

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

o • ver • all adjective, adverb, noun

adjective / 'oʊvərˌɔl /

[only before noun]

including all the things or people that are involved in a particular situation; general
the person with **overall responsibility** for the project

There will be winners in each of three age groups, and one **overall winner** .

an **overall improvement** in standards of living (= affecting everyone)

When she finished painting, she stepped back to admire the **overall effect** .

adverb / ,oʊvərˈɔl /

1 including everything or everyone; in total

The company will invest \$1.6 m. overall in new equipment.

2 generally; when you consider everything

Overall, this is a very useful book.

language bank at **conclusion**

noun / 'oʊvərˌɔl / **overalls** (also ,bib 'overalls)

[plural]

a piece of clothing that consists of pants with an extra piece of cloth covering the chest, held up by strips of cloth over the shoulders

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

o • ver • lap verb, noun

verb / ,oʊvərˈlæp /

(-pp-)

1 [transitive , intransitive] **overlap (something)** if one thing **overlaps** another, or the two things **overlap** , part of one thing covers part of the other

A fish's scales overlap each other.

The floor was protected with overlapping sheets of newspaper.

2 [transitive] **overlap something** to make two or more things overlap

You will need to overlap the pieces of wood slightly.

3 [intransitive , transitive] **overlap (something)** if two events **overlap** or **overlap** each other, the second one starts before the first one has finished

4 [intransitive , transitive] to cover part of the same area of interest, knowledge, responsibility, etc.

Our jobs overlap slightly, which sometimes causes difficulties.

overlap (with) something The language of science overlaps with that of everyday life.

noun / 'oʊvərˌlæp /

1 [countable , uncountable] **overlap (between something and something)** a shared area of interest, knowledge, responsibility, etc.

There is (a) considerable overlap between the two subjects.

2 [countable , uncountable] the amount by which one thing covers another thing

an overlap of 5 inches on each roof tile

3 [singular] a period of time in which two events or activities happen together

There will be an overlap of a week while John teaches Anne the job.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

o • ver • seas / ,oʊvərˈsiz / **adjective, adverb**

adjective

connected with foreign countries, especially those separated from your country by the ocean

overseas development/markets/trade

overseas students/visitors

compare **home**

adverb

to or in a foreign country, especially those separated from your country by the ocean

abroad

to **live/work/go overseas**

The product is sold both at home and overseas.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

page / peɪdʒ / **noun, verb**

noun

1 (abbr. **p.**) one side or both sides of a sheet of paper in a book, magazine, etc.

Turn to page 64.

Someone has torn a page out of this book.

a **blank/new page**

the **sports/financial pages** of the newspaper

on the **opposite/facing page**

over the page (= on the next page)

see also **front page** , **full-page** , **Yellow Pages**

2 a section of data or information that can be shown on a computer screen at any one time

see also **home page**

3 (literary) an important event or period of history

a glorious page of Arab history

4 = **pageboy**

5 a student who works as an assistant to a member of the U.S. Congress

6 (in the Middle Ages) a boy or young man who worked for a **knight** while training to be a knight himself

on the same page

if two or more people or groups are **on the same page** , they agree about what they are trying to achieve

Are employers and employees on the same page when it comes to retirement benefits?

It was an effort to get us all on the same page.

turn the page

to begin doing things in a different way and thinking in a more positive way after a period of difficulties

It's time to turn the page and make a fresh start.

He turned the page on that chapter in his life a long time ago.

see also **take a page/leaf from/out of someone's book** at **book** n. , **print** v.

verb

1 **page someone** to call someone's name over a **public address system** in order to find them and give them a message

Why don't you have him paged at the airport?

2 **page someone** to contact someone by sending a message to their **pager**

Page Dr. Green immediately.

page through something to quickly turn the pages of a book, magazine, etc. and look at them without reading them carefully or in detail

She paged through the report looking for her name.

flick through something , **leaf through something**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pan • el / 'pænl / **noun, verb**

noun

1 a square or rectangular (**rectangle**) piece of wood, glass, or metal that forms part of a larger surface such as a door or wall

One of the glass panels in the front door was cracked.

see also **solar panel**

2 a piece of metal that forms part of the outer frame of a vehicle

3 a piece of cloth that forms part of a piece of clothing

The pants have double thickness knee panels for extra protection.

4 a group of specialists who give their advice or opinion about something; a group of people who discuss topics of interest on television or radio

an advisory panel

a panel of experts

We have two politicians on tonight's panel.

a panel discussion

5 (also '**jury panel**') = **jury**

6 a flat board in a vehicle or on a piece of machinery where the controls and instruments are fixed
an **instrument panel**

a **control/display panel**

verb

[usually passive]

panel something

to cover or decorate a surface with flat strips of wood, glass, etc.

The walls were paneled in oak.

a **glass-/wood-paneled** door

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

par • a • digm / 'pærə,daɪm / **noun**

1 (formal or technical) a typical example or pattern of something

a paradigm for students to copy

The war was a paradigm of the destructive side of human nature.

2 (grammar) a set of all the different forms of a word

verb paradigms

par • a • dig • mat • ic / ,pærədɪg'mætɪk / **adjective**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

par • a • graph / 'pærə,græf / **noun** (abbr. **par.** , **para.**)

a section of a piece of writing, usually consisting of several sentences dealing with a single subject. The first sentence of a paragraph starts on a new line

an **opening/introductory paragraph**

Write a paragraph on each of the topics given below.

See paragraph 15 of the handbook.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

par • al • lel / 'pærə,ləl / **adjective, noun, verb**

adjective

1 two or more lines that are **parallel** to each other are the same distance apart at every point

parallel lines

parallel to/with something The road and the canal are parallel to each other.

2 very similar or taking place at the same time

a parallel case

parallel trends

3 (computing) involving several computer operations at the same time

parallel processing

par • al • lel **adverb**

The road and the canal **run parallel** to each other.

The plane flew parallel to the coast.

noun

1 [**countable** , **uncountable**] a person, a situation, an event, etc. that is very similar to another, especially one in a different place or time

equivalent

These ideas have parallels in Freud's thought too.

This is an achievement **without parallel** in modern times.

This tradition **has no parallel** in our culture.

2 [**countable** , usually **plural**] similar features

There are interesting parallels between the 1960s and the late 1990s.

It is possible to **draw a parallel between** (= find similar features in) their experience and ours.

3 (also **parallel of 'latitude'**) [**countable**] an imaginary line around the earth that is always the same distance from the **equator** ; this line on a map
the 49th parallel

in parallel (with something/someone)

with and at the same time as something or someone else

The new degree and the existing certificate courses would run in parallel.

Ann wanted to pursue her own career in parallel with her husband's.

verb

1 parallel something to be similar to something; to happen at the same time as something

Their legal system parallels our own.

The rise in unemployment is paralleled by an increase in petty crime.

2 parallel something to be as good as something

equal

a level of achievement that has never been paralleled

compare **unparalleled**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pa • ram • e • ter / pəˈræmətər / **noun**

[usually **plural**]

something that decides or limits the way in which something can be done

to **set/define the parameters**

We had to work within the parameters that had already been established.

+

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

ar • gu • ment / ˈɑrɡyəmənt / **noun**

1 [**countable** , **uncountable**] a conversation or discussion in which two or more people disagree, often angrily

to **win/lose an argument**

After some heated argument, they finally made a decision.

argument (with someone) (about/over something) We had an argument with the waiter about the check.

argument with someone She **got into an argument with** the teacher.

2 [**countable**] a reason or set of reasons that someone uses to show that something is true or correct

Her main argument was a moral one.

argument for/against something There are strong **arguments for and against** euthanasia.

argument that... His argument was that public spending must be reduced.

3 [**uncountable**] **argument (about something)** the act of disagreeing in a conversation or discussion using a reason or set of reasons

Let's assume **for the sake of argument** (= in order to discuss the problem) that we can't start till March.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

par • tic • i • pate / pɑr'tɪsə,peɪt / **verb**

[intransitive]

participate (in something)

(somewhat formal)

to take part in or become involved in an activity

She didn't participate in the discussion.

We encourage students to participate fully in the running of the college.

Details of the competition are available at all participating stores.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

part • ner / 'pɑrtnər / **noun, verb**

noun

1 the person that you are married to or having a sexual relationship with

Come to the New Year disco and bring your partner!

a marriage partner

collocations at **marriage** , see also **domestic partner**

2 one of the people who owns a business and shares the profits, etc.

a partner in a law firm

a **junior/senior partner**

3 a person that you are doing an activity with, such as dancing or playing a game

a **dancing/tennis, etc. partner**

see also **sparring partner**

4 a country or an organization that has an agreement with another country

a trading partner

see also **silent partner**

verb

partner someone

to be someone's partner in a dance, game, etc.

Gerry offered to partner me at tennis.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pas • sive / 'pæsɪv / **adjective, noun**

adjective

1 accepting what happens or what people do without trying to change anything or oppose them

He played a passive role in the relationship.

a passive observer of events

She wore a passive expression on her face as if she didn't care what happened.

2 (grammar) connected with the form of a verb used when the subject is affected by the action of the verb, for example "**He was bitten by a dog.**" is a passive sentence

compare **active**

pas • sive • ly **adverb**

noun (also **passive 'voice**)

[singular]

(grammar)

the form of a verb used when the subject is affected by the action of the verb

compare **active**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

per • ceive

WORD FAMILY

perceive verb

perception noun

perceptive adjective

perceptible adjective (≠ imperceptible)

/ pər'siv / **verb**

1 to notice or become aware of something

perceive something I perceived a change in his behavior.

perceive that... She perceived that all was not well.

perceive someone/something to be/have something The patient was perceived to have difficulty in breathing.

This pattern is usually used in the passive.

2 to understand or think of someone or something in a particular way

see

perceive someone/something/yourself (as something) This discovery was perceived as a major breakthrough.

She did not perceive herself as disabled.

A science degree and artistic interests are often perceived as incompatible.

perceive someone/something to be/have something They were widely perceived to have been unlucky.

This pattern is usually used in the passive.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

per • cent / pər'sɛnt / (abbr. **pct.**) (symb. **%**) **noun, adjective, adverb**

noun

(pl. **per • cent**)

one part in every hundred

Poor families spend about 80 to 90 percent of their income on food.

It is often stated that we use only 10 percent of our brain.

What percent of the population is overweight?

adjective, adverb

by, in, or for every hundred

a 15 percent rise in price

House prices rose five percent last year.

GRAMMAR

expressing percentages

Percentages (=numbers of percent) are written in words as twenty-five percent and in numbers as 25% .

If a percentage is used with an uncountable or a singular noun, the verb is generally singular: 90% of the land **is** cultivated.

If the noun is singular but represents a group of people, the verb is singular: Eighty percent of the work force **is** against the strike.

If the noun is plural, the verb is plural: 65% of children **play** computer games.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pe • ri • od / 'pɪriəd / **noun, adverb, adjective**

noun

LENGTH OF TIME

1 a particular length of time

a period of consultation/mourning/uncertainty

The factory will be closed down over a 2-year period/a period of two years.

This compares with a 4% increase for the same period last year.

This offer is available for a **limited period** only.

All these changes happened over **a period of time** .

The aim is to reduce traffic at **peak periods** .

You can have it for a **trial period** (= in order to test it) .

The project will run for a six-month trial period.

Tomorrow will be cold with sunny periods.

see also **cooling-off period**

2 a length of time in the life of a particular person or in the history of a particular country

What period of history would you most like to have lived in?

the post-war period

The church dates from the Norman period.

Like Picasso, she too had a blue period.

Most teenagers go through a period of rebelling.

3 (geology) a length of time that is a division of an **era** . A period is divided into **epochs**

the Jurassic period

LESSON

4 any of the parts that a day is divided into at a school, college, etc. for study

"What do you have next period?" "French."

a **free/study period** (= for private study)

WOMAN

5 the flow of blood each month from the body of a woman who is not pregnant

period pains

monthly periods

When did you last **have a period** ?

compare **menstruation**

PUNCTUATION

6 the mark (.) used at the end of a sentence and in some abbreviations, for example **e.g.**

adverb

(informal)

used at the end of a sentence to emphasize that there is nothing more to say about a subject

The answer is no, period!

adjective

[only before noun]

having a style typical of a particular time in history

period costumes/furniture

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

per • sist / pər'sɪst / **verb**

1 [**intransitive** , **transitive**] to continue to do something despite difficulties or opposition, in a way that can seem unreasonable

persist (in doing something) Why do you persist in blaming yourself for what happened?

persist (in something) She persisted in her search for the truth.

persist (with something) He persisted with his questioning.

+ speech "So, did you agree or not?" he persisted.

2 [**intransitive**] to continue to exist

The belief that the earth was flat persisted for many centuries.

If the symptoms persist, consult your doctor.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

per • spec • tive / pərˈspɛktɪv / **noun**

1 [**countable**] a particular attitude toward something; a way of thinking about something

viewpoint

a global perspective

Recent events seem less serious when put into an international perspective.

Try to see the issue **from** a different **perspective** .

a report that looks at the education system **from the perspective of** deaf people

perspective on something His experience abroad provides a wider perspective on the problem.

2 [**uncountable**] the ability to think about problems and decisions in a reasonable way without exaggerating their importance

She was aware that she was losing all sense of perspective.

Try to **keep** these issues **in perspective** .

Talking to others can often help to **put** your own problems **into perspective** .

It is important not to let things **get out of perspective** .

3 [**uncountable**] the art of creating an effect of depth and distance in a picture by representing people and things that are far away as being smaller than those that are nearer the front

The artist plays with perspective to confuse the eye.

We learned how to draw buildings **in perspective** .

The tree on the left is **out of perspective** .

4 [**countable**] a view, especially one in which you can see far into the distance

a perspective of the whole valley

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

phase / feɪz / **noun, verb**

noun

1 a stage in a process of change or development

during the first/next/last phase

the **initial/final phase** of the project

a **critical/decisive phase**

the **design phase**

His anxiety about the work was just a **passing phase** .

She's going through a **difficult phase** .

The wedding marked the beginning of a **new phase** in Emma's life.

2 each of the shapes of the moon as we see it from the earth at different times of the month

the phases of the moon

in phase/out of phase (with something)

1 working/not working together in the right way

The traffic lights were out of phase.

2 (physics) if two or more light or sound wave cycles are **in phase** , their high and low points occur at the same time; if they are **out of phase** , they occur at different times

verb

[usually passive]

phase something

to arrange to do something gradually in stages over a period of time

the phased withdrawal of troops from the area

Closure of the hospitals was phased over a three-year period.

phase something 'in to introduce or start using something gradually in stages over a period of time

The new tax will be phased in over two years.

phase something 'out to stop using something gradually in stages over a period of time

Subsidies to farmers will be phased out by next year.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

phe • nom • e • non / fəˈnɒməˌnɒn ; fəˈnɒməˌnɒn / **noun**

(pl. **phe • nom • e • na** / fəˈnɒməˌnə /)

1 a fact or an event in nature or society, especially one that is not fully understood

cultural/natural/social phenomena

Globalization is a phenomenon of the 21st century.

Early retirement is a relatively new phenomenon in the U.S..

2 (pl. **phe • nom • e • nons**) a person or thing that is very successful or impressive

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

phi • los • o • phy / fəˈlɒsəfi / **noun**

1 [**uncountable**] the study of the nature and meaning of the universe and of human life

moral philosophy

the philosophy of science

a professor of philosophy

a degree in philosophy

2 [**countable**] a particular set or system of beliefs resulting from the search for knowledge about life and the universe

the philosophy of Jung

the development of different philosophies

3 [**countable**] a set of beliefs or an attitude to life that guides someone's behavior

Her philosophy of life is to take every opportunity that presents itself.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

phys • i • cal / ˈfɪzɪkl / **adjective, noun**

adjective

THE BODY

1 [usually before noun] connected with a person's body rather than their mind

physical fitness

physical appearance

The ordeal has affected both her mental and physical health.

He tends to avoid all physical contact.

The center offers activities for everyone, whatever your age or physical condition.

REAL THINGS

2 [only before noun] connected with things that actually exist or are present and can be seen, felt, etc.

rather than things that only exist in a person's mind

the **physical world/universe/environment**

the **physical properties** (= the color, weight, shape, etc.) of copper

She was intimidated by his physical presence.

Is there any physical evidence to suggest that a crime has been committed?

NATURE/SCIENCE

3 [only before noun] according to the laws of nature

It is a physical impossibility to be in two places at once.

There does not seem to be any physical explanation for what they saw.

4 [only before noun] connected with the scientific study of forces such as heat, light, sound, etc. and how they affect objects

physical laws

SEX

5 involving sex

physical love

They are having a physical relationship.

The attraction between them is purely physical.

PERSON

6 (informal) (of a person) liking to touch other people a lot

She's not very physical.

VIOLENT

7 (informal) violent (used to avoid saying this in a direct way)

Are you going to cooperate or do we have to get physical?

noun (also **physical examination**)

a medical examination of a person's body, for example to check that they are healthy enough to do a particular job

an annual physical

TOPIC COLLOCATIONS

Physical Appearance

A person may be described as **having** :

eyes

(bright) blue/green/(dark/light) brown/hazel **eyes**

deep-set/sunken/bulging/protruding **eyes**

small/beady/sparkling/twinkling/shifty **eyes**

piercing/penetrating/steely **eyes**

bloodshot/watery/puffy **eyes**

bushy/thick/dark/raised/arched **eyebrows**

long/dark/thick/curly/false **eyelashes/lashes**

face

a flat/bulbous/pointed/sharp/snub **nose**

a straight/a pointy/a Roman/an aquiline **nose**

full/thick/thin/pouty **lips**

dry/chapped/cracked **lips**

flushed/rosy/red/ruddy/pale **cheeks**

soft/chubby/sunken **cheeks**

white/perfect/crooked/protruding **teeth**

a large/high/broad/wide **forehead**

a strong/weak/pointed/double **chin**

a long/full/bushy/wispy **beard**

a full/thin **goatee**

a long/thin/bushy/droopy/handlebar/pencil **mustache**

hair and skin

pale/fair/olive/dark/tanned **skin**

dry/oily/smooth/rough/leathery/wrinkled **skin**

a dark/pale/light/sallow/ruddy/olive/swarthy/clear **complexion**

deep/fine/small/facial **wrinkles**

blonde/blond/fair/(light/dark) brown/(jet-)black/auburn/red/ginger/gray **hair**

straight/curly/wavy/frizzy/spiky **hair**

thick/thin/fine/bushy/thinning **hair**

dyed/bleached/soft/silky/dry/greasy/shiny **hair**

long/short/shoulder-length/cropped **hair**

a bald/balding/shaved **head**

a receding **hairline**

a bald **patch/spot**

a side/center **part**

body

a long/short/thick/slender/(disapproving) scrawny **neck**

broad/narrow/sloping/rounded/hunched **shoulders**

a bare/broad/muscular/small/large **chest**
 a flat/round/swollen/bulging **stomach**
 a small/tiny/narrow/slim/slender/28-inch **waist**
 big/wide/narrow/slim **hips**
 a straight/bent/arched/broad/hairy **back**
 thin/slender/muscular **arms**
 big/large/small/manicured/calloused/gloved **hands**
 long/short/fat/slender/delicate/bony **fingers**
 long/muscular/hairy/shapely/(both informal, often disapproving) skinny/spindly **legs**
 muscular/chubby/(informal, disapproving) flabby **thighs/calves**
 big/little/small/dainty/wide/narrow/bare **feet**
 a good/slim/slender/hourglass **figure**
be of slim/medium/average/large/athletic/stocky **build**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

plus 1 / plʌs / **preposition, noun, adjective, conjunction**

preposition

1 used when the two numbers or amounts mentioned are being added together

Two plus five is seven.

The cost is \$22, plus \$1.50 for postage.

Membership is 350 dollars per year plus tax.

minus

2 as well as something or someone; and also

We have to fit five of us plus all our gear in the car.

minus

plus or minus

used when the number mentioned may actually be more or less by a particular amount

give or take

The margin of error was plus or minus three percentage points.

noun

1 (informal) an advantage; a good thing

Knowledge of French is a plus in her job.

There were a lot of pluses in the performance.

2 (also '**plus sign**') the symbol (+), used in mathematics

He put a plus instead of a minus.

minus

adjective

1 used after a number to show that the real number or amount is more than the one mentioned

The work will cost \$10,000 plus.

2 above zero

The temperature is plus four degrees.

minus

3 [only before noun] used to describe an aspect of something that you consider to be a good thing

One of the hotel's **plus points** is that it is very central.

On the plus side , all the staff are enthusiastic.

The **plus side** of working at home is that you can be more flexible.

minus

4 [not before noun] (used in a system of grades) slightly higher than the grade A, B, etc.

I got a B plus (B+) on the test.

minus

conjunction

(informal)

used to add more information

furthermore

I have too much to do at work. Plus my father is not well.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pol • i • cy / 'pələsi / **noun**

(pl. **pol • i • cies**)

1 [**countable** , **uncountable**] **policy (on something)** a plan of action agreed or chosen by a political party, a business, etc.

the present government's policy on education

The company has **adopted** a firm **policy** on shoplifting.

We have tried to **pursue** a **policy** of neutrality.

U.S. **foreign/domestic policy**

They have had a significant **change in policy** on paternity leave.

a policy document

collocations at **politics**

2 [**countable** , **uncountable**] (formal) a principle that you believe in that influences how you behave; a way in which you usually behave

She is following her usual policy of ignoring all offers of help.

(saying) Honesty is the best policy.

3 [**countable**] a written statement of a contract of insurance

Check the terms of the policy before you sign.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

por • tion / 'pɔːrʃn / **noun, verb**

noun

1 one part of something larger

a **substantial/significant portion** of the population

Only a small portion of the budget is spent on books.

The central portion of the bridge collapsed.

You give this portion of the ticket to the inspector and keep the other.

She could recite large portions of Shakespeare.

2 an amount of food that is large enough for one person

a generous portion of meat

She cut the cake into six small portions.

You should eat several portions of fruit a day.

Do you serve children's portions?

This particular type of fish has less than 200 calories per portion.

3 [usually **singular**] a part of something that is shared with other people

share

You must accept a portion of the blame for this crisis.

verb

to divide something into parts or **portions**

portion something The factory portions and packs over 12,000 meals a day.

portion something out Land was portioned out among the clans.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pose / poʊz / **verb, noun**

verb

1 [**transitive**] **pose something** to create a threat, problem, etc. that has to be dealt with

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

to **pose a threat/challenge/danger/risk**

The task poses no special **problems** .

2 [**transitive**] **pose a question** (formal) to ask a question, especially one that needs serious thought

3 [**intransitive**] **pose (for someone/something)** to sit or stand in a particular position in order to be painted, drawn, or photographed

The delegates posed for a group photograph.

They posed briefly for photographs before driving off.

4 [**intransitive**] **pose as someone** to pretend to be someone in order to trick other people

The gang entered the building posing as workmen.

5 [**intransitive**] (usually used in the progressive tenses) (**disapproving**) to dress or behave in a way that is intended to impress other people

I saw him out posing in his new sports car.

noun

1 a particular position in which someone stands, sits, etc., especially in order to be painted, drawn, or photographed

He adopted a relaxed pose for the camera.

2 (**disapproving**) a way of behaving that is not sincere and is only intended to impress other people

affectation

This show of concern is just a pose.

see **strike** v.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pos • i • tive / 'pɒzətɪv / **adjective, noun**

adjective

CONFIDENT

1 thinking about what is good in a situation; feeling confident and sure that something good will happen

a **positive attitude/outlook**

the power of positive thought

positive (about something) She tried to be more positive about her new job.

On the positive side , profits have increased.

The report ended on a positive note.

negative

EFFECTIVE/USEFUL

2 directed at dealing with something or producing a successful result

We must take **positive steps** to deal with the problem.

It will require **positive action** by all in the industry.

negative

3 expressing agreement or support

We've had a very positive response to the idea.

negative

4 good or useful

to make a positive contribution to a discussion

His family has been a very positive influence on him.

Overseas investment has had a positive effect on exports.

negative

SURE/DEFINITE

5 [not before noun] (of a person) completely sure that something is correct or true

positive (about something) I can't be positive about what time it happened.

positive (that...) She was positive that he had been there.

"Are you sure?" "Positive."

THESAURUS

sure

confident convinced certain positive clear

These words all describe someone who knows without doubt that something is true or will happen.

sure [not before noun] without any doubt that you are right, that something is true, that you will get something, or that something will happen: I'm not sure whether John is coming or not. ◇ Are you sure about that? ◇ The Orioles are sure to win this weekend. **Sure** is often used in negative statements and questions, because there is some doubt or anxiety over the matter. If there is no doubt, people often use know : I know (that) I left my bag here (= I have no doubt about it) .

confident completely sure that something will happen in the way that you want or expect: I'm confident that you'll get the job. ◇ The team is confident that they will win. **Confident** is a stronger and more definite word than **sure** and is more often used in positive statements, when you feel no anxiety.

convinced [not before noun] completely sure that something is true or right, especially because the evidence seems to prove it or someone else has persuaded you to believe it: I'm convinced that she's innocent.

certain [not usually before noun] sure that you are right or that something is true: Are you absolutely certain about this?

SURE OR CERTAIN?

Like **sure** , **certain** is often used in negative statements and questions. It is slightly more formal than **sure** ; **sure** is more frequent, especially in spoken English.

positive [not before noun] (somewhat informal) completely sure that something is true: She was positive that he'd been there. ◇ "Are you sure?" "Positive."

clear (often used in negative statements and questions) having no doubt or confusion about something: I'm still not clear what the job involves.

PATTERNS

sure/confident/convinced/certain/positive/clear **about** something

sure/confident/convinced/certain **of** something

sure/confident/convinced/certain/positive/clear **that...**

not sure/certain/clear **who/what/how** , etc.

to **feel** sure/confident/convinced/certain/positive

quite/absolutely/completely/fairly/pretty sure/confident/convinced/certain/positive/clear

not altogether sure/confident/convinced/certain/clear

6 [only before noun] (informal) complete and definite

absolute

He has a positive genius for upsetting people.

It was a positive miracle that we survived.

7 giving clear and definite proof or information

conclusive

We have no positive evidence that she was involved.

(formal) This is **proof positive** that he stole the money.

SCIENTIFIC TEST

8 showing clear evidence that a particular substance or medical condition is present

a positive pregnancy test

The athlete **tested positive** for steroids.

to be HIV positive

negative

NUMBER/QUANTITY

9 greater than zero

negative

ELECTRICITY

10 (technical) containing or producing the type of electricity that is carried by a **proton**

a **positive charge**

the **positive terminal** of a battery

negative

noun

GOOD QUALITY

1 [**countable** , **uncountable**] a good or useful quality or aspect

Take your weaknesses and translate them into positives.

To manage your way out of recession, accentuate the positive.

IN PHOTOGRAPHY

2 [**countable**] (technical) a developed film showing light and dark areas and colors as they actually were, especially one printed from a **negative**

RESULT OF TEST

3 [**countable**] the result of a test or an experiment that shows that a substance or condition is present
negative

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

po • ten • tial / pə'tɛnʃl / **adjective, noun**

adjective

[only before noun]

that can develop into something or be developed in the future

possible

potential customers

a potential source of conflict

the potential benefits of merging the two firms

a potential governor

First we need to identify actual and potential problems.

po • ten • tial • ly / pə'tɛnʃəli / **adverb**

a potentially dangerous situation

noun

1 [**uncountable**] the possibility of something happening or being developed or used

potential (for) the potential for change

potential (for doing something) The South American marketplace offers excellent potential for increasing sales.

2 [**uncountable**] qualities that exist and can be developed

promise

All children should be encouraged to **realize their full potential** .

She has great potential as an artist.

He has the potential to become a world-class musician.

The house has a lot of potential.

3 [**uncountable , countable**] (physics) the difference in **voltage** between two points in an electric field or **circuit**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

prac • ti • tion • er / præk'tɪʃənər / **noun**

1 (technical) a person who works in a profession, especially medicine or law

health care practitioners

a qualified practitioner

see also **general practitioner**

2 (formal) a person who regularly does a particular activity, especially one that requires skill
one of the greatest practitioners of science fiction

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pre • cede / prɪ'sid / **verb**

1 [**transitive , intransitive**] **precede (someone/something)** to happen before something or come before something or someone in order

the years preceding the war

His resignation was preceded by weeks of speculation.

She preceded me in the job.

See the preceding chapter.

It had happened during the preceding year.

2 [**transitive**] **precede someone + adverb/prep.** to go in front of someone

She preceded him out of the room.

pre'cede something with something to do or say something to introduce something else

She preceded her speech with a vote of thanks to the committee.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pre • cise / prɪ'saɪs / **adjective**

1 clear and accurate

exact

precise details/instructions/measurements

Can you give a more precise definition of the word?

I can be reasonably precise about the time of the incident.

2 [only before noun] used to emphasize that something happens at a particular time or in a particular way

We were just talking about her when, **at that precise moment**, she walked in.

Doctors found it hard to establish the precise nature of her illness.

3 taking care to be exact and accurate, especially about small details

meticulous

a skilled and precise worker

small, precise movements

to be (more) precise

used to show that you are giving more detailed and accurate information about something you have just mentioned

The shelf is about a yard long—well, 35 inches, to be precise.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pre • dict / prɪ'dɪkt / **verb**

to say that something will happen in the future

forecast

predict something a reliable method of predicting earthquakes

Nobody could predict the outcome.

The party is predicting a majority of 20 seats.

predict what, whether, etc.... It is impossible to predict what will happen.

predict (that)... She predicted that the election result would be close.

He predicted (that) it would be a smash hit.

it is predicted that... It was predicted that inflation would continue to fall.

someone/something is predicted to do something The trial is predicted to last for months.

This figure is predicted to rise to one billion by the year 2015.

language bank at **expect**

pre • dict • ed **adjective**

AWL COLLOCATIONS

predict

predict verb

accurately, correctly, confidently, reliably

Even very sophisticated computer models cannot accurately predict the course of a storm.

impossible to, difficult to

There are always events, such as political or natural disasters, that are impossible to predict and that affect the economy.

outcome | **future** | **behavior** | **likelihood** , **probability**

Historians are better at reading the past than predicting the future.

The computer model uses data from midsummer winds to predict the likelihood of hurricanes striking the United States later in the season.

hypothesis , **model** , **theory** | **analyst** , **economist** , **expert** , **forecaster**

The hypothesis predicts that fathers who come from families that were more nurturing will have stronger attitudes about fatherhood.

as predicted by

As predicted by previous research, dark-colored roof surfaces were shown to be absorbing solar radiation.

prediction noun

dire | **accurate** | **testable** | **theoretical** | **qualitative** , **quantitative**

Dire predictions were made about the fate of the Antarctic ecosystem.

These results support the theoretical predictions.

Ecologists often need to make quantitative predictions about how animal and plant populations will change.

test | **confirm** , **validate** , **verify** | **contradict** | **make**

The results confirm the prediction and support the hypothesis.

be consistent with | **be inconsistent with**

These results are consistent with our initial predictions.

This finding is inconsistent with the predictions of the traditional model.

predictable adjective

fairly | **perfectly**

Historically, water levels in the swamp rose and fell in a fairly predictable pattern.

unpredictable adjective

totally | **somewhat** | **inherently**

Chile faces increasing and somewhat unpredictable regional competition from Argentina and Brazil.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pre • dom • i • nant / prɪˈdʌmənənt / **adjective**

1 most obvious or noticeable

a predominant feature

Yellow is the predominant color this spring in the fashion world.

2 having more power or influence than others

dominant

a predominant culture

a way of thinking that is predominant in modern social life

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pre • lim • i • nar • y / prɪˈlɪmənəri / **adjective, noun**

adjective

happening before a more important action or event

initial

After a few preliminary remarks he announced the winners.

preliminary results/findings/inquiries

the preliminary rounds of the contest

preliminary to something pilot studies preliminary to a full-scale study

noun

(pl. **pre • lim • i • nar • ies**)

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

preliminary (to something)

an action or event that is done in preparation for something

Research will be needed as a preliminary to making a decision.

I'll skip the usual preliminaries and come straight to the point.

Our team was lucky to get through the preliminaries (= the **preliminary** stages in a sports competition) .

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pre • sume / prɪˈzʊm / **verb**

1 [**intransitive** , **transitive**] to suppose that something is true, although you do not have actual proof

assume

They are very expensive, I presume?

"Is he still abroad?" " **I presume so** ."

presume (that)... I presumed (that) he understood the rules.

it is presumed that... Little is known of the youngest son; it is presumed that he died young.

presume someone/something to be/have something I presumed him to be her husband.

2 [**transitive**] to accept that something is true until it is shown not to be true, especially in court

presume someone/something + adjective Twelve passengers are missing, **presumed dead** .

In English law, a person is **presumed innocent** until proved guilty.

presume something We must presume innocence until we have proof of guilt.

presume someone/something to be/have something We must presume them to be innocent until we have proof of guilt.

3 [**transitive**] **presume something** (**formal**) to accept something as true or existing and to act on that basis

The course seems to presume some previous knowledge of the subject.

4 [**intransitive**] **presume to do something** (**formal**) to behave in a way that shows a lack of respect by doing something that you have no right to do

I wouldn't presume to tell you how to run your own business.

pre • sume on/upon someone/something (**formal**) to make use of someone's friendship by asking them for more than you should

presume to do something I felt it would be presuming on our personal relationship to keep asking her for help.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pre • vi • ous / ˈprɪviəs / **adjective**

[only before noun]

1 happening or existing before the event or object that you are talking about

prior

No previous experience is necessary for this job.

The car has only had one previous owner.

She is his daughter from a previous marriage.

I was unable to attend because of a previous engagement.

The judge will take into consideration any previous convictions.

We dealt with this in a previous chapter.

We had met on two previous occasions.

2 immediately before the time you are talking about

I couldn't believe it when I heard the news. I'd only seen him the previous day.

previous to preposition

Previous to this, she'd always been well.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pri • ma • ry / 'praɪ,məri ; 'praɪməri / **adjective, noun**

adjective

1 [usually before noun] main; most important; basic

prime

The primary aim of this course is to improve your spoken English.

Our primary concern must be the children.

Good healthcare is of primary importance.

2 [usually before noun] developing or happening first; earliest

primary causes

The disease is still in its primary stage.

3 [only before noun] connected with the education of children between the ages of about five and eleven

primary teachers

compare **elementary** , **secondary**

noun

(pl. **pri • ma • ries**)

(also **primary e'lection**)

an election in which people in a particular area vote to choose a candidate for a future important election

the Illinois primary

the presidential primaries

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

prime / praɪm / **adjective, noun, verb**

adjective

[only before noun]

1 main; most important; basic

My prime concern is to protect my property.

Winning is not the prime objective in this sport.

The care of the environment is of prime importance.

He's the police's **prime suspect** in this case.

THESAURUS

main

major key central principal chief prime

These words all describe something that is the largest or most important of its kind.

main [only before noun] largest or most important: Turn left onto the main road. ◇ The main thing is to remain calm.

major [usually before noun] very large or important: He played a major role in setting up the system.

Major is most often used after a with a singular noun, or no article with a plural noun. When it is used with the or my/your/his/her/our/their, it means "the largest or most important": Our major concern here is combatting poverty. In this meaning it is only used to talk about ideas or worries that people have, not physical things, and it is also more formal than **main** : ~~Turn left onto the major road. ◇ The major thing is to remain calm.~~

key [usually before noun] most important; essential: He was a key figure in the campaign.

Key is used most frequently in business and political contexts. It can be used to talk about ideas, or the part that someone plays in a situation, but not physical things. It is slightly more informal than **major** , especially when used after a noun and linking verb: Speed is key at this point.

central (somewhat formal) most important: The central issue is that of widespread racism.

Central is used in a similar way to **key** , but is more formal. It is most frequently used in the phrase something is central to something else .

principal [only before noun] (somewhat formal) most important: The principal reason for this omission is a lack of time.

Principal is mostly used for statements of fact about which there can be no argument. To state an opinion, or to try to persuade someone of the facts as you see them, it is more usual to use **key** or **central** : The key/central issue here is...

chief [only before noun] (somewhat formal) most important: Malnutrition is the chief cause of preventable blindness.

prime [only before noun] (somewhat formal) most important; to be considered first: My prime concern is to protect my property.

PATTERNS

a/the main/major/key/central/principal/chief/prime **aim/concern**

a/the main/major/principal **road/town/city**

the main/key **thing** is to...

to be **of** major/key/central/prime **importance**

2 of the best quality; excellent

prime (cuts of) beef

The store has a prime position in the mall.

3 a **prime example** of something is one that is typical of it

The building is a prime example of 1960s architecture.

4 most likely to be chosen for something; most suitable

The house is isolated and a prime target for burglars.

He's a prime candidate for promotion.

noun

[**singular**]

the time in your life when you are strongest or most successful

a young woman in her prime

He was barely 30 and **in the prime of (his) life** .

These flowers are long **past their prime** .

verb

1 to prepare someone for a situation so that they know what to do, especially by giving them special information

brief

prime someone (with something) They had been primed with good advice.

prime someone (for something) She was ready and primed for action.

prime someone to do something He had primed his friends to give the journalists as little information as possible.

2 prime something to make something ready for use or action

The bomb was primed, ready to explode.

3 prime something to prepare wood, metal, etc. for painting by covering it with a special paint that helps the next layer of paint to stay on

prime the pump

to encourage the growth of a new or weak business or industry by putting money into it

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

prin • ci • pal / 'prɪnsəpl / **adjective, noun**

adjective

[only before noun]

most important; main

The principal reason for this omission is lack of time.

New roads will link the principal cities of the area.

Tourist revenue is now our principal source of wealth.

My principal concern is to get the job done fast.

The violins have the principal tune.

THESAURUS

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PATTERNS

a/the main/major/key/central/principal/chief/prime **aim/concern**

a/the main/major/principal **road/town/city**

the main/key **thing** is to...

to be **of** major/key/central/prime **importance**

noun

1 a teacher who is in charge of a school

Principal Ray Smith

2 [usually **singular**] (finance) an amount of money that you lend to someone or invest to earn interest

3 the person who has the most important part in a play, an **opera**, etc.

The performance of the two principals is disappointing.

4 (technical) a person that you are representing, especially in business or law

The shareholders are principals and the managers are agents.

5 the most important person in a company or organization

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

prin • ci • ple / 'prɪnsəpl / **noun**

1 [**countable**, usually **plural**, **uncountable**] a moral rule or a strong belief that influences your actions
He has high moral principles.

I refuse to lie about it; **it's against my principles** .

Stick to your principles and tell him you won't do it.

She refuses to allow her family to help her as **a matter of principle** .

He doesn't invest in the arms industry **on principle** .

2 [**countable**] a law, a rule, or a theory that something is based on
the principles and practice of writing reports

The principle behind it is very simple.

There are three fundamental principles of teamwork.

Discussing all these details will get us nowhere; we must get back to **first principles** (= the most basic rules) .

3 [**countable**] a belief that is accepted as a reason for acting or thinking in a particular way
the principle that free education should be available for all children

4 [singular] a general or scientific law that explains how something works or why something happens
the principle that heat rises

A tidal current turbine is similar in principle to a windmill.

in principle

1 if something can be done **in principle** , there is no good reason why it should not be done, although it has not yet been done and there may be some difficulties

In principle there is nothing that a human can do that a machine might not be able to do one day.

2 in general but not in detail

They have agreed to the proposal in principle, but we still have to negotiate the terms.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pri • or / 'praɪər / **adjective, noun**

adjective

[only before noun]

1 happening or existing before something else or before a particular time

Although not essential, some **prior knowledge** of statistics is desirable.

This information must not be disclosed without **prior written consent** .

Visits are by **prior arrangement** .

Please give us **prior notice** if you need to check in early.

She will be unable to attend because of a **prior engagement** .

2 already existing and therefore more important

They have a **prior claim** to the property.

3 'prior to (formal) before something

during the week prior to the meeting

noun

(feminine **pri • or • ess** / 'praɪərəs /)

1 a person who is in charge of a group of **monks** or **nuns** living in a **priory**

2 (in an **abbey**) a person next in rank below an **abbot** or **abbess**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pri • or • i • ty / praɪ'ɔrəti ; praɪ'ɑrəti / **noun**

(pl. **pri • or • i • ties**)

1 [countable] something that you think is more important than other things and should be dealt with first
a **high/low priority**

Education is a **top priority** .

Our **first priority** is to improve standards.

Financial security was high on his **list of priorities** .

You need to **get your priorities right/straight** (= decide what is important to you) .

2 [uncountable] **priority (over something)** the most important place among various things that have to be done or among a group of people

precedence

Club members will be **given priority** .

The search for a new vaccine will **take priority over** all other medical research.

Priority cases, such as homeless families, get dealt with first.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pro • ceed / prəˈsid ; proʊˈsid / **verb**

1 [**intransitive**] **proceed (with something)** to continue doing something that has already been started; to continue being done

We're not sure whether we still want to proceed with the sale.

Work is proceeding slowly.

He left detailed instructions about the best way to proceed.

2 [**intransitive**] **proceed to do something** to do something next, after having done something else first
go on

He outlined his plans and then proceeded to explain them in more detail.

(humorous) Having said she wasn't hungry, she then proceeded to order a three-course meal.

3 [**intransitive**] + **adverb/prep.** (formal) to move or travel in a particular direction

The marchers proceeded slowly along the street.

Passengers for Rome should proceed to Gate 32 for boarding.

pro • ceed against someone (law) to start a court case against someone

There was not enough evidence to proceed against him.

pro • ceed from something (formal) to be caused by or be the result of something

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pro • cess 1 / ˈprɒsɛs / **noun, verb**

see also **process 2**

noun

1 a series of things that are done in order to achieve a particular result

a consultation process

to begin the difficult process of reforming the education system

I'm afraid getting things changed will be a slow process.

mental processes

Coming off the drug was a long and painful (= difficult) process for him.

Find which food you are allergic to by **process of elimination** .

We're **in the process of** selling our house.

I was moving some furniture and I twisted my ankle **in the process** (= while I was doing it) .

see also **peace process**

2 a series of things that happen, especially ones that result in natural changes

the aging process

It's a normal part of the **learning process** .

3 a method of doing or making something, especially one that is used in industry

manufacturing processes

a new process for rustproofing car bodies

verb

1 process something to treat raw material, food, etc. in order to change it, preserve it, etc.

Most of the food we buy is processed in some way.

processed cheese

a sewage processing plant

I sent three rolls of film away to be processed.

2 process something to deal officially with a document, request, etc.

It will take a week for your application to be processed.

3 process something (computing) to perform a series of operations on data in a computer

pro • cess • ing **noun** [**uncountable**]

a course on color photography and processing

the food processing industry

see also **data processing** , **word processing**

LANGUAGE BANK

process

describing a process

This diagram **illustrates the process of** paper-making. / This diagram **shows how** paper is made.

First / First of all , logs are delivered to a paper mill, where the bark is removed and the wood is cut into small chips.

Next / Second , the wood chips are pulped, either using chemicals or in a pulping machine.

Pulping breaks down the internal structure of the wood and **enables / allows** the natural oils **to** be removed.

Once / After the wood has been pulped, the pulp is bleached **in order to** remove impurities. / ...is bleached **so that** impurities **can** be removed.

The next stage is to feed the pulp into the paper machine, where it is mixed with water **and then** poured onto a wire conveyor belt.

As the pulp travels along the conveyor belt, the water drains away. **This causes** the solid material **to** sink to the bottom, forming a layer of paper.

At this point the new paper is still wet, **so** it is passed between large heated rollers, which press out the remaining water and **simultaneously** dry the paper. / ...dry the paper **at the same time** .

The final stage is to wind the paper onto large rolls. / **Finally** , the paper is wound onto large rolls.

⇒ notes at **firstly** , **lastly**

⇒ Language Banks at **conclusion** , **first**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pro • fes • sion • al / prəˈfɛʃənəl / **adjective, noun**

adjective

1 [only before noun] connected with a job that needs special training or skill, especially one that needs a high level of education

professional qualifications/skills

professional standards/practice

an opportunity for professional development

If it's a legal matter, you need **to seek professional advice** .

You must not let your personal reactions interfere with your professional judgment.

2 (of people) having a job that needs special training and a high level of education

Most of the people taking the course were professional women.

3 showing that someone is well trained and extremely skilled

competent

He dealt with the problem in a highly professional way.

Many of the performers were very professional.

amateur

4 suitable or appropriate for someone working in a particular profession

professional conduct/misconduct

unprofessional

5 (abbr. **pro**) doing something as a paid job rather than as a hobby
a professional golfer

After he won the amateur championship he **turned professional** .

amateur

6 (abbr. **pro**) (of sports) done as a paid job rather than as a hobby
the world of professional football

amateur

compare **nonprofessional**

noun

1 a person who does a job that needs special training and a high level of education

the terms that doctors and other health professionals use

You need a professional to sort out your finances.

2 (also informal **pro**) a person who does a sport or other activity as a paid job rather than as a hobby

a top golf professional

amateur

3 (also informal **pro**) a person who has a lot of skill and experience

This was clearly a job for a real professional.

amateur

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pro • hib • it / prə'hɪbət ; proʊ'hɪbət / **verb** (formal)

1 [often passive] to stop something from being done or used, especially by law

forbid

prohibit something a law prohibiting the sale of alcohol

prohibit someone from doing something Trademark law prohibits companies from using marks similar to existing ones.

2 prohibit something/someone from doing something to make something impossible to do

prevent

The high cost of equipment prohibits many people from taking up this sport.

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

proj • ect **noun, verb**

noun / 'prɒdʒekt ; 'prɒdʒɪkt /

PLANNED WORK

1 a planned piece of work that is designed to find information about something, to produce something new, or to improve something

a research project

a building project

to set up a project to computerize the library system

SCHOOL/COLLEGE WORK

2 a piece of work involving careful study of a subject over a period of time, done by school or college students

a history project

More emphasis is being placed on collaborative project work at all levels of schooling.

SET OF AIMS/ACTIVITIES

3 a set of aims, ideas, or activities that someone is interested in or wants to bring to people's attention

The party attempted to assemble its aims into a focused political project.

HOUSING

4 [usually plural] = **housing project**

Going into the projects alone is dangerous.

verb / prə'dʒekt /

PLAN

1 [**transitive** , usually passive] **project something** to plan an activity, a project, etc. for a time in the future

The next edition of the book is projected for publication in March.

The projected housing development will go ahead next year.

ESTIMATE

2 [**transitive** , usually passive] to estimate what the size, cost, or amount of something will be in the future based on what is happening now

forecast

project something A growth rate of 4% is projected for next year.

it is projected that... It is projected that the unemployment rate will fall.

project something to do something The unemployment rate has been projected to fall.

This pattern is usually used in the passive.

LIGHT/IMAGE

3 [transitive] project something (on/onto something) to make light, an image, etc. fall onto a flat surface or screen

Images are projected onto the retina of the eye.

STICK OUT

4 [intransitive] + adverb/prep. to stick out beyond an edge or a surface

protrude

a building with balconies projecting out over the street

PRESENT YOURSELF

5 [transitive] to present someone, something, or yourself to other people in a particular way, especially one that gives a good impression

project something They sought advice on how to project a more positive image of their company.

She projects an air of calm self-confidence.

project someone/something/yourself (as someone/something) He projected himself as a man worth listening to.

SEND/THROW UP OR AWAY

6 [transitive] project something/someone (+ adverb/prep.) to send or throw something up or away from yourself

Actors must learn to project their voices.

(figurative) the powerful men who would project him into the White House

project something onto someone (psychology) to imagine that other people have the same feelings, problems, etc. as you, especially when this is not true

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pro • mote / prəˈmoʊt / **verb**

1 promote something to help something to happen or develop

encourage

policies to promote economic growth

a campaign to promote awareness of environmental issues

2 to help sell a product, service, etc. or make it more popular by advertising it or offering it at a special price

promote something The band has gone on tour to promote their new album.

promote something as something The area is being promoted as a tourist destination.

3 [often passive] to move someone to a higher rank or more senior job

promote someone She worked hard and was soon promoted.

promote someone (from something) (to something) He has been promoted to sergeant.

demote

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pro • por • tion / prəˈpɔːrʃn / **noun**

PART OF WHOLE

1 [countable] a part or share of a whole

Water covers a large proportion of the earth's surface.

Loam is a soil with roughly equal proportions of clay, sand, and silt.

The proportion of regular smokers increases with age.

An exceptionally high proportion of young people now enter college after graduating from high school.

RELATIONSHIP

2 [uncountable] proportion (of something to something) the relationship of one thing to another in size, amount, etc.

ratio

The proportion of men to women in the college has changed dramatically over the years.

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

The basic ingredients are limestone and clay in the proportion 2:1.

The room is very long **in proportion to** (= relative to) its width.

3 [**uncountable** , **countable** , usually **plural**] the correct relationship in size, degree, importance, etc. between one thing and another or between the parts of a whole

You haven't drawn the figures in the foreground **in proportion** .

The head is **out of proportion with** the body.

an impressive building with fine proportions

Always try to keep a **sense of proportion** (= a sense of the relative importance of different things) .

SIZE/SHAPE

4 proportions [**plural**] the measurements of something; its size and shape

This method divides the task into more manageable proportions.

a food shortage that could soon **reach crisis proportions**

a room of fairly generous proportions

MATHEMATICS

5 [**uncountable**] the equal relationship between two pairs of numbers, as in the statement "4 is to 8 as 6 is to 12"

keep something in proportion

to react to something in a sensible way and not think it is worse or more serious than it really is

The problem of bullying should be kept in proportion. Only a small number of young people act in this way.

out of (all) proportion (to something)

larger, more serious, etc. in relation to something than is necessary or appropriate

They earn salaries out of all proportion to their ability.

The media has blown the incident up out of all proportion.

GRAMMAR

proportion

If **proportion** is used with an uncountable or a singular noun, the verb is generally singular: A proportion of the land **is** used for agriculture.

If **the proportion of** is used with a plural countable noun, or a singular noun that represents a group of people, the verb is usually singular, but with **a (large, small, etc.) proportion of** , a plural verb is often used: The proportion of small cars on America's roads **is** increasing. ◇ A high proportion of five-year-olds **have** teeth in poor condition .

LANGUAGE BANK

proportion

describing fractions and proportions

According to this pie chart, **a third of** students' leisure time is spent watching TV.

One in five hours is spent socializing.

Socializing **accounts for / makes up / comprises** about 20% of leisure time.

Students spend **twice as much** time playing computer games as playing sports.

Three times as many hours are spent playing computer games as reading.

The figure for playing computer games is **three times higher than** the figure for reading.

The largest proportion of time is spent playing computer games.

⇒ note at **half**

⇒ Thesaurus at **consist**

⇒ Language Banks at **expect , fall , illustrate , increase**

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pros • pect / 'prɒspɛkt / **noun, verb**

noun

1 [**uncountable** , **singular**] the possibility that something will happen

prospect (of something/of doing something) There is no immediate prospect of peace.

A place in the semifinals is **in prospect** (= likely to happen) .

prospect (that...) There's a reasonable prospect that his debts will be paid.

2 [**singular**] an idea of what might or will happen in the future

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

an exciting prospect

Traveling alone around the world is a daunting prospect.

prospect (of something/of doing something) The prospect of becoming a father filled him with alarm.

3 prospects [plural] the chances of being successful

good **job/employment/career prospects**

At 25 he was an unemployed musician with no prospects.

prospect for something Long-term prospects for the economy have improved.

prospect of something What are the prospects of promotion in this job?

4 [countable] prospect (for something) a person who is likely to be successful in a competition

She is one of Canada's best prospects for a gold medal.

5 [countable] (formal) a wide view of an area of land, etc.

a delightful prospect of the lake

verb

[intransitive]

prospect (for something)

to search an area for gold, minerals, oil, etc.

Thousands moved to the area to prospect for gold.

(figurative) to prospect for new clients

Oxford Advanced American Dictionary

pro • to • col / 'proʊtə,kɒl ; 'proʊtə,kəl / **noun**

1 [uncountable] a system of fixed rules and formal behavior used at official meetings, usually between governments

a breach of protocol

the protocol of diplomatic visits

2 [countable] (technical) the first or original version of an agreement, especially a **treaty** between countries, etc.; an extra part added to an agreement or **treaty**

the first Geneva Protocol

It is set out in a legally binding protocol which forms part of the treaty.

3 [countable] (computing) a set of rules that control the way data is sent between computers

4 [countable] (technical) a plan for performing a scientific experiment or medical treatment