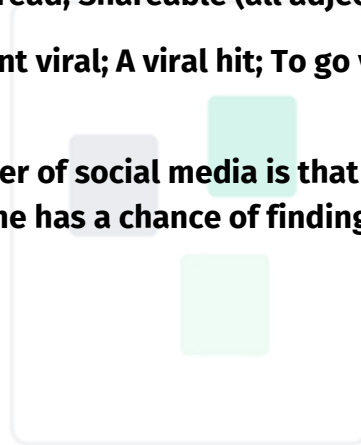
Meaning: To become extremely popular online, and be shared many times by many people.

Word Family: Virality (noun, the level of how viral something is); Viral (adjective)

Synonyms: Popular; Widespread; Shareable (all adjectives)

Collocations: Something went viral; A viral hit; To go viral on the internet; To quickly go viral

Example Sentence: The power of social media is that you never know what is going to go viral, so anyone has a chance of finding fame.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Space

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Astronaut (noun)

Meaning: A person who travels into space.

Synonyms: Cosmonaut (noun, a Russian astronaut)

Collocations: To dream of becoming an astronaut; To train to be an astronaut; To undergo astronaut training

Example Sentence: While many children dream of becoming astronauts, the fantasy and the reality are actually quite different.

Word 2: Extraterrestrial life (noun)

Meaning: Living creatures from another planet.

Word Family: An extraterrestrial (noun, the creature); Extraterrestrial (adjective)

Synonyms: Aliens; Little green men (both nouns)

Collocations: The existence of extraterrestrial life; The search/hunt for extraterrestrial life; To make contact with extraterrestrial life; Signs of extraterrestrial life

Example Sentence: I do believe in the existence of extraterrestrial life, but I'm a little worried about what might happen if we encounter it.

Word 3: The commercial exploitation of space (phrasal noun)

Meaning: Attempts to do business and make a profit in space.

Word Family: To commercially exploit space (phrasal verb)

Synonyms: The commercialization of space (noun)

Antonyms: The preservation of space (noun)

Collocations: To be interested in the commercial exploitation of space; To be involved in the commercial exploitation of space; To be considering the



commercial exploitation of space; To explore/investigate the commercial exploitation of space

Example Sentence: Many companies are starting to investigate the commercial exploitation of space, with SpaceX and Blue Origin two of the frontrunners.

Word 4: The militarization of space (phrasal noun)

Meaning: The action of placing weapons in space.

Word Family: To militarize space (phrasal verb)

Collocations: To avoid the militarization of space; To lead to the militarization of space; The inevitable militarization of space; To work towards the militarization of space; To fight against the militarization of space

Example Sentence: While humans so far have largely avoided the militarization of space, many experts believe that it is an inevitability.

Word 5: Deep space (noun)

Meaning: The parts of space far from Earth and the Moon.

Synonyms: Outer space (noun)

Collocations: The exploration of deep space; An exhibition into deep space; To be sent into deep space; A deep space probe

Example Sentence: The next step for humanity is the exploration of deep space.

Word 6: Cryogenic (adjective)

Meaning: The use of extremely cold temperatures to preserve someone in a state of hibernation.

Word Family: Cryogenically (adverb)

Collocations: Cryogenic freezing; Cryogenic sleep; A cryogenic chamber; A cryogenic tank

Example Sentence: Many sci-fi movies use cryogenic freezing as a way of explaining how humans could survive long journeys into deep space.



Word 7: Light-year (noun)

Meaning: The distance that light can travel in one year. Used as a measurement of distance in space travel.

Collocations: Number + Light-years away from + Place; A million light-years; We are light-years away from (+ technology or situation e.g. finding a cure for cancer)

Example Sentence: Beyond our own sun, the nearest star is 4 light years away from Earth.

Word 8: Astronomy (noun)

Meaning: The study of space and anything beyond the Earth.

Word Family: Astronomist (noun, person); Astronomical (adjective); Astronomically (adverb)

Collocations: The study of astronomy; An interest in astronomy; To major in astronomy; To study astronomy; To find astronomy boring; To talk about astronomy; Amateur astronomy; The field of astronomy

Example Sentence: The field of astronomy is considered one of the most challenging areas of science, and with good reason!

Word 9: In orbit (adjective)

Meaning: In the situation of travelling around the Earth (or another planet/moon/star) while remaining outside the atmosphere.

Word Family: Orbital (adjective); To orbit (verb); Orbit (noun)

Collocations: To be in orbit; To be in orbit around something; To go into orbit

Example Sentence: There are an increasing number of commercial satellites in orbit around the Earth.

Word 10: Awe-inspiring (adjective)

Meaning: Something that causes a feeling of awe through being very special in some way.



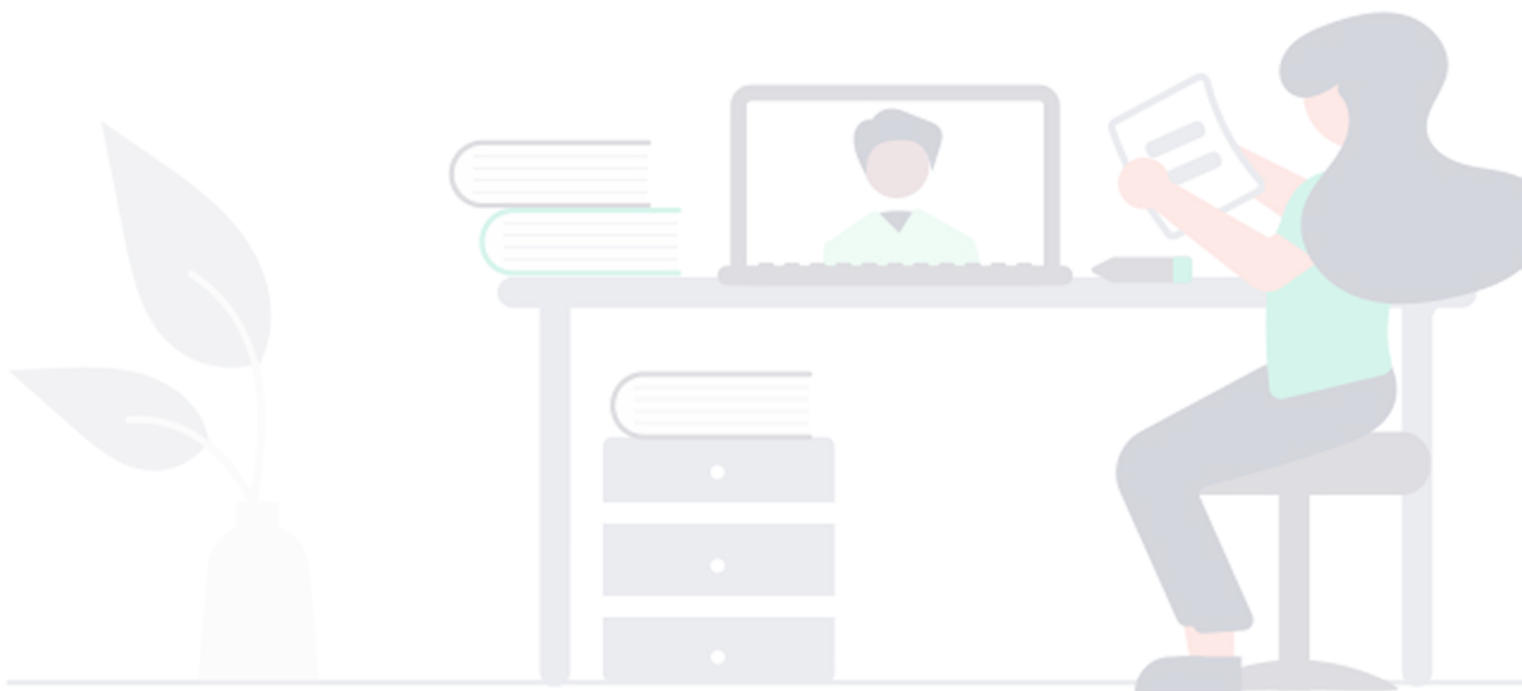
Word Family: To inspire awe (verb)

Synonyms: Amazing; Breath-taking; Awesome; Stunning (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Underwhelming; Mediocre (both adjectives)

Collocations: An awe-inspiring sight; An awe-inspiring story/tale;
Completely/Absolutely/Utterly awe-inspiring

Example Sentence: I think seeing the Earth from space would be absolutely awe-inspiring.





Advanced English Vocabulary– Sports

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Camaraderie (noun)

Meaning: The positive feeling of teamwork and team spirit when working or playing sports together.

Synonyms: Team spirit; Feeling of togetherness; Brotherhood/Sisterhood; Affinity (all nouns)

Collocations: To enjoy a great camaraderie in (+ organisation e.g. a sports team); The spirit of camaraderie; Camaraderie and respect; To miss the camaraderie of (+ organisation e.g. a sports team); To find camaraderie in (+ organisation e.g. a sports team); A special camaraderie; To have/enjoy camaraderie with + person

Example Sentence: People who play in successful sports teams, whether at a high or low level, often enjoy great camaraderie with their teammates.

Word 2: Go toe to toe (idiom, verb)

Meaning: To compete or fight against someone in the strongest possible way, fiercely and directly.

Synonyms: To square up to someone; To face someone down (both verbs)

Antonyms: To shy away from something; To avoid something (both verbs)

Collocations: To go toe to toe with someone; To be ready to go toe to toe; To be willing to go toe to toe; To be scared of going toe to toe

Example Sentence: One of the joys of playing sports is going toe to toe with your opponent and seeing who emerges as the victor.

Word 3: To leave it all out on the field (idiom, verb)

Meaning: To put in all possible effort during an activity, so that you have no energy left afterwards.

Synonyms: To sweat blood; To put it all in (both verbs)

Antonyms: Half-hearted; Lukewarm; Perfunctory (all adjectives)



Collocations: To make sure one leaves it all out on the field; To always leave it all out on the field

Example Sentence: One of the greatest things about playing sports is the feeling you get afterwards of having left it all out on the field.

Word 4: Spectator sport (noun)

Meaning: A sport that is enjoyable to watch.

Synonyms: A great watch (noun)

Antonyms: Confusing; Impenetrable; One for the purists (all adjectives)

Collocations: Something is a great spectator sport; Something definitely isn't a spectator sport; Something isn't much of a spectator sport; Something is a country's most popular spectator sport; A popular spectator sport

Example Sentence: I'd say football is the most popular spectator sport in my country, but it's never been my cup of tea.

Word 5: Take up (verb)

Meaning: To start to do a new activity, such as a sport or hobby.

Synonyms: To start; To get involved in (both verbs)

Antonyms: To quit; To give up; To abandon (all verbs)

Collocations: To take up + a new sport e.g. tennis; To want to take up something; To plan to take up something; To take up + sport + in order to + goal (e.g. lose weight)

Example Sentence: I'm considering taking up swimming in order to get in shape before summer.

Word 6: Practice religiously (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To be very committed and dedicated to practicing something e.g. specific sports skills.

Synonyms: To work on something; To polish something; To refine something; To dedicated oneself to something (all verbs)



Antonyms: To practice something intermittently; To practice something occasionally; To lack the discipline to practice something (both verbs)

Collocations: To practice + skill (e.g. one's basketball shooting) + religiously

Example Sentence: You have to practice religiously for many years if you want to become a professional athlete, so I'd say they do deserve their high salaries.

Word 7: Contact sport (noun)

Meaning: A sport in which people can make contact with each other legally. For example, football, rugby, ice-hockey.

Antonyms: Non-contact sport (noun)

Collocations: To play a contact sport; Something is/isn't a contact sport; The risk of injury in contact sports; The dangers of contact sports; The joy of contact sports; A brutal contact sport

Example Sentence: I always wanted to play contact sports like football, but my parents were worried about the risk of injuries.

Word 8: Exhilarating (adjective)

Meaning: Very exciting or thrilling.

Word Family: To exhilarate (verb); Exhilaration (noun); Exhilaratingly (adverb)

Synonyms: Thrilling; Exciting; Engrossing; Intoxicating (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Boring; Dull; Uninteresting (all adjectives)

Collocations: To find something exhilarating; An exhilarating experience; Nothing is more exhilarating than the feeling of (+ add something exciting e.g. jumping out of a plane)

Example Sentence: As far as I'm concerned, nothing is more exhilarating than the feeling of winning a very closely fought sports game that goes down to the wire.

Word 9: Go down to the wire (idiom, verb)



Meaning: A sports game or competition in which the result is in doubt until the very end.

Synonyms: Neck and neck; Nip and tuck; Tight; Closely fought (all adjectives)

Antonyms: One-sided; A walkover; A trouncing; A mismatch (all adjectives)

Collocations: Something (e.g. a sports game) goes right down to the wire; Something could go down to the wire; Something is expected to go down to the wire

Example Sentence: The most exhilarating sports games are the ones that go right down to the wire.

Word 10: Get a standing ovation (phrasal verb)

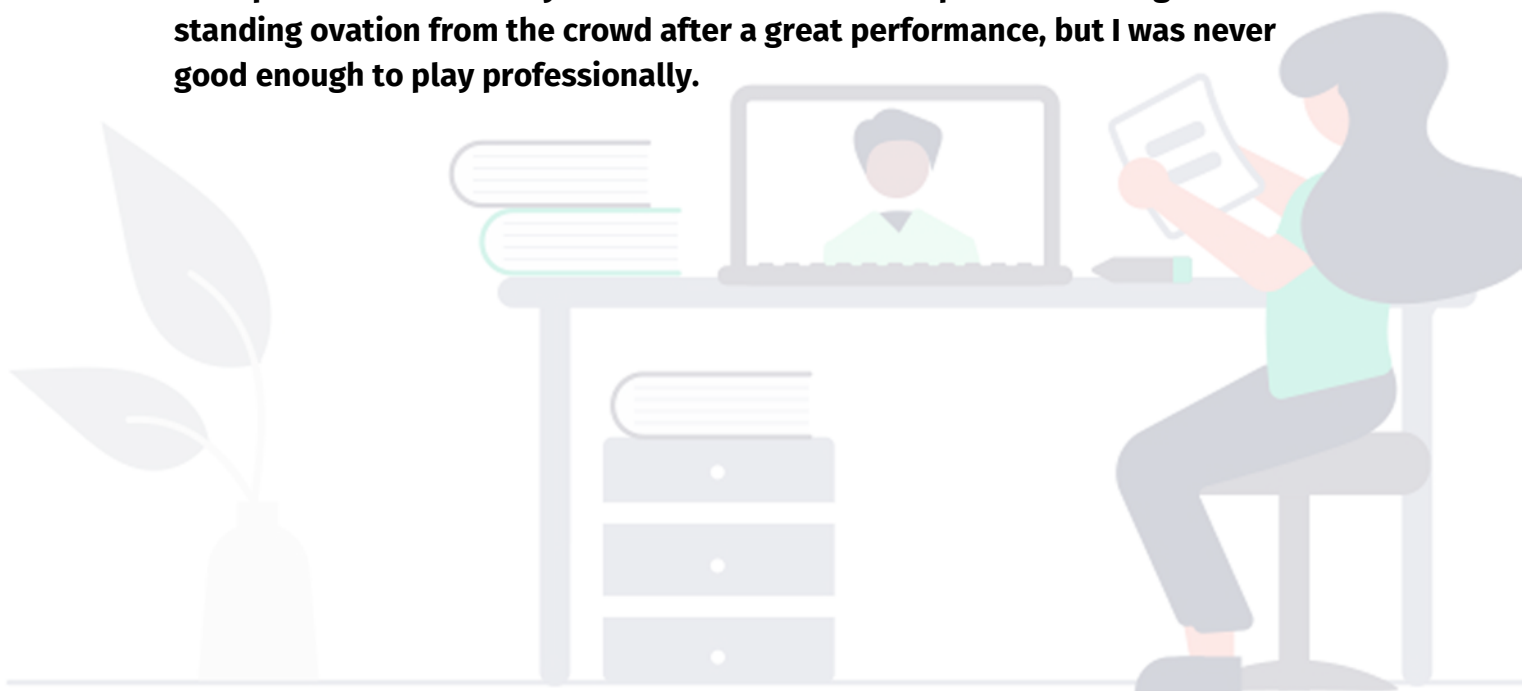
Meaning: To receive the enthusiastic applause of the audience after a performance.

Synonyms: Receive a standing ovation; Get a round of applause; To bring the house down (all verbs)

Antonyms: To be booed off; To be heckled (both verbs)

Collocations: To deserve to get a standing ovation; To usually get a standing ovation; To never get a standing ovation

Example Sentence: I always wanted to be a famous sports star and get a standing ovation from the crowd after a great performance, but I was never good enough to play professionally.





Advanced English Vocabulary–Technology

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Breakthrough (noun)

Meaning: A big, usually positive development in a specific area. Could be science and technology, or other areas e.g. emotional.

Synonyms: Advance; Step forward; Development; Discovery; Find (all nouns)

Antonyms: Step backwards; Setback (both nouns)

Collocations: A scientific breakthrough; A big/huge/massive/enormous breakthrough; A crucial/critical/key/major breakthrough; A historic breakthrough; A technical breakthrough; A medical breakthrough; A scientific breakthrough; An emotional breakthrough; A breakthrough for + person/group of people; The breakthrough came when (+ specific time/event e.g. the scientists tried a new technique); To hail a breakthrough; To celebrate a breakthrough; A breakthrough in (+ specific area/situation e.g. the fight against cancer)

Example Sentence: Scientific and technological breakthroughs can lead to great improvements in people's quality of life, as well as economic opportunities.

Word 2: In layman's terms (adverbial phrase)

Meaning: A way of explaining complicated ideas in simple words so that non-experts can understand.

Synonyms: In a simple way; In simple terms; Clearly (all adverbs)

Antonyms: In scientific language; In a complicated way (both adverbs)

Collocations: Give it to me in layman's terms; To explain in layman's terms; To be clearer in layman's terms

Example Sentence: I'm not a technology expert, so I prefer people to explain new concepts in layman's terms to make it easier for me to understand.



Word 3: Artificial Intelligence (noun)

Meaning: An area of technology which aims to create machines capable of performing tasks that usually need human intelligence. Also known as AI.

Collocations: The onset of artificial intelligence; The rise of artificial intelligence; The applications of artificial intelligence; The value of artificial intelligence; The dangers of artificial intelligence; To study artificial intelligence; Developments in artificial intelligence; The artificial intelligence community; Artificial intelligence experts

Example Sentence: While many people are excited about the rise of artificial intelligence, others are concerned about the dangers it could pose.

Word 4: Luddite (noun, adjective)

Meaning: Someone who either doesn't understand or actively dislikes new technology. Note – used with capital L when used as a noun, with lower case 'l' when adjective.

Synonyms: Technophobe (noun); Antitechnology (adjective)

Antonyms: Tech-head; Early adopter (of technology); Technophile; Techie (all nouns)

Collocations: I'm a bit of a Luddite when it comes to (+ area of technology e.g. smartphones); Luddite mentality; Luddite instincts; (A piece of technology is) something that even a Luddite could use; To be luddite about something (e.g. technology); A self-confessed Luddite

Example Sentence: The great thing about the first iPhone was that even a self-confessed Luddite like me could use it fairly easily.

Word 5: Cookies (noun)

Meaning: A feature of websites that allows them to track user activity and modify the performance of the website accordingly, or more accurately advertise to the users.

Collocations: To use cookies; To opt out of cookies; To block cookies; To use cookies to track users; The data gathered from cookies; Internet browser cookies; Third-party cookies



Example Sentence: I worry about being manipulated by internet advertising, so I generally opt out of internet cookies when I visit a new website.

Word 6: Obsolete (adjective)

Meaning: A piece of technology (or a person) that is too old or technologically limited to be useful.

Word Family: Obsolescence (noun)

Synonyms: Out of date; Outdated; Discontinued; Dated; Defunct (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Modern; Up to date; Contemporary; State-of-the-art; Cutting-edge (all adjectives)

Collocations: To become obsolete; Essentially/effectively/practically obsolete; Pretty much obsolete; Completely/entirely obsolete; Increasingly obsolete; To make something obsolete; To declare something obsolete; To render something obsolete

Example Sentence: The rise of self-driving cars may render human drivers obsolete in the near future.

Word 7: Game changer (noun)

Meaning: A development or decision that changes a situation in a big way. For example, the discovery of a cure for cancer would be a game changer for medicine.

Synonyms: Breakthrough; Development (both nouns)

Collocations: Something is a potential game changer; To believe something will be a game changer; To be a game changer in (+ something e.g. a relationship/a field of science)

Example Sentence: Scientists say that technology that allows genetic modification could be a game changer in the way we look at reproduction.

Word 8: Cryptocurrency (noun)

Meaning: A type of digital currency that only exists electronically. A famous example is Bitcoin.



Synonyms: Digital currency; Decentralized finance (both nouns)

Antonyms: Physical currency; Controlled currency; Centralized banking (all nouns)

Collocations: To invest in cryptocurrency; To be interested in cryptocurrency; Anonymous cryptocurrency; The development of cryptocurrency markets; To pay with cryptocurrency; To trade (with) cryptocurrency; The world of cryptocurrency; To found/start a cryptocurrency

Example Sentence: Many people are worried that cryptocurrency is just a fad, but others have made millions investing in Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies.

Word 9: Cybersecurity (noun)

Meaning: Protection against cybercrime (crime that occurs through the use of technology and/or the internet)

Antonyms: Cybercrime; Hacking; Cyber-attacks (all nouns)

Collocations: The importance of cybersecurity; To fund cybersecurity; To be in charge of cybersecurity; To provide cybersecurity; To ignore cybersecurity; A cybersecurity strategy; To pay attention to cybersecurity

Example Sentence: It's important to pay attention to cybersecurity, for individuals, companies and even governments.

Word 10: User-friendly (adjective)

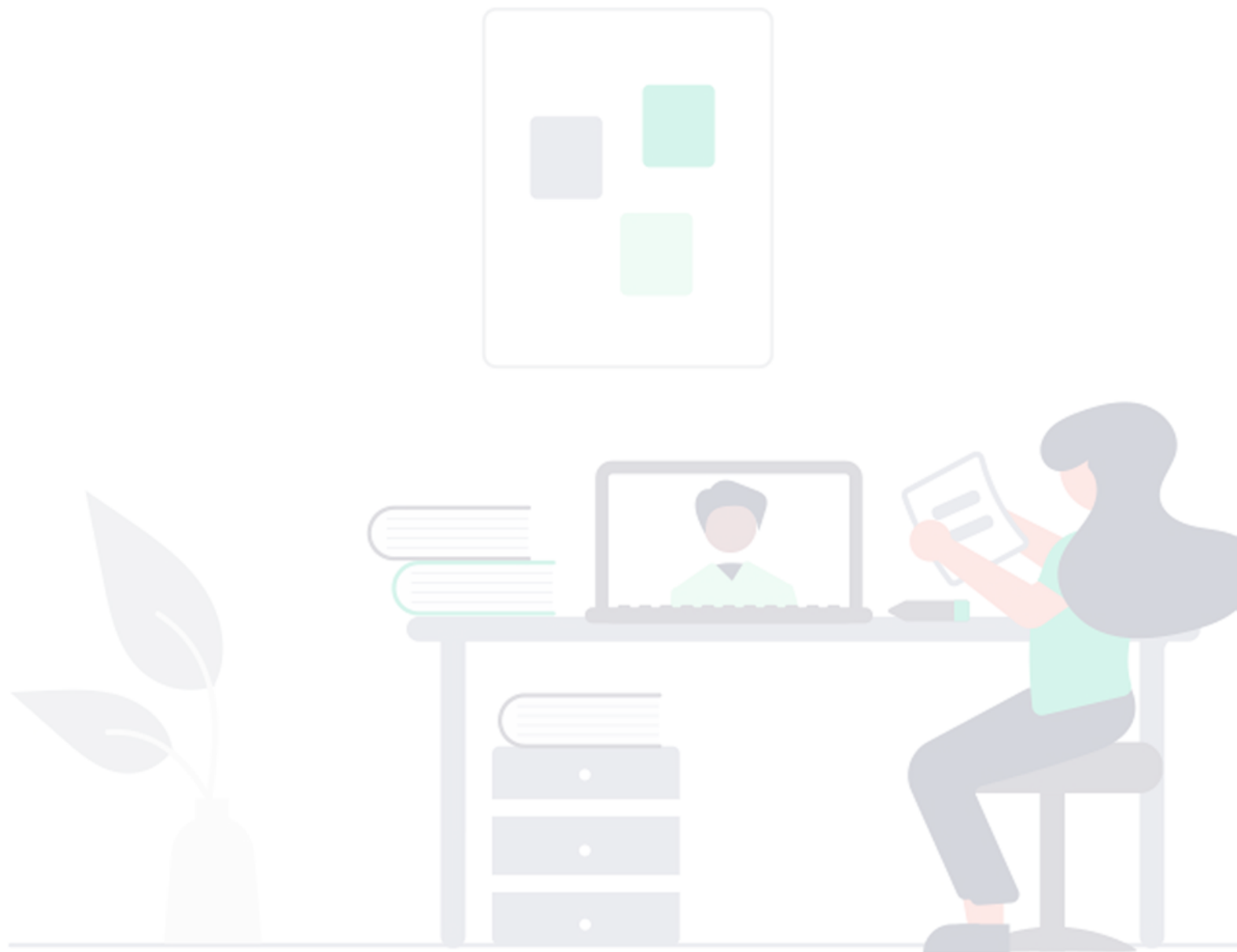
Meaning: When a piece of technology is easy for non-experts to use.

Synonyms: Accessible; Understandable; Beginner-friendly (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Complicated; Opaque; Intimidating; Impenetrable; Unfathomable (all adjectives)

Collocations: Extremely/very user-friendly; Not at all user-friendly; To make something more user-friendly; To pay attention to how user-friendly something is; As user-friendly as possible; A user-friendly interface; A user-friendly design; A user-friendly system/piece of software

Example Sentence: However complicated the underlying technology is, a piece of software must be as user-friendly as possible if it wants to attract a significant userbase.





Advanced English Vocabulary– Transport

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Infrastructure (noun)

Meaning: The physical and organizational structures and facilities of a society. For example, road, hospitals, power supplies.

Collocations: To invest in infrastructure; Basic infrastructure; An infrastructure project; Crumbling infrastructure; Existing infrastructure; Improved infrastructure; A lack of infrastructure

Example Sentence: Ever since the government improved the transport infrastructure in this city, it's been far easier to move around either by car or public transport.

Word 2: Bumper to bumper (idiom, adjective)

Meaning: When traffic on the road is very heavy and moving very slowly.

Synonyms: Congestion; Heavy traffic; Gridlock (both nouns)

Collocations: The traffic is/was bumper to bumper; It's always bumper to bumper on (+ specific road); It's always bumper to bumper in (+ specific place e.g. Beijing); It's always bumper to bumper at (+ specific time e.g. 6pm)

Example Sentence: One of the advantages of taking the subway is that it saves loads of time, because it's always bumper to bumper on the streets during rush hour.

Word 3: Bottleneck (noun)

Meaning: An area in which several roads or lanes of traffic merge into one road/lane, leading to very heavy traffic.

Collocations: A real bottleneck; To cause a bottleneck; To prevent a bottleneck; To worsen a bottleneck; To avoid a bottleneck

Example Sentence: There are several places on my journey to work in which the government had to add extra lanes to the road in order to prevent bottlenecks.



Word 4: Boy racer (noun)

Meaning: A young male car driver who drives in a fast and irresponsible manner, causing discomfort or danger to other road users.

Synonyms: A petrolhead (noun)

Antonyms: A responsible driver (noun)

Collocations: To be full of boy racers; To drive like a boy racer; To deal with boy racers

Example Sentence: One of the dangers of driving your own car is having to deal with boy racers who drive too fast and can cause accidents.

Word 5: Road rage (noun)

Meaning: The angry feeling that some people get when they drive, which can lead to them shouting at or fighting other drivers.

Synonyms: Hot-headedness; Irrascibility; Outburst (all nouns)

Antonyms: Calm and composed; Tranquil (both adjectives)

Collocations: To get road rage; To suffer from road rage; A (severe) case of road rage; To reduce road rage; To control road rage; A victim of road rage; A road rage attack

Example Sentence: Fortunately for me, I don't suffer from road rage, but I know people who get angry almost as soon as they get into the car.

Word 6: Exhaust fumes (noun)

Meaning: The waste emissions from a car's exhaust pipe.

Synonyms: Emissions; Fumes (both nouns)

Collocations: Car exhaust fumes; Truck exhaust fumes; Thick black exhaust fumes; To be choked with exhaust fumes; To be heavily polluted with exhaust fumes; A cloud of exhaust fumes; To inhale exhaust fumes; To produce exhaust fumes; The emission of exhaust fumes; To reduce the emission of exhaust fumes

Example Sentence: One way for the government to combat air pollution is to reduce the emission of car exhaust fumes.



Word 7: Carpool (verb)

Meaning: When several people traveling to the same or nearby places share a single car, rather than each driving their own cars.

Word Family: Carpooling (noun); Carpool (adjective e.g. The carpool lane)

Antonyms: Driving alone (verb)

Collocations: The carpool lane; To plan to carpool; To be willing to carpool; To carpool to and from work; To carpool whenever possible; To avoid carpooling; To enjoy carpooling

Example Sentence: I try to carpool whenever possible, because I think it's a great way of reducing my carbon footprint while also being more sociable.

Word 8: Season ticket (noun)

Meaning: A ticket bought for public transportation (buses, subway etc) that last for a long period of time, from a few months to 1-2 years. Often sold at a large discount.

Antonyms: Return ticket; Single ticket (both nouns)

Collocations: To buy a season ticket; To use a season ticket; To save money with a season ticket; An annual season ticket; A monthly season ticket; To renew a season ticket; A season ticket holder

Example Sentence: Public transport can be quite expensive if you buy single tickets every day, but you can make significant savings by buying an annual season ticket.

Word 9: Backseat driver (noun)

Meaning: A person who gives driving instructions while not driving. Refers to driving but also other situations when a person who is not in charge tries to take control from the leader in some way. Used in a negative way.

Synonyms: A nuisance; A meddler; A busybody (all nouns)

Antonyms: A silent passenger; A team player (both nouns)

Collocations: Don't be such a backseat driver; To despise/hate backseat drivers; To accuse someone of being a backseat driver; To be accused of



being a backseat driver; To try to not be a backseat driver; To not realize that one is a backseat driver; No-one likes a backseat driver

Example Sentence: Driving is probably my preferred form of transportation, as long as I don't have a backseat driver in the car with me.

Word 10: Self-driving cars

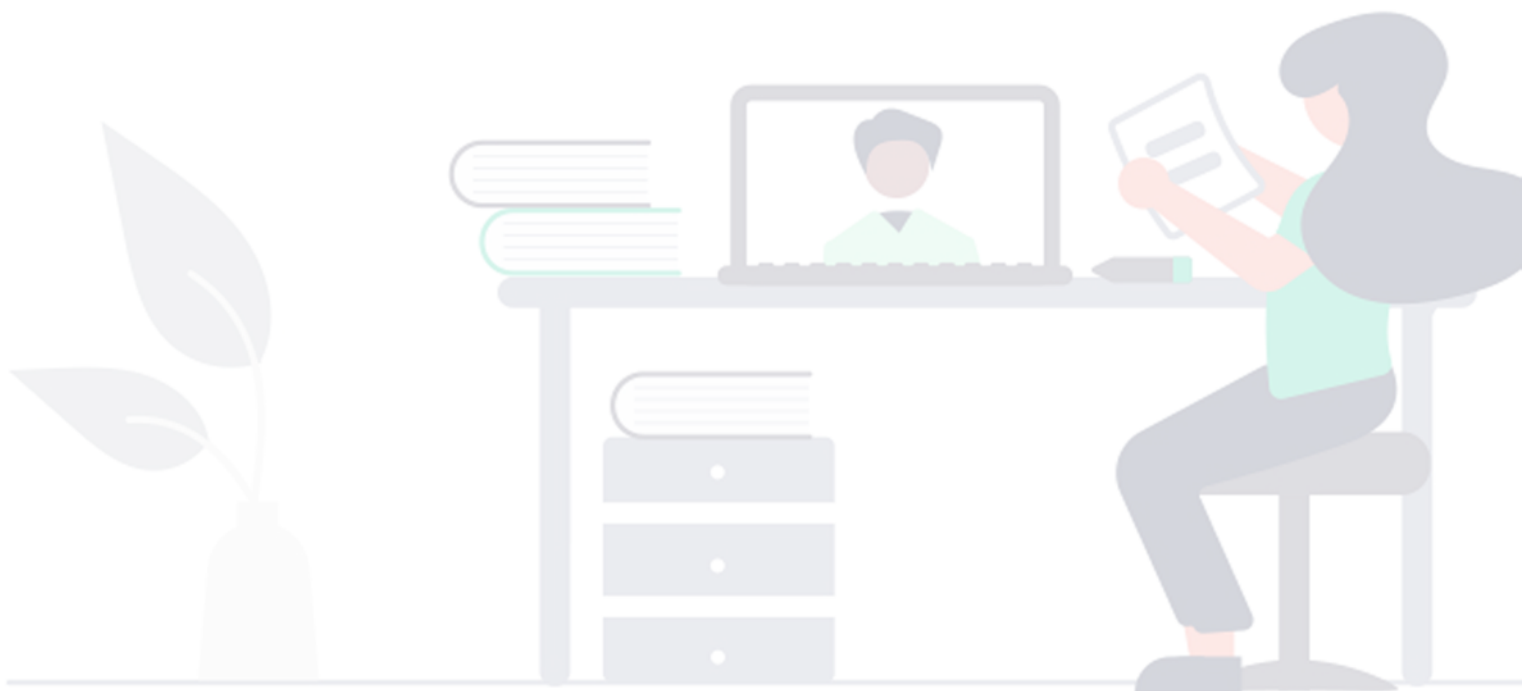
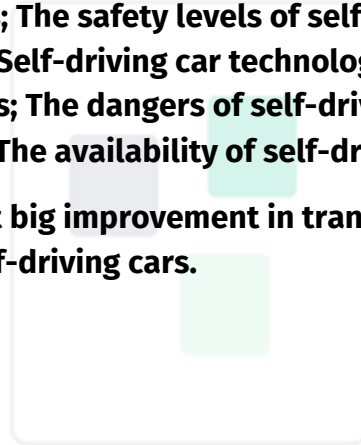
Meaning: Cars that are driven automatically by technology rather than being controlled by humans.

Synonyms: Driverless cars; Autonomous vehicles (both nouns)

Antonyms: (Cars with) Human drivers; Traditional cars (both nouns)

Collocations: The self-driving car revolution; The onset of self-driving cars; To develop self-driving cars; The safety levels of self-driving cars; The testing of self-driving cars; Self-driving car technology; The widespread adoption of self-driving cars; The dangers of self-driving cars; The dangers that self-driving cars pose; The availability of self-driving cars

Example Sentence: The next big improvement in transportation must be the widespread adoption of self-driving cars.





Advanced English Vocabulary– Travel and Tourism

Vocabulary List

Word 1: All-inclusive (adjective)

Meaning: When all food, drink and sometimes activities are included in the price- e.g. in a hotel.

Collocations: All-inclusive resort; All-inclusive hotel; All-inclusive trip; All-inclusive holiday

Example Sentence: I stayed in a wonderful all-inclusive resort when I visited Thailand.

Word 2: Excursion (noun)

Meaning: A trip, often for a day or several days. Usually done for fun or interest.

Synonyms: Outing; Day-trip; Day out; Trip; Tour (all nouns)

Collocations: A brief excursion; An organized excursion; A sightseeing excursion; To make an excursion (to somewhere); To go on an excursion (to somewhere); To arrange/organize an excursion; Annual excursion; Regular excursion; To take someone on an excursion

Example Sentence: The hotel we stayed in offered all kinds of excursions, including a trip to a local food market.

Word 3: Eat like pigs (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To eat a large amount of food, usually on a special occasion or in a specific place.

Synonyms: To stuff oneself; To binge-eat; To eat like a horse; To eat to excess; To overeat; To pig out (all verbs)

Antonyms: To eat modestly; To control oneself (both verbs)

Example Sentence: Whenever we go on holiday, we always eat like pigs.



Word 4: Paradise (noun)

Meaning: A wonderful place

Synonyms: Heaven; Utopia; Heaven on earth (all nouns)

Antonyms: Hell; Nightmare (both nouns)

Collocations: A shopping paradise; A food-lover's paradise; (A place) seems like paradise to one; (A place) is a paradise for someone (e.g. sports fans); (A place is) One's idea of paradise; A beautiful paradise; A tropical paradise; To find paradise; A perfect paradise

Example Sentence: I've often heard it said that Dubai is a paradise for shoppers.

Word 5: Get one's bearings (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To start to understand a new place or situation. Particularly used to describe knowing where things are or how things work e.g. in a new city.

Synonyms: Find one's bearings; Get acquainted with something (both verbs)

Antonyms: Lose one's bearings; Lose one's way (both verbs)

Collocations: To help someone get their bearings; To try to get your bearings; To take a while to get your bearings; To take (+ period of time) to get your bearings

Example Sentence: The first thing that I like to do in a new city is take a few hours to walk around and get my bearings.

Word 6: To drink it in (phrasal verb)

Meaning: To take time to enjoy a pleasurable experience, for example looking at something beautiful

Synonyms: To enjoy something (verb)

Antonyms: To ignore something; To hate/dislike something (all verbs)

Collocations: To drink it all in; Just drink it in!

Example Sentence: People visiting the Great Wall often just stand still in front of the wall and drink it in.



Word 7: Must-see (adjective)

Meaning: Something which is completely worth seeing, often a tourist attraction or movie.

Synonyms: Must-do; Must-visit; Unmissable; Worth seeing (all adjectives); An absolute must (noun)

Antonyms: Not worth it; Not worth seeing/doing (both adjectives)

Collocations: Something is a must-see; A must-see attraction

Example Sentence: If you visit Paris, the Eiffel Tower is a must-see.

Word 8: Show someone the sights (phrasal verb)

Meaning: When someone familiar with a place (e.g. their hometown) acts as a guide for visitors.

Synonyms: To guide someone; To be someone's guide; To show someone a place; To show someone around (all verbs)

Example Sentence: If you visit a new city, it's great to have someone who can show you the sights, but if not, there are usually plenty of maps and tour guides available.

Word 9: Attentive (adjective)

Meaning: Very polite and helpful, paying close attention to the needs of someone.

Word Family: Attentively (adverb)

Synonyms: Helpful; Considerate; Conscientious; Accommodating (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Unhelpful; Inattentive; Uninterested; Negligent (all adjectives)

Collocations: To be more attentive; Friendly and attentive; To be attentive to someone; Attentive service

Example Sentence: One of the best things about that trip was how friendly and attentive all the staff in the hotel were.



Word 10: Highlight (noun)

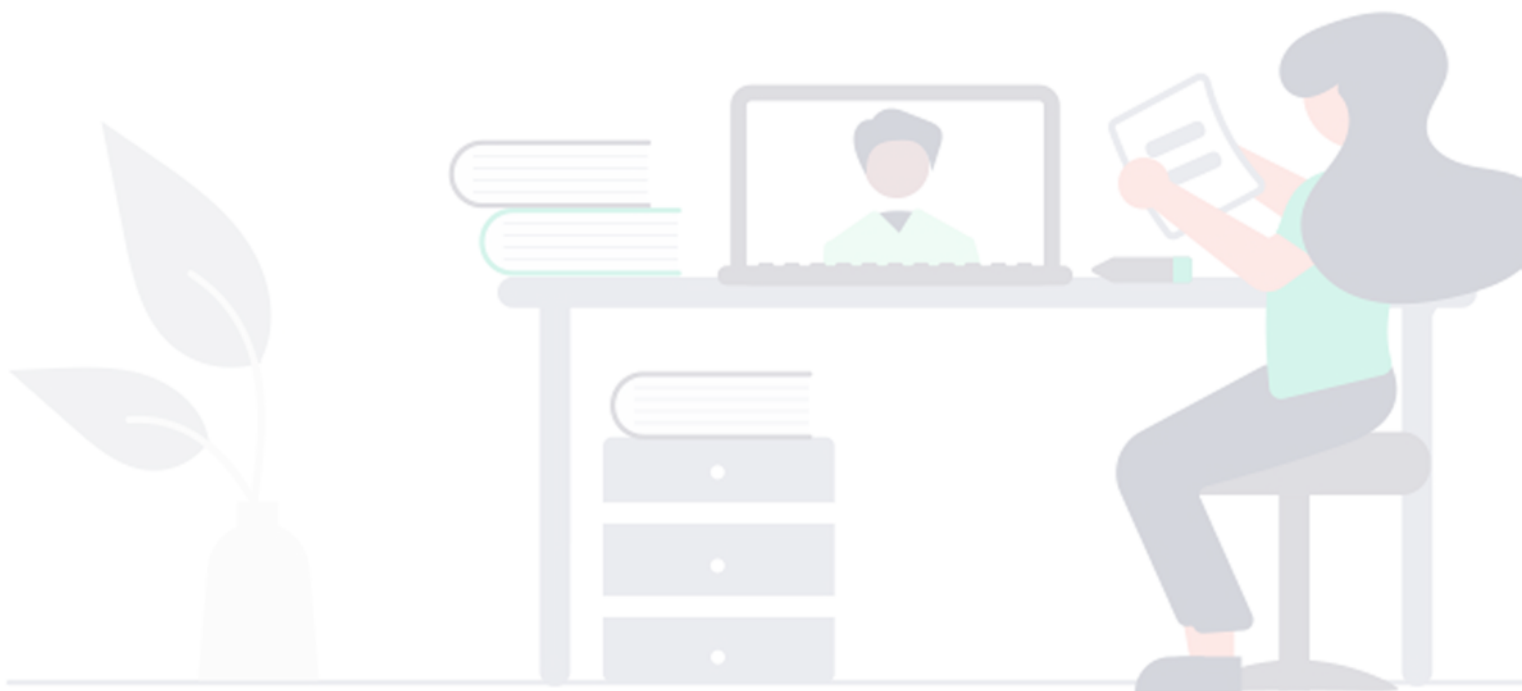
Meaning: The best moment(s) of a trip or activity.

Synonyms: High point; Best part; Best moment (all nouns)

Antonyms: Worst moment; Low point; Lowlight; Nadir (all nouns)

Collocations: The highlight of our trip was + event/place/activity; The highlight of the day was + event/place/activity

Example Sentence: The highlight of our trip was definitely climbing the Empire State Building and looking down on the whole of New York.





Advanced English Vocabulary - Weather

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Hurricane (noun)

Meaning: A very severe storm, which can cause great damage if it reaches land.

Synonyms: Typhoon (same, but in Northwest Pacific Ocean); Tornado; Tropical Storm (all nouns)

Collocations: A devastating hurricane; The damage caused by a hurricane; A large hurricane; The approach of a hurricane; The hurricane left a trail of destruction; The intensity of the hurricane; Victims of the hurricane

Example Sentence: The damage caused by a hurricane that hits land can run into the tens of billions of dollars.

Word 2: Freezing (adjective)

Meaning: Very cold. Used literally as being below zero degrees Celsius, or figuratively to mean 'extremely cold'

Word Family: To freeze (verb); Frozen (adjective)

Synonyms: Bone-chilling; Frigid; Bitterly cold; Piercingly cold; Glacial (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Boiling; Scorching (both adjectives meaning hot); Chilly (adjective meaning slightly cold)

Collocations: To be absolutely freezing outside; To be freezing cold; To be well below freezing; I'm freezing!

Example Sentence: My city has very extreme weather – it's always boiling in summer and absolutely freezing in winter.

Word 3: To get soaked (verb)

Meaning: To get very wet, usually from heavy rain.

Word Family: Soaking (adjective); To soak (verb)

Synonyms: To be drenched; To drown; To be wet through (all verbs)



Antonyms: To stay warm and dry (verb)

Collocations: Someone gets completely soaked; To get absolutely soaked; To get soaked to the bone; To get soaked to the skin

Example Sentence: The main thing to remember is to always carry an umbrella, otherwise you run the risk of getting absolutely soaked.

Word 4: Like a drowned rat (adjective)

Meaning: To be extremely wet, usually as a result of rain, and look very sad or uncomfortable. Also used in plural (like drowned rats)

Synonyms: Soaking; Drenched; Wet through (all adjectives)

Antonyms: As dry as a bone (adjective)

Collocations: To look like (a couple of) drowned rats; As miserable as a couple of drowned rats; We ended up like drowned rats

Example Sentence: I remember going out with my brother during a rainstorm one day, and coming back five minutes later looking like a pair of drowned rats.

Word 5: Heatwave (noun)

Meaning: A period of very hot weather, hotter than the average for that time of year. Can be dangerously hot.

Synonyms: A hot spell; A hot period (both nouns)

Antonyms: A cold snap; A deep freeze (both nouns)

Collocations: To suffer a heatwave; A severe heatwave; (Name of country/city) is in the grip of a heatwave; To go somewhere to escape a heatwave; An intense heatwave; A record-breaking heatwave

Example Sentence: Intense heatwaves can lead to forest fires and other natural disasters.

Word 6: Humidity (noun)

Meaning: The measurement for a type of weather or climate that is hot and wet.



Word Family: Humid (adjective)

Synonyms: Sticky; Close; Muggy (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Arid; Dry (both adjectives)

Collocations: The humidity level; I can't bear the humidity in (+ name of place/time e.g. Shenzhen in the summer); Murderous humidity; Unbearable humidity; The humidity makes me feel (+ feeling e.g. sleepy, grumpy); To prefer humidity; To dislike high humidity; Low humidity; The humidity is low in (+ name of place)

Example Sentence: I find the humidity in Shanghai in the summer absolutely unbearable.

Word 7: Overcast (adjective)

Meaning: A grey and cloudy day.

Synonyms: Grey; Gloomy; Cloudy; Murky (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Clear; Bright (both adjectives); Bright blue skies (noun)

Collocations: To be overcast; It's overcast today; To usually be overcast; Heavily overcast; Dull and overcast; Overcast skies; It's a bit overcast; It will be overcast later; Muggy and overcast

Example Sentence: Most days in summer are fairly overcast, so we have to make the most of the bright blue skies when they come.

Word 8: Forecast (noun)

Meaning: The prediction of what something will be in the future – e.g. tomorrow's weather

Word Family: To forecast (verb)

Synonyms: Prediction; Projection (both nouns)

Collocations: The weather forecast; The forecast for tomorrow is (+ type of weather e.g. bright blue skies); To check the forecast; The weather forecast says that (+ situation e.g. it will rain tomorrow); The forecast is good/bad for tomorrow; According to the forecast, ...; The forecast said it would (+ weather e.g. be sunny; rain – note: used for talking about the past); The forecast was way out/way off; The forecast was spot on



Example Sentence: The forecast said it would be sunny for the whole day, but it started to rain as soon as we got there.

Word 9: A spell (noun)

Meaning: A period of the same type of consistent weather. Usually at least a few days, and as much as 1-2 months.

Synonyms: A period (noun)

Collocations: A dry spell; A wet spell; A hot spell; A cold spell; During a hot spell; To want a (+ adjective) spell; To enjoy a (+ adjective) spell

Example Sentence: My city is always beautiful during a hot spell, but really miserable if we have a wet spell.

Word 10: Chucking it down (Idiom, verb, informal)

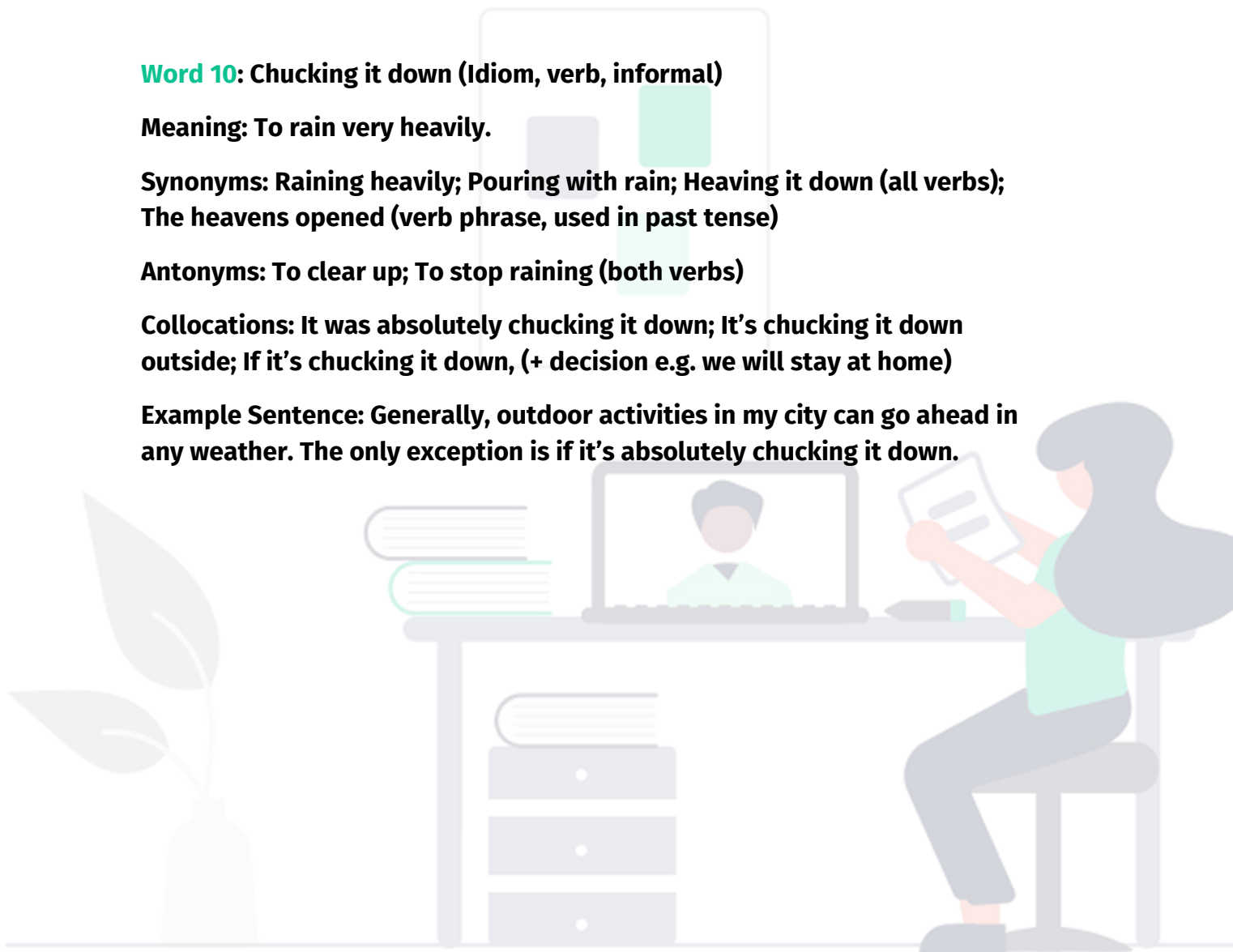
Meaning: To rain very heavily.

Synonyms: Raining heavily; Pouring with rain; Heaving it down (all verbs); The heavens opened (verb phrase, used in past tense)

Antonyms: To clear up; To stop raining (both verbs)

Collocations: It was absolutely chucking it down; It's chucking it down outside; If it's chucking it down, (+ decision e.g. we will stay at home)

Example Sentence: Generally, outdoor activities in my city can go ahead in any weather. The only exception is if it's absolutely chucking it down.





Advanced English Vocabulary – Work

Vocabulary List

Word 1: Repetitive (adjective)

Meaning: Doing the same or similar thing again and again. Used as a negative word, usually to explain why something is boring.

Word Family: Repetition (noun); To repeat (verb); Repetitively (adverb)

Synonyms: Boring; Samey; Monotonous; Tedious; Soul-destroying (all adjectives)

Antonyms: Varied; Interesting; Engaging (all adjectives)

Collocations: A repetitive task; Something is quite repetitive; Repetitive work; Dreary and repetitive; Highly repetitive; Slightly repetitive; Overly repetitive; Incredibly repetitive; To find something rather repetitive

Example Sentence: I like my job on the whole, but it does get a bit repetitive at times.

Word 2: To punch in (verb)

Meaning: To start work. Originally used literally for manual laborers, with a punch in card. Today, used for office workers as well. Fairly informal.

Synonyms: Start work; Arrive at work; Get going; Clock in (all verbs)

Antonyms: Clock off; Finish work; Go home; Punch out (all verbs)

Collocations: To usually punch in at (+ time e.g. 9am); To be supposed to punch in at (+ time e.g. 9am); To fail to punch in; To forget to punch in

Example Sentence: I generally punch in at around 8.30am, and clock off at around 5.30pm.

Word 3: To unplug (verb)

Meaning: Stop working and stop thinking about work. Usually used in the evening, at weekends or on vacations.

Word Family: Unplugged (adjective)



Synonyms: Check out; Loosen up; Forget about work; Disconnect; Switch off (all verbs)

Collocation: To find it easy to unplug; To find it difficult to unplug; To unplug during the (+ time e.g. weekends, evening); To try to unplug; To always unplug

Example Sentence: The advent of the internet and social media has blurred the lines between work time and rest time, meaning that people often find it difficult to unplug at night.

Word 4: To learn the ropes (idiom, verb)

Meaning: To learn the details of how to do a particular job or work in a particular company. Often used when someone joins a new company.

Synonyms: To get up to speed; To learn the ins and out; To know something inside out (all verbs)

Collocations: To take time to learn the ropes; To be willing to learn the ropes; To be unwilling to learn the ropes; To need time to learn the ropes; To need to learn the ropes; The importance of learning the ropes; To learn the ropes before doing something; It takes a while to learn the ropes

Example Sentence: It took me a while to learn the ropes when I first started this job, but now I know exactly what I'm doing.

Word 5: Snowed under (adjective)

Meaning: To have a huge amount of work to do, more than you can handle in a short time.

Synonyms: Swamped; Tied up (both adjectives)

Antonyms: Free; Available (both adjectives)

Collocations: To be snowed under with work; To be completely snowed under; To be absolutely snowed under; To be snowed under at the moment; To find oneself snowed under

Example Sentence: I often find myself snowed under with work on a Monday, so I rarely clock off until 9pm or even later.

Word 6: To pour one's heart and soul into something (idiom, verb)



Meaning: To put all your effort, hard work and emotions into something. For example, a project at work.

Synonyms: To give it everything you've got; To work till you drop; To go all out (all verbs)

Antonyms: To do something half-heartedly; To do the bare minimum (both verbs)

Collocations: Someone always pours their heart and soul into something; To never pour one's heart and soul into anything; To demand that people pour their heart and soul into something

Example Sentence: The CEOs of start-ups often demand that their employees work long hours and pour their heart and soul into their work.

Word 7: The daily grind (noun)

Meaning: A negative way to describe a full-time job that you have but don't enjoy, which is probably difficult in some way.

Synonyms: Working 9-5 (verb); The rat race (noun)

Collocations: To give up the daily grind; To hate the daily grind; The daily grind of (+ activity e.g. looking after 3 children); To survive the daily grind; To begin the daily grind; To do something as a relief from the daily grind; A change from the daily grind

Example Sentence: Taking early retirement can be a great way to escape the daily grind, but many people who do it find their life devoid of meaning.

Word 8: A cog in the machine (noun)

Meaning: A way of describing the role that a low or medium-level employee has in a large company. Often used in a negative way, but can also be positive.

Synonyms: A drone; A grunt; A nobody; A small fish in a big pond (all nouns)

Antonyms: A big deal; A major player; A big fish (all nouns)

Collocations: To be just a cog in the machine; To hate being a cog in the machine; To not want to be a cog in the machine; To like being a cog in the machine; To take pride in being a cog in the machine



Example Sentence: Although I don't like the idea of being a cog in the machine, my company does have excellent benefits and career advancement opportunities.

Word 9: A big fish in a small pond (idiom, noun)

Meaning: An important person in a small or medium-sized organisation.

Synonyms: A big deal; A major player (both nouns)

Antonyms: A drone; A grunt; A nobody; A small fish in a big pond (all nouns)

Collocations: Someone is a big fish in a small pond; To choose to be a big fish in a small pond; To like being a big fish in a small pond; To dislike being a big fish in a small pond; To want to avoid being a big fish in a small pond; The advantages of being a big fish in a small pond; The disadvantages of being a big fish in a small pond

Example Sentence: One of the advantages of being a big fish in a small pond is that you can influence the direction that the organisation takes.

Word 10: Office politics (noun)

Meaning: Competition for power or influence in an office between different people. Considered usually to be negative.

Collocations: To get involved in office politics; To stay out of office politics; To avoid office politics; To enjoy office politics; To encourage office politics; To hate office politics; To be sick of office politics; To have to deal with office politics

Example Sentence: People who retire often remark that they miss the camaraderie of working with people every day, but are glad to be free of office politics.

