

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sec • tor** / 'sɛktər / **noun**

**1** a part of an area of activity, especially of a country's economy  
the manufacturing sector

service-sector jobs (= in hotels, restaurants, etc.)

collocations at **economy** , see also **the private sector** , **the public sector**

**2** a part of a particular area, especially an area under military control  
each sector of the war zone

**3** ( geometry ) a part of a circle lying between two straight lines drawn from the center to the edge

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**se • cure** / sɪ'kyʊr / **adjective, verb**

**adjective**

**HAPPY/CONFIDENT**

**1** feeling happy and confident about yourself or a particular situation

At last they were able to **feel secure** about the future.

She finished the match, **secure in the knowledge that** she was going through to the next round.

**insecure**

**CERTAIN/SAFE**

**2** likely to continue or be successful for a long time

**safe**

a **secure job/income**

It's not a very secure way to make a living.

The future of the company looks secure.

**insecure**

**3 secure (against/from something)** that cannot be affected or harmed by something

Information must be stored so that it is secure from accidental deletion.

**BUILDING/DOOR/ROOM**

**4** guarded and/or made stronger so that it is difficult for people to enter or leave

Check that all windows and doors have been made as secure as possible.

a secure unit for youth offenders

The building is secure against intruders.

**insecure**

**FIRM**

**5** not likely to move, fall down, etc.

**stable**

The aerial doesn't look very secure to me.

It was difficult to maintain a secure foothold on the ice.

( figurative ) Our relationship was now on a more secure footing.

**insecure**

**se • cure • ly** **adverb**

She locked the door securely behind her.

Make sure the ropes are securely fastened.

**verb**

**GET SOMETHING**

**1** ( formal ) to obtain or achieve something, especially when this means using a lot of effort

**secure something** to **secure a contract/deal**

The team managed to secure a place in the finals.

She secured 2,000 votes.

The delegation has secured the promise of a ceasefire.

**secure something for someone/something/yourself** He secured a place for himself in law school.

**secure someone/something/yourself something** He secured himself a place in law school.

**FASTEN FIRMLY**

**2 secure something (to something)** to attach or fasten something firmly

She secured the rope firmly to the back of the car.

The tables on board were secured firmly to the floor.

#### PROTECT FROM HARM

**3** to protect something so that it is safe and difficult to attack or damage

**secure something against something** to secure a property against intruders

**secure something** The windows were secured with locks and bars.

( figurative ) a savings plan that will secure your child's future

#### A LOAN

**4 secure something** to legally agree to give someone property or goods that are worth the same amount as the money that you have borrowed from them, if you are unable to pay the money back

a loan secured against the house

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**seek** / sik / **verb**

( **sought** , **sought** / sɔt / )

( formal )

**1** [ **transitive** , **intransitive** ] to look for something or someone

**seek something/someone** Drivers are advised to seek alternative routes.

**2** [ **transitive** , **intransitive** ] **seek (something)** to try to obtain or achieve something

to seek funding for a project

Highly qualified secretary seeks employment. (= in an advertisement)

He intends to seek custody of the children.

We are currently seeking new ways of expanding our membership.

**3** [ **transitive** ] to ask someone for something

**seek something** I think it's time we sought legal advice.

**seek something from someone** She managed to calm him down and seek help from a neighbor.

**4** [ **intransitive** ] **seek to do something** to try to do something

#### attempt

They quickly sought to distance themselves from the protesters.

**5 -seeking** ( in adjectives and nouns ) looking for or trying to get the thing mentioned; the activity of doing this

attention-seeking behavior

Voluntary work can provide a framework for job-seeking.

see also **heat-seeking** , **self-seeking**

see also **hide-and-seek**

**seek your fortune** ( literary ) to try to find a way to become rich, especially by going to another place

Many moved to California to seek their fortune.

**seek someone/something 'out** to look for and find someone or something, especially when this means using a lot of effort

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**se • lect** / sɐ'lekt / **verb, adjective**

#### verb

**1** ( formal ) to choose someone or something from a group of people or things, usually according to a system

**select someone/something for something** He hasn't been selected for the team.

All our hotels have been **carefully selected** for the excellent value they provide.

**select someone/something as something** She was selected as the state senate candidate from San Diego.

**select someone/something a randomly selected** sample of 23 schools

selected poems of T.S. Eliot

This model is available at selected stores only.

She selected an apple from the fruit bowl.

It is important to select a software package that suits your requirements.

**select someone/something to do something** Six theater companies have been selected to take part in this year's festival.

**select what, which, etc....** Select what you want from the options available.

## THESAURUS

**choose**

**select pick decide opt go for something**

These words all mean to decide which thing or person you want out of the ones that are available.

**choose** to decide which thing or person you want out of the ones that are available: I can't decide—you choose.

**select** [often passive] ( formal ) to choose a person or thing, usually carefully, from a group of people or things: He was selected for the team. ◇ a randomly selected sample of 23 schools

**pick** ( somewhat informal ) to choose a person or thing from a group of people or things: Pick a number between one and ten.

**CHOOSE, SELECT, OR PICK?**

**Choose** is the most general of these words and the only one that can be used without an object. When you **select** something, you choose it carefully, unless you actually say that it is selected randomly/at random . **Pick** is a more informal word and often a less careful action, used especially when the choice being made is not very important.

**decide** to choose between two or more possibilities: We're still trying to **decide on** a movie.

**opt** to choose to take or not to take a particular course of action: After graduating, she opted for a career in music. ◇ After a lot of thought, I **opted against** buying a motorcycle.

**go for something** ( somewhat informal ) to choose something: I think I'll go for the fruit salad.

## PATTERNS

to choose/pick/decide **between** A and/or B

to choose/select/pick A **from** B

to opt/go **for** someone/something

to choose/decide/opt **to do something**

to choose/select/pick someone/something **carefully/at random**

**randomly** chosen/selected/picked

**2 select something** ( computing ) to mark something on a computer screen; to choose something, especially from a menu

Select the text you want to format by holding down the left button on your mouse.

Select "New Mail" from the "Send" menu.

**adjective**

**1** [ only before noun ] carefully chosen as the best out of a larger group of people or things  
a select wine list

Only a **select few** (= a small number of people) have been invited to the wedding.

**2** ( of a society, club, place, etc. ) used by people who have a lot of money or a high social position

**exclusive**

They live in a very select area.

a select club

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**se • quence** / 'sɪkwəns / **noun, verb**

**noun**

**1** [ **countable** ] a set of events, actions, numbers, etc. that have a particular order and that lead to a particular result

He described **the sequence of events** leading up to the robbery.

**2** [ **countable, uncountable** ] the order that events, actions, etc. happen in or should happen in

The tasks had to be performed in a particular sequence.

Number the pages **in sequence** .

These pages are **out of sequence** .

**3** [ **countable** ] a part of a movie that deals with one subject or topic or consists of one scene  
the dream sequence in the middle of the movie

**verb**

**1** **sequence something** ( technical ) to arrange things into a **sequence**

**2** **sequence something** ( biology ) to identify the order in which a set of **genes** or parts of **molecules** are arranged

The human genome has now been sequenced.

**se • quenc • ing** **noun** [ **uncountable** ]

a gene sequencing project

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**se • ries** / 'sɪrɪz / **noun**

( pl. **se • ries** )

**1** [ **countable** , usually **singular** ] **series of something** several events or things of a similar kind that happen one after the other

The incident sparked off a whole **series of events** that nobody had foreseen.

the latest in a series of articles on the nature of modern society

The movie consisted of a series of flashbacks.

**2** [ **countable** ] a set of radio or television programs that deal with the same subject or that have the same characters

The first episode of the new series is on Saturday.

collocations at **television**

**3** [ **countable** ] ( sports ) a set of sports games played between the same two teams

The team has won its first-ever **playoff series** .

the **World Series** (= in baseball)

**4** [ **uncountable** , **countable** ] ( technical ) an electrical **circuit** in which the current passes through all the parts in the correct order

batteries connected in series

a series circuit

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sex** / sɛks / **noun, verb**

**noun**

**1** [ **uncountable** , **countable** ] the state of being male or female

**gender**

How can you tell what sex a fish is?

a process that allows couples to choose the sex of their baby

Please indicate your sex and date of birth below.

**sex discrimination** (= the act of treating men and women differently in an unfair way)

Testosterone is the male sex hormone.

**2** [ **countable** ] either of the two groups that people, animals, and plants are divided into according to their function of producing young

a member of **the opposite sex**

**single-sex** schools

the battle of the sexes (= the competitive relationship that exists between men and women)

see also **fair sex**

**3** [ **uncountable** ] physical activity between two people in which they join their sexual organs, for pleasure and/or to produce a child

It is illegal to **have sex** with a person under the age of 16.

These definition have collected by Shakib. Kurdistan of Iran. September 2nd 2016

gay sex

the **sex act**

a **sex attack**

a **sex shop** (= one selling magazines, objects, etc. that are connected with sex)

**sex education** in schools

These drugs may affect your **sex drive** (= your interest in sex and the ability to have it) .

see also **safe sex** , **sexual intercourse**

**4 -sexed** ( in adjectives ) having the amount of sexual activity or desire mentioned

a highly-sexed woman

**verb**

**sex something**

( technical )

to examine an animal in order to find out whether it is male or female

**,sex someone 'up**

( informal )

to make someone feel sexually excited

**,sex something 'up**

( informal )

to make something seem more exciting and interesting

The profession is trying to sex up its image.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**shift** / ʃɪft / **verb, noun**

**verb**

**MOVE**

**1 [ intransitive , transitive ]** to move, or move something, from one position or place to another

Lydia shifted uncomfortably in her chair.

I shifted uneasily under his gaze.

**shift (from...) (to...)** The action of the novel shifts from Paris to London.

**shift something** We'll need to shift these tables around to make room for the band.

**shift something (from...) (to...)** He shifted his gaze from the child to her.

She shifted her weight from one foot to the other.

**SITUATION/OPINION/POLICY**

**2 [ intransitive ]** ( of a situation, an opinion, a policy etc. ) to change from one state, position, etc. to another

Public attitudes toward marriage have shifted over the past 50 years.

**shift (from...) (to/toward/toward...)** The balance of power shifted away from workers toward employers.

Her sympathies gradually shifted to the side of the protesters.

**3 [ transitive ]** to change your opinion of or attitude toward something, or change the way that you do something

**shift something** We need to shift the focus of this debate.

**shift something (from...) (to/toward/toward...)** The new policy shifted the emphasis away from fighting inflation.

**RESPONSIBILITY**

**4 [ transitive ]** **shift responsibility/blame (for something) (onto someone)** to make someone else responsible for something you should do or something bad that you have done

He tried to shift the blame for his mistakes onto his colleagues.

**IN VEHICLE**

**5 [ intransitive ]** to change the gears when you are driving a vehicle

to shift into second gear

**shift your ground**

( usually disapproving )

to change your opinion about a subject, especially during a discussion

**(the) shifting sands (of something)**

used to describe a situation that changes so often that it is difficult to understand or deal with it

see also **change/shift gears** at **gear** n.

**shift for your self** to do things without help from other people

You're going to have to shift for yourself from now on.

**noun**

#### CHANGE

**1** [ **countable** ] **shift (in something)** a change in position or direction

a dramatic shift in public opinion

a shift of emphasis

see also **paradigm shift**

#### PERIOD OF WORK

**2** [ **countable** ] a period of time worked by a group of workers who start work as another group finishes to be on the **day/night shift** at the factory

to work an eight-hour shift

working in shifts

**shift workers/work**

collocations at **job**, see also **graveyard shift**, **night shift**, **swing shift**

**3** [ **countable** ] the workers who work a particular shift

#### ON COMPUTER

**4** [ **uncountable** ] the system on a computer keyboard or **typewriter** that allows capital letters or a different set of characters to be typed

a shift key

#### CLOTHING

**5** [ **countable** ] a woman's simple, straight dress

**6** [ **countable** ] a simple, straight piece of clothing worn by women in the past as underwear

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sig • nif • i • cant** / sɪgˈnɪfəkənt / **adjective**

**1** large or important enough to have an effect or to be noticed

a highly significant discovery

The results of the experiment are not **statistically significant**.

There are no significant differences between the two groups of students.

Your work has shown a significant improvement.

These views are held by a significant proportion of the population.

**It is significant that** girls generally do better on examinations than boys.

The drug has had no significant effect on stopping the spread of the disease.

compare **insignificant**

**2** having a particular meaning

It is significant that he changed his will only days before his death.

**3** [ usually before noun ] having a special or secret meaning that is not understood by everyone

**meaningful**

a **significant look/smile**

#### AWL COLLOCATIONS

**significant**

**significant adjective**

important; so large that you notice it

**change**, **difference**, **effect**, **impact**, **improvement**, **increase**, **reduction** | **contribution** | **correlation**

There were significant climatic differences, including an unusually wet season followed by dry seasons.

**statistically**

It is necessary to carry out a trial on a statistically significant number of individuals.

**highly**

The museum owns highly significant and valuable works.

**culturally**, **economically**, **historically**, **morally**, **politically**, **socially**

The collection includes historically significant letters from American presidents.

### prove

The research could prove significant in medical and biotechnology fields.

### insignificant adjective

**detail** | **decrease** , **difference** , **increase**

I will return to these apparently insignificant details in the last section of this paper.

### statistically

The small sample size is statistically insignificant.

### apparently , seemingly | relatively

Seemingly insignificant scratches in glass may cause breakage.

### significance noun

#### statistical

In the test, high variability resulted in a lack of statistical significance.

### assess | grasp | downplay , underestimate

There are two very different ways to assess the broader significance of these events.

### significantly adverb

in a noticeable way

### differ , vary

Actual markets differ significantly from perfectly competitive markets.

### lower (than)

Significantly lower numbers of seals were observed at low tide.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

### sim • i • lar / 'sɪmələər / adjective

like someone or something but not exactly the same

We have very similar interests.

**similar (to someone/something)** My teaching style is similar to that of most other teachers.

**similar (in something)** The two houses are similar in size.

The brothers look very similar.

All our patients have broadly similar problems.

The disease attacks the immune system in a similar way to AIDS.

Stir the paint with a piece of wood or something similar.

### different , dissimilar

### AWL COLLOCATIONS

#### similar

#### similar adjective

**broadly** , **generally** | **highly** , **remarkably** , **strikingly** | **superficially** | **qualitatively** | **quantitatively** | **conceptually** | **structurally**

The two methods gave qualitatively similar patterns.

**~ to** | **~ to each other/one another** | **~ to that/those of**

Our results are similar to the research findings outlined in the literature review.

They spoke a language similar to that of the Aztecs.

#### dissimilar adjective

**highly** , **markedly** , **strikingly** | **not entirely**

If the model has too few classes, highly dissimilar plants are treated as if they were identical.

**~ to/from**

Hayek's earliest view was not very dissimilar from Schumpeter's.

#### similarity noun

**general** | **close** , **remarkable** , **significant** , **striking** , **strong** | **superficial** | **apparent** | **structural**

This finding also bears a remarkable similarity to other studies that examined educational performance.

**assess** | **find** | **share** | **bear** | **exhibit** , **reveal** , **show**

Although the microelectronics and biotechnology industries share certain similarities, the two differ in numerous ways.

~ among/between | ~ to/with

The findings of our study call attention to a striking similarity between both groups.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sim • u • late** / 'sɪmyəˌleɪt / **verb**

**1 simulate something** to pretend that you have a particular feeling

**feign**

I tried to simulate surprise at the news.

**2 simulate something** to create particular conditions that exist in real life using computers, models, etc., usually for study or training purposes

Computer software can be used to simulate conditions on the seabed.

Role-playing is a useful way of simulating real-life situations.

**3 simulate something** to be made to look like something else  
a gas heater that simulates a coal fire

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**site** / saɪt / **noun, verb**

**noun**

**1** a place where a building, town, etc. was, is, or will be located

the site of a sixteenth century abbey

to work on a **building/construction site**

A site has been chosen for the new school.

All the materials are **on site** so that work can start immediately.

## THESAURUS

**place**

**site area position point location scene spot venue**

These are all words for a particular area or part of an area, especially one used for a particular purpose or where something is situated or happens.

**place** a particular point, area, city, town, building, etc., especially one used for a particular purpose or where a particular thing happens: This would be a good place for a picnic.

**site** the place where something, especially a building, is or will be situated; a place where something happened or that is used for a particular purpose: They've chosen a site for the new school.

**area** a part of a room, building, or particular space that is used for a special purpose; a particular place on an object: the hotel reception area ◇ Move the cursor to a blank area on the screen.

**position** the place where a person or thing is situated; the place where someone or something is meant to be: From his position at the top of the hill, he could see the harbor. The **position** of someone or something is often temporary: the place where the person or thing is at a particular time.

**point** a particular place within an area, where something happens or is supposed to happen: the point at which the river divides

**location** a place where something happens or exists, especially a place that is not named or not known: The company is moving to a new location.

**scene** a place where something happens, especially something unpleasant: the scene of the accident

**spot** a particular point or area, especially one that has a particular character or where something particular happens: I proposed to your mother **on this very spot** 50 years ago.

**venue** the place where people meet for an organized event such as a performance or a sports event: Please note the change of venue for this event.

PATTERNS

**at** a/the place/site/position/point/location/scene/spot/venue

**in** a(n) place/area/position/location/venue

the place/site/point/location/spot/venue **where...**

the **right** place/site/position/location/spot/venue



a **central** site/position/location/venue

the/something's **exact/precise** place/site/position/point/location/spot

**2** a place where something has happened or that is used for something

the site of the battle

an archaeological site

a **camping site**

**3** ( computing ) a place on the Internet where a company, an organization, a university, etc. puts information

collocations at **e-mail** , see also **mirror site** , **Web site**

**verb**

[ often passive ]

**site something + adverb/prep.**

to build or place something in a particular position

There was a meeting to discuss the siting of the new school.

The castle is magnificently sited high up on a cliff.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**'so-called adjective**

**1** [ only before noun ] used to show that you do not think that the word or phrase that is being used to describe someone or something is appropriate

the opinion of a so-called "expert"

How have these so-called improvements helped the local community?

**2** [ usually before noun ] used to introduce the word that people usually use to describe something

writers from the so-called "Beat Generation"

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sole** / soʊl / **adjective, noun, verb**

**adjective**

[ only before noun ]

**1** only; single

the **sole surviving** member of the family

My **sole reason** for coming here was to see you.

This is the sole means of access to the building.

**2** belonging to one person or group; not shared

She has **sole responsibility** for the project.

the **sole owner**

**noun**

**1** [ **countable** ] the bottom surface of the foot

The hot sand burned the **soles of their feet** .

**2** [ **countable** ] the bottom part of a shoe or sock, not including the heel

leather soles

compare **heel**

**3 -soled** ( in adjectives ) having the type of soles mentioned

rubber-soled shoes

**4** [ **uncountable** , **countable** ] ( pl. **sole** ) a flat sea fish that is used for food

**verb**

[ usually passive ]

**sole something**

to repair a shoe by replacing the **sole**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**some • what** / 'sʌmwʌt / **adverb**

to some degree

I was somewhat surprised to see him.

The situation has changed somewhat since we last met.

What happened to them remains **somewhat of** a mystery.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**source** / sɔrs / **noun, verb**

**noun**

**1** a place, person, or thing that you get something from  
renewable **energy sources**

Your local library will be a useful **source of** information.

What is their main source of income?

The tiny window was the only source of light.

**2** [ usually **plural** ] a person, book, or document that provides information, especially for study, a piece of written work or news

He refused to name his sources.

Government sources indicated yesterday that cuts may have to be made.

source material

Historians use a wide range of **primary and secondary sources** for their research.

**3** a person or thing that causes something, especially a problem

a source of violence

a source of confusion

**4** the place where a river or stream starts

the source of the Nile

**at source**

at the place or the point that something comes from or begins

Is your salary taxed at source (= by your employer) ?

It is better to deal with such problems at source.

**verb**

[ often passive ]

**source something (from...)**

( business )

to get something from a particular place

We source all the vegetables sold in our stores from local farms.

see also **outsource**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**spe • cif • ic** / spə'sɪfɪk / **adjective**

**1** detailed and exact

**precise**

I gave you specific instructions.

"I'd like your help tomorrow." "Can you **be more specific** (= tell me exactly what you want) ?"

**2** [ usually before noun ] connected with one particular thing only

**particular**

children's television programs aimed at a specific age group

The money was collected for a specific purpose.

children with specific learning difficulties (= in one area only)

**3 specific to something** ( formal ) existing only in one place or limited to one thing

**peculiar**

a belief that is specific to this part of Africa

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**spec • i • fy** / 'spɛsəˌfaɪ / **verb**

( **spec • i • fies** , **spec • i • fy • ing** , **spec • i • fied** , **spec • i • fied** )

to state something, especially by giving an exact measurement, time, exact instructions, etc.

**specify something** Remember to specify your size when ordering clothes.

Forms must be returned by the specified date.

**specify who, what, etc....** The contract clearly specifies who can operate the machinery.

**specify that...** The regulations specify that calculators may not be used in the examination.

**spec • i • fi • able** **adjective**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sphere** / sfɪr / **noun**

**1** ( geometry ) a solid figure that is completely round, with every point on its surface at an equal distance from the center

**2** any object that is completely round, for example a ball

**3** an area of activity, influence, or interest; a particular section of society

**domain**

the political sphere

This area was formerly within the **sphere of influence** of the U.S.

He and I moved in totally different social spheres.

**4 -sphere** ( in nouns ) a region that surrounds a planet, especially the earth

ionosphere

atmosphere

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sta • ble** / 'steɪbl / **adjective, noun, verb**

**WORD FAMILY**

**stable** adjective ( ≠ unstable )

**stability** noun ( ≠ instability )

**stabilize** verb

**adjective**

**1** firmly fixed; not likely to move, change, or fail

**steady**

stable prices

a stable relationship

This ladder doesn't seem very stable.

The patient's condition is stable (= it is not getting worse) .

The situation in the country has remained relatively stable for a few months now.

**2** ( of a person ) calm and reasonable; not easily upset

**balanced**

Mentally, she is not very stable.

**3** ( technical ) ( of a substance ) staying in the same chemical or **atomic** state

chemically stable

an element forming stable compounds

**unstable**

**sta • bly** / 'steɪbli / **adverb**

**noun**

**1** [ **countable** ] a building in which horses are kept

The horse was led back to its stable.

**2** [ **countable** ] an organization that keeps horses for a particular purpose

a riding/racing stable

His stable is near the park.

**3** [ **countable** ] a group of **racehorses** owned or trained by the same person

There have been just three winners from his stable this season.

**4** [ **singular** ] a group of people who work or trained in the same place; a group of products made by the same company

actors from the same stable

the latest printer from the Epson stable

**verb**

**stable something**

to put or keep a horse in a stable

Where do you stable your pony?

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sta • tis • tic** / stə'tɪstɪk / **noun**

**1** **statistics** ( also informal **stats** ) [ **plural** ] a collection of information shown in numbers

crime/unemployment, etc. statistics

According to official statistics the outbreak killed more than 500 people.

**Statistics show** that far more people are able to ride a bicycle than can drive a car.

These statistics are misleading.

see also **vital statistics**

**2** **statistics** ( also informal **stats** ) [ **uncountable** ] the science of collecting and analyzing statistics

There is a compulsory course in statistics.

**3** ( also informal **stat** ) [ **countable** ] a piece of information shown in numbers

An important statistic is that 94 percent of crime relates to property.

I felt I was no longer being treated as a person but as a statistic.

**sta • tis • ti • cal** / stə'tɪstɪkl / **adjective**

statistical analysis

**sta • tis • ti • cally** / stə'tɪstɪkli / **adverb**

The difference between the two samples was not **statistically significant** .

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sta • tus** / 'stætʊs ; 'steɪtʊs / **noun**

**1** [ **uncountable** , **countable** ] the legal position of a person, group, or country

They were granted refugee status.

The party was denied legal status.

**2** [ **uncountable** , **countable** , usually **singular** ] the social or professional position of someone or something in relation to others

low status jobs

to have a high social status

Women are only asking to be given equal status with men.

She achieved celebrity status overnight.

**3** [ **uncountable** ] a high social position

The job brings with it status and a high income.

**4** [ **uncountable** , **countable** , usually **singular** ] the level of importance that is given to something

the high status accorded to science in our culture

**5 [ uncountable ]** the situation at a particular time during a process  
What is the current status of our application for funds?

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**straight • for • ward** / ,streɪt'fɔrwɜrd / **adjective**

**1** easy to do or to understand; not complicated

**easy**

a straightforward process

It's quite straightforward to get here.

**2 ( of a person or their behavior )** honest and open; not trying to trick someone or hide something

**straight • for • ward • ly** **adverb**

Let me put it more straightforwardly.

a straightforwardly pleasant man

**straight • for • ward • ness** **noun [ uncountable ]**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**strat • e • gy** / 'strætədʒi / **noun**

( pl. **strat • e • gies** )

**1 [ countable ]** a plan that is intended to achieve a particular purpose

the government's economic strategy

**strategy for doing something** to develop a strategy for dealing with unemployment

**strategy to do something** It's all part of an overall strategy to gain promotion.

**2 [ uncountable ]** the process of planning something or putting a plan into operation in a skillful way

marketing strategy

**3 [ uncountable , countable ]** the skill of planning the movements of armies in a battle or war; an example of doing this

military strategy

defense strategies

collocations at **war** , compare **tactic**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**stress** / strɛs / **noun, verb**

**noun**

**MENTAL PRESSURE**

**1 [ uncountable , countable ]** pressure or worry caused by the problems in someone's life

Things can easily go wrong when people are **under stress** .

to suffer from stress

coping with stress

She failed to withstand the **stresses and strains** of public life.

**stress-related** illnesses

**emotional/mental stress**

Stress is often a factor in the development of long-term sickness.

**stress management** (= dealing with stress)

**THESAURUS**

**pressure**

**stress tension strain**

These are all words for the feelings of anxiety caused by the problems in someone's life.

**pressure** difficulties and feelings of anxiety that are caused by the need to achieve something or to behave in a particular way: She was losing sleep over the pressure of her work.

**stress** pressure or anxiety caused by the problems in someone's life: stress-related illness

#### **PRESSURE OR STRESS?**

It is common to say that someone is suffering from stress, while **pressure** may be the thing that causes **stress**.

**tension** a feeling of anxiety and stress that makes it impossible to relax: nervous tension

**strain** pressure on someone because they have too much to do or manage; the problems, worry, or anxiety that this produces: I found it a strain staying home with four children.

#### **PATTERNS**

to be **under** pressure/stress/strain

**considerable** pressure/stress/tension/strain

to **cause** stress/tension/strain

to **cope with** the pressure/stress/tension/strain

to **relieve/release** the pressure/stress/tension

to be **suffering from** stress/tension

collocations at **diet**

#### **PHYSICAL PRESSURE**

**2** [ **uncountable**, **countable** ] **stress (on something)** pressure put on something that can damage it or make it lose its shape

When you have an injury you start putting stress on other parts of your body.

a **stress fracture** of the foot (= one caused by such pressure)

#### **EMPHASIS**

**3** [ **uncountable** ] **stress (on something)** special importance given to something

She **lays** great **stress on** punctuality.

I think the company places too much stress on cost and not enough on quality.

#### **ON WORD/SYLLABLE**

**4** [ **uncountable**, **countable** ] ( phonetics ) an extra force used when pronouncing a particular word or syllable

We worked on pronunciation, stress, and intonation.

#### **primary/secondary stress**

In "strategic" the stress falls on the second syllable

compare **intonation**

#### **IN MUSIC**

**5** [ **uncountable**, **countable** ] extra force used when making a particular sound in music

#### **ILLNESS**

**6** [ **uncountable** ] illness caused by difficult physical conditions

Those most vulnerable to heat stress are the elderly.

#### **verb**

#### **EMPHASIZE**

**1** [ **transitive** ] to emphasize a fact, an idea, etc.

**stress something** He stressed the importance of a good education.

**stress that...** I must stress that everything I've told you is strictly confidential.

**+ speech** "There is," Johnson stressed, "no real alternative."

**it is stressed that...** It must be stressed that this disease is very rare.

**stress how, what, etc....** I cannot stress too much how important this is.

#### **WORD/SYLLABLE**

**2** [ **transitive** ] **stress something** to give extra force to a word or syllable when saying it

You stress the first syllable in "happiness."

**3** [ **intransitive**, **transitive** ] to become or make someone become too anxious or tired to be able to relax

**stress out** I try not to stress out when things go wrong.

**stress someone (out)** Driving in cities really stresses me (out).

#### **THESAURUS**

**stress**

**emphasize**

These words both mean to give extra force to a syllable, word, or phrase when you are saying it.

**stress** to give extra force to a word or syllable when saying it: You stress the first syllable in “happiness.”  
**emphasize** to give extra force to a word or phrase when saying it, especially to show that it is important: Shylock repeatedly emphasizes the word “bond” in his speech.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**struc • ture** / 'strʌktʃər / **noun, verb**

**noun**

**1** [ **uncountable** , **countable** ] the way in which the parts of something are connected together, arranged, or organized; a particular arrangement of parts

the structure of the building

changes in the social and economic structure of society

the grammatical structures of a language

a salary structure

**2** [ **countable** ] a thing that is made of several parts, especially a building

a stone/brick/wooden structure

### THESAURUS

**building**

**property premises complex structure**

These are all words for a structure such as a house, school, or factory that has a roof and four walls.

**building** a structure such as a house, school, or factory that has a roof and four walls

**property** a building or buildings and the surrounding land; land and buildings: We have a buyer who would like to view the property. ◇ Property values have risen enormously. This word is often used when talking about buying/selling houses or other buildings and land.

**premises** [pl.] ( formal ) the building or buildings and surrounding land that a business or person owns or uses: The police searched the premises.

**complex** a group of buildings of a similar type together in one place: an apartment complex

**structure** a thing that is made of several parts, especially a building: The pier is a wooden structure.

PATTERNS

(a/an) **commercial/industrial/residential** building/property/premises/complex

an **apartment** building/complex

a/the **school** building/premises

to **build** a property/complex/structure

to **put up** a building/property/structure

to **demolish/knock down** a building/property/complex/structure

**3** [ **uncountable** , **countable** ] the state of being well organized or planned with all the parts linked together; a careful plan

Your essay needs (a) structure.

**verb**

[ usually passive ]

to arrange or organize something into a system or pattern

**structure something** How well does the teacher structure the lessons?

Make use of the toys in structured group activities.

**structure something around something** The exhibition is structured around the themes of work and leisure.

### THESAURUS

**structure**

**framework form composition construction fabric**

These are all words for the way the different parts of something combine together or the way that something has been made.

**structure** the way in which the parts of something are connected together or arranged; a particular arrangement of parts: the structure of the building/human body ◇ the social structure of society ◇ the grammatical structures of a language ◇ a salary structure

**framework** a set of beliefs, ideas, or rules that forms the basis of a system or society: The report provides a framework for further research.

**form** the arrangement of parts in a whole, especially in a work of art or piece of writing: As a photographer, shape and form were more important to him than color.

**composition** ( somewhat formal ) the different parts or people that combine to form something; the way in which they combine: recent changes in the composition of our workforce

**construction** the way that something has been built or made: He blamed the accident on shoddy construction.

**fabric** ( somewhat formal ) the basic structure of a society or an organization that enables it to function successfully: This is a trend that threatens **the very fabric of society** .

#### PATTERNS

the **basic** structure/framework/form/composition/construction/fabric of something

a **simple/complex** structure/framework/form

the **economic/political/social** structure/framework/composition/fabric of something

the **chemical/genetic** structure/composition of something

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**style** / staɪl / **noun, verb**

#### **noun**

##### **WAY SOMETHING IS DONE**

**1** [ **countable , uncountable** ] **style (of something)** the particular way in which something is done

a style of management

a management style

furniture to suit your style of living

a study of different teaching styles

I **like your style** (= I like the way you do things) .

Caution was **not her style** (= not the way she usually behaved) .

I'm surprised he rides a motorcycle—I'd have thought big cars were **more his style** (= what suited him) .

see also **lifestyle**

##### **DESIGN OF CLOTHES/HAIR**

**2** [ **countable** ] a particular design of something, especially clothes

We stock a wide variety of styles and sizes.

Have you thought about wearing your hair in a shorter style?

a style that was popular in the 1950s

collocations at **fashion** , see also **hairstyle**

**3** [ **uncountable** ] the quality of being fashionable in the clothes that you wear

style-conscious teenagers

Short skirts are back **in style** (= fashionable) .

My husband has no sense of style.

##### **BEING ELEGANT**

**4** [ **uncountable** ] the quality of being elegant and made to a high standard

The hotel has been redecorated but it's lost a lot of its style.

She does everything with style and grace.

##### **OF BOOK/PAINTING/BUILDING**

**5** [ **countable , uncountable** ] the features of a book, painting, building, etc. that make it typical of a particular author, artist, historical period, etc.

a style of architecture

a fine example of Gothic style

a parody written **in the style of** Molière

The palace was rebuilt in the same style.

##### **USE OF LANGUAGE**

**6** [ **uncountable , countable** ] the correct use of language

It's not considered good style to start a sentence with "but."

Please follow **house style** (= the rules of spelling, etc. used by a particular publishing company) .



**-STYLE**

**7** ( in adjectives ) having the type of style mentioned

Italian-style gardens

a buffet-style breakfast

see also **old-style**

**IN A PLANT**

**8** ( biology ) the long thin part of a flower that carries the **stigma** [ countable ]

**in (great, grand, etc.) style**

in an impressive way

She always celebrates her birthday in style.

He won the championship in great style.

see also **cramp** v.

**verb****CLOTHES/HAIR, ETC.**

**1 style something** to design, make, or shape something in a particular way

an elegantly styled jacket

He'd had his hair styled at an expensive salon.

**GIVE NAME/TITLE**

**2 style someone/something/yourself (as) + noun** ( formal ) to give someone or something/yourself a particular name, title, or description

He styled himself Major Carter.

The company was originally styled "Imperial Designs."

She likes to style herself as a champion of free speech.

**'style something/yourself after/on something/someone** to copy the style, manner, or appearance of someone or something

**model**

a coffee bar styled after a Parisian café

He styled himself on Elvis Presley.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sub • mit** / səb' mIt / **verb**

( -tt- )

**1 [ transitive ] submit something (to someone/something)** to give a document, proposal, etc. to someone in authority so that they can study or consider it

to **submit an application/a claim/a complaint**

Completed projects must be submitted by March 10th.

**2 [ intransitive , transitive ]** to accept the authority, control, or greater strength of someone or something; to agree to something because of this

**give in to someone/something , yield**

**submit (to someone/something)** She refused to submit to threats.

**submit yourself (to someone/something)** He submitted himself to a search by the guards.

**3 [ transitive ] submit that...** ( law or formal ) to say or suggest something

Counsel for the defense submitted that the evidence was inadmissible.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sub • or • di • nate** adjective, noun, verb

**adjective** / sə' bɔrdn • ət /

**1 subordinate (to someone)** having less power or authority than someone else in a group or an organization  
In many societies women are subordinate to men.

**2 subordinate (to something)** less important than something else

**secondary**

All other issues are subordinate to this one.

**noun** / səˈbɔːdn̩ • ət /

a person who has a position with less authority and power than someone else in an organization

**inferior**

the relationship between subordinates and superiors

He always confers with his subordinates before making decisions.

**verb** / səˈbɔːdn̩, eɪt /

**subordinate someone/something (to someone/something)**

to treat someone or something as less important than someone or something else

Safety considerations were subordinated to commercial interests.

**sub • or • di • na • tion** / səˌbɔːdn̩'eɪʃn / **noun** [ **uncountable** ]

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sub • se • quent** / 'sʌbsɛkwənt / **adjective** ( formal )

happening or coming after something else

**previous**

subsequent generations

Subsequent events confirmed our doubts.

Developments on this issue will be dealt with in a subsequent report.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sub • si • dy** / 'sʌbsədi / **noun**

( pl. **sub • si • dies** )

[ **countable** , **uncountable** ]

money that is paid by a government or an organization to reduce the costs of services or of producing goods, so that the prices can be kept low

agricultural subsidies

to reduce the level of subsidy

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sub • sti • tute** / 'sʌbstəˌtut / **noun, verb**

**noun**

**1** a person or thing that you use or have instead of the one you normally use or have

a meat substitute

a substitute family

**substitute for someone/something** Paul's father only saw him as a substitute for his dead brother.

The course teaches you the theory, but **there's no substitute for** practical experience.

The local bus service was a **poor substitute for** their car.

**2** ( also informal **sub** ) a player who replaces another player in a sports game

He was brought on as (a) substitute after half-time.

**verb**

[ **intransitive** , **transitive** ]

to take the place of someone or something else; to use someone or something instead of someone or something else

**substitute for someone/something** Nothing can substitute for the advice your doctor is able to give you.

**substitute A for B** Margarine can be substituted for butter in this recipe.

**substitute B with/by A** Butter can be substituted with margarine in this recipe.

**substitute someone/something** Brady was substituted in the second half after a knee injury (= somebody else played instead of Brady in the second half) .

When **for** , **with** , or **by** are not used, as in the last example, it can be difficult to tell whether the person or thing mentioned is being used, or has been replaced by somebody or something else. The context will usually make this clear.

Can you find someone to substitute for you at the meeting?

**sub • sti • tu • tion** / ˌsʌbstəˈtʃʊn / **noun** [ **uncountable** , **countable** ]

the substitution of low-fat spreads for butter

Two substitutions were made during the game.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**suc • ces • sor** / səkˈsɛsər / **noun**

**successor (to someone/something)**

a person or thing that comes after someone or something else and takes their/its place

Who's the likely successor to him as party leader?

Their latest release is a **worthy successor** to their popular debut album.

He chose as his successor a relative newcomer to the organization.

compare **predecessor**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**suf • fi • cient** / səˈfɪʃnt / **adjective**

enough for a particular purpose; as much as you need

Allow sufficient time to get there.

One dose should be sufficient.

**sufficient to do something** These reasons are not sufficient to justify the ban.

**sufficient for something/someone** Is \$100 sufficient for your expenses?

**insufficient** , see also **self-sufficient**

**suf • fi • cient • ly** **adverb**

The following day she felt sufficiently well to go to work.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sum** / sʌm / **noun, verb**

**noun**

**1 [ countable ] sum (of something)** an amount of money

You will be fined the sum of \$200.

a large sum of money

a six-figure sum

Huge sums have been invested in this project.

see also **lump sum**

**2 [ countable , usually singular ] sum (of something)** the number you get when you add two or more numbers together

The sum of 7 and 12 is 19.

**3 ( also , sum 'total ) [ singular ] the sum of something** all of something, especially when you think that it is not very much

This is the sum of my achievements so far.

**4 [ countable ]** a simple problem that involves calculating numbers

If I have my sums right, I should be able to afford the rent.

**be greater/more than the sum of its parts**

to be better or more effective as a group than you would think just by looking at the individual members of the group

### in sum

( formal )

used to introduce a short statement of the main points of a discussion, speech, etc.

In sum, we have no chance of winning the case.

### verb

( -mm- )

**sum 'up** | **sum something 'up**

**1** to state the main points of something in a short and clear form

### summarize

**To sum up**, there are three main ways of tackling the problem...

**sum what...** Can I just sum up what we've agreed to so far?

language bank at **conclusion**

**2** ( of a judge ) to give a summary of the main facts and arguments in a legal case, near the end of a trial

**sum someone/something 'up**

**1** to describe or show the most typical characteristics of someone or something, especially in a few words

Totally lazy—that just about sums him up.

For me, the novel summed up the major problems of human existence.

**2** to form or express an opinion of someone or something

### size up

She quickly summed up the situation and took control.

related noun **summing-up**

summary Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sum • ma • ry** / 'sʌməri / **noun, adjective**

### noun

( pl. **sum • ma • ries** )

a short statement that gives only the main points of something, not the details

The following is a summary of our conclusions.

a news summary

a two-page summary of a government report

**In summary**, this was a disappointing performance.

### adjective

[ only before noun ]

**1** ( formal ) giving only the main points of something, not the details

a summary financial statement

I made a summary report for the records.

**2** ( sometimes disapproving ) done immediately, without paying attention to the normal process that should be followed

### summary justice/execution

a summary judgment

**sum • mar • i • ly** / sə'mɛrəli / **adverb**

to be summarily dismissed/executed

### AWL COLLOCATIONS

#### summary

#### summary noun

**contain**, **give**, **offer**, **present**, **provide**

The last section provides a summary of the key findings.

**brief**, **concise**, **succinct** | **descriptive**, **detailed** | **excellent**

See Nord, 1997, for a more detailed summary.

The well-respected historian Frederick Hodge presented a succinct summary of this argument.

### ~ of findings

The paper concludes with a summary of findings and recommendations for future research.

### summarize verb

**accurately** | **briefly**, **concisely**, **succinctly**

A study of this scope must accurately summarize the ideas of numerous philosophers.

In the next section of this article we will briefly summarize our methodology.

**data**, **finding**, **result** | **literature** | **argument** | **recommendation** | **conclusion**

In a recent report, UNICEF summarized the global data by regions.

This article summarizes recent literature on the diagnosis of pneumonia.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sup • ple • ment** noun, verb

**noun** / 'sʌpləmənt /

**1** a thing that is added to something else to improve or complete it

**vitamin/dietary supplements** (= **vitamins** and other foods eaten in addition to what you usually eat)

**supplement to something** Industrial sponsorship is a supplement to government funding.

**2** an extra separate section, often in the form of a magazine, that is sold with a newspaper  
the Sunday literary supplement

**3 supplement (to something)** a book or a section at the end of a book that gives extra information or deals with a special subject

the supplement to the Oxford English Dictionary

a supplement to the main report

**verb** / 'sʌpləˌmɛnt /

to add something to something in order to improve it or make it more complete

**supplement something with something** a diet supplemented with vitamin pills

**supplement something** He supplements his income by giving private lessons.

**sup • ple • men • ta • tion** / ,sʌpləmənt'eɪʃn / **noun** [ **uncountable** ]

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sur • vey** noun, verb

**noun** / 'sərvɛɪ /

**1** an investigation of the opinions, behavior, etc. of a particular group of people, that is usually done by asking them questions

A recent survey showed 75% of those questioned were in favor of the plan.

The **survey revealed** that...

to **conduct/carry out a survey**

**2** the act of examining and recording the measurements, features, etc. of an area of land in order to make a map or plan of it

an aerial survey (= made by taking photographs from an aircraft)

a geological survey

**3** a general study, view, or description of something

a comprehensive survey of modern music

**verb** / sər'veɪ ; 'sərvɛɪ /

**1 survey something** to look carefully at the whole of something, especially in order to get a general impression of it

**inspect**

The next morning we surveyed the damage caused by the fire.

He surveyed himself in the mirror before going out.

She opened her eyes and surveyed her surroundings.

**2 survey something** to study and give a general description of something

This chapter briefly surveys the current state of American politics.

**3 survey something** to measure and record the features of an area of land, for example in order to make a map or in preparation for building

**4 survey someone/something** to investigate the opinions or behavior of a group of people by asking them a series of questions

#### interview

We surveyed 500 smokers and found that over three quarters would like to give it up.

87% of the 1,000 companies surveyed employ part-time workers.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sur • vive** / sər'vaɪv / **verb**

**1 [ intransitive ]** to continue to live or exist

She was the last surviving member of the family.

Of the six people injured in the crash, only two survived.

The children had to survive by begging and stealing.

( humorous ) "How are you these days?" "Oh, surviving."

Don't worry, it's only a scratch—you'll survive.

**survive from something** Some strange customs have survived from earlier times.

**survive on something** I can't survive on \$75 a week (= it is not enough for my basic needs) .

They spent two months in the jungle, surviving on small animals and fruit.

**survive as something** He survived as mayor until the city fell on hard times.

**2 [ transitive ]** to continue to live or exist despite a dangerous event or time

**survive something** The company was able to survive the crisis.

Many birds didn't survive the severe winter.

**survive something + adjective** Few buildings survived the war intact.

**3 [ transitive ] survive someone/something** to live or exist longer than someone or something

#### outlive

She survived her husband by ten years.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sus • pend** / sə'spɛnd / **verb**

**1 suspend something/someone (from something) (by/on something)** to hang something from something else

A lamp was suspended from the ceiling.

Her body was found suspended by a rope.

**2 suspend something** to officially stop something for a time; to prevent something from being active, used, etc. for a time

Production has been suspended while safety checks are carried out.

The constitution was suspended as the fighting grew worse.

In the theater we willingly **suspend disbelief** (= temporarily believe that the characters, etc. are real) .

**3 suspend something** to officially delay something; to arrange for something to happen later than planned

The introduction of the new system has been suspended until next year.

to suspend judgment (= delay forming or expressing an opinion)

**4 [ usually passive ] suspend someone (from something)** to officially prevent someone from doing their job, going to school, etc. for a time

The police officer was suspended while the complaint was being investigated.

She was suspended from school for a week.

**5 be suspended in something** ( technical ) to float in liquid or air without moving

Small droplets are held suspended in the atmosphere.

see also **suspension**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sus • tain** / səˈsteɪn / **verb**

**1 sustain someone/something** to provide enough of what someone or something needs in order to live or exist

Which planets can sustain life?

I only had a little chocolate to sustain me on my walk.

The love and support of his family sustained him during his time in prison.

When she lost her job they could no longer sustain their expensive lifestyle.

**2 sustain something** to make something continue for some time without becoming less  
**maintain**

a period of sustained economic growth

a sustained attack

She managed to sustain everyone's interest until the end of her speech.

Kangaroos can sustain high speeds over long distances.

the sustaining pedal of a piano (= that allows a note to continue sounding for a long time)

**3 sustain something** ( formal ) to experience something bad

**suffer**

to **sustain damage/an injury/a defeat**

The company **sustained losses** of millions of dollars.

**4 sustain something** to provide evidence to support an opinion, a theory, etc.

**uphold**

The evidence is not detailed enough to sustain his argument.

**5 sustain something** ( formal ) to support a weight without breaking or falling

**bear**

The ice will not sustain your weight.

**6 sustain something** ( law ) to decide that a claim, etc. is valid

**uphold**

The court sustained his claim that the contract was illegal.

**Objection sustained** ! (= said by a judge when a lawyer makes an **objection** in court)

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**sym • bol** / ˈsɪmbəl / **noun**

**1 symbol (of something)** a person, an object, an event, etc. that represents a more general quality or situation

White has always been a symbol of purity in Western cultures.

Nelson Mandela became a symbol of the anti-apartheid struggle.

## THESAURUS

**sign**

**indication symptom symbol indicator signal**

These are all words for an event, an action, or a fact that shows that something exists, is happening, or may happen in the future.

**sign** an event, action, or fact that shows that something exists, is happening, or may happen in the future:

Headaches may be a sign of stress.

**indication** ( somewhat formal ) a remark or sign that shows that something is happening or what someone is thinking or feeling: They gave no **indication as to** how the work should be done.

**SIGN OR INDICATION?**

An **indication** often comes in the form of something that someone says; a **sign** is usually something that happens or something that someone does.

**symptom** a change in your body or mind that shows that you are not healthy; a sign that something exists, especially something bad: A sore throat may be a symptom of an ear infection. ◇ The rise in inflation was just one symptom of the poor state of the economy.

**symbol** a person, an object, or an event that represents a more general quality or situation: The dove is a universal symbol of peace.

**indicator** ( somewhat formal ) a sign that shows you what something is like or how a situation is changing: the economic indicators ◇ Healthy skin is an indicator of overall well-being.

**signal** an event, an action, or a fact that shows that something exists, is happening, or may happen in the future: This latest decision is a signal of a major change in policy. ◇ Reducing prison sentences would send the wrong signals to criminals.

#### SIGN OR SIGNAL?

**Signal** is often used to talk about an event, an action, or a fact that suggests to someone that they should do something. **Sign** is not usually used in this way: ~~Reducing prison sentences would send the wrong signs to criminals.~~

#### PATTERNS

a(n) sign/indication/symptom/symbol/indicator/signal **of** something

a(n) sign/indication/symptom/indicator/signal **that...**

a **clear** sign/indication/symptom/symbol/indicator/signal

an **obvious** sign/indication/symptom/symbol/indicator

an **early** sign/indication/symptom/indicator/signal

an **outward** sign/indication/symbol

to **give** a(n) sign/indication/signal

**2 symbol (for something)** a sign, number, letter, etc. that has a fixed meaning, especially in science, mathematics, and music

What is the chemical symbol for copper?

A list of symbols used on the map is given in the index.

see also **sex symbol** , **status symbol**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**tape** / teIp / **noun, verb**

#### noun

**1 [ uncountable ]** a long, narrow strip of material with a sticky substance on one side that is used for sticking things together

**adhesive tape**

see also **duct tape** , **insulating tape** , **masking tape** , **Scotch tape™**

**2 [ uncountable ]** a long, narrow strip of **magnetic** material that is used for recording sounds, pictures, or information

see also **magnetic tape** , **videotape**

**3 [ countable ]** a **cassette** that contains sounds, or sounds and pictures, that have been recorded  
a **blank tape** (= a tape that has nothing recorded on it)

I lent her my Bob Marley tapes.

Police seized various books and tapes.

**4 [ countable ]** a long, narrow strip of material that is stretched across the place where a race will finish the finishing tape

**5 [ countable ] = tape measure**

**6 [ countable , uncountable ]** a narrow strip of material that is used for tying things together or as a label  
The papers were in a pile, tied together with a tape.

see also **red tape** , **ticker tape**

#### verb

**1 tape someone/something** to record someone or something on **magnetic** tape using a special machine  
Will you tape that discussion program for me tonight?

Private conversations between the two had been taped and sent to a newspaper.

a taped announcement



**2 tape something (up)** to fasten something by sticking or tying it with tape

Put it in a box and tape it up securely.

**3 tape something + adverb/prep.** to stick something onto something else using sticky tape

Someone had taped a message on the door.

**4 tape something (up)** to tie a bandage firmly around an injury

You've sprained your ankle, so I'm going to tape it up.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**tar • get** / 'tɑrgət / **noun, verb**

**noun**

**1** a result that you try to achieve

business goals and targets

sales targets

**Set yourself targets** that you can reasonably hope to achieve.

to **meet/achieve a target**

a **target date** of April 2012

The university will **reach its target** of 5,000 students next September.

The new sports complex is **on target** to open in June.

a **target area/audience/group** (= the particular area, audience, etc. that a product, program, etc. is aimed at)

collocations at **business**

**2** an object, a person, or a place that people aim at when attacking

They bombed military and civilian targets.

**target for someone/something** Doors and windows are an **easy target** for burglars.

It's a **prime target** (= an obvious target) for terrorist attacks.

The children became the target for their father's aggressive outbursts.

**target of something** ( figurative ) He's become the target of a lot of criticism recently.

**3** an object that people practice shooting at, especially a round board with circles on it

to aim at a target

to **hit/miss the target**

**target practice**

**verb**

( **tar • get • ing** , **tar • get • ed** , **tar • get • ed** )

[ usually passive ]

**1 target someone/something** to aim an attack or a criticism at someone or something

The missiles were mainly targeted at the United States.

The company has been targeted by animal rights groups for its use of dogs in drug trials.

**2 target someone** to try to have an effect on a particular group of people

The campaign is clearly targeted at the young.

a new magazine that targets single men

## THESAURUS

**target**

**objective goal object end**

These are all words for something that you are trying to achieve.

**target** a result that you try to achieve: Set targets that you can reasonably hope to achieve. ◇ sales targets

**objective** ( somewhat formal ) something that you are trying to achieve: What are the objectives of this project?

**goal** something that you hope to achieve: He continued to pursue his goal of becoming an actor.

**TARGET, OBJECTIVE, OR GOAL?**

A **target** is usually officially recorded in some way, for example by an employer. It is often specific, and in the form of figures, such as number of sales, exam scores, or a date. People often set their own **objectives** : these are things that they wish to achieve, often as part of a project or a talk they are giving. **Goals** are

often long-term, and relate to people's life and career plans or the long-term plans of a company or organization.

**object** the purpose of something; something that you plan to achieve: The object of the campaign is to educate people about highway safety.

**end** something that you plan to achieve: She used her family for political ends. ◇ That's only OK if you believe that **the end justifies the means** (= bad methods of doing something are acceptable if the final result is good) . **End** is usually used in the plural or in particular fixed expressions.

#### PATTERNS

to work **toward** a(n) target/objective/goal

a(n) **ambitious/major/long-term/short-term/future** target/objective/goal

**economic/financial/business** targets/objectives/goals

to **set/agree on/identify/reach/meet/exceed** a(n) target/objective/goal

to **achieve** a(n) target/objective/goal/end

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**task** / tæsk / **noun, verb**

#### noun

**1** a piece of work that someone has to do, especially a hard or unpleasant one

to **perform/carry out/complete/undertake a task**

**a daunting/an impossible/a formidable/an unenviable, etc. task**

**a thankless task** (= an unpleasant one that nobody wants to do and nobody thanks you for doing)

Our first task is to set up a communications system.

Detectives are now faced with **the task of** identifying the body.

Getting hold of this information was **no easy task** (= was difficult) .

It was my task to wake everyone up in the morning.

**2** an activity that is designed to help achieve a particular learning goal, especially in language teaching task-based learning

**take someone to task (for/over something)**

to criticize someone strongly for something they have done

The local newspaper has been taking the city council to task over its transportation policy.

#### verb

[ usually passive ]

**task someone (with something)**

( formal )

to give someone a task to do

NATO troops were tasked with keeping the peace.

#### THESAURUS

##### task

**duties mission job chore**

These are all words for a piece of work that someone has to do.

**task** a piece of work that someone has to do, especially a difficult or unpleasant one: Our first task is to set up a communications system.

**duties** tasks that are part of your job: Your duties include data entry and record keeping.

**mission** an important official job that a person or group of people is given to do, especially when they are sent to another country: They went on a **fact-finding mission** to learn more about it.

**job** a piece of work that someone has to do: I've got various jobs around the house.

##### TASK OR JOB?

A **task** may be more difficult than a **job** and require you to think carefully about how you are going to do it.

A **job** may be something small that is one of several things that you have to do, especially in the home; or a

**job** can be something that takes a long time and is boring and/or needs a lot of patience.

**chore** a task that you have to do regularly, especially one that you do in the home and find unpleasant or boring: household chores

#### PATTERNS

the task/mission/job/chore **of (doing)** something  
 (a) **daily/day-to-day** task/duties/job/chore  
 (a) **routine** task/duties/mission/job/chore  
 a/an **easy/difficult** task/mission/job/chore  
 (a) **household/domestic** task/duties/job/chore  
 to **do** a task/a job/the chores  
 to **finish** a task/a mission/a job/the chores  
 to **give someone** a task/their duties/a mission/a job/a chore

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**team** / tim / **noun, verb**

**noun**

**1** a group of people who play a particular game or sport against another group of people

a **football/baseball, etc. team**

a **team event** (= one played by groups of people rather than individual players)

Whose team are you on?

The team is not playing very well this season.

**2** a group of people who work together at a particular job

the sales team

a **team leader/member**

A team of experts has/have been called in to investigate.

We have a team of eight working on product development.

**3** two or more animals that are used together to pull a **cart**, etc.

**verb**

[ usually passive ]

**team someone/something (with someone/something)**

to put two or more things or people together in order to do something or to achieve a particular effect

This production of "Macbeth" teams two of our finest actors.

He was teamed with his brother in the doubles.

**team 'up (with someone)** to join with another person or group in order to do something together

**team someone/something 'up (with someone)** to put two or more people or things together in order to do something or to achieve a particular effect

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**tech • ni • cal** / 'tɛknɪkl / **adjective**

**1** [ usually before noun ] connected with the practical use of machinery, methods, etc. in science and industry

We offer free technical support for those buying our software.

a technical education

technical drawing (= especially taught as a school subject)

**2** [ usually before noun ] connected with the skills needed for a particular job, sport, art, etc.

Skaters score extra points for technical complexity.

**3** connected with a particular subject and therefore difficult to understand if you do not know about that subject

The article is full of **technical terms**.

The guide is too technical for a nonspecialist.

**4** [ only before noun ] connected with the details of a law or set of rules

Their lawyers spent days arguing over technical details.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

Resource: <https://github.com/k-five>

**tech • nique** / tɛk'nik / **noun**

**1** [ **countable** ] a particular way of doing something, especially one in which you have to learn special skills  
The artist combines different techniques in the same painting.

marketing techniques

Teachers learn various techniques for dealing with problem students.

**2** [ **uncountable** , **singular** ] the skill with which someone is able to do something practical

Her technique has improved a lot over the past season.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

**tech • nol • o • gy** / tɛk'nɒlədʒi / **noun**

( pl. **tech • nol • o • gies** )

**1** [ **uncountable** , **countable** ] scientific knowledge used in practical ways in industry, for example in designing new machines

science and technology

recent advances in medical technology

to make use of the most modern technologies

see also **high technology** , **information technology**

**2** [ **uncountable** ] machinery or equipment designed using technology

The company has invested in the latest technology.

**tech • no • log • i • cal** / ,tɛknə'lɒdʒɪkl / **adjective**

technological advances

technological change

a major technological breakthrough

**tech • no • log • i • cally** / ,tɛknə'lɒdʒɪkli / **adverb**

technologically advanced