

finished

demur

/dɪ'mə:/

verb

raise objections or show reluctance.

"normally she would have accepted the challenge, but she demurred"

motley

/'mɒtli/

adjective

1.

incongruously varied in appearance or character; disparate.

"a motley crew of discontents and zealots"

inconsequential

/ɪn,kɒnsɪ'kwɛnʃl, ɪnkɒnsɪ'kwɛnʃl/

not important or significant.

"they talked about inconsequential things"

ensign noun

/'ensən/

ensign

/'ɛnsɪɪn, 'ɛns(ə)n/

noun

1.

a flag or standard, especially a military or naval one indicating nationality.

rite

/raɪt/

noun

1.

a religious or other solemn ceremony or act.

"the rite of communion"

rite of passage

noun

a ceremony or event marking an important stage in someone's life, especially birth, the transition from childhood to adulthood, marriage, and death.

"the novel depicts the state of adolescence and the rites of passage that lead to adulthood"

A "fivehead" is a forehead that is really, really tall or wide. As five is larger than four, a fivehead is larger than a forehead. Tyra Banks has a fivehead

run in

phrasal verb of run

1.

(of a quality, trait, or condition) be common or inherent in members of a family, especially over several generations.

"weight problems run in my family"

truss

/trʌs/

noun

1.

a framework, typically consisting of rafters, posts, and struts, supporting a roof, bridge, or other structure.

"roof trusses"

presentation

/ˌprezn'teɪʃn/

noun

1.

the giving of something to someone, especially as part of a formal ceremony.

"the presentation of certificates to new members"

frame of reference

/ˌfreɪm əv 'rɛf(ə)rəns/

noun

a set of criteria or stated values in relation to which measurements or judgements can be made.

"the observer interprets what he sees in terms of his own cultural frame of reference"

a system of geometric axes in relation to which measurements of size, position, or motion can be made.

scratch that

(slang, idiomatic, usually used imperatively) To disregard, omit, or ignore the previous statement.

I'll have eggs and sausage. No, scratch that. I'll have eggs and bacon.

contemplative

/kən'templətɪv/

adjective

expressing or involving prolonged thought.

"she regarded me with a contemplative eye"

fan out | fan something out

to spread out or spread something out over an area

The police fanned out to surround the house.

The bird fanned out its tail feathers.

propulsion

/prə'pʌlʃn/

noun

the action of driving or pushing forwards.

"they dive and use their wings for propulsion under water"

An all-hands meeting is a regular gathering for an entire organization, including management, employees, and stakeholders.

pep talk

/ˈpɛp tɔːk/

noun informal

a talk intended to make someone feel more courageous or enthusiastic.

"I was to meet my editor for a pep talk"

vestige

/ˈvɛstɪdʒ/

noun

1.

a trace or remnant of something that is disappearing or no longer exists.

"the last vestiges of colonialism"

dredge<sup>1</sup>

/drɛdʒ/

verb

clear the bed of (a harbour, river, or other area of water) by scooping out mud, weeds, and rubbish with a dredge.

"the lower stretch of the river had been dredged"

dredge something up

to talk about something bad or unpleasant that happened in the past:

The article dredged up details of her unhappy childhood.

pass up

phrasal verb of pass

refrain from taking up an opportunity.

"he passed up a career in pro baseball"

peg

/pɛɡ/

informal • North American

form a fixed opinion of; categorize.

"most music journalists have us pegged as a comedy band"

lead to the altar

idiom

: to ultimately lead to marriage

They started a romance that eventually led (them) to the altar.

These are lyrics from "Memories", a song by an American pop-rock band called Maroon 5.  
The differences:

'Here's to...' is a conventional way of proposing a toast (an expression of good wishes or respect for someone that involves holding up and then drinking from a glass of alcohol).  
Example: Here's to Grandfather, on the occasion of his 90th birthday! (everyone raises their glass and typically says loudly, '[to] Grandfather!').

'Cheers!' is normally said alone and is a friendly expression said just before you drink an alcoholic drink.

sleazy

/ˈsliːzi/

adjective

1.

(of a person or situation) sordid, corrupt, or immoral.

"a sleazy private detective"

vernacular

/vəˈnækjʊlə/

noun

1.

the language or dialect spoken by the ordinary people in a particular country or region.

"he wrote in the vernacular to reach a larger audience"

(of language) spoken as one's mother tongue; not learned or imposed as a second language.

2.

(of architecture) concerned with domestic and functional rather than public or monumental buildings.

"vernacular buildings"

propensity

/prə(ʊ)ˈpɛnsɪti/

noun

an inclination or natural tendency to behave in a particular way.

"his propensity for violence"

rampart

/ˈrampɑːt/

noun

a defensive wall of a castle or walled city, having a broad top with a walkway and typically a stone parapet.

"a castle with ramparts and a moat"

magistrate

/ˈmɑːdʒɪstreɪt, ˈmɑːdʒɪstrət/

noun

a civil officer who administers the law, especially one who conducts a court that deals with minor offences and holds preliminary hearings for more serious ones.

envoy

/ˈɛnvɔɪ/

noun

1.

a messenger or representative, especially one on a diplomatic mission.

"the UN special envoy to Yugoslavia"

purport /ˈpə:pɔ:t/

the meaning or sense of something, typically a document or speech.

"I do not understand the purport of your remarks"

defection

/dɪˈfɛkʃn/

noun

the desertion of one's country or cause in favour of an opposing one.

"the very public defections of four writers from the publishing house"

defect /dɪˈfɛkt/

abandon one's country or cause in favour of an opposing one.

"he defected to the Soviet Union after the war"

percolate

/ˈpə:kəleɪt/

verb

1.

(of a liquid or gas) filter gradually through a porous surface or substance.

"the water percolating through the soil may leach out minerals"

leach

/li:tʃ/

verb

(with reference to a soluble chemical or mineral) drain away from soil, ash, or similar material by the action of percolating liquid, especially rainwater.

"the nutrient is quickly leached away"

burly

/ˈbɜ:li/

adjective

(of a person) large and strong; heavily built.

"I saw a burly figure approaching"

appellate

/əˈpeɪlət/

adjective Law

(especially of a court) concerned with or dealing with applications for decisions to be reversed.

"courts of appellate jurisdiction"

flit

/flɪt/

verb

move swiftly and lightly.

"small birds flitted about in the branches"

heather

/'heðə/

noun

a purple-flowered Eurasian heath that grows abundantly on moorland and heathland. Many ornamental varieties have been developed.

informal

any plant of the Ericaceae family similar to heather; a heath.

incentivize

/ɪn'sɛntɪvaɪz/

verb

motivate or encourage (someone) to do something; provide with an incentive.

"this is likely to incentivize management to find savings"

If you steer clear or stay clear of someone or something, you avoid them.

The rabbis try to steer clear of political questions. [+ of]

ply<sup>2</sup>

/plaɪ/

work steadily with (a tool).

"a tailor delicately plying his needle"

pomp

/pɒmp/

noun

ceremony and splendid display.

"entertaining overseas visitors with the right degree of pomp"

go to the dogs

phrase of dog

deteriorate shockingly.

"the country is going to the dogs"

hang-up /'hæŋʌp/

an emotional problem or inhibition.

"people with hang-ups about their age"

monastic

/mə'nastɪk/

adjective

relating to monks, nuns, or others living under religious vows, or the buildings in which they live.

"a monastic order"

effulgent

/ɪˈfʌldʒ(ə)nt/

adjectiveliterary

shining brightly; radiant.

(of a person or their expression) emanating joy or goodness.

"standing there was my father with the most effulgent smile on his face"

carbuncle

/ˈkɑːbʌŋkl/

noun

1.

a severe abscess or multiple boil in the skin, typically infected with staphylococcus bacteria.

hot air

British

If you say that someone's claims or promises are just hot air, you are criticizing them because they are made mainly to impress people and have no real value or meaning.

[informal, disapproval]

His justification for the merger was just hot air.

I'd come to the conclusion by then that he was all hot air.

drake<sup>1</sup>

/dreɪk/

noun

a male duck.

"a drake mallard"

sheen

/ʃiːn/

noun

a soft lustre on a surface.

"black crushed velvet with a slight sheen"

iridescent

/ˌɪrɪˈdesnt/

adjective

showing luminous colours that seem to change when seen from different angles.

"the drake's head has an iridescent purple sheen"

aver

/əˈvəː/

verbformal

state or assert to be the case.

"he averred that he was innocent of the allegations"

Law

allege as a fact in support of a plea.

"the defendant does not aver any performance by himself

ledger

/ˈlɛdʒə/

noun

1.

a book or other collection of financial accounts.

"the total balance of the purchases ledger"

gold diggers

[count] informal

: a woman who becomes or tries to become romantically involved with a rich man in order to get money and gifts from him

foray

/ˈfɒreɪ/

noun

a sudden attack or incursion into enemy territory, especially to obtain something; a raid.

"the garrison made a foray against Richard's camp"

A comptroller (pronounced either the same as controller or as /kəmpˈtrəʊlər/) is a management-level position responsible for supervising the quality of accounting and financial reporting of an organization.

comptroller

/kənˈtrəʊlə, kəmpˈtrəʊlə/

noun

a controller (used in the title of some financial officers).

"Comptroller and Auditor General"

quell

/kwel/

verb

put an end to (a rebellion or other disorder), typically by the use of force.

"extra police were called to quell the disturbance"

payload

/ˈpeɪləʊd/

noun

1.

the part of a vehicle's load, especially an aircraft's, from which revenue is derived; passengers and cargo.

2.

an explosive warhead carried by an aircraft or missile.

wring

/rɪŋ/

verb



1.

squeeze and twist (something) to force liquid from it.

"she wrung the cloth out in the sink"

wrangle

/'rʌŋgl/

noun

a dispute or argument, typically one that is long and complicated.

"an insurance wrangle is holding up compensation payments"

cohort

/'kəʊhɔ:t/

noun

1.

a group of people with a shared characteristic.

"a cohort of civil servants patiently drafting legislation"

erroneous

/ɪ'reʊniəs/

adjective

wrong; incorrect.

"employers sometimes make erroneous assumptions"

dissident

/'disɪd(ə)nt/

noun

a person who opposes official policy, especially that of an authoritarian state.

"a dissident who had been jailed by a military regime"

replete

/rɪ'pli:t/

adjective

filled or well-supplied with something.

"sensational popular fiction, replete with adultery and sudden death"

reprieve

/rɪ'pri:v/

verb

cancel or postpone the punishment of (someone, especially someone condemned to death).

"under the new regime, prisoners under sentence of death were reprieved"

derision

/dɪ'rɪʒn/

noun

contemptuous ridicule or mockery.

"my stories were greeted with derision and disbelief"

derisive

/dɪˈrɪsɪv, dɪˈrɪzɪv/

adjective

expressing contempt or ridicule.

"he gave a harsh, derisive laugh"

peal

/pi:l/

noun

1.

a loud ringing of a bell or bells.

"the bell rang again, a long, loud peal"

a loud repeated or reverberating sound of thunder or laughter.

"Ross burst into peals of laughter"

acquiesce

/ˌakwɪˈɛs/

verb

accept something reluctantly but without protest.

"Sara acquiesced in his decision"

warren

/ˈwɒrən/

noun

a network of interconnecting rabbit burrows.

a densely populated or labyrinthine building or district.

"a warren of narrow gas-lit streets"

extol

/ɪkˈstəʊl, ɛkˈstəʊl/

verb

praise enthusiastically.

"he extolled the virtues of the Russian peoples"

glean

/gli:n/

verb

1.

obtain (information) from various sources, often with difficulty.

"the information is gleaned from press cuttings"

scrupulous

/ˈskruːpjʊləs/

adjective

(of a person or process) careful, thorough, and extremely attentive to details.

"the research has been carried out with scrupulous attention to detail"

brevity

/ˈbreɪvɪti/

noun

concise and exact use of words in writing or speech.

"the staff will edit manuscripts with a view to brevity and clarity"

coarse

/kɔːs/

adjective

1.

rough or harsh in texture.

"a coarse woollen cloth"

compunction

/kəmˈpʌŋ(k)ʃn/

noun

a feeling of guilt or moral scruple that prevents or follows the doing of something bad.

"they used their tanks without compunction"

wear thin

phrase of wear

be gradually used up or become less convincing or acceptable.

"his patience was wearing thin"

sombre

/ˈsɒmbə/

adjective

adjective: somber

1.

dark or dull in colour or tone.

"the night skies were sombre and starless"

rack up

phrasal verb of rack

accumulate or achieve something, typically a score or amount.

"Japan is racking up record trade surpluses with the United States"

moor<sup>1</sup>

/mʊə,mɔː/

noun British

a tract of open uncultivated upland, typically covered with heather.

"a little town in the moors"

make fast (a boat) by attaching it by cable or rope to the shore or to an anchor.

"twenty or so fishing boats were moored to the pierside"

masochism noun

/ˈmæsəkɪzəm/

/ˈmæsəkɪzəm/

casserole

/ˈkæsəreɪl/

a large covered dish used for cooking casseroles.

"heat the oil in a flameproof casserole"

squeamish

/ˈskwiːmɪʃ/

adjective

easily made to feel sick or disgusted.

"I've always been squeamish about bugs"

shingles

/ˈʃɪŋɡlz/

nounMedicine

a painful acute inflammation of the nerve ganglia, with a skin eruption often forming a girdle around the middle of the body. It is caused by the same virus as chickenpox.

He suffers from a guilt complex.

I have a complex of not being able to speak English.

complex

a strong or disproportionate concern or anxiety about something.

"there's no point having a complex about losing your hair"

folly

/ˈfɒli/

noun

1.

lack of good sense; foolishness.

"an act of sheer folly"

comport<sup>1</sup>

/kəmˈpɔːt/

verb

1.

formal

conduct oneself; behave.

"articulate students who comported themselves well in interviews"

sass

/sas/

informal•North American

noun

impudence; cheek.

"the kind of boy that wouldn't give you any sass"

verb

be cheeky or rude to (someone).

"we wouldn't have dreamed of sassing our parents"

schmuck

/ʃmʌk/

noun informal • North American

a foolish or contemptible person.

"you've really got to be some schmuck to fall for that one"

pejorative

/piˈdʒɒrətɪv/

adjective

expressing contempt or disapproval.

"permissiveness is used almost universally as a pejorative term"

fop

/fɒp/

noun

a man who is concerned with his clothes and appearance in an affected and excessive way.

tousle /ˈtaʊz(ə)/ I. verb — [with obj.] (usu. as adj. tousled) 1. make (something, especially a person's hair) untidy • Nathan's tousled head appeared in the hatchway.

hipster<sup>1</sup> /ˈhɪpstə/ I. noun <informal> a person who follows the latest trends and fashions, especially those regarded as being outside the cultural mainstream.

rhombus /ˈrɒmbəs/ I. noun [Geometry] a quadrilateral all of whose sides have the same length.

A balloon payment mortgage is a mortgage that does not fully amortize over the term of the note, thus leaving a balance due at maturity.

balloon payment

the final large sum of money paid at the end of a loan period:

The problem with balloon payments is that they can tempt people to buy expensive cars they normally couldn't afford.

sourpuss

/ˈsaʊəpʊs/

noun informal

a bad-tempered or habitually sullen person.

pteranodon /tɛˈrænədɒn/

jalapeño /ˌhaləˈpeɪnjəʊ, ˌhaləˈpiːnəʊ / jalapeño pepper

flounder<sup>1</sup> /'flaʊndə/ I. verb — [no obj.] 1. struggle or stagger clumsily in mud or water • he was floundering about in the shallow offshore waters. 2. struggle mentally; show or feel great confusion • she floundered, not knowing quite what to say. 3. be in serious difficulty • many firms are floundering.

crumbly /'krʌmbli/ I. adjective consisting of or easily breaking into small fragments • the cheese has a sharp flavour and is crumbly and moist.

puss<sup>2</sup> /pus/ I. noun (Irish) (Scottish) a person's face, mouth, or expression. • they hush up with little smiles on their pusses. • look at the long puss on him—you'd think he'd be happy for his brother.

sweep in

To arrive or appear (at some position, status, or location) all at once.

We had just begun eating our picnic when a rainstorm swept in all of a sudden.

Over 500 tourists swept in and completely overwhelmed the small town.

3. To arrive at or come into some position or status very suddenly and thoroughly.

In the 12 months since the dictatorship swept in, human rights have been eroded one by one.

seance /'seɪəns, 'seɪs, 'seɪəns/ I. noun a meeting at which people attempt to make contact with the dead, especially through the agency of a medium.

at the end of your tether

C2 mainly UK

(US usually at the end of your rope)

having no strength or patience left:

By six o'clock after a busy day I'm at the end of my tether.

amble /'amb(ə)/ I. verb — [no obj., with adverbial of direction] 1. walk or move at a slow, relaxed pace • they ambled along the riverbank. II. noun a walk at a slow, relaxed pace, especially for pleasure • a peaceful riverside amble.

have/know something down pat

idiom US (UK have/know something off pat)

Add to word list

to know something so well that you can say or do it without having to try or think:

I'd given the talk so many times I had it down pat.

wild goose chase

/ˌwʌɪl(d) 'guːs tʃeɪs/

noun

a foolish and hopeless search for or pursuit of something unattainable.

"physicists searching for the hypothetical particle may be on a wild goose chase"

artefact

/ˈɑːtɪfakt/

plume /plu:m/ I. noun 1. a long, soft feather or arrangement of feathers used by a bird for display or worn by a person for ornament • a hat with a jaunty ostrich plume.  
a long cloud of smoke or vapour resembling a feather as it spreads from its point of origin • as he spoke, the word was accompanied by a white plume of breath.

coppice /'kɒpɪs/ I. noun an area of woodland in which the trees or shrubs are periodically cut back to ground level to stimulate growth and provide firewood or timber. • coppices of oak were cultivated. • [mass noun] much coppice is no longer managed as such.

wheedle

/ˈwi:dl/

verb

use flattery or coaxing in order to persuade someone to do something or give one something.

"she wheedled her way on to the guest list"

presto

/ˈpreʃtəʊ/

a phrase announcing the successful completion of a trick, or suggesting that something has been done so easily that it seems to be magic.

"just one quick squeeze and presto! A stir fry in seconds"

conical /ˈkɒnɪk(ə)/ I. adjective having the shape of a cone.

grout

/graʊt/

noun

a mortar or paste for filling crevices, especially the gaps between wall or floor tiles.

abscond

/əbˈskɒnd/

verb

leave hurriedly and secretly, typically to escape from custody or avoid arrest.

"the barman absconded with a week's takings"

wince<sup>1</sup> /wɪns/ I. verb — [no obj.] 1. make a slight involuntary grimace or shrinking movement of the body out of pain or distress • he winced at the disgust in her voice.

extradite

/ˈɛkstrədɪt/

verb

hand over (a person accused or convicted of a crime) to the jurisdiction of the foreign state in which the crime was committed.

"Brazil refused to extradite him to Britain"

up in arms

phrase of arms

protesting vigorously about something.

"teachers are up in arms about new school tests"

stasis

/ˈsteɪsɪs, ˈstæsɪs/

noun formal • technical

1.

a period or state of inactivity or equilibrium.

"long periods of stasis"

2.

civil strife.

altercate

/ˈɔːltəkeɪt, ˈɒltəkeɪt/

verb archaic

dispute or argue noisily and publicly.

furtive

/ˈfɜːtɪv/

adjective

attempting to avoid notice or attention, typically because of guilt or a belief that discovery would lead to trouble; secretive.

"they spent a furtive day together"

moron

/ˈmɔːrɒn/

expedite /ˈɛksprɪdaɪt/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. make (an action or process) happen sooner or be accomplished more quickly • he promised to expedite economic reforms.

uncouth

/ʌnˈkuːθ/

adjective

1.

lacking good manners, refinement, or grace.

"he is unwashed, uncouth, and drunk most of the time"

lithe

/lɪθ/

adjective

(especially of a person's body) thin, supple, and graceful.

"she lay gazing up at his tall, lithe figure"

ulterior

/ʌlˈtɪəriə/

adjective

existing beyond what is obvious or admitted; intentionally hidden.

"could there be an ulterior motive behind his request?"



in spate

(of a river) overflowing due to a sudden flood.

proceeding vigorously; continuing without pause.

"the Battle of Britain was in full spate"

spate

/speɪt/

noun

1.

a large number of similar things coming in quick succession.

"a spate of attacks on holidaymakers"

scrupulous

/ˈskruːpjʊləs/

adjective

(of a person or process) careful, thorough, and extremely attentive to details.

"the research has been carried out with scrupulous attention to detail"

very concerned to avoid doing wrong.

"she's too scrupulous to have an affair with a married man"

unscrupulous

/ʌnˈskruːpjʊləs/

adjective

having or showing no moral principles; not honest or fair.

"unscrupulous landlords might be tempted to harass existing tenants"

oblique

/ə(ʊ)ˈbliːk/

adjective

1.

neither parallel nor at right angles to a specified or implied line; slanting.

"we sat on the settee oblique to the fireplace"

hedonism

/ˈhiːdənɪz(ə)m, ˈhɛdənɪz(ə)m/

noun

the pursuit of pleasure; sensual self-indulgence.

beguile

/bɪˈɡaɪl/

verb

1.

charm or enchant (someone), often in a deceptive way.

"he beguiled the voters with his good looks"

guile

/gʌɪl/

noun

sly or cunning intelligence.

"he used all his guile and guts to free himself from the muddle he was in"

piecemeal

/ˈpiːsmiːl/

adjective

characterized by unsystematic partial measures taken over a period of time.

"the village is slowly being killed off by piecemeal development"

glib

/glɪb/

adjective

(of words or a speaker) fluent but insincere and shallow.

"the glib phrases soon roll off the tongue"

plebiscite

/ˈpleɪbɪsaɪt, ˈpleɪbɪsʌɪt/

noun

the direct vote of all the members of an electorate on an important public question such as a change in the constitution.

"the administration will hold a plebiscite for the approval of constitutional reforms"

dictum

/ˈdɪktəm/

noun

a formal pronouncement from an authoritative source.

"the dicta of High Court Judges"

discretionary

/dɪˈskrɛʃən(ə)ri/

adjective

available for use at the discretion of the user.

"there has been an increase in year-end discretionary bonuses"

doleful

/ˈdəʊlf(ʊ)/

adjective

expressing sorrow; mournful.

"a doleful look"

indolent

/ˈɪndələnt/

adjective

1.

wanting to avoid activity or exertion; lazy.

"they were indolent and addicted to a life of pleasure"

prowess

/ˈpraʊɪs/

noun

1.

skill or expertise in a particular activity or field.

"his prowess as a fisherman"

The phrasal verb meaning to pay, especially reluctantly, is shell out. The exact origins of the phrase are mysterious, but it originated around 1800 in the U.S., probably as an analogy between the removal of money from a pocket or wallet and the removal of beans, seeds, nuts, etc.

distal

/ˈdɪstl/

adjective

Anatomy

situated away from the centre of the body or from the point of attachment.

"the distal end of the tibia"

rout1

/raʊt/

noun

1.

a disorderly retreat of defeated troops.

"the retreat degenerated into a rout"

contagion

/kənˈteɪdʒ(ə)n/

noun

the communication of disease from one person or organism to another by close contact.

"the rooms held no risk of contagion"

abyss

/əˈbɪs/

noun

a deep or seemingly bottomless chasm.

"a rope led down into the dark abyss"

abysmal

/əˈbɪzml/

adjective

1.

extremely bad; appalling.

"the quality of her work is abysmal"

literary

very deep.

"waterfalls that plunge into abysmal depths"

cloy

/kloɪ/

verb

disgust or sicken (someone) with an excess of sweetness, richness, or sentiment.

"a curious bitter-sweetness that cloyed her senses"

blasé

/ˈblɑːzeɪ/

adjective

unimpressed with or indifferent to something because one has experienced or seen it so often before.

"she was becoming quite blasé about the dangers"

covert

adjective

/ˈkʌvət, ˈkəʊvət, kəʊˈvət/

not openly acknowledged or displayed.

"covert operations against the dictatorship"

seminary

/ˈsemɪn(ə)ri/

noun

a college that trains students to be priests, rabbis, or ministers.

domicile

/ˈdɒmɪsɪl, ˈdɒmɪsɪl/

noun

formal•Law

the country that a person treats as their permanent home, or lives in and has a substantial connection with.

"his wife has a domicile of origin in Germany"

bilk

/bɪlk/

verb

1.

informal

obtain or withhold money from (someone) unfairly or by deceit; cheat or defraud.

"an apparently benevolent elderly gentleman bilked me of twenty dollars"

forestall

/fɔːˈstɔːl/

verb

prevent or obstruct (an anticipated event or action) by taking advance action.

"they will present their resignations to forestall a vote of no confidence"

allay

/ə'leɪ/

verb

diminish or put at rest (fear, suspicion, or worry).

"the report attempted to educate the public and allay fears"

cant<sup>1</sup>

/kant/

noun

1.

hypocritical and sanctimonious talk, typically of a moral, religious, or political nature.

"he had no time for the cant of the priests about sin"

have or cause to have a slanting or oblique position; tilt.

"he canted his head to look at the screen"

fastidious

/fə'stɪdɪəs/

adjective

very attentive to and concerned about accuracy and detail.

"she dressed with fastidious care"

very concerned about matters of cleanliness.

"the child seemed fastidious about getting her fingers dirty"

admonish

/əd'mɒnɪʃ/

verb

warn or reprimand someone firmly.

"she admonished me for appearing at breakfast unshaven"

admonition

/,admə'nɪʃn/

noun

a firm warning or reprimand.

"he received numerous admonitions for his behaviour"

moniker

/'mɒnɪkə/

nouninformal

a name.

"his real moniker is Dave Kennedy"

prelude

/'preljʊ:d/

noun

1.

an action or event serving as an introduction to something more important.

"a ceasefire had been agreed as a prelude to full peace negotiations"

ordinance

/ˈɔːd(ɪ)nəns/

noun formal

1.

an authoritative order.

opulent

/ˈɒpjʊlənt/

adjective

ostentatiously costly and luxurious.

"the opulent comfort of a limousine"

volatile

/ˈvɒlətaɪl/

adjective

1.

(of a substance) easily evaporated at normal temperatures.

"volatile solvents such as petroleum ether, hexane, and benzene"

liable to change rapidly and unpredictably, especially for the worse.

"the political situation was becoming more volatile"

loud and clear

phrase of loud

in a way that reduces or avoids confusion or misunderstanding.

"hopefully my point came across loud and clear"

cavort

/kəˈvɔːt/

verb

jump or dance around excitedly.

"the players cavorted about the pitch"

promontory

/ˈprɒm(ə)nt(ə)ri/

noun

1.

a point of high land that juts out into the sea or a large lake; a headland.

"a rocky promontory"

pass off

falsely represent a person or thing as being someone or something else.

"the drink was packaged in champagne bottles and was being passed off as the real stuff"

evade or lightly dismiss an awkward remark.

"he made a light joke and passed it off"

ovary

/ˈəʊv(ə)ri/

noun

a female reproductive organ in which ova or eggs are produced, present in humans and other vertebrates as a pair.

brunt

/brʌnt/

noun

the worst part or chief impact of a specified action.

"education will bear the brunt of the cuts"

eschew

/ɪs'tʃuː, ɛs'tʃuː/

verb

deliberately avoid using; abstain from.

"he appealed to the crowd to eschew violence"

goad

/gəʊd/

verb

1.

provoke or annoy (someone) so as to stimulate an action or reaction.

"he was trying to goad her into a fight"

a spiked stick used for driving cattle.

piety

/'pɪɪti/

noun

the quality of being religious or reverent.

"acts of piety and charity"

dogged

/'dɒɡɪd/

adjective

having or showing tenacity and grim persistence.

"success required dogged determination"

fervent

/'fɜːv(ə)nt/

adjective

1.

having or displaying a passionate intensity.

"a fervent supporter of the revolution"

beseech

/bɪ'siːtʃ/

verb

ask (someone) urgently and fervently to do something; implore; entreat.

"they beseeched him to stay"

furrow

/ˈfʌrəʊ/

noun

1.

a long, narrow trench made in the ground by a plough, especially for planting seeds or irrigation.

"regular furrows in a ploughed field"

2.

a line or wrinkle on a person's face.

"there were deep furrows in his brow"

furlough

/ˈfə:ləʊ/

noun

suspension or discharge of a worker or workers on account of economic conditions or shortage of work, especially when temporary.

"half of employers say they will put the majority of their staff on furlough"

inscribe

/ɪnˈskrʌɪb/

verb

1.

write or carve (words or symbols) on something, especially as a formal or permanent record.

"his name was inscribed on the new silver trophy"

Sebastian

/səˈbæstɪən/

/səˈbæstfən/

agrarian

/əˈɡreɪriən/

adjective

relating to cultivated land or the cultivation of land.

"Brazil is rapidly diversifying its agrarian economy"

prognosis

/prɒɡˈnəʊsɪs/

noun

the likely course of a medical condition.

"the disease has a poor prognosis"

an opinion, based on medical experience, of the likely course of a medical condition.

"it is very difficult to make an accurate prognosis"

a forecast of the likely outcome of a situation.

"gloomy prognoses about overpopulation"

hapless



/ˈhəpləs/

adjective

(especially of a person) unfortunate.

"the hapless victims of the disaster"

facile

/ˈfasiəl/

adjective

1.

ignoring the true complexities of an issue; superficial.

"facile generalizations"

promulgate

/ˈprɒmlɡeɪt/

verb

promote or make widely known (an idea or cause).

"these objectives have to be promulgated within the organization"

asunder

/əˈsʌndə/

adverbarchaic•literary

apart.

"those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder"

orator

/ˈɒrətə/

orate

/ɒˈreɪt/

verb

make a speech, especially pompously or at length.

"Hamlet thinks, speaks, orates, and acts"

hermetic

/həˈmɛtɪk/

adjective

1.

(of a seal or closure) complete and airtight.

"a hermetic seal that ensures perfect waterproofing"

relating to an ancient occult tradition encompassing alchemy, astrology, and theosophy.

"some saw in the Hermetic texts an anticipation of Christianity"

rescind /rɪˈsɪnd/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. revoke, cancel, or repeal (a law, order, or agreement)

• the government eventually rescinded the directive.

squalor

/ˈskwɒlə/

noun

the state of being extremely dirty and unpleasant, especially as a result of poverty or neglect.  
"they lived in squalor and disease"

ragtag

/ˈrɑːɡtɑːɡ/

adjective

untidy, disorganized, or incongruously varied in character.

"a ragtag group of idealists"

metaphor

/ˈmɛtəfə, ˈmɛtəfɔː/

rapport

/rɑːˈpɔː/

noun

a close and harmonious relationship in which the people or groups concerned understand each other's feelings or ideas and communicate well.

"she was able to establish a good rapport with the children"

expedient

/ɪkˈspiːdiənt, ɛkˈspiːdiənt/

adjective

(of an action) convenient and practical although possibly improper or immoral.

"either side could break the agreement if it were expedient to do so"

exhort

/ɪɡˈzɔːt, ɛɡˈzɔːt/

verb

strongly encourage or urge (someone) to do something.

"I exhorted her to be a good child"

evict

/ɪˈvɪkt/

verb

expel (someone) from a property, especially with the support of the law.

"a single mother and her children have been evicted from their home"

equivocal

/ɪˈkwɪvəkl/

adjective

open to more than one interpretation; ambiguous.

"the equivocal nature of her remarks"

(of a person) using ambiguous or evasive language.

"he has always been equivocal about the meaning of his lyrics"

emancipate

/ɪˈmɑːnsɪpeɪt/

verb

set free, especially from legal, social, or political restrictions.

"the people were emancipated from the shackles of oppression"

ruse

/ru:z/

noun

an action intended to deceive someone; a trick.

"Emma tried to think of a ruse to get Paul out of the house"

urethra

/jʊ'ri:θrə/

nounAnatomy•Zoology

the duct by which urine is conveyed out of the body from the bladder, and which in male vertebrates also conveys semen.

mañana

/ma'njɑ:nə/

in the indefinite future (used to indicate procrastination).

"the exhibition will be ready mañana"

rattle someone's cage

phrase of rattle

informal

anger or irritate someone.

"put the pressure on him—rattle his cage"

belt out

1. To sing or talk loudly or forcefully. A noun or pronoun can be used between "belt" and "out."

I was amazed when that young girl walked into the audition and flawlessly belted out a Whitney Houston song without the slightest hesitation.

The security guard belted instructions out at us as we pulled into the parking lot.

I've been dealing with 10 giggly little girls who've had too much birthday cake and are currently belting out every song they know. Yes, I have a headache.

2. To strike someone violently.

I belted out the intruder with a baseball bat, and he was still unconscious when the police arrived.

You keep spouting those crazy conspiracy theories, and you're gonna get belted out.

I had to belt out that guy after he started insulting my mother.

rush<sup>1</sup>

/rʌʃ/

informal

a sudden thrill or feeling of euphoria such as experienced after taking certain drugs.

"users experience a rush"

white-knuckle

adjective

(especially of a fairground ride) causing extreme excitement or fear.

displaying or characterized by extreme excitement or fear.

adjective: white-knuckled

"a succession of white-knuckled passengers got out of the plane"

trove

/trəʊv/

noun

a store of valuable or delightful things.

"the cellar contained a trove of rare wines"

wrap up

informal•British

be quiet; stop talking or making a noise.

"just wrap up, the pair of you!"

page

to communicate with someone by having that person's name announced publicly or by sending a signal to an electronic device the person is carrying:

Doctors are paged by their answering services at all hours.

When you "page" someone the receptionist says over a the loud speaker "paging doctor allcome" or dials the doctors "pager" (a beeper attached to the persons belt that vibrates when called.) It acts like a cell phone but doesn't ring and has no sending function. It just shows the number briefly on a small screen and the doctor goes to a phone and calls the person paging them.

pheromone

/ˈfɛrəməʊn/

in someone's hair

annoying or causing inconvenience to someone.

My flatmate has been getting in my hair a lot recently.

indomitable

/ɪnˈdɒmɪtəbl/

adjective

impossible to subdue or defeat.

"a woman of indomitable spirit"

innocuous

/ɪˈnɒkjʊəs/

adjective

not harmful or offensive.

"it was an innocuous question"

inimical

/ɪˈnɪmɪkl/

adjective

tending to obstruct or harm.

"the policy was inimical to Britain's real interests"

iridescent

/ˌɪrɪˈdesnt/

adjective

showing luminous colours that seem to change when seen from different angles.

"the drake's head has an iridescent purple sheen"

evict

/ɪˈvɪkt/

verb

expel (someone) from a property, especially with the support of the law.

"a single mother and her children have been evicted from their home"

enliven

/ɪnˈlʌɪvən, ɛnˈlʌɪvən/

verb

make (something) more entertaining, interesting, or appealing.

"the wartime routine was enlivened by a series of concerts"

edict

/ˈiːdɪkt/

noun

an official order or proclamation issued by a person in authority.

"Clovis issued an edict protecting Church property"

My son is having trouble with math word problems.

sexagesimal

/ˌsɛksəˈdʒɛsɪml/

adjective

1.

relating to or reckoning by sixtieths.

"a decimal system like ours or a sexagesimal system like the Babylonian"

2.

relating to the number sixty.

percentage

/pəˈsɛntɪdʒ/

decimal

/ˈdɛsɪml/

ratio

/ˈreɪfɪəʊ/

Don't be a sore loser.

sore loser

noun

: a person who becomes very upset or angry when he or she loses a game, contest, etc.

reciprocal

/rɪˈsɪprəkl/

adjective

1.

given, felt, or done in return.

"she was hoping for some reciprocal comment or gesture"

Mathematics

an expression or function so related to another that their product is unity; the quantity obtained by dividing the number one by a given quantity.

"the compressibility is the reciprocal of the bulk modulus"

legion

/ˈliːdʒ(ə)n/

noun

1.

a division of 3,000–6,000 men, including a complement of cavalry, in the ancient Roman army.

add up

seem reasonable or consistent; make sense.

"many things in her story didn't add up"

rats

an expression of anger or disappointment:

Oh, rats! I forgot my keys.

Aw, rats! I thought we were done.

Get something in one's eye

Have something in your eye

Get something caught in one's eye

glabella

/gləˈbɛlə/

nounAnatomy

the smooth part of the forehead above and between the eyebrows.

canny

/ˈkani/

adjective

1.

having or showing shrewdness and good judgement, especially in money or business matters.

"canny investors will switch banks if they think they are getting a raw deal"

Liquid assets refer to cash on hand, cash on bank deposit, and assets that can be quickly and easily converted to cash.

flounder<sup>1</sup> /'flaʊndə/ I. verb — [no obj.] 1. struggle or stagger clumsily in mud or water • he was floundering about in the shallow offshore waters. 2. struggle mentally; show or feel great confusion • she floundered, not knowing quite what to say. 3. be in serious difficulty • many firms are floundering.

The idiom "sit on one's hands" means to do nothing about a situation or problem that needs attention. It can also mean to fail to applaud.

cue card

noun

a card held beside a camera for a television broadcaster to read from while appearing as if looking into the camera.

fiat

/ˈfiːət, ˈfɪət/

noun

a formal authorization or proposition; a decree.

"the reforms left most prices fixed by government fiat"

house call

noun

a visit made to a patient or client in their own home by a doctor or other professional.

"if your cat really can't handle the trip, many vets make house calls"

raucous

/ˈrɔːkəs/

adjective

making or constituting a disturbingly harsh and loud noise.

"raucous youths"

die-cast

/ˈdɪɪ,kɑːst/

(of a metal object) formed by pouring molten metal into a reusable mould.

"a die-cast aluminium loudspeaker chassis"

die<sup>1</sup>

/dɪɪ/

a device for cutting or moulding metal into a particular shape.

"test pieces should be first cut with a die and then buffed"

an engraved device for stamping a design on coins or medals.

"I used a die to emboss the pattern"

finicky /'fɪnɪki/ I. adjective 1. (of a person) fussy about their needs or requirements • a finicky eater. 2. showing or requiring great attention to detail • his finicky copperplate hand.

bind

/baɪnd/

a problematical situation.

"he is in a bind that gets worse with every passing minute"

extradite

/'ɛkstrədɪt/

verb

hand over (a person accused or convicted of a crime) to the jurisdiction of the foreign state in which the crime was committed.

"Brazil refused to extradite him to Britain"

detachment

/dɪ'tætʃm(ə)nt/

Military

a group of troops, aircraft, or ships sent away on a separate mission.

"a detachment of Marines"

heroism

/'hɛərəʊɪz(ə)m/

vest /vest/

confer or bestow (power, authority, property, etc.) on someone.

transpire

/trɑ:n'spaɪə/

verb

1.

(of a secret or something unknown) come to be known; be revealed.

"it transpired that millions of dollars of debt had been hidden in a complex web of transactions"

The Big Dipper (US, Canada) or the Plough (UK, Ireland)[1][2] is a large asterism consisting of seven bright stars of the constellation Ursa Major;[3][4][5][6] six of them are of second magnitude and one, Megrez (δ), of third magnitude.

toupee

/'tu:peɪ/

noun

a small artificial hairpiece worn to cover a bald spot.

predilection

/,pri:di'lekʃn/

noun



a preference or special liking for something; a bias in favour of something.  
"my predilection for Asian food"

pageantry

/ˈpɑːdʒ(ə)ntri/

noun

elaborate display or ceremony.

"the pageantry of George V's jubilee"

entourage

/ˈɒntʊrɑːʒ, ˈɒtʊrɑːʒ/

noun

a group of people attending or surrounding an important person.

"an entourage of loyal courtiers"

exert

/ɪɡˈzɜːt, ɛɡˈzɜːt/

verb

1.

apply or bring to bear (a force, influence, or quality).

"the moon exerts a force on the Earth"

proclivity

/prəˈklɪvɪti/

noun

a tendency to choose or do something regularly; an inclination or predisposition towards a particular thing.

"a proclivity for hard work"

discreet

/dɪˈskriːt/

adjective

careful and prudent in one's speech or actions, especially in order to keep something confidential or to avoid embarrassment.

"we made some discreet inquiries"

crop up

to appear or happen, especially when it is not expected

synonym come up (4)

His name just cropped up in conversation.

I'll be late—something's cropped up at home.

emissary

/ˈɛmɪs(ə)ri/

noun

a person sent as a diplomatic representative on a special mission.

hook up

link someone or something to an object, especially electronic equipment.

"I'm having trouble hooking up to my wireless printer"

stump

/stʌmp/

informal

(of a question or problem) be too hard for; baffle.

"education chiefs were stumped by some of the exam questions"

rub someone the wrong way

idiom US (UK rub someone up the wrong way)

Add to word list

to annoy someone without intending to:

As soon as they met they started to rub each other the wrong way.

dum-dum

Slang

a stupid person; dumbbell

lay on

informal

require someone to endure or deal with a responsibility or difficulty.

"this is an absurdly heavy guilt trip to lay on anyone"

I'll be damned

phrase of damn

informal

1.

used to express a strong negative.

"I'll be damned if I call her!"

2.

used to express surprise.

"Well, I'll be damned! What brings you here?"

buckle

/'bʌkl/

bend and give way under a weight or force.

"the bridge started shaking and then it began to buckle"

dumb down

simplify or reduce the intellectual content of something so as to make it accessible to a larger number of people.

"the producers categorically deny that they're dumbing down the show"

become less intellectually challenging.

"the need to dumb down for mass audiences"

let rip

do something vigorously or without restraint.

"the brass sections let rip with sheer gusto"

express oneself vehemently or angrily.

"Charlie felt he had suffered enough insults and suddenly let rip"

nonsense

/ˈnɒns(ə)ns/

responsibility

/rɪˌspɒnsɪˈbɪlɪti/

loogie

/ˈluːgi/

noun informal • North American

a lump of phlegm or spittle.

"he sounds like he's trying to hawk up a loogie"

consolidate

/kənˈsɒlɪdeɪt/

verb

1.

make (something) physically stronger or more solid.

"the first phase of the project is to consolidate the outside walls"

2.

combine (a number of things) into a single more effective or coherent whole.

"all manufacturing activities have been consolidated in new premises"

excise<sup>1</sup>

/ˈɛksaɪz/

noun

a tax levied on certain goods and commodities produced or sold within a country and on licences granted for certain activities.

"the rate of excise duty on spirits"

letter-perfect

adjective

North American

(of an actor or speaker) knowing by heart the words for one's part or speech; word-perfect.

turn the tables

phrase of table

reverse one's position relative to someone else, especially by turning a position of disadvantage into one of advantage.

precipitation

/prɪˌsɪpɪˈteɪʃn/

noun

1.

Chemistry

the action or process of precipitating a substance from a solution.

2.

rain, snow, sleet, or hail that falls to or condenses on the ground.

"these convective processes produce cloud and precipitation"

electrifying

/ɪˈlektɹɪfaɪɪŋ/

adjective

arousing a sudden sense of great excitement; thrilling.

"tens of thousands of fans were treated to an electrifying performance"

confide

/kənˈfaɪd/

verb

tell someone about a secret or private matter while trusting them not to repeat it to others.

"he confided his fears to his mother"

snazzy

/ˈsnazi/

adjectiveinformal

stylish and attractive.

"snazzy little silk dresses"

sordid

/ˈsɔːdɪd/

adjective

1.

involving immoral or dishonourable actions and motives; arousing moral distaste and contempt.

"the story paints a sordid picture of bribes and scams"

contend

/kənˈtend/

verb

1.

struggle to surmount (a difficulty).

"she had to contend with his uncertain temper"

stunted

/ˈstʌntɪd/

adjective

having been prevented from growing or developing properly.

"the trees exhibit a stunted appearance"

rugged

/ˈrʌɡɪd/

adjective

1.

(of ground or terrain) having a broken, rocky, and uneven surface.

"a rugged coastline"

having attractively strong, rough-hewn features (typically used of a man).

"he was known for his rugged good looks"

pertain

/pə'teɪn/

verb

1.

be appropriate, related, or applicable to.

"matters pertaining to workplace conditions"

cantankerous

/kən'taŋk(ə)rəs/

adjective

bad-tempered, argumentative, and uncooperative.

"he can be a cantankerous old fossil at times"

follicle

/'fɒlɪkl/

noun

1.

Anatomy

a small secretory cavity, sac, or gland.

2.

Botany

a dry fruit that is derived from a single carpel and opens on one side only to release its seeds.

disconcert

/,dɪskən'sə:t/

verb

disturb the composure of; unsettle.

"the abrupt change of subject disconcerted her"

dowdy

/'daʊdi/

adjective

(of a person or their clothes) unfashionable and unstylish in appearance (typically used of a woman).

"she could achieve the kind of casual chic which made every other woman around her look dowdy"

"Stick around" is a phrasal verb that means to stay in a place and wait for someone or something to happen

disburse

/dɪsˈbɜːs/

verb

pay out (money from a fund).

"\$67 million of the pledged aid had already been disbursed"

jig

/dʒɪɡ/

noun

1.

a lively dance with leaping movements.

2.

a device that holds a piece of work and guides the tool operating on it.

communiqué

/kəˈmjʊːnɪkeɪ/

noun

an official announcement or statement, especially one made to the media.

"the country's foreign ministry issued a communiqué"

telemetry

/təˈlɛmɪtri,tɛˈlɛmɪtri/

noun

the process of recording and transmitting the readings of an instrument.

"measurements will be transferred by radio telemetry to the shore station"

reprobate

/ˈrɛprəbeɪt/

noun

1.

an unprincipled person.

"he had to present himself as more of a lovable reprobate than a spirit of corruption"

contraband

/ˈkɒntrəbænd/

noun

goods that have been imported or exported illegally.

"customs men had searched the carriages for contraband"

exonerate

/ɪɡˈzɒnəreɪt,ɛɡˈzɒnəreɪt/

verb

1.

(of an official body) absolve (someone) from blame for a fault or wrongdoing.

"an inquiry exonerated those involved"

herald

/ˈhɛrəld/

noun

1.

an official employed to oversee state ceremonial, precedence, and the use of armorial bearings, and (historically) to make proclamations, carry official messages, and oversee tournaments.

a person or thing viewed as a sign that something is about to happen.

"they considered the first primroses as the herald of spring"

envoy

/ˈɛnvɔɪ/

noun

1.

a messenger or representative, especially one on a diplomatic mission.

"the UN special envoy to Yugoslavia"

remedial

/rɪˈmi:diəl/

adjective

giving or intended as a remedy or cure.

"remedial surgery"

provided or intended for school students who have not achieved the level of attainment

necessary for them to be able to study with their contemporaries.

"remedial education"

obstetrics

/əbˈstetɪks/

noun

the branch of medicine and surgery concerned with childbirth and midwifery.

rough around the edges

having a few imperfections.

"the text looks pretty rough around the edges"

cusp

/kʌsp/

noun

1.

a point of transition between two different states.

"those on the cusp of adulthood"

2.

a pointed end where two curves meet.

fanatic

/fəˈnætɪk/

noun

a person filled with excessive and single-minded zeal, especially for an extreme religious or political cause.

"religious fanatics"

ratchet1

/ˈrætʃɪt/

cause something to rise or fall as a step in a steady and irreversible process.

"the Bank of Japan ratcheted up interest rates again"

rise or fall as a step in a steady and irreversible process.

"the budget deficit continues to ratchet upward"

with flying colours

phrase of flying

with distinction.

"Sylvia had passed her exams with flying colours"

branch out

extend or expand one's activities or interests in a new direction.

"the company is branching out into Europe"

contraction

/kənˈtrækʃn/

noun

the process of becoming smaller.

"the general contraction of the industry did further damage to morale"

canoodle

/kəˈnuːdl/

verb informal

kiss and cuddle amorously.

"she was caught canoodling with her boyfriend"

under your belt

idiom

Add to word list

learned or succeeded in, and now a part of your experience:

Now that you've got the required courses under your belt, you can take some electives.

take a bow

phrase of bow

(of a performer) acknowledge applause after a performance by bowing.

"the music ended and the girl took a bow"

dig

/dɪɡ/

informal

a remark intended to mock or criticize.

"she never missed an opportunity to have a dig at him"

patter /ˈpætə/



talk at length without saying anything significant.

"she pattered on incessantly"

smattering

/ˈsmat(ə)rɪŋ/

noun

a slight superficial knowledge of a language or subject.

"Edward had only a smattering of Welsh"

a small amount of something.

plural noun: smatterings

"a smattering of snow"

racket /ˈrækɪt/

noun: racket; plural noun: rackets

1.

a loud unpleasant noise; a din.

"the kids were making a racket"

informal

an illegal or dishonest scheme for obtaining money.

"a protection racket"

auspicious

/ɔːˈspiʃəs/

adjective

conducive to success; favourable.

"it was not the most auspicious moment to hold an election"

scrumptious

/ˈskrʌm(p)ʃəs/

adjective informal

(of food) extremely tasty; delicious.

"a scrumptious chocolate tart"

surreptitious

/ˌsʌrɪpˈtɪʃəs/

adjective

kept secret, especially because it would not be approved of.

"low wages were supplemented by surreptitious payments from tradesmen"

gregarious

/grɪˈɡeɪriəs/

adjective

(of a person) fond of company; sociable.

"he was a popular and gregarious man"

despicable

/dɪˈspɪkəbl, ˈdɛspɪkəbl/

adjective

deserving hatred and contempt.

"a despicable crime"

delirious

/dɪˈlɪəriəs/

adjective

in an acutely disturbed state of mind characterized by restlessness, illusions, and incoherence; affected by delirium.

"he became delirious and couldn't recognize people"

defray

/dɪˈfreɪ/

verb

provide money to pay (a cost or expense).

"the proceeds from the raffle help to defray the expenses of the evening"

defraud

/dɪˈfrɔːd/

verb

illegally obtain money from (someone) by deception.

"he used a second identity to defraud the bank of thousands of pounds"

curtail

/kəˈteɪl/

verb

reduce in extent or quantity; impose a restriction on.

"civil liberties were further curtailed"

cursory

/ˈkəːs(ə)ri/

adjective

hasty and therefore not thorough or detailed.

"a cursory glance at the figures"

culpable

/ˈkʌlpəbl/

adjective

deserving blame.

"mercy killings are less culpable than 'ordinary' murders"

culprit

/ˈkʌlpɪt/

noun

a person who is responsible for a crime or other misdeed.

"the car's front nearside door had been smashed in but the culprits had fled"

Sloppy seconds (or slops in Australian slang[1]) is a slang phrase for when a man has sexual intercourse with a (female or male[2]) partner shortly after that person has had intercourse with someone else, and is therefore wet or "sloppy".

countervail

/ˌkaʊntəˈveɪl/

verb

offset the effect of (something) by countering it with something of equal force.

"stereotypes are countervailed by more realistic assessments"

convalesce

/ˌkɒnvəˈleɪs/

verb

recover one's health and strength over a period of time after an illness or medical treatment.

"he spent eight months convalescing after the stroke"

contravene

/ˌkɒntrəˈviːn/

verb

offend against the prohibition or order of (a law, treaty, or code of conduct).

"he contravened the Official Secrets Act"

consignment

/kənˈsʌɪnm(ə)nt/

noun

a batch of goods destined for or delivered to someone.

"a consignment of drugs"

confect

/kənˈfɛkt/

verb

make (something elaborate or dainty) from various elements.

"a trifle confected from angelica and piped cream"

confection

/kənˈfɛkʃn/

noun

1.

an elaborate sweet dish or delicacy.

"a fruit confection"

confer

/kənˈfɜː/

verb

1.

grant (a title, degree, benefit, or right).

"the Minister may have exceeded the powers conferred on him by Parliament"

skive1

/skʌɪv/

informal•British

verb

avoid work or a duty by staying away or leaving early; shirk.

"I skived off school"

minging

/ˈmɪŋɪŋ/

adjective informal•British

foul-smelling.

very bad or unpleasant.

"the weather was minging"

compunction

/kəmˈpʌŋ(k)ʃn/

noun

a feeling of guilt or moral scruple that prevents or follows the doing of something bad.

"they used their tanks without compunction"

commandeer

/kɒmənˈdiə/

verb

officially take possession or control of (something), especially for military purposes.

"a nearby house had been commandeered by the army"

circumspect

/ˈsə:kəmspekt/

adjective

wary and unwilling to take risks.

"the officials were very circumspect in their statements"

forfeiture

/ˈfɔːfɪtʃə/

noun

the loss or giving up of something as a penalty for wrongdoing.

"magistrates ordered the forfeiture of his computer"

collate

/kəˈleɪt/

verb

1.

collect and combine (texts, information, or data).

"all the information obtained is being collated"

cogent

/ˈkəʊdʒ(ə)nt/

adjective

(of an argument or case) clear, logical, and convincing.  
"they put forward cogent arguments for British membership"

chasten  
/'tʃeɪs(ə)n/  
verb  
(of a rebuke or misfortune) have a restraining or moderating effect on.  
"the director was somewhat chastened by his recent flops"

to make someone feel sorry for something they have done  
He felt suitably chastened and apologized.  
She gave them a chastening lecture.  
It was a chastening experience.

Fiat money is a type of government issued currency that is not backed by a precious metal, such as gold or silver, nor by any other tangible asset or commodity.

fiat  
/'fi:ət, 'fɪət/  
noun  
a formal authorization or proposition; a decree.  
"the reforms left most prices fixed by government fiat"

bona fide  
/ˌbəʊnə 'fɪdi, bəʊnə 'fi:deɪ/  
adjective  
genuine; real.  
"she was a bona fide expert"

belligerent  
/bɪ'ɪdʒ(ə)rənt/  
adjective  
hostile and aggressive.  
"the mood at the meeting was belligerent"

avunculate  
/ə'vʌŋkjʊlət/  
noun  
Anthropology  
the special relationship in some societies between a man and his sister's son.  
"kinship relations such as the avunculate"

laureate  
/'lɔ:riət, 'ləʊriət/  
noun  
a person who is honoured with an award for outstanding creative or intellectual achievement.  
"a Nobel laureate"

lascivious

/lə'sɪvɪəs/

adjective

feeling or revealing an overt sexual interest or desire.

"he gave her a lascivious wink"

boot

1. noun, slang A thrill; a jolt of pleasure or excitement.

I always get a boot out of seeing the kids open their gifts on each day of Hanukkah.

Just because we're retired doesn't mean we can't get a boot out of life!

I think some people shoplift just because it gives them a boot in their otherwise dull lives.

2. verb, slang To dismiss or discharge someone unceremoniously from some job, role, position, etc.

A: "What happened to Bill?" B: "I heard they booted him for screwing up the Robertson accounts."

They booted the senator out of office after evidence of his involvement in the scandal came to light.

I heard his wife caught him cheating again and booted him from the house.

"To boot" is a leftover from old English 'to bote.' It meant an additional incentive in a bargain. It still kinda has that meaning of an addition consideration.

That's how it's used here. "Not only [the thing], but [additional thing] to boot!"

I think it's only used in that formulation

greasy

/ˈɡriːsi/

(of a person or their manner) unpleasantly or insincerely polite or ingratiating.

"the greasy little man from the newspaper"

cartographer

/kɑːˈtɒɡrəfə/

noun

a person who draws or produces maps.

"a cartographer in the British army"

shore leave

noun

leisure time spent ashore by a sailor.

"the hall was full of sailors on shore leave"

sober

/ˈsəʊbə/

make or become more serious, sensible, and solemn.

"his expression sobered her"

renounce

/rɪˈnaʊns/

verb

formally declare one's abandonment of (a claim, right, or possession).

"Isabella offered to renounce her son's claim to the French Crown"

oesophagus

/ɪˈsɒfəɡəs, iːˈsɒfəɡəs/

noun

noun: esophagus

the part of the alimentary canal which connects the throat to the stomach. In humans and other vertebrates it is a muscular tube lined with mucous membrane.

stint<sup>1</sup>

/stɪnt/

verb

supply a very ungenerous or inadequate amount of (something).

"stowage room hasn't been stinted"

noun

1.

a person's fixed or allotted period of work.

"his varied career included a stint as a magician"

coop

/kuːp/

noun

a cage or pen in which poultry are kept.

confine in a small space.

"being cooped up indoors all day makes him fidgety"

atrophy

/ˈatrəfi/

verb

1.

(of body tissue or an organ) waste away, especially as a result of the degeneration of cells, or become vestigial during evolution.

"the calf muscles will atrophy"

buck teeth

an upper tooth that projects over the lower lip.

tender<sup>2</sup>

/ˈtɛndə/

offer or present (something) formally.

"he tendered his resignation as leader"

teat

/ˈti:t/

noun

a nipple of the mammary gland of a female mammal, from which the milk is sucked by the young.

British

a thing resembling a teat or nipple, especially a perforated plastic bulb by which an infant or young animal can suck milk from a bottle.

Snowflake is a derogatory slang term for a person, implying that they have an inflated sense of uniqueness, an unwarranted sense of entitlement, or are overly emotional, easily offended, and unable to deal with opposing opinions.

switcheroo

/ˌswɪtʃəˈruː/

noun informal • North American

a change, reversal, or exchange, especially a surprising or deceptive one.

proclivity

/prəˈklɪvɪti/

noun

a tendency to choose or do something regularly; an inclination or predisposition towards a particular thing.

"a proclivity for hard work"

go to town (on something)

to do something eagerly and as completely as possible:

Kayla and Josh really went to town on their wedding.

give or take —

phrase of give

informal

to within a specified amount.

"three hundred and fifty years ago, give or take a few"

apart from.

"it's a process that runs fairly smoothly, give or take the occasional glitch"

resent

/rɪˈzɛnt/

verb

feel bitterness or indignation at (a circumstance, action, or person).

"she resented the fact that I had children"

apprise

/əˈpraɪz/

verb

inform or tell (someone).

"I thought it right to apprise Chris of what had happened"



abnegation /abnɪ'geɪʃ(ə)n/ I. noun — [ mass noun] 1. the action of renouncing or rejecting something • abnegation of political power. 2. self-denial. • people are capable of abnegation and unselfishness.

enfranchise /ɪn'frʌn(t)ʃaɪz, ɛn'frʌn(t)ʃaɪz/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. give the right to vote to • a proposal that foreigners should be enfranchised for local elections. 2. <historical> give (a town) the right to be represented in Parliament. 3. <historical> free (a slave).

nubile /'nju:bʌl/ I. adjective 1. (of a girl or woman) sexually attractive • he employed a procession of nubile young secretaries.

recreant /'rɛkrɪənt / <archaic> I. adjective 1. cowardly. • what a recreant figure must he make. 2. unfaithful to a belief; apostate.

arbitrate

/ 'ɑ:bitreɪt/

verb

(of an independent person or body) reach an authoritative judgement or settlement.

"the board has the power to arbitrate in disputes"

"Isn't that swell" is an expression that means something is very good or a lot of fun.

penchant

/ 'pɒʃɒ̃/

noun

a strong or habitual liking for something or tendency to do something.

"he has a penchant for adopting stray dogs"

bring off

phrasal verb of bring

British

1.

achieve something successfully.

"a good omelette is very hard to bring off"

laissez-faire

/ ,leɪseɪ'fɛ:/

noun

the policy of leaving things to take their own course, without interfering.

"a laissez-faire attitude to life"

impasse

/am'pɑ:s, 'ampɑ:s/

noun

a situation in which no progress is possible, especially because of disagreement; a deadlock.

"the current political impasse"

pernicious

/pə'niʃəs/

adjective

having a harmful effect, especially in a gradual or subtle way.

"the pernicious effects of air pollution"

esoteric

/,i:sə(ʊ)'tɛrɪk, ,ɛsə(ʊ)'tɛrɪk/

adjective

intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with a specialized knowledge or interest.

"esoteric philosophical debates"

respite

/'rɛspɪt, 'rɛspɪt/

noun

a short period of rest or relief from something difficult or unpleasant.

"the refugee encampments will provide some respite from the suffering"

You are giving them a leg up, which describes the entire act of assisting them get higher, not just the interlaced fingers or grip.

Try giving someone a boost

Here, boost means helping someone by pushing or raising them from below.

Example sentences - Boost him through the window. He gave me a boost to help me climb the wall.

extol

/ɪk'stəʊl, ɛk'stəʊl/

verb

praise enthusiastically.

"he extolled the virtues of the Russian peoples"

throw the baby out with the bathwater

phrase of baby

discard something valuable along with other things that are undesirable.

grand

/grand/

snow

/snəʊ/

informal•North American

mislead or charm (someone) with elaborate and insincere words.

"they would snow the public into believing that all was well"

rash<sup>1</sup>

/rʌʃ/

adjective

acting or done without careful consideration of the possible consequences; impetuous.

"it would be extremely rash to make such an assumption"

ringleader

/'rɪŋ,liːdə/

noun

a person who initiates or leads an illicit or illegal activity.

"the four ringleaders were sentenced to death on the gibbet"

contrition

/kən'trɪʃn/

noun

the state of feeling remorseful and penitent.

"to show contrition for his crime he offered to do community service"

yenta

/'jɛntə/

noun informal • North American

a woman who is a gossip or busybody.

"she acts like a nosy yenta"

Winning at life means that you are succeeding.

transcend

/trɑːn'sɛnd/

verb

be or go beyond the range or limits of (a field of activity or conceptual sphere).

"this was an issue transcending the tech space and reaching other corners of society"

snide

/snʌɪd/

adjective

1.

derogatory or mocking in an indirect way.

"snide remarks about my mother"

lush<sup>2</sup>

/lʌʃ/

informal

noun

noun: lush; plural noun: luses

a heavy drinker, especially a habitual one.

"a lush who doesn't make very much sense most of the time"

endeavour

/ɪnˈdɛvə, ɛnˈdɛvə/

at the expense of

so as to cause harm to or neglect of.

"the pursuit of profit at the expense of the environment"

compendium

/kəmˈpɛndɪəm/

noun

a collection of concise but detailed information about a particular subject, especially in a book or other publication.

"an invaluable compendium of useful information about language"

take the mickey/mick (out of someone)

phrase UK informal

to laugh at someone and make them seem silly, in a funny or unkind way:

A group of other boys were taking the mickey out of him.

She's always taking the mick - she's got no respect for the managers at all.

She was trying to organize everything and the kids were just standing there taking the mick.

Some people took the mickey out of her because of her name.

They were mocking my accent and generally taking the mickey.

ventriloquist

/vɛnˈtrɪləkwɪst/

penile

adjectivetechnical

relating to or affecting the penis.

muzzy

/ˈmʌzi/

adjective

1.

unable to think clearly; confused.

"she was shivering and her head felt muzzy from sleep"

blurred; indistinct.

"a slightly muzzy picture"

edgy

/ˈɛdʒi/

adjective

1.

tense, nervous, or irritable.

"he became edgy and defensive"

desultory

/ˈdɛs(ə)lt(ə)ri/

adjective

lacking a plan, purpose, or enthusiasm.

"a few people were left, dancing in a desultory fashion"

tinker

/ˈtɪŋkə/

noun

1.

(especially in former times) a person who makes a living by travelling from place to place mending pans and other metal utensils.

2.

informal•British

attempt to repair or improve something in a casual or desultory way.

"he spent hours tinkering with the car"

muck about

phrasal verb of muck

informal•British

1.

behave in a silly or aimless way.

"we just muck around in training and have a laugh"

tinker with something, typically so as to damage or spoil it.

"have you been mucking about with the thermostat?"

dysentery

/ˈdɪs(ə)nt(ə)ri/

noun

infection of the intestines resulting in severe diarrhoea with the presence of blood and mucus in the faeces.

give a wide berth

phrase of berth

steer a ship well clear of (something) while passing it.

"ships are advised to give the islands a wide berth"

stay away from (someone or something).

"I'd sworn to give women a wide berth"

berth

/bɜːθ/

noun

1.

a ship's allotted place at a wharf or dock.

"the vessel had left its berth"

a fixed bunk on a ship, train, or other means of transport.

"I'll sleep in the upper berth"

conduit

/ˈkɒnd(w)ɪt, ˈkɒndʒʊɪt/

noun

1.

a channel for conveying water or other fluid.

"nearby springs supplied the conduit which ran into the brewery"

speak up

speak more loudly.

"We can't hear you. Speak up!"

express one's opinions frankly and openly.

"teachers are aware of the problems, but don't have the courage to speak up"

aperture

/ˈapəʃə/

noun

an opening, hole, or gap.

"the bell ropes passed through apertures in the ceiling"

pothole

/ˈpɒθəʊl/

noun

1.

a depression or hollow in a road surface caused by wear or sinking.

"he drove very cautiously over the potholes in the road"

tie one on

phrase of tie

informal•North American

get drunk.

"he is still known to tie one on occasionally"

go to bat for someone

idiom

Add to word list

mainly US

to support someone when the person needs help:

Senators will go to bat for companies that pay lots of taxes.

keep someone posted

keep someone informed of the latest developments or news.

"I'll keep you posted on his progress"

under way /ˌʌndə ˈweɪ/

1.

having started and in progress; being done or carried out.

"recruitment is well under way"

2.

(of a boat) moving through the water.

"no time was lost in getting under way"

brain trust

a group of experts appointed to advise a government or politician.

scrounge

/skraʊn(d)ʒ/

informal

verb

seek to obtain (something, typically food or money) at the expense or through the generosity of others or by stealth.

"he had managed to scrounge a free meal"