11/16/2021

**shorthand**

*noun*

/ˈʃɔːthænd/

/ˈʃɔːrthænd/

1. ​

*(North American English also***stenography***)*

 [uncountable] a quick way of writing using special signs or abbreviations, used especially to record what somebody is saying

* + *typing and shorthand*
  + **in shorthand***to take something down in shorthand*
  + *a shorthand typist*
  + *shorthand notes*
  + *to do shorthand*

1. ​[uncountable, countable, usually singular] **shorthand (for something)** a shorter way of saying or referring to something, which may not be as accurate as the more complicated way of saying it

**fine**

*adjective*

/faɪn/

/faɪn/

(comparative **finer**, superlative **finest**)

## **detail/distinctions**

1. ​[usually before noun] difficult to see or describe

SYNONYM [**subtle**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/subtle)

* + *You really need a magnifying glass to appreciate all the****fine detail****.*
  + *There's no need to make such****fine distinctions****.*
  + *There's****a fine line****between love and hate*(= it is easy for one to become the other)*.*
  + *We still have to iron out the finer details.*

# coercion

*noun*

/kəʊˈɜːʃn/

/kəʊˈɜːrʒn/

[uncountable] *(formal)*

1. ​the action of making somebody do something that they do not want to do, using force or threatening to use force
   * *He claimed he had only acted under coercion.*

# manipulate

*verb*

/məˈnɪpjuleɪt/

/məˈnɪpjuleɪt/

Verb Forms

1. ​

*(disapproving)* to control or influence somebody/something, often in a dishonest way so that they do not realize it

* + **manipulate somebody/something***She uses her charm to manipulate people.*
  + *As a politician, he knows how to manipulate public opinion.*
  + **manipulate somebody into something/into doing something***They managed to manipulate us into agreeing to help.*

1. **manipulate something** *(formal)* to control, use or change something with skill
   * *to manipulate the gears and levers of a machine*
   * *Computers are very efficient at manipulating information.*
   * *genetically manipulated organisms*
   * *digitally manipulated images*

performant

***adjective***

   COMPUTING   specialized

**US**

 /pɚˈfɔːr.mənt/ **UK**

 /pəˈfɔː.mənt/

**(of**[**technology**](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/technology)**, etc.)**[**working**](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/working)**in an**[**effective**](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/effective)**way:**

*We*[*found*](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/found)*it the most*[*flexible*](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/flexible)*and performant*[*monitoring*](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/monitor)[*software*](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/software)*.*

# redundancy

*noun*

/rɪˈdʌndənsi/

(plural **redundancies**)

1. ​[uncountable, countable, usually plural] *(British English)* the situation when somebody has to leave their job because there is no more work available for them
   * *Thousands of factory workers are facing redundancy.*
   * *to accept/take****voluntary redundancy***(= to offer to leave your job)
   * *the threat of****compulsory redundancies***
   * *All members of staff are entitled to redundancy payments.*
   * *200 workers have been issued with redundancy notices.*
2. ​[uncountable] *(formal or specialist)* the state of not being necessary or useful
   * *Natural language is characterized by redundancy*(= words are used that are not really necessary for somebody to understand the meaning)*.*

**fall through**

*phrasal verb*

**fall through**

1. ​to not be completed, or not happen
   * *Our plans fell through because of lack of money.*

**obscure**

*verb*

/əbˈskjʊr/

Verb Forms

1. ​**obscure something** to make it difficult to see, hear or understand something
   * *The view was obscured by fog.*
   * *We mustn't let these minor details obscure the main issue.*
   * *A shadow fell across her face, obscuring her expression.*

**obscure**

*adjective*

/əbˈskjʊr/

1. ​not well known

SYNONYM [**unknown**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/unknown_1)

* + *an obscure German poet*
  + *We went to see one of Shakespeare’s more obscure plays.*
  + *He was born around 1650 but his origins remain obscure.*
  + *The origins of the tradition have become obscure.*

1. ​difficult to understand
   * *I found her lecture very obscure.*
   * ***For some obscure reason****, he failed to turn up.*
   * *The meaning of his comment was obscure to everyone but himself.*

**feed into**

*phrasal verb*

**feed into something**

1. ​to have an influence on the development of something
   * *The report's findings will feed into company policy.*

**feed**

## **give advice/information**

1. ​[transitive, often passive] to give advice, information, etc. to somebody/something
   * **be fed something***We are constantly fed gossip and speculation by the media.*
   * **be fed with something***The media were being fed with accusations and lies.*
   * **be fed to somebody***Gossip and speculation are constantly fed to us by the media.*

**contain**

*verb*

1. ​to keep your feelings under control

SYNONYM [**restrain**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/restrain)

* + **contain something***She was unable to contain her excitement.*
  + *She could hardly contain her excitement.*
  + **contain yourself***I was so furious I just couldn't contain myself*(= I had to express my feelings)*.*

1. ​**contain something** to prevent something harmful from spreading or getting worse
   * *to contain an epidemic*
   * *Government forces have failed to contain the rebellion.*

# reciprocal

*adjective*

/rɪˈsɪprəkl/

/rɪˈsɪprəkl/

1. ​involving two people or groups who agree to help each other or behave in the same way to each other
   * *The two colleges have a reciprocal arrangement whereby students from one college can attend classes at the other.*
   * *a reciprocal relationship between citizens and the state*
   * *Anita had a reciprocal arrangement with her brother—each would take care of the other’s children if the need arose.*

reciprocal

***noun*** [[ C ]](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/help/codes.html)

**US**

 /rɪˈsɪp.rə.kəl/

**a**[**number**](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/number)**that, when**[**multiplied**](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/multiply)**by another**[**number**](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/number)**,**[**results**](https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/result)**in 1**

# legitimate

*adjective*

/lɪˈdʒɪtɪmət/

1. ​ ​

for which there is a fair and acceptable reason

SYNONYM [**valid**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/valid), [**justifiable**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/justifiable)

* + *a legitimate grievance*
  + *It seemed a****perfectly legitimate****question.*
  + *Politicians are legitimate targets for satire.*

1. ​

allowed and acceptable according to the law

SYNONYM [**legal**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/legal)

* + *the legitimate government of the country*
  + *Is his business strictly legitimate?*
  + *The legitimate government was reinstated after the uprising.*

OPPOSITE [**illegitimate**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/illegitimate)

# set aside

*phrasal verb*

**set something  aside**

1. ​to save or keep money, time, land, etc. for a particular purpose
   * *She tries to set aside some money every month.*
   * *The government has set aside thousands of acres of land as protected wilderness.*

SEE ALSO [**set-aside**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/set-aside_2)

# fallout

*noun*

/ˈfɔːlaʊt/

[uncountable]

1. ​dangerous [radioactive](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/radioactive) dust that is in the air after a nuclear explosionTOPICS [**The environmentC2**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/topic/the-environment?level=c2)
2. ​the bad results of a situation or an action
   * *the political fallout of the current crisis*

# extraneous

*adjective*

/ɪkˈstreɪniəs/

/ɪkˈstreɪniəs/

*(formal)*

1. ​not directly connected with the particular situation you are in or the subject you are dealing withSYNONYM [**irrelevant**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/irrelevant)
   * *We do not want any extraneous information on the page.*
   * *Coughs and extraneous noises can be edited out.*
   * **extraneous to something***We shall ignore factors extraneous to the problem.*
   * *factors extraneous to the case*

# test

*verb*

## **machine/product/theory, etc.**

1. ​

 [transitive] to use or try a machine, substance, idea, etc. to find out how well it works or to find out more information about it

* + **test something***Test your brakes regularly.*
  + *The new system has been rigorously tested.*
  + **test something on somebody/something***Our beauty products are not tested on animals.*
  + **test something out***The chef uses his family to test out new ideas for the restaurant menu.*
  + *They opened a single store in Europe to test out the market.*
  + **test something for something***The software has been tested for viruses.*
  + *The water is regularly tested for purity.*
  + **test something against something***Researchers are now****testing the hypothesis****against available data.*

**problematic**

*adjective*

[**OPAL W**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/wordlists/opal?dataset=english&list=opal_written&level=sublist_10)

/ˌprɑːbləˈmætɪk/

*(also less frequent***problematical**

/ˌprɑːbləˈmætɪkl/

*)*

1. ​difficult to deal with or to understand; full of problems; not certain to be successful
   * *The situation is more problematic than we first thought.*
   * *Which are the most problematic countries in the world for journalists?*

OPPOSITE [**unproblematic**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/unproblematic)

**come away with**

*phrasal verb*

**come away with something**

1. ​[no passive] to leave a place with a particular feeling or impression
   * *We came away with the impression that all was not well with their marriage.*

**pluvial**

*adjective*

/ˈpluːviəl/

*(specialist)*

1. ​relating to rain

**legibility**

*noun*

/ˌledʒəˈbɪləti/

[uncountable]

1. ​the quality of being clear enough to read
   * *This typeface has been chosen for maximum legibility.*

# comb

*verb*

/kəʊm/

Verb Forms

[Phrasal Verbs](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/comb_2#comb_pvgs_1)

1. [transitive, intransitive] to search something carefully in order to find somebody/something

SYNONYM [**scour**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/scour)

* + **comb something***I combed the shops looking for something to wear.*
  + **comb something for somebody/something***The police combed the area for clues.*
  + **comb through something (for somebody/something)***They combed through the files for evidence of fraud.*

# offset

*verb*

/ˈɔːfset/

Verb Forms

1. ​to use one cost, payment or situation in order to cancel or reduce the effect of another
   * **offset something***Prices have risen in order to offset the increased cost of materials.*

**offset something against something** *(British English)*

* + *What expenses can you****offset against tax****?*

## **stay with**

1. ​[intransitive] **commit (to somebody/something)** to stay with and completely support one person, organization, etc. or give all your time and effort to your work, an activity, etc.
   * *Why are so many men scared to commit?*(= say they will stay with one person)

# mangle

*verb*

/ˈmæŋɡl/

Verb Forms

1. ​[usually passive] to tear or [twist](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/twist_1#twist_sng_2) something so that it is badly damaged
   * **be mangled***His hand was mangled in the machine.*
2. ​**mangle something** to change something good into something bad, for example a language or a piece of music, by saying it wrongly or playing it badly

SYNONYM [**ruin**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/ruin_1)

* + *I find it strange the way he mangles the English language.*

# picture

*noun*

[**OPAL S**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/wordlists/opal?dataset=english&list=opal_spoken&level=sublist_4)

/ˈpɪktʃər/

## **description**

1. ​

 [countable, usually singular] a description that gives you an idea in your mind of what something is like

* + *We've only got scraps of information, not the****full picture****.*
  + **picture of something***The writer****paints a****gloomy****picture****of the economy.*
  + *a bleak/grim picture of the future*
  + *a clear/an accurate/a complete picture of these events*
  + *The police are trying to build up a picture of what happened.*
  + *From news reports a****picture emerges****of a country in crisis.*
  + *The TV report painted a much rosier picture of the employment situation than research shows to be the case.*

## **mental image**

1. ​

 [countable, usually singular] **picture (of somebody/something)** a mental image or memory of something

* + *I have a vivid picture of my grandfather smiling down at me when I was very small.*
  + *He uses imagery to form mental pictures within the mind of the reader.*

## **general situation**

1. ​

**the picture**

 [singular] the general situation relating to somebody/something

* + *Just a few years ago the picture was very different.*
  + *The overall picture for farming is encouraging.*
  + *The documentary was interesting but it didn't give the****full picture****.*

**discern**

*verb*

/dɪˈsɜːrn/

not used in the progressive tenses*(formal)*

Verb Forms

1. ​to know, recognize or understand something, especially something that is not obvious

SYNONYM [**detect**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/detect)

* + **discern something***It is possible to discern a number of different techniques in her work.*
  + *He discerned a certain coldness in their welcome.*
  + **discern how, whether, etc…***It is often difficult to discern how widespread public support is.*
  + **discern that…***I quickly discerned that something was wrong.*

1. ​**discern something** to see or hear something, usually with difficulty

SYNONYM [**make out**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/make-out)

* + *We could just discern the house in the distance.*
  + *She could clearly discern a figure walking up towards the house.*

**inconsequential**

*adjective*

/ɪnˌkɒnsɪˈkwenʃl/

1. ​not important or worth considering

SYNONYM [**trivial**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/trivial)

* + *The speech was full of inconsequential details.*
  + *inconsequential chatter*

OPPOSITE [**consequential**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/consequential)

# consequential

*adjective*

/ˌkɑːnsɪˈkwenʃl/

*(formal)*

1. ​happening as a result or an effect of something

SYNONYM [**resultant**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/resultant)

* + *retirement and the consequential reduction in income*

TOPICS [**Change, cause and effectC2**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/topic/change-cause-and-effect?level=c2)

1. ​important; that will have important results
   * *The report discusses a number of consequential matters that are yet to be decided.*

OPPOSITE [**inconsequential**](https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/inconsequential)

**parallelism**

*noun*

/ˈpærəlelɪzəm/

[uncountable, countable] *(formal)*

1. ​the state of being similar; a similar feature
   * *I think he exaggerates the parallelism between the two cases.*