|  |
| --- |
| 1. Be the embodiment of sth : /ɪmˈbɑː.di.mənt/   Are we products of our environment or the embodiment of our genes. |
| 1. A change for the better/ worse :   As the afternoon wore on the weather changed for the worse. |
| 1. A change of heart   She was going to sell her house but had a change of heart at the last minute. |
| 1. Things fall into place :   If you plan the project well, then everything should fall in the place |
| 1. Go downhill : to gradually become worse   When his wife died, his health started to go downhill |
| 1. Be on the cards   I think it is on the cards. |
| 1. Get in with :   to become popular or friendly with sb  He is trying to get in with the teachers |
| 1. Feat   it allows people to perform supernatural feats  Eifel tower is a remarkable feat of engineering |
| 1. Immeasurably   The damage from the hurricane was immeasurably great. |
| 1. Deplete   If we continue to deplete the earth’s natural resources, we will cause serious damages to the environment. |
| 1. Excruciating   An excruciating pain in the lower back |
| 1. Dismay |
| 1. Dismayed   feeling unhappy and disappointed:  I was dismayed to discover that he'd lied.  She was utterly dismayed by the tone of the letter. |
| 1. Disgruntled   unhappy, annoyed, and disappointed about something:  A disgruntled former employee is being blamed for the explosion.  The players were disgruntled with the umpire. |
| 1. Conceive   I think my uncle still conceives of me as a four-year-old.  He couldn't conceive of a time when he would have no job.  [ + question word ] I can't conceive (= it is too shocking to imagine) how anyone could behave so cruelly. |
| 1. Rough it   There is a campsite but, if you prefer not to rough it, the Lake Hotel is nearby. |
| 1. On a shoestring   If you do something on a shoestring, you do it with a very small amount of money:  The film was made on a shoestring.  Informal if you do something on a shoestring, you do it without spending much money  run/operate/do something on a shoestring  The program was run on a shoestring. |
| 1. Culture vulture |
| 1. Liable |
| 1. Downcast   sad and without hope:  I thought you were looking a little downcast this morning. |
| 1. Embody /ɪmˈbɑː.di/   C2  to represent a quality or an idea exactly:  She embodied good sportsmanship on the playing field. |
| 1. A staple of office chat |
| 1. staple3 adjective [only before a noun]   a staple food, product, activity etc is one that is basic, most important, or standard  Oil is Nigeria’s staple export.  These garments are now becoming a staple product of the company. |
| 1. Dreary : ˈdrɪr.i/   boring and making you feel unhappy:  a dreary little town |
| 1. Lethargic   having little energy; feeling unwilling and unable to do anything:  I was feeling tired and lethargic. |
| 1. Temperamental   A temperamental person is someone whose mood often changes very suddenly:  Be careful how you approach her - she's very temperamental. |
| 1. Savored   to enjoy food or an experience slowly, in order to appreciate it as much as possible |
| 1. Enervate   to make you feel tired and weak  The hot sun enervated her to the point of collapse. |
| 1. Sublime   extremely good, beautiful, or enjoyable:  sublime beauty  The book has sublime descriptive passages. |
| 1. Row |
| 1. Uncongenial   (of a person) not friendly and pleasant:  Unfortunately I found him almost as uncongenial as his sister. |
| 1. Callous /ˈkæl.əs/   unkind, cruel, and without sympathy or feeling for other people:  It might sound callous, but I don't care if he's homeless. He's not living with me! |
| 1. Heinous /ˈheɪ.nəs/   very bad and shocking:  a heinous crime |
| 1. Pinpoint   to discover or explain exactly the real facts about something or the cause of a problem  It’s difficult to pinpoint the cause of the accident.  pinpoint what/how/why etc  They need to pinpoint exactly what skills are necessary. |
| 1. Correlate   stress levels and heart disease are strongly correlated |
| 1. Breach   the company accused him of breaching his contact |
| 1. Constitute   the rise in crime constitutes a threat to society |
| 1. An ulterior motive   do you think I had an ulterior motive for coming here? |
| 1. Just/ fitting punishment |
| 1. Be on the brink of   Scientists are on the brink of (= extremely close to) a major new discovery. |
| 1. Be on the verge of   on the verge of collapse/success/tears/death/disaster/war  Her husband's violent and abusive behaviour drove her to the verge of despair.  If you are on the verge of something or come to the verge of something, you are very close to experiencing it.  He was on the verge of saying something but stopped and shook his head. |
| 1. Recollection   I have no recollection of childhood holidays |
| 1. Modern – day   The modern – day diet has too little fiber in it. |
| 1. Utilitarian /juːˌtɪl.əˈter.i.ən/   Designed to be useful rather than decorative:  Like many factories, it's a very ugly utilitarian building. |
| 1. Find your place in the sun   a good or lucky position:  He certainly earned his place in the sun.  If you say that someone has found their place in the sun, you mean that they are in a job or a situation where they will be happy and have everything that they want. |
| 1. Heyday   the most successful or popular period of someone or something:  In their heyday, they sold as many records as all the other groups in the country put together. |
| 1. Pristine /prɪˈstiːn/   pristine new offices  Washing machine for sale - only two months old and in pristine condition. |
| 1. Niche /nɪtʃ/ a job or position that is very suitable for someone, especially one that they like   He has carved/made a niche for himself as a financial advisor. |
| 1. Resemble : to look like or be like someone or something:   You resemble your mother very closely.  After the earthquake, the city resembled a battlefield. |
| 1. Ingenuity /ˌɪn.dʒəˈnjuː.ə.t̬i/   someone's ability to think of clever new ways of doing something:  Drug smugglers constantly use their ingenuity to find new ways of getting drugs into a country. |
| 1. Get my goat |
| 1. Fork out   to pay an amount of money, especially unwillingly:  I forked out ten quid for/on the ticket.  UK I couldn't persuade him to fork out for a new one. |
| 1. Hefty |
| 1. Be on a tight budget   if you are on a budget, you do not have much money to spend  Travelers on a budget might prefer to camp.  a book which offers great ideas for decorating on a budget  families on a tight budget |
| 1. Be dead set on |
| 1. In line with   if something changes in line with something else, it changes in the same way and at the same rate as it  Pensions will be increased in line with inflation. |
| 1. Shoulder the burden   to accept a difficult or unpleasant responsibility, duty etc  The residents are being asked to shoulder the costs of the repairs. |
| 1. Foot the bill |
| 1. Face the music :   to accept responsibility for something you have done:  If she lied to me, then she'll just have to face the music. |
| 1. Toe the line   The new guy is better salesman and will toe the marketing department's line much more closely. |
| 1. Stomach the idea :   to be able to accept an unpleasant idea or watch something unpleasant  He can't stomach the idea that Peter might be the next chairman. |
| 1. …. Would be incredibly stimulating |
| 1. Just think of all the cultures and landscapes you would be able to sample |
| 1. My main objective in life is to ….. |
| 1. They seem to have some sort of inner drive which pushes them to obtain their objective |
| 1. Personally, I guess my main priority would be to make sure…. |
| 1. Time and time again |
| 1. Give and take |
| 1. Leave sb high and dry : to do something that is not at all convenient for someone and puts them in a very difficult situation: |
| 1. The doctor says that it is touch-and-go whether Mary will be ok. |
| 1. In the blink an eye |
| 1. I wouldn’t blink an eye |
| 1. Riveting :   extremely interesting  It was a riveting story. |
| 1. Haunting :   beautiful, but in a sad way and often in a way that cannot be forgotten:  a haunting melody |
| 1. Intriguing :   very interesting because of being unusual or mysterious:  She has a really intriguing personality. |
| 1. Moving   causing strong feelings of sadness or sympathy:  a very moving story |
| 1. Depressing |
| 1. Thought – provoking |
| 1. Fast paced |
| 1. Appalled == horrified 🡺 I was appalled by the condition they had to live in. |
| 1. Stunned == shocked and surprised 🡺 I was stunned when they gave me the prize |
| 1. Devastated == heart broken   very shocked and upset:  She was utterly devastated when her husband died. |
| 1. Ecstatic == euphoric == elated == over the moon |
| 1. Take a trip down memory lane.   Visiting her took me down memory lane. |
| 1. Hit the roof / go through the roof   to get very angry:  When I was expelled from school, my parents went through the roof. |
| 1. Gutted == very disappointed   extremely disappointed and unhappy:  He was gutted when she finished the relationship. |
| 1. Wear your heart on your sleeve |
| 1. Bottle up your emotions |
| 1. Innermost thoughts |
| 1. I didn’t have the heart to tell her she failed |
| 1. My heart told me to help him |
| 1. My heart wasn’t really in it |
| 1. Suppress your feelings |
| 1. Pent-up emotions |
| 1. Aloof |
| 1. Stand-offish |
| 1. A bad quality in one context can be a virtue in another |
| 1. Diffident   shy and not confident of your abilities:  You shouldn't be so diffident about your achievements - you've done really well! |
| 1. Cunning   Cunning people are clever at planning something so that they get what they want, especially by tricking other people, or things that are cleverly made for a particular purpose:  He's a very cunning man. |
| 1. Naïve   too willing to believe that someone is telling the truth, that people's intentions in general are good, or that life is simple and fair. People are often naive because they are young and/or have not had much experience of life:  She was very naive to believe that he'd stay with her.  They make the naive assumption that because it's popular it must be good.  It was a little naive of you to think that they would listen to your suggestions. |
| 1. Be cruel to be kind |
| 1. Be a real character |
| 1. Shrewd   having or based on a clear understanding and good judgment of a situation, resulting in an advantage:  [ + to infinitive ] He was shrewd enough not to take the job when there was the possibility of getting a better one a few months later.  She is a shrewd politician who wants to avoid offending the electorate unnecessarily.  It was a shrewd move to buy your house just before property prices started to rise. |
| 1. Ruthless   not thinking or worrying about any pain caused to others; cruel:  ruthless ambition  a ruthless dictator  Some people believe that to succeed in this world you have to be ruthless. |
| 1. Conscientious /ˌkɑːn.ʃiˈen.ʃəs/   putting a lot of effort into your work:  a conscientious student |
| 1. Assertive   Someone who is assertive behaves confidently and is not frightened to say what they want or believe:  If you really want the promotion, you'll have to be more assertive. |
| 1. I didn’t take to him |
| 1. Pushy   behaving in an unpleasant way by trying too much to get something or to make someone do something:  a pushy salesman |
| 1. Conceited   too proud of yourself and your actions and abilities:  Without wishing to sound conceited, I am the best salesperson in the company. |
| 1. Get up sb’s nose |
| 1. Personality traits |
| 1. Cynical |
| 1. They took an instant dislike to me |
| 1. They resented me being in their home |
| 1. Nice enough to my face but not so complimentary behind my back |
| 1. It was a tough time |
| 1. Inevitably, it put a strain on my relationship |
| 1. He stuck up for me |
| 1. That has helped to create a closer bond |
| 1. I admire her courage, her dignity and her humility. |
| 1. I idolize David Beckham |
| 1. He has never been a snob |
| 1. He has never looked down on others |
| 1. Those who look down on others are vulgar |
| 1. He never reacted badly even if the press had a go at him. |
| 1. I have always despised snobs. |
| 1. One of the parents must wear the pants at home |
| 1. Bustling |
| 1. Two poky little rooms. unpleasant |
| 1. My house is roomy and spacious |
| 1. My rambling mansion |
| 1. The city center is always bustling with tourists at this time of the year |
| 1. There isn’t enough room to swing a cat in his flat |
| 1. We were packed like sardines on the bus |
| 1. This used to be a bustling town but a lot of people have moved away over recent years. |
| 1. I am a happy go lucky sort of person |
| 1. Integrity :   the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles that you refuse to change:  No one doubted that the president was a man of the highest integrity. |
| 1. Pretentious   trying to appear or sound more important or clever than you are, especially in matters of art and literature:  a pretentious art critic  The novel deals with grand themes, but is never heavy or pretentious. |
| 1. Spontaneity |
| 1. a blast from the past |
| Describing people |
| 1. opportunistic |
| 1. methodical |
| 1. chauvinistic |
| 1. my memory is still hazy, since it was ages ago. |
| 1. I had as sense of relief |
| 1. It was one the biggest milestones in my life finally completed. |
| 1. the icing on the cake :   It was a great day, but meeting her there was just the icing on the cake! |
| 1. Every year the school gave a glittering prize |
| 1. I had considerable hope to be the student of the year |
| 1. I was flawlessly punctual |
| 1. It was quite entertaining and all. |
| 1. I jumped for joy |
| 1. It was such a gratifying experience because it meant that my sustained efforts were all appreciated. |
| 1. I have always been up for group activities |
| 1. Easily remember |
| 1. There were floral arrangements |
| 1. I wasn’t very good at English when I started, but it wasn’t for want of trying |
| 1. I couldn’t make head or tail of grammar and it really held me back |
| 1. For a long time I did next to nothing |
| 1. I had to pull my socks up |
| 1. I decided to turn over a new leaf : change your life by stopping a bad habit or becoming a better person |
| 1. With flying colors |
| 1. I really began to apply myself : work hard on sth, give your full attention to something |
| 1. I think if you want ti make progress you should check your work as a matter of routine |
| 1. My English came on in leaps and bounds as a result.   Come on : improve ------ by leaps and bounds : very quickly – in large amounts |
| 1. Very much so |
| 1. Open up countless more opportunities |
| 1. Endless |
| 1. What I think is the greatest advantage of biking is not worrying about car maintenance |
| 1. It is hard to choose one when there is a whole world of options |
| 1. I tend to think that |
| 1. Above everything else |
| 1. It has revolutionized modern communication and empowered consumers and users |
| 1. Urban areas and rural areas are connected like never before. |
| 1. It limits our attention span |
| 1. Come to think of it |
| 1. As far as I can tell |
| 1. I am a car freak |
| 1. They are ridiculously expensive |
| 1. Choosing form all types of museums, I’d most rather go to a museum with a large collection of old paintings |
| 1. I take enormous pleasure in playing computer games individually |
| 1. Out of all these games, I like chess better. |
| 1. It is mind boggling. |
| 1. Adorable is not the word for my little niece. |
| 1. I am best friends with my cousin |
| 1. My dad is an angel. He has never seized to support us emotionally and financially. |
| 1. He looks smashing. |
| 1. I just love to be around my uncle |
| 1. His laughter exhilarates us all |
| 1. Many of these instant stars quickly fall by the wayside, and the public can be very fickle. |
| 1. Building somebody up one minute, then knocking them down the next. |
| 1. In dribs and drabs |
| 1. We got on really well right on the word go : right from the beginning |
| 1. They welcomed me with open arms, and I felt at home almost immediately |
| 1. I reckoned we’d be on the same wavelength |
| 1. My heart was in my mouth. |
| 1. For children, learning language is a part of their brain chemistry |
| 1. A doomsday scenario for the environment sees our destiny as a world choked with pollution, where many plants and animals have become extinct. |
| 1. Some people envisage a world in which designer babies will be popular. /ɪnˈvɪz.ɪdʒ/   It's hard to envisage how it might happen. |
| 1. The nuclear family may no longer be the main type of family unit, and more loosely defined relationships will develop. |
| 1. The thing is |
| 1. Having said that |
| 1. In particular |
| 1. On the grounds that |
| 1. Looking at it from another point of view |
| 1. To build upon my point a little more |
| 1. Ultimately |
| 1. Without having to deal with the hassle of going to busy high street |
| 1. People like it so much = it holds so much appeal |
| 1. There is very little you cant buy. |
| 1. There is quite a mixture of ….. |
| 1. A subsequent category would be sth like …. |
| 1. Still, I suspect that …. |
| 1. I guess the reason has something to do with the fact that |
| 1. I think this is probably because.. |
| 1. Well I guess that generally speaking I would certainly say that |
| 1. This is due to the fact that |
| 1. All things considered, I guess the answer is both yes and no. |
| 1. To be honest I would have to say it really depends. |
| 1. Although, sometimes I would rather ….. |
| 1. Particularly if you think about the point that …. |
| 1. However, I’m quite aware that |
| 1. Nevertheless, it is worth remembering that …… |
| 1. It is not a matter of life or death |
| 1. It is pretty inconsequential ( not important) |
| 1. It is neither here nor there ( not important) |
| 1. It is a must |
| 1. It is far from being essential |
| 1. It is absolutely crucial / vital |
| 1. By and large   when everything about a situation is considered together:  There are a few small things that I don't like about my job, but by and large it's very enjoyable. |
| 1. It’s hard to say |
| 1. In the end, it all boils down on where I am and what I am doing |
| 1. I’d best say it is a double edged sword. If you look at it from the perspective of the business and service providers, advertising on the internet gives them the opportunity to grab viewers’ attention. Looking at it from the consumers’ perspective, the good and the bad come together. |
| 1. The upside is that ….. but on the down side ….. |
| 1. It was a fad back then to have a cellphone, so everybody had one. |
| 1. Broadly speaking….. |
| 1. I am quite a bold and forward person |
| 1. It is strikingly and refreshingly different nowadays. |
| 1. Presently, …. |
| 1. Technology has made huge changes for all I know. |
| 1. The benefit of shopping online is that saves time because there isn’t a need to travel to a physical store. |
| 1. the wear and tear costs of a vehicle travelling to a store. |
| 1. It’s a hassle to send it back |
| 1. By the same token:   used to mean that something you are about to say is also true, for the same reasons as what has just been said:  I don't think that prices will go up but, by the same token, I don't see them going down either. |
| 1. The lengths the paparazzi and gossip columnists go to seek out all the little details is amazing and unconscionable. /ʌnˈkɒnʃənəbəl   unacceptable because of being too extreme:  It is unconscionable to say that some kids don’t deserve an education. |
| 1. Not that I can remember |
| 1. I think it’s beneath me to do any of that. |
| 1. I find all kinds of ads a nuisance.   something or someone that annoys you or causes trouble for you |
| 1. I am not a very impressionable type of person. I tend to weigh up all of my options before making a purchase. |
| 1. When celebrities plug sth worth buying, I just might be tempted to buy it. |
| 1. I have been duped a number of times. |
| 1. I have learned my lesson though. |
| 1. I am quite immune to the lures of advertising.   the quality or power that something or someone has that makes it, him, or her attractive: |
| 1. The ads claim that you’d lose weight in no time, but you’d be a fool to go down that rabbit hole. |
| 1. Worst ones are those which try to shove something down your throat. |
| 1. Ads have rarely been able to sway my opinion to take control of my will. |
| 1. Ads are largely crooked : dishonest |
| 1. I am not habituated to reading magazines or watching TV so the internet is where I see most ads. |
| 1. My gut reaction is to quickly close the window or do sth to make the ad disappear |
| 1. Digital ads are the most obnoxious thing ever. |
| 1. New ads always keep me glued to my seat. |
| 1. The claims they make aren’t outrageous. |
| 1. Another great thing with magazine ads is that they focus on the benefits of their products and services without patronizing the target consumer.   to speak to or behave towards someone as if they are stupid or not important:  Stop patronizing me - I understand the play as well as you do. |
| 1. After some truly unhappy minutes of web surfing, you are left thinking why on earth you clicked on the original ad in the first place. |
| 1. Such is how our time is wasted and our nerves lost and frayed. |
| 1. internet ads cost absolutely nothing to broadcast as opposed to the ads on TV and newspapers that can entail millions of dollars of advertising fees |
| 1. Tit isn’t bed of roses |
| 1. As for the internet surfers, it isn’t a bed of roses because they have been targeted with an ever-increasing amount of online advertising. |
| 1. Internet ads have a broad appeal among business start-ups and companies that do not want to invest much in advertising their product or service. |
| 1. They come with their catchy slogans and people are universally exposed to these ads no matter where they come from and what language they speak. |
| 1. It seems that advertisers are using the long arm of the internet to send their messages and be persuasive. |
| 1. I’d best say they are a double edged sword. |
| 1. Advertising on the internet gives them opportunity to grab viewer’s attention, be influential, engage an even wider audience, and make roots in memories. |
| 1. Looking at it from consumers’ perspective, the good and the bad come together. |
| BEING ON TIME |
| 1. Something unexpected can come up like a long telephone call or heavier than usual traffic |
| 1. I am not a late comer. |
| 1. Better to be early than late |
| 1. This is much easier said than done |
| 1. I am not usually late by many minutes |
| 1. These are the things that you have control of |
| 1. But I wish there was something you could do about traffic |
| 1. I would just act cool and try to appear calm and collected |
| 1. Those who are invariably late are inconsiderate people in general. |
| 1. Be on time and orderly |
| Bicycles and cycling |
| 1. Like heaven I did. |
| 1. I had the time of my life on my bike. |
| 1. That was when I liked to be fast and furious |
| 1. Our neighborhood was cycle-friendly |
| 1. But as cars are king nowadays…. |
| 1. Actually most interesting thing is that bikes that aren’t roadworthy aren’t allowed on the roads. |
| 1. For as long as cars and road construction are prioritized, the bicycle has no chance of getting public interest. |
| 1. I’d hate to say it, but bicycles don’t stand much of a chance against cars and other motorized vehicles. |
| 1. Another drawback with bicycles is their increasing price at a time when cars becoming more affordable. |
| 1. Even if everything was to the advantage of bicycles, long distances between place of work and living would make it impossible to cycle back and forth on a daily basis. |
| 1. But there is another side to the story. |
| 1. This can go either way, so we’ll have to wait and see |
| 1. And in the years to come |
| 1. I have faith that the bicycle will rise to fame again. |
| 1. I can think of many good things about biking. |
| 1. Bikes can also zip right through all the cars during the rush hour. |
| 1. There is one danger, however. It’s that not all drivers respect cyclists and , therefore, cyclists are intimidated to ride on roads. |
| 1. A bike is unbearably slow though, compared to a car |
| **Birthday parties** |
| 1. Most people like fun stuff to do, and I am one of them |
| 1. Best of all, though, is inviting all your friends over. |
| 1. Nothing too fancy or posh.   (of places and things) expensive and of high quality:  He takes her to some really posh restaurants. |
| 1. The same old stuff we do. |
| 1. I felt special and at the center of the world. |
| 1. Nothing in particular, I suppose. Every year, it was the same old.0 |
| 1. That’s why I don’t have distinct memories of my birthdays. |
| 1. They matter to me to some extent. |
| 1. And the fun isn’t a big deal for me. |
| 1. I don’t feel like throwing a big party. |
| 1. I just celebrate my birthday with a party that is decent enough and proper. |
| 1. I am not the person who is either too tired or not in the mood for birthdays. |
| 1. We should all inspire others to celebrate their birthdays in a heart-opening way. |
| 1. I can’t think of any particular birthday, actually. All of our birthdays are special. |
| **Cameras and photography** |
| 1. As far as I can remember , I got it as a birthday present a while back, and ever since, I have been taking pictures whenever I see something photo-worthy. |
| 1. I tend to take a whole set of photos of a place with natural beauty, and then weed out the ones that are less sharp or out of focus. |
| 1. My photo albums are brimming with some spectacular photos.   His recent triumphs have left the tennis ace brimming (over) with (= full of) confidence and energy. |
| 1. I give out copies of those photos so that we all have something to hold on to in the future. |
| 1. It is also heart-warming to see what you look liked all along your life. |
| 1. I find it a bit over my head to learn proper or professional photography. |
| 1. That really puts me off   to make someone not want to do something, or to make someone not like someone or something  Lack of parking space was putting potential customers off.  Robert’s attitude towards women really puts me off. |
| 1. I take my hat off to those who have mastered the art of photography, though. |
| **celebrities** |
| 1. Brawling in public places and making hurtful comments about decent people.   a noisy, rough, uncontrolled fight:  a drunken brawl |
| 1. Some films are made to only amuse people on a very banal level.   boring, ordinary, and not original: /bəˈnɑːl/  He just sat there making banal remarks all evening.  banal pop songs |
| 1. Some people cannot hold their nerves and act confidently. But I managed to do both. |
| 1. I think the right thing to do is to keep calm and stay composed. |
| 1. I got over-zealous and tried to get close and hug him.   too enthusiastic and eager:  He had to be protected from overzealous fans.  They were a little overzealous in eliminating risk. |
| 1. I was acting like a creep.   an unpleasant person, especially a man:  He was such a creep - he was always staring at me in the canteen. |
| 1. We usually talk about regular stuff. |
| 1. Not one bit. (British) |
| 1. I can’t imagine putting myself in their shoes. |
| 1. I mean the wealth they amass and the great deal of attention they get is all great. |
| 1. When I think about it, it isn’t all that it’s set to be. |
| 1. I like reading up on celebrity life and culture, but becoming one scares the living souls out of me. |
| 1. Mellifluous :  /məˈlɪfluəs/   having a pleasant and flowing sound:  a deep mellifluous voice  the mellifluous sound of the cello |
| 1. rage   to speak very angrily to someone:  He raged at (= spoke angrily to) us for forgetting to order a replacement. |
| 1. be all the rage     to be very popular or fashionable:  In China, Mercedes-Benz cars are all the rage among the moneyed elite. |
| 1. People with different social strata /streɪtə/ |
| 1. But, sadly, celebrities use their considerable reputation to only serve themselves and elevate their status. |
| 1. We love letting our imagination run wild. |
| 1. I frankly disagree with the premise of the question /premɪs/ |
| 1. Celebrities have their own demons to fight why should we think they can make the world a better place by being a positive role model for us .   /ˈdiː.mən/  a negative feeling that causes you to worry or behave badly:  She had her demons and, later in life, they drove her to drink. |
| **Children Activities** |
| 1. Well to tell you the truth, a myriad of activities. |
| 1. What drove me towards doing those activities was mainly self-interest. |
| 1. My parents sometimes reminisce about my childhood   to talk or write about past experiences that you remember with pleasure:  My grandfather used to reminisce about his years in the navy. |
| 1. The imaginary worlds depicted in video games make children want to play them and parents are hapless at stopping or limiting children’s video games. |
| 1. Games are becoming less appealing. |
| 1. I know it for a fact that children love playing with pets. |
| 1. But it’s a pity that pet keeping isn’t the done thing in m country. |
| 1. To give you a few examples, I’d say painting or playing with play dough sound about right. |
| 1. Anything that boosts creativity, I suppose 🡸 what activities do you think children must do? |
| 1. I don’t think children would take to structured and goal oriented games, because the thought of losing in a game is really off-putting   slightly unpleasant or worrying so that you do not want to get involved in any way:  He's slightly aggressive, which a lot of people find off-putting when they first meet him.  What I found off-putting was the amount of work that you were expected to do. |
| 1. spoon-feed verb [T] (PROVIDE INFORMATION)     disapproving  to give someone so much help or information that that person does not need to try himself or herself:  By giving out printed sheets of facts and theories, the teachers spoon-fed us with what we needed for the exam. |
| 1. On aknife-edge   a situation in which the result is extremely uncertain  on a knife-edge  His future in the job is balanced on a knife-edge. |
| 1. He was all skin and bones |
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