

finished

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"

statute

/ˈstatju:t/

noun

a written law passed by a legislative body.

"the Act consolidated statutes dealing with non-fatal offences"

tinny /ˈtɪni/ I. adjective 1. having a displeasingly thin, metallic sound • tinny music played in the background. 2. made of thin or poor-quality metal • a tinny little car.

rendition /rɛnˈdɪʃ(ə)n/ I. noun 1. a performance or interpretation, especially of a dramatic role or piece of music • a wonderful rendition of 'Nessun Dorma'. 2. a visual representation or reproduction • a pen-and-ink rendition of Mars with his sword drawn. 3. a translation or transliteration. • 'Iroquois' is a French rendition of an Algonquian word for 'rattlesnake'. 4. (also extraordinary rendition) [mass noun] — (especially in the US) the practice of sending a foreign criminal or terrorist suspect covertly to be interrogated in a country with less rigorous regulations for the humane treatment of prisoners.

alight¹ /əˈlaɪt/ I. verb 1. [no obj., with adverbial of place] —⟨formal⟩ descend from a train, bus, or other form of transport • visitors should alight at the Fort Road stop. 2. (of a bird) descend from the air and settle • one bird alighted on the arm of my chair.

go/do the rounds

idiom UK

to go from person to person or place to place:

That story has gone the rounds in our office.

nag² /nag/ I. noun 1. ⟨informal⟩⟨often derogatory⟩ a horse, especially one that is old or in poor health. • the old nag the lad fetched smelled sweaty. 2. ⟨archaic⟩ a horse suitable for riding rather than as a draught animal.

scrunch /skrʌn(t)/ I. verb — [no obj.] 1. make a loud crunching noise • crisp yellow leaves scrunched satisfyingly underfoot. 2. [with obj. and adverbial] — crush or squeeze (something) into a compact mass • Flora scrunched the handkerchief into a ball. 3. [no obj., with adverbial] — become crushed or squeezed into a compact mass

punter /'pʌntə/ noun 1. <informal> (chiefly Brit.) a person who gambles, places a bet, or makes a risky investment. 2. a customer or client, especially a member of an audience. 3. a prostitute's client.

vantage /'vɑːntɪdʒ / vantage point I. noun a place or position affording a good view of something • from my vantage point I could see into the front garden •<figurative> the past is continuously reinterpreted from the vantage point of the present.

encroach
/ɪn'krəʊtʃ, ɛn'krəʊtʃ/
verb

intrude on (a person's territory, rights, personal life, etc.).

"rather than encroach on his privacy she might have kept to her room"

The suspect has holed himself up with a pistol.

A court-martial (plural courts-martial or courts martial, as "martial" is a postpositive adjective) is a military court or a trial conducted in such a court.

write up
phrasal verb of write

1.
produce a full or formal written version of something.
"I was too tired to write up my notes"

2.
Finance
increase the nominal value of stock or goods.

peyote
/peɪ'əʊti/
noun
a small soft blue-green spineless cactus, native to Mexico and the southern US.
a hallucinogenic drug prepared from the peyote cactus, containing mescaline.

fob2
/fɒb/
deceitfully attempt to satisfy someone by making excuses or giving them something inferior.
"I was fobbed off with bland reassurances"
give (someone) something inferior to or different from what they want.
"the second-rate products fobbed off on many beer-drinkers"

prosaic
/prə(ʊ)'zeɪɪk/
adjective
having or using the style or diction of prose as opposed to poetry; lacking imaginativeness or originality.
"prosaic language can't convey the experience"

teeter

/ˈtiːtə/

verb

move or balance unsteadily; sway back and forth.

"she teetered after him in her high-heeled sandals"

dishevel

/dɪˈʃeɪvəl/

make (a person's hair or clothes) untidy.

"he ran one hand through his hair, further dishevelling it"

jack off

phrasal verb of jack

vulgar slang

masturbate.

recount¹ /rɪˈkaʊnt/ I. verb — [reporting verb] 1. tell someone about something; give an

account of an event or experience [with obj.] • I recounted the tale to Steve • [with clause] he

recounts how they often talked of politics.

base¹

/beɪs/

without moral principles; ignoble.

"the electorate's baser instincts of greed and selfishness"

inimitable

/ɪˈnɪmɪtəbəl/

adjective

so good or unusual as to be impossible to copy; unique.

"they took the charts by storm with their inimitable style"

collusion

/kəˈl(j)uːʒn/

noun

secret or illegal cooperation or conspiracy in order to deceive others.

"the armed forces were working in collusion with drug traffickers"

ragu

/rəˈguː/

noun

(in Italian cooking) a sauce typically made with minced meat, onions, tomato puree, and red wine, and served with pasta.

"arrange the tagliatelle in a bowl and spoon some ragu on top"

cartilage

/ˈkɑːtɪlɪdʒ/

noun

firm, flexible connective tissue found in various forms in the larynx and respiratory tract, in structures such as the external ear, and in the articulating surfaces of joints. It is more widespread in the infant skeleton, being replaced by bone during growth.

shaft

/ʃɑ:ft/

(of light) shine in beams.

"brilliant sunshine shafted through the skylight"

vulgar slang

Hide definition

(of a man) have sex with.

informal

treat (someone) harshly or unfairly.

"I suppose she'll get a lawyer and I'll be shafted"

taut

/tɔ:t/

adjective

stretched or pulled tight; not slack.

"the fabric stays taut without adhesive"

stan1

/stan/

informal

noun

noun: stan; plural noun: stans

an overzealous or obsessive fan of a particular celebrity.

"he has millions of stans who are obsessed with him and call him a rap god"

recuse

/rɪ'kju:z/

verbNorth American

challenge (a judge, prosecutor, or juror) as unqualified to perform legal duties because of a potential conflict of interest or lack of impartiality.

"he was recused when he referred to the corporation as 'a bunch of villains'"

bastard

/'bɑ:stəd/

'Run the numbers' generally means 'do the calculations' (especially financial calculations).

folly

/'fɒli/

noun

1.

lack of good sense; foolishness.

"an act of sheer folly"

2.

a costly ornamental building with no practical purpose, especially a tower or mock-Gothic ruin built in a large garden or park.

promulgate

/ˈprɒmlɪgeɪt/

verb

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

"these objectives have to be promulgated within the organization"

jones

/dʒəʊnz/

informal•US

noun

a fixation on or compulsive desire for someone or something, typically a drug; an addiction.

"a two-year amphetamine jones"

verb

have a fixation on; be addicted to.

"Palmer was jonesing for some coke again"

cervical

/ˈsəːvɪkl/

adjective

1.

relating to the cervix.

"cervical cancer"

2.

relating to the neck.

"the fifth cervical vertebra"

I wonder who makes more eraser shavings, you or me.

alms

/ɑːmz/

noun

(in historical contexts) money or food given to poor people.

"the riders stopped to distribute alms"

grifter

/ˈgrɪftə/

noun informal•North American

a person who engages in petty or small-scale swindling.

"I saw him as a grifter who preys upon people"

extrapolate

/ɪkˈstrəpəleɪt, ɛkˈstrəpəleɪt/

verb

extend the application of (a method or conclusion) to an unknown situation by assuming that existing trends will continue or similar methods will be applicable.

"the results cannot be extrapolated to other patient groups"

estimate or conclude (something) by extrapolating.

"the figures were extrapolated from past trends"

scruffy

/ˈskrʌfi/

adjective

1.

shabby and untidy or dirty.

"a teenager in scruffy jeans and a baggy T-shirt"

effigy

/ˈɛfɪdʒi/

noun

a sculpture or model of a person.

"a tomb effigy of Eleanor of Aquitaine"

girth

/gə:θ/

noun

1.

the measurement around the middle of something, especially a person's waist.

"idle men of great girth"

ominous

/ˈɒmɪnəs/

adjective

giving the worrying impression that something bad is going to happen; threateningly inauspicious.

"there were ominous dark clouds gathering overhead"

bearing

noun

1.

a person's way of standing or moving.

"a man of precise military bearing"

stunted

/ˈstʌntɪd/

adjective

having been prevented from growing or developing properly.

"the trees exhibit a stunted appearance"

sound off

phrasal verb of sound

express one's opinions in a loud or forceful manner.

"Pietro started sounding off to the press"

perpetrator

/ˈpəːptreɪtə/

noun

a person who carries out a harmful, illegal, or immoral act.

"the perpetrators of this horrific crime must be brought to justice"

jacked

/dʒakt/

adjective informal•US

adjective: jacked up

1.

physically or mentally stimulated from the effects of a drug or stimulant.

"a racing car driver, jacked up on amphetamines"

2.

(of a person) having very well-developed muscles.

"back in his wrestling prime, he was nicknamed the 'Anabolic Warrior' for his jacked-up physique"

pander

/ˈpandə/

verb

gratify or indulge (an immoral or distasteful desire or taste or a person with such a desire or taste).

"newspapers are pandering to people's baser instincts"

Dry humping generally involves rubbing or grinding your genitals against your partner's body or genitals. In many cases, one or both partners are at least partially clothed.

Why does "do you read me" mean "do you hear me"?

vasectomy

/vəˈsɛktəmi/

noun

the surgical cutting and sealing of part of each vas deferens, typically as a means of sterilization.

"he couldn't have made Caroline pregnant, because he'd had a vasectomy"

crop top

noun

a woman's casual sleeveless or short-sleeved garment or undergarment for the upper body, cut short so that it reveals the stomach.

coterie

/ˈkəʊt(ə)ri/

noun

a small group of people with shared interests or tastes, especially one that is exclusive of other people.

"a coterie of friends and advisers"

skimp

/skɪmp/

verb

expend or use less time, money, or material on something than is necessary in an attempt to economize.

"don't skimp on insurance when you book your holidays"

cinch

/sɪn(t)/

noun

1.

informal

an extremely easy task.

"the program was a cinch to use"

quandary

/'kwɒnd(ə)ri/

noun

a state of perplexity or uncertainty over what to do in a difficult situation.

"Kate was in a quandary"

pilfer

/'pɪlfə/

verb

steal (things of little value).

"she produced the handful of coins she had managed to pilfer"

valet

/'valɪt, 'valeɪ/

noun

1.

a man's personal male attendant, who is responsible for his clothes and appearance.

wrangle

/'rʌŋɡl/

noun

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

"an insurance wrangle is holding up compensation payments"

wrangle (with somebody) (over something) He is currently locked in a bitter wrangle with his wife over custody of the children.

con1

informal

verb

persuade (someone) to do or believe something by lying to them.

"I conned him into giving me your home number"

complaisant

/kəm'pleɪznt, 'kɒmpleɪ'zɑːnt/

adjective

willing to please others or to accept what they do or say without protest.

"there are too many complaisant doctors signing sick notes"

propensity

/prə(ʊ)'pɛnsɪti/

noun

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

"his propensity for violence"

aphorism

/ 'afəɪz(ə)m/

noun

a pithy observation which contains a general truth.

"the old aphorism 'the child is father to the man'"

cranky

/ 'kraŋki/

adjective

1.

informal•British

eccentric or strange.

"a cranky scheme to pipe ground-level ozone into the stratosphere"

inroad

/ 'ɪnrəʊd/

noun

1.

an instance of something being encroached on or reduced by something else.

"the firm is beginning to make inroads into the UK market"

2.

a hostile attack; a raid.

"the inroads and cross-border raiding of the Grahams"

"To the victor go the spoils" is an expression that means the winner receives everything, or the spoils, from a competition, election, or military victory.

The term "spoils" refers to the goods, benefits, or advantages that are taken from the loser.

I stand corrected

used to admit that something you have said or done was wrong:

I stand corrected - the date of foundation was 1411, and not 1412 as I had written.

clobber1

/ˈklɒbə/

verb informal

hit (someone) hard.

"if he does that I'll clobber him!"

emasculate

/ɪˈmæskjuleɪt/

verb

1.

deprive (a man) of his male role or identity.

"in his mind, her success emasculated him"

2.

make (someone or something) weaker or less effective.

"the refusal to allow them to testify effectively emasculated the committee"

avocation

/ˌævəˈkeɪʃn/

noun formal

a hobby or minor occupation.

"they are basically doctors, and negotiators by avocation"

puerile

/ˈpjʊərɪl/

adjective

childishly silly and immature.

"a puerile argument"

check1

/tʃɛk/

stop or slow the progress of (something, typically something undesirable).

"efforts were made to check the disease"

arcane

/ɑːˈkeɪn/

adjective

understood by few; mysterious or secret.

"arcane procedures for electing people"

do someone or something justice

phrase of justice

do, treat, or represent someone or something with due fairness or appreciation.

"the brief menu does not do justice to the food"

bogus

/ˈbəʊɡəs/

adjective

not genuine or true (used in a disapproving manner when deception has been attempted).
"a bogus insurance claim"

snoop

/snu:p/

informal

verb

investigate or look around furtively in an attempt to find out something, especially information about someone's private affairs.

"your sister might find the ring if she goes snooping about"

and then some

phrase of some

informal

and plenty more than that.

"we got our money's worth and then some"

turn in

phrasal verb of turn

1.

give something to someone in authority.

"no questions were asked of people who turned in the guns"

informal

go to bed in the evening.

"I turned in at midnight"

play date

noun

noun: playdate

a social occasion arranged for children to play together.

"Hannah has a play date with a friend after school"

oddball /'ɒdbɔ:l / <informal> I. noun a strange or eccentric person. • she was seen as a bit of an oddball.

Someone or something that is from your neck of the woods is from the same part of the country as you are.

[informal]

It's so good to see you. What brings you to this neck of the woods?

mirth

/mɜ:θ/

noun

amusement, especially as expressed in laughter.

"his six-foot frame shook with mirth"

Maroon

/mə'ru:n/

a member of any of various communities in parts of the Caribbean who were originally descended from escaped slaves. In the 18th century Jamaican Maroons fought two wars against the British, both of which ended with treaties affirming the independence of the Maroons.

"we cannot know for certain what languages were spoken by the Maroons"

leave (someone) trapped and alone in an inaccessible place, especially an island.

"a novel about schoolboys marooned on a desert island"

dissident

/ˈdɪsɪd(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"

goon1

/guːn/

nouninformal

1.

a stupid, foolish, or eccentric person.

"I don't want to deal with Jack today, he's such a goon"

2.

North American

a violent, aggressive person who is hired to intimidate or harm people.

"he hired goons to hunt down supporters"

combination skin

noun

a type of facial complexion characterized by an oily forehead, nose, and chin and relatively dry cheeks.

"using an excessive amount of moisturizer on combination skin will lead to blocked pores"

hang-up

a source of mental or emotional difficulty

malaise

/məˈleɪz/

noun

a general feeling of discomfort, illness, or unease whose exact cause is difficult to identify.

"a general air of malaise"

arbitrate

/ˈɑːbɪtreɪt/

verb

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

"the board has the power to arbitrate in disputes"

thimble

/ˈθɪmbəl/

noun

1.

a small metal or plastic cap with a closed end, worn to protect the finger and push the needle in sewing.

2.

a short metal tube or ferrule.

insofar as

phrase of insofar

to the extent that.

"the tool is able to cater to almost any need insofar as graphs are concerned"

all-round

adjective

adjective: all-around

1.

having a great many abilities or uses; versatile.

"an all-round artist"

2.

on or from every side or in every direction.

"the car's large glass area provides excellent all-round vision"

Take a beat= to stop doing something for a while

consequence

/ˈkɒnsɪkw(ə)ns/

Importance in rank or position: scientists of consequence.

importance or relevance.

"the past is of no consequence"

curt

/kɜːt/

adjective

rudely brief.

"his reply was curt"

snippy

/ˈsnɪpi/

adjective informal•North American

curt or sharp, especially in a condescending way.

"a snippy note from our landlord"

unilateral

/ˌjuːnɪˈlæt(ə)rəl/

adjective

1.

(of an action or decision) performed by or affecting only one person, group, or country involved in a situation, without the agreement of another or the others.

"unilateral nuclear disarmament"

2.

relating to or affecting only one side of an organ, the body, or another structure.

"unilateral cerebral lesions"

amnesia

/əm'ni:ziə/

noun

a partial or total loss of memory.

"they were suffering from amnesia"

resourceful

/rɪ'zɔ:sf(ʊ)/

adjective

having the ability to find quick and clever ways to overcome difficulties.

"he maintained her reputation for being a resourceful problem-solver"

dicey

/'dʌɪsi/

adjectiveinformal

unpredictable and potentially dangerous.

"food supplies have been dicey in recent months"

heinous

/'heɪnəs, 'hi:nəs/

adjective

(of a person or wrongful act, especially a crime) utterly odious or wicked.

"a battery of heinous crimes"

odious

/'əʊdiəs/

adjective

extremely unpleasant; repulsive.

"a pretty odious character"

Something that happens to you in the line of duty happens when you are doing your job:

This year alone eight police officers have been killed in the line of duty.

off limits

/ˌɒf 'lɪmɪts/

out of bounds.

"the site was off limits to the public"

not to be mentioned or discussed.

"it was apparent that the whole topic was off limits"

deft /dɛft/ I. adjective 1. neatly skilful and quick in one's movements • a deft piece of footwork. 2. demonstrating skill and cleverness • the script was both deft and literate.

conduce

/kən'dju:s/

verb formal

help to bring about (a particular situation or outcome).

"nothing would conduce more to the unity of the nation"

erudite

/'ɛr(j)ʊdʌɪt/

adjective

having or showing great knowledge or learning.

"Ken could turn any conversation into an erudite discussion"

acquit

/ə'kwɪt/

verb

1.

free (someone) from a criminal charge by a verdict of not guilty.

"she was acquitted on all counts"

fraught

/frɔ:t/

adjective

1.

(of a situation or course of action) filled with or likely to result in (something undesirable).

"marketing any new product is fraught with danger"

might well

used to say that there is a good reason for a reaction, question, or feeling

'What do they hope to achieve?' 'You might well ask.'

a system of which we in Britain might well be envious

This caused a few gasps, as well it might.

ride a wave of something

idiom (also ride the wave of something)

to be helped by being connected to something attractive or interesting:

The president was riding a wave of good feeling about the economy, but it didn't last long.

decrepit

/dɪ'kreɪt/

adjective

worn out or ruined because of age or neglect.

"a row of decrepit houses"

prime the pump

stimulate the growth or success of something by supplying it with money.

"the money was intended to prime the community care pump"

commissary

/ˈkɒmɪs(ə)ri/

noun

1.

a deputy or delegate.

2.

North American

a restaurant or food store in a military base, prison, or other institution.

convection

/kənˈvɛkʃn/

noun

the movement caused within a fluid by the tendency of hotter and therefore less dense material to rise, and colder, denser material to sink under the influence of gravity, which consequently results in transfer of heat.

"the final transfer of energy to the surface is by convection"

butane

/ˈbjuːteɪn/

nounChemistry

a flammable hydrocarbon gas of the alkane series, present in petroleum and natural gas. It is used in bottled form as a fuel.

If someone is out cold, they are unconscious or sleeping very heavily.

She was out cold but still breathing

limerick

/ˈlɪm(ə)rɪk/

noun

a humorous five-line poem with a rhyme scheme aabba.

crinkle

/ˈkrɪŋkl/

verb

form into small surface creases or wrinkles.

"Rose's face crinkled in bewilderment"

deadpan

/ˈdɛdpan/

adjective

impassive or expressionless.

"she delivered her monologue in a deadpan voice"

tie off

1

: to fasten or hold (something) by tying a knot or bow at its end

I finished knitting the last row and tied off the yarn.

2

: to close (something) with string, thread, etc.

The surgeon tied off the vein.

diegetic

/ˌdɪɪˈdʒetɪk/

adjective

(of sound in a film, television programme, etc.) occurring within the context of the story and able to be heard by the characters.

"the music used is strictly diegetic"

congenital

/kənˈdʒenɪtl/

adjective

(of a disease or physical abnormality) present from birth.

"a congenital malformation of the heart"

thespian

/ˈθɛspɪən/

formal•humorous

adjective

relating to drama and the theatre.

"thespian talents"

noun

an actor or actress.

"an ageing thespian"

arid

/ˈarɪd/

adjective

1.

(of land or a climate) having little or no rain; too dry or barren to support vegetation.

"the arid plains north of Cape Town"

shank

/ʃaŋk/

noun

1.

a person's leg, especially the part from the knee to the ankle.

"the old man's thin, bony shanks showed through his trousers"

informal•US

slash or stab (someone), especially with a makeshift knife.

"I got shanked with a broken bottle"

in the nude

phrase of nude

in an unclothed state; naked.

"I like to swim in the nude"

allotment

/əˈlɒtm(ə)nt/

noun

1.

British

a plot of land rented by an individual for growing vegetables or flowers.

2.

the action of allotting something.

"the allotment of equity securities"

goolie

/ˈguːli/

noun

plural noun: goolies

1.

vulgar slang•British

a testicle.

2.

informal•Australian

a stone or pebble.

gas

/gas/

informal

an entertaining or amusing person or situation.

"the party would be a gas"

Irish

enjoyment, amusement, or fun.

"it was great gas in the club last night"

saunter

/ˈsɔːntə/

verb

walk in a slow, relaxed manner.

"Adam sauntered into the room"

neophyte

/ˈniːə(ʊ)fʌɪt/

noun

1.

a person who is new to a subject or activity.

"four-day cooking classes are offered to neophytes and experts"

a new convert to a religion.

dissimulate

/dɪˈsɪmjʊleɪt/

verb

conceal or disguise (one's thoughts, feelings, or character).

"a country gentleman who dissimulates his wealth beneath ragged pullovers"

complaisant

/kəm'pleɪznt, kɒmpleɪ'zɑːnt/

adjective

willing to please others or to accept what they do or say without protest.

"there are too many complaisant doctors signing sick notes"

obedient

/ə(ʊ)'biːdiənt/

adjective

complying or willing to comply with an order or request; submissive to another's authority.

"a docile and obedient dog"

decry

/di'kriː/

verb

publicly denounce.

"they decried human rights abuses"

paragon

/ˈparəg(ə)n/

noun

a person or thing regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality.

"it would have taken a paragon of virtue not to feel viciously jealous"

extrapolate

/ɪk'strəpəleɪt, ɛk'strəpəleɪt/

verb

extend the application of (a method or conclusion) to an unknown situation by assuming that existing trends will continue or similar methods will be applicable.

"the results cannot be extrapolated to other patient groups"

estimate or conclude (something) by extrapolating.

"the figures were extrapolated from past trends"

Mathematics

extend (a graph, curve, or range of values) by inferring unknown values from trends in the known data.

"the low-temperature results can be extrapolated to room temperature"

stipend

/ˈstɪpənd/

noun

a fixed regular sum paid as a salary or as expenses to a clergyman, teacher, or public official.

play (someone) like a fiddle

To easily and deftly manipulate someone to suit one's own needs, ends, or benefits.
That travelling salesman played me like a fiddle. Now what am I going to do with all this junk that he convinced me to buy?
Can't you see that his flattery is totally insincere? He's playing you like a fiddle!

Play Someone Like A Fiddle stands for (idiomatic) To manipulate (a person) skillfully.

stupendous
/stju:'pændəs, stjʊ'pændəs/
adjective
extremely impressive.
"the most stupendous views"

beguile
/bɪ'gʌɪl/
verb
1.
charm or enchant (someone), often in a deceptive way.
"he beguiled the voters with his good looks"

segue
/'sɛɡweɪ/
verb
(in music and film) move without interruption from one piece of music or scene to another.
"allow one song to segue into the next"
noun
an uninterrupted transition from one piece of music or film scene to another.

draftsman
/'dra:f(t)smən/
draughtsman
/'dra:f(t)smən/
noun British
1.
a person who makes detailed technical plans or drawings.
2.
variant spelling of draftsman (sense 1 of the noun).

Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn (/ˈrɛmbrænt, ˈrɛmbra:nt/[2] Dutch: [ˈrɛmbrant ˈɦarmə(n),so:ŋ van ˈrɛin] ⓘ; 15 July 1606[1] – 4 October 1669), usually simply known as Rembrandt, was a Dutch Golden Age painter, printmaker, and draughtsman

obsequious
/əb'si:kwɪəs/
adjective
obedient or attentive to an excessive or servile degree.
"they were served by obsequious waiters"

lug¹

/lʌg/

verb

carry or drag (a heavy or bulky object) with great effort.

"she began to lug her suitcase down the stairs"

in pawn

phrase of pawn

(of an object) held as security by a pawnbroker.

"our money was gone and everything was in pawn"

coax¹

/kəʊks/

verb

gently and persistently persuade (someone) to do something.

"the trainees were coaxed into doing boring work"

innocuous

/ɪˈnɒkjʊəs/

adjective

not harmful or offensive.

"it was an innocuous question"

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"

fraught

/frɔ:t/

adjective

1.

(of a situation or course of action) filled with or likely to result in (something undesirable).

"marketing any new product is fraught with danger"

abet

/əˈbet/

verb

encourage or assist (someone) to do something wrong, in particular to commit a crime.

"he was not guilty of murder but was guilty of aiding and abetting others"

pelt²

/pelt/

the skin of an animal with the fur, wool, or hair still on it.

"traders brought reindeer pelts"

idiosyncrasy

/ˌɪdɪə(ʊ)'sɪŋkrəsi/

noun

1.

a mode of behaviour or way of thought peculiar to an individual.

"one of his little idiosyncrasies was always preferring to be in the car first"

gregarious

/grɪ'ɡeɪriəs/

adjective

(of a person) fond of company; sociable.

"he was a popular and gregarious man"

disaster

/dɪ'zɑːstə/

noun

a sudden accident or a natural catastrophe that causes great damage or loss of life.

"159 people died in the disaster"

Mercedes /mɜː'seɪdɪz \$ mə-/-

remiss

/rɪ'mɪs/

adjective

lacking care or attention to duty; negligent.

"it would be very remiss of me not to pass on that information"

dilute

/dɪ'l(j)uːt, dɪ'l(j)uːt/

verb

make (a liquid) thinner or weaker by adding water or another solvent to it.

"bleach can be diluted with cold water"

allay

/ə'leɪ/

verb

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

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

lilt

/lɪlt/

noun

a characteristic rising and falling of the voice when speaking; a pleasant gentle accent.

"he spoke with a faint but recognizable Irish lilt"

all told

phrase of all
in total.

"they tried a dozen times all told"

splice

/splʌɪs/

verb

join or connect (a rope or ropes) by interweaving the strands at the ends.

"we learned how to weave and splice ropes"

haggard

/ˈhagəd/

adjective

1.

looking exhausted and unwell, especially from fatigue, worry, or suffering.

"she was pale and haggard"

modal1

/ˈməʊdl/

adjective

1.

relating to mode or form as opposed to substance.

"this will see faster journey times and greater frequency, stimulating accelerated modal shift from the car to the bus"

despot

/ˈdɛspɒt/

noun

a ruler or other person who holds absolute power, typically one who exercises it in a cruel or oppressive way.

despotic

/dɪˈspɒtɪk/

adjective

of or typical of a despot; tyrannical.

"a despotic regime"

up in arms

phrase of arms

protesting vigorously about something.

"teachers are up in arms about new school tests"

curio

/ˈkjʊəriəʊ/

noun

a rare, unusual, or intriguing object.

"they had such fun over the wonderful box of curios that Jack had sent from India"

coop

/ku:p/

noun

a cage or pen in which poultry are kept.

carcinoma

/ˌkɑːsɪˈnəʊmə, ˌkɑːsnˈəʊmə/

noun

a cancer arising in the epithelial tissue of the skin or of the lining of the internal organs.

awning

/ˈɔːnɪŋ/

noun

a sheet of canvas or other material stretched on a frame and used to keep the sun or rain off a shop window, doorway, or ship's deck.

bay window

noun

a window built to project outwards from an outside wall.

"he was sitting at his desk in the alcove of a bay window"

reprieve

/rɪˈpri: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"

bellow

/ˈbɛləʊ/

verb

(of a person or animal) emit a deep loud roar, typically in pain or anger.

"he bellowed in agony"

recuperate

/rɪˈk(j)u:pəreɪt/

verb

1.

recover from illness or exertion.

"she has been recuperating from a knee injury"

contrive

/kənˈtrʌɪv/

verb

create or bring about (an object or a situation) by deliberate use of skill and artifice.

"his opponents contrived a cabinet crisis"

manage to do something foolish or create an undesirable situation.

"he contrived to flood the flat three times"

sanctimonious

/ˌsəŋ(k)tɪˈməʊniəs/

adjectivederogatory

making a show of being morally superior to other people.

"what happened to all the sanctimonious talk about putting his family first?"

When a judge appoints a guardian to manage another person's money, it's called a conservatorship.

conservator

/kənˈsə:vətə, ˈkɒnsəveɪtə/

noun

a person responsible for the repair and preservation of things of cultural or environmental interest, such as buildings or works of art.

"the wall decoration was discovered by conservators repairing damage caused by a leaking roof"

surrogate

/ˈsʌrəɡət/

imperative

/ɪmˈpɛrətɪv/

adjective

1.

of vital importance; crucial.

"immediate action was imperative"

own up

admit to having done something wrong or embarrassing.

"if whoever did it owns up I promise I won't punish them"

loofah

/ˈlu:fə/

noun

1.

the fibrous interior of a fruit that resembles a marrow, dried and used as a sponge for washing the body.

2.

the tropical Old World climbing plant of the gourd family that produces loofahs, which are also edible.

mire

/ˈmɪɹə/

noun

1.

a stretch of swampy or boggy ground.

"acres of land had been reduced to a mire"

vindaloo

/ˌvɪndəˈluː/

noun

a very hot and spicy curry.

rotisserie

/rə(ʊ)ˈtɪs(ə)ri/

noun

1.

a restaurant specializing in roasted or barbecued meat.

2.

a cooking appliance with a rotating spit for roasting and barbecuing meat.

"At sixes and sevens" is an English idiom used to describe a condition of confusion or disarray.

ordinance

/ˈɔːd(ɪ)nəns/

noun formal

1.

an authoritative order.

liposuction

/ˈlɪpəʊˌsʌkʃn, ˈlɪpəʊˌsʌkʃn/

noun

a technique in cosmetic surgery for removing excess fat from under the skin by suction.

sadge /sæd.ɡə/

Used to connote sadness or depression.

Dude, you missed the sign-up deadline, now you can't participate! What were you thinking?

Sadge...

concession

/kənˈseʃn/

noun

1.

a thing that is granted, especially in response to demands.

"the government was unwilling to make any further concessions"

valance

/ˈvələns/

noun

a length of decorative drapery attached to the canopy or frame of a bed in order to screen the structure or the space beneath it.

a sheet with a deep pleated or gathered border that is designed to hang down over the mattress and sides of a bed.

Lining is a material or substance that covers the inside of something. For example, the lining of a jacket, the lining of a stomach, or the lining of an eggshell.

buster

/ˈbʌstə/

noun informal

1.

North American

used as a mildly disrespectful form of address to a man or boy.

"like it or lump it, buster"

surveil

/səˈveɪl/

verb

keep (a person or place) under surveillance; closely monitor or observe.

"he deployed FBI agents to surveil the offices of those companies"

jess

/dʒɛs/

Falconry

noun

plural noun: jesses

a short leather strap that is fastened round each leg of a hawk, usually also having a ring or swivel to which a leash may be attached.

grocery

/ˈgrəʊs(ə)ri/

glossary

/ˈglɒs(ə)ri/

noun

an alphabetical list of words relating to a specific subject, text, or dialect, with explanations; a brief dictionary.

"a glossary of Inuktitut words"

hibachi

/hɪˈbɑːtʃi/

noun

a portable cooking apparatus similar to a small barbecue.

(in Japan) a large earthenware pan or brazier in which charcoal is burnt to provide indoor heating.

Precisely, "yoloing" means to act in a manner in which you are aware that you only live once, and are not afraid to take chances and bear a magnitude of risks that are accompanied with yoloing.

tuck in

make someone, especially a child, comfortable in bed by pulling the covers up round them.

"he carried her back to bed and tucked her in"

informal•British

eat food heartily.

"today's a special occasion, so tuck in"

out of (one's) hair

No longer pestering or annoying to one; not one's responsibility or burden any longer.

I've gotten the kids out of my hair for a few hours so I can go and get a relaxing massage by myself.

Once these auditors from the IRS are out of our hair, we can get back to business as usual.

yoo-hoo exclamation /'ju: hu: /

used to attract somebody's attention, especially when they are some distance away

squealer

/ 'skwi:lə /

noun

a person who makes a long, high-pitched cry or noise.

"my baby is a little squealer"

informal

a person who informs on someone to the police or a person in authority.

noun: squealer; plural noun: squealers

"his chances of further employment have been damaged because some will view him as a squealer"

water under the bridge

phrase of water

used to refer to events that are in the past and consequently no longer to be regarded as important.

"I don't want to talk about that—it's all water under the bridge now"

put someone on a pedestal

phrase of pedestal

give someone uncritical respect or admiration; treat someone as an ideal rather than a real person.

"if you idolize a girl and put her on a pedestal, she will sense it instantly"

comatose

/ 'kəʊmətəʊs, ,kəʊmə'təʊs /

adjective

adjective: comatose

relating to or in a state of coma.

"she had been comatose for seven months"

What does "put another shrimp on the Barbie" mean?

Put another small prawn on the barbecue. But where I live, shrimps are the sort of thing that are too small not to slip through the griddle into the coals.

heads-up

/ˈhɛdzʌp/

informal

noun

an advance warning of something.

"the heads-up came just in time to stop the tanks from launching the final assault"

A dateline is a brief piece of text included in news articles that describes where and when the story was written or filed,[1] though the date is often omitted.

abattoir

/ˈabətwaː/

nounBritish

a slaughterhouse.

"exporters are circumventing laws requiring all livestock to be delivered to approved abattoirs"

In British slang, "pulling" typically refers to the act of attracting or successfully flirting with someone, often with the intention of starting a romantic or sexual relationship. For example, someone might say they "pulled" someone at a party, meaning they managed to impress or attract that person.

lasso

/ləˈsuː, ˈlasəʊ/

noun

a rope with a noose at one end, used especially in North America for catching cattle.

grove

/grəʊv/

noun

a small wood or other group of trees.

"an olive grove"

boots on the ground

soldiers present somewhere taking military action, or prepared to take military action

anaesthetic

/ˌanɪsˈθetɪk/

prestige

/prɛˈstiː(d)ʒ/

blanch

/blɑːn(t)/

verb

1.

make white or pale by extracting colour.

"the cold light blanched her face"

fir

/fɜː/

noun

an evergreen coniferous tree with upright cones and flat needle-shaped leaves, typically arranged in two rows. Firs are an important source of timber and resins.

raddle

/'rædl/

noun

another term for reddle.

twist or braid together, interlace

a red iron ore used in dyeing and marking

broil¹

/brɔɪl/

cook (meat or fish) by exposure to direct heat.

"he lightly broiled a wedge of sea bass"

hurtle

/'hɜːtl/

verb

move or cause to move at high speed, typically in an uncontrolled manner.

"a runaway car hurtled towards them"

tether

/'tɛðə/

verb

1.

tie (an animal) with a rope or chain so as to restrict its movement.

"the horse had been tethered to a post"

five o'clock shadow

noun

a dark appearance on a man's chin and face caused by the slight growth of beard that has occurred since he shaved in the morning.

it's five o'clock somewhere

Said when one wants to drink alcohol in the morning or afternoon. (Five o'clock is usually when people stop working for the day.)

A: "Should we really start drinking at 11 in the morning?" B: "Eh, it's fine, we're on vacation!

Plus, it's five o'clock somewhere, right?"

set aside

declare a legal decision or process to be invalid.

"he applied by summons to set aside the notice served on them"

save or keep something, typically money or time, for a particular purpose.

"the bank expected to set aside about \$700 million for restructuring"

crimp /krɪmp/

compress (something) into small folds or ridges.

"she crimped the edge of the pie"

have a limiting or adverse effect on (something).

"his zeal about his career can crimp the rest of his life"

gallivant

/ˈɡalɪvənt/

verb informal

go around from one place to another in the pursuit of pleasure or entertainment.

"she quit her job to go gallivanting around the globe"

throes

/θrəʊz/

noun

noun: throe

intense or violent pain and struggle, especially accompanying birth, death, or great change.

"he convulsed in his death throes"

antics

/ˈæntɪks/

noun

foolish, outrageous, or amusing behaviour.

"the antics of our political parties"

death throes

the process of dying or ending in a very painful or unpleasant way:

in your/its death throes Mercutio, fatally stabbed, staggers round the stage in his death throes.

The government was in its death throes.

toe the line

accept the authority, policies, or principles of a particular group, especially unwillingly.

"he knew that he had to toe the official line because he couldn't afford to be put on the dole"

retentive

/rɪˈtɛntɪv/

adjective

1.

(of a person's memory) effective in retaining facts and impressions.

"he had a highly retentive memory and was an accomplished speaker"

2.

(of a substance) able to absorb and hold moisture.

"soil should be rich and moisture retentive"

anal-retentive

/ˌeɪnlrɪˈtɛntɪv/

Psychoanalysis

adjective

excessively orderly and fussy (supposedly owing to conflict over toilet-training in infancy).

eligible

/ˈɛlɪdʒəbl/

adjective

having the right to do or obtain something; satisfying the appropriate conditions.

"customers who are eligible for discounts"

have your cake and eat it (too)

to have or do two good things at the same time that are impossible to have or do at the same time:

You can't have your cake and eat it - if you want more local services, you can't expect to pay less tax.

run a tight ship

phrase of tight

be very strict in managing an organization or operation.

If you have something at your disposal, you are able to use it whenever you want, and for whatever purpose you want. If you say that you are at someone's disposal, you mean that you are willing to help them in any way you can.

Do you have this information at your disposal?

He has said he will use all the weapons at his disposal.

If I can be of service, I am at your disposal.

two-by-four

noun

1.

a length of wood with a rectangular cross section nominally two inches by four inches.

"solid cages made out of two-by-fours"

2.

West Indian•US

a small or insignificant thing, typically a building.

"they lived in a two-by-four shack of one bedroom"

dinky¹

/ˈdɪŋki/

adjectiveinformal

1.

British

(of an object or place) attractively small and neat.

"a dinky little restaurant"

huddle /'hʌdəl/

North American

have a private discussion; confer.

"the colonel huddled with A.J. at the dining-room table"

go long

(sports) To run far from the person throwing a ball in order to receive a long pass; (especially American football, Canadian football) to run down the field away from the quarterback to receive a long or Hail Mary pass.

He yelled to Steve "Go long!" just as the ball was snapped.

a post pattern is a pass route in football where the receiver runs down field then turns and runs toward the goalpost.

wuss

/wʊs/

informal

noun

a weak or ineffectual person (often used as a general term of abuse).

"we are not just a group of shallow wusses"

"Lift a curse" is an English phrase that means to remove or undo a curse from someone. For example, "lift a curse from" or "lift a curse laid by a bruja".

contravene

/ˌkɒntrəˈviːn/

verb

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

"he contravened the Official Secrets Act"

My father has a collection of stuffed deers in his cabin.

My uncle is a taxidermist and he stuffs all kinds of animals.

on tape

Recorded using video- or sound-recording technology.

We have proof of her crime on tape.

hangman

/ˈhæŋmən/

noun

an executioner who hangs condemned people.

a game for two in which one player tries to guess the letters of a word, the other player recording failed attempts by drawing a gallows and someone hanging on it, line by line.

pail

/peɪl/

noun

a bucket.

flounce1

/flaʊns/

verb

go or move in an exaggeratedly impatient or angry manner.

"he stood up in a fury and flounced out"

flounce2

/flaʊns/

a wide ornamental strip of material gathered and sewn to a skirt or dress; a frill.

abject

/ˈædʒɛkt/

adjective

1.

(of something bad) experienced or present to the maximum degree.

"his letter plunged her into abject misery"

2.

(of a person or their behaviour) completely without pride or dignity; self-abasing.

"an abject apology"

fodder

/ˈfɒdə/

noun

food, especially dried hay or straw, for cattle and other livestock.

verb

give fodder to (cattle or other livestock).

"the animals need foddering"

be a good sport

To be good-natured or amiable despite unpleasant circumstances. In this usage, "good" is usually used between "a" and "sport."

I know you're disappointed to have lost the game, but try to be a good sport, OK?

I've been a good sport about letting Tom share the credit for my work, but this is the last straw! I'm finally going to expose him for the liar he is.

Thankfully, they were good sports about all our teasing.

a good sport

someone who does not get angry when they lose at a game or sport

wrangle

/ˈræŋɡl/

noun

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

"an insurance wrangle is holding up compensation payments"

shoot down

dismiss someone by forcefully criticizing or arguing with them.

"when I finally had the courage to speak to her she just shot me down"

auspicious

/ɔːˈspɪʃəs/

adjective

conducive to success; favourable.

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

the ball's in someone's court

it is time for someone to deal with a problem or make a decision, because other people have already done as much as they can:

I've helped him in every way I can – the ball's in his court now.

playdate

a social occasion arranged for children to play together.

"Hannah has a play date with a friend after school"

footsie

/ˈfʊtsi/

noun informal

1.

a child's word for a person's foot.

"give those tired footsies a well-earned rest"

2.

the action of touching someone's feet lightly with one's own feet, especially under a table, as a playful expression of romantic interest.

"the evening ended with a game of footsie under the table"

Yes, "in film" would usually mean "within the art form or entertainment industry variously called film, cinema, or the movies", whereas "on film" means "captured, documented or otherwise created using the technological medium of light-exposed film".

to be on set: to be in the location of filming, to be in with the scenery

"Aren't you supposed to be on set right now?"

put your foot down

to use your authority to stop something happening:

When she started borrowing my clothes without asking, I had to put my foot down.

fold1 /fəʊld/

a pen or enclosure in a field where livestock, especially sheep, can be kept.

come back (in)to the fold

To begin participating in, belonging to, or supporting some group, activity, or field that one left for a period of time in the past.

After stepping away from politics for nearly ten years, the former governor is coming back to the fold with his bid for the presidency.

Danielson stated that she would be coming back into the fold as the new head coach of her alma mater's rugby team.

The company plans on having the former CEO come back into the fold as an advisor.

pageant

/ˈpædʒ(ə)nt/

noun

1.

a public entertainment consisting of a procession of people in elaborate, colourful costumes, or an outdoor performance of a historical scene.

"they brought the history books to life at the town's pageant"

frigid

/ˈfrɪdʒɪd/

adjective

1.

very cold in temperature.

"the air was frigid, and spectators shivered against the cold"

sexually unresponsive or uninterested in sex (typically used of a woman).

"my ex told everyone I was frigid"

vicarious

/vɪˈkeɪəriəs, vɪˈkeɪəriəs/

adjective

1.

experienced in the imagination through the feelings or actions of another person.

"this catalogue brings vicarious pleasure in luxury living"

brig1 /brɪɡ/

a two-masted square-rigged ship, typically having an additional lower fore-and-aft sail on the gaff and a boom to the mainmast.

"the brig sailed to the coast of Norway to avoid capture"

2.

informal

a prison, especially on a warship.

"the crew threw him in the brig"

stand sb up

to fail to meet someone when you said you would:

He's stood me up twice now.

equestrian

/ɪˈkwɛstriən/

adjective

relating to horse riding.

"his amazing equestrian skills"

gaudy¹

/ˈɡɔːdi/

adjective

extravagantly bright or showy, typically so as to be tasteless.

"silver bows and gaudy ribbons"

garish

/ˈɡɛːrɪʃ/

adjective

obtrusively bright and showy; lurid.

"garish shirts in all sorts of colours"

foreskin

/ˈfɔːskɪn/

noun

the retractable roll of skin covering the end of the penis.

contrarian noun /kənˈtreəriən/

contrarian is a person who goes against other people's/majority/prevaling opinions

Contrarians warned that the stock markets' giant gains were not justified.

attaché /əˈtʃeɪ/ I. noun 1. a person on the staff of an ambassador having a specialized area of responsibility • naval and air attachés. 2. (N. Amer.) short for attaché case.

giveaway /ˈɡɪvəweɪ / <informal>

2. a thing that makes an inadvertent revelation • the shape of the parcel was a dead giveaway.

maglev /ˈmaglev/ I. noun — [mass noun] [usu. as modifier] 1. a transport system in which trains glide above a track, supported by magnetic repulsion and propelled by a linear motor • maglev trains.

resilient /rɪˈzɪliənt/ I. adjective 1. (of a person or animal) able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions • babies are generally far more resilient than new parents realize • the fish are resilient to most infections. 2. (of a substance or object) able to recoil or spring back into shape after bending, stretching, or being compressed. • a shoe with resilient cushioning.

bustle¹ /ˈbʌs(ə)/ I. verb — [no obj., with adverbial of direction] 1. move in an energetic and busy manner • people clutching clipboards bustled about. 2. [with obj. and adverbial of direction] — cause to move hurriedly in a particular direction • she bustled us into the kitchen. 3. [no obj.] — (of a place) be full of activity • the streets bustled with people • (as adj. bustling) the bustling little town.

stubble /'stʌb(ə)l/ I. noun — [mass noun] 1. the cut stalks of cereal plants left sticking out of the ground after the grain is harvested. • fields of yellow stubble. • [as modifier] stubble burning.

big top
the main tent in a circus

farce /fɑ:s/ I. noun 1. a comic dramatic work using buffoonery and horseplay and typically including crude characterization and ludicrously improbable situations. • he toured the backwoods in second-rate farces. 2. [mass noun] — the dramatic genre represented by farces. • the choreographed confusion of real farce. 3. an event or situation that is absurd or disorganized • the debate turned into a drunken farce.

jeer /dʒiə/ I. verb — [no obj.] 1. make rude and mocking remarks, typically in a loud voice • some of the younger men jeered at him • (as adj. jeering) the jeering crowds. 2. [with obj.] — shout rude and mocking remarks at (someone) • councillors were jeered and heckled.

What is Pet Dander?

Pet dander comes from skin cells that are shed by animals with fur or feathers – cats, dogs, guinea pigs, rabbits, birds, etc. Dander can trigger an allergy.

rampart /'rampɑ:t/ I. noun — (usu. ramparts) 1. 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. 2. a defensive or protective barrier • the open Pacific broke on the far-off ramparts of the reef.

roadkill noun 1. a killing of an animal on the road by a vehicle. 2. [mass noun] — animals killed on the road by vehicles. • they plan to feed the wolves roadkill for several weeks.

rest stop
nounNorth American
a roadside area with restrooms and other facilities for the use of motorists; a lay-by.

rig
(US) A large truck such as a semi-trailer truck.
Every rig at the truckstop had custom-made mud-flaps.

leap of faith
an act of believing in or attempting something whose existence or outcome cannot be proved or known.
"anyone investing in new media today has to make a leap of faith"

A minimum viable product (MVP) is a version of a product with just enough features to be usable by early customers who can then provide feedback for future product development.

belligerent /bəˈlɪdʒ(ə)r(ə)nt/ I. adjective 1. hostile and aggressive • the mood at the meeting was belligerent. 2. engaged in a war or conflict, as recognized by international law. • a conference of socialists from all belligerent countries.

ascetic /əˈsɛtɪk/ I. adjective characterized by severe self-discipline and abstention from all forms of indulgence, typically for religious reasons • an ascetic life of prayer, fasting, and manual labour.

arid /ˈaɪd/ I. adjective 1. (of land or a climate) having little or no rain; too dry or barren to support vegetation • the arid plains north of Cape Town. 2. lacking in interest, excitement, or meaning • his arid years in suburbia.

arcane /ɑːˈkeɪn/ I. adjective understood by few; mysterious or secret • arcane procedures for electing people.

apprise /əˈpraɪz/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. inform or tell (someone) • I thought it right to apprise Chris of what had happened.

aperture /ˈapɜːtʃə, ˈapɜːtj(ʊ)ə/ I. noun 1. an opening, hole, or gap. • the bell ropes passed through apertures in the ceiling. • the genital aperture of an insect.

rather
/ˈrɑːðə/

If you say that someone is making a song and dance about something, you mean they are making an unnecessary fuss about it.

[British, informal, disapproval]

He used his money to help others—but he never made a song and dance about it.

invaluable /ɪnˈvælju(ə)b(ə)l/ I. adjective extremely useful; indispensable • an invaluable source of information.

brief /briːf/

1. (Brit.) a set of instructions given to a person about a job or task • his brief is to turn round the county's fortunes.

verb —[with obj.] 1. instruct or inform (someone) thoroughly, especially in preparation for a task • she briefed him on last week's decisions. 2. (Brit.) instruct (a barrister) by brief.

gratuitous /grəˈtjuːɪtəs/ I. adjective 1. done without good reason; uncalled for • gratuitous violence. 2. given or done free of charge. • solicitors provide a form of gratuitous legal advice.

barrow¹

/ˈbærəʊ/

noun British

a two-wheeled handcart used especially by street vendors.

"they sell fruit from market barrows"

a wheelbarrow.

Street hawkers are people who sell their goods on the streets.

stricture /'striktʃə/ I. noun 1. a restriction on a person or activity • the strictures imposed by the British Board of Film Censors. 2. a sternly critical or censorious remark or instruction • his strictures on their lack of civic virtue.

pep /pɛp / <informal> I. verb — [with obj.] (pep someone/thing up) 1. make someone or something more lively or interesting • measures to pep up the economy.

pep talk noun <informal> a talk intended to make someone feel more courageous or enthusiastic. • I was to meet my editor for a pep talk.

inconsequential /,ɪnkɒnsɪ'kwɛnʃ(ə)/ I. adjective not important or significant • they talked about inconsequential things.

intransigent /ɪn'transɪdʒ(ə)nt/ I. adjective unwilling or refusing to change one's views or to agree about something. • her father had tried persuasion, but she was intransigent.

at large

as a whole; in general.

"there has been a loss of community values in society at large"

commiseration /kə'mɪzə'reɪʃn/ noun — [mass noun] 1. sympathy and sorrow for the misfortunes of others; compassion • the other actors offered him clumsy commiseration. 2. (commiserations) — expressions of sympathy and sorrow for another • our commiserations to those who didn't win.

ostentatious /,ɒstən'teɪʃəs/ I. adjective characterized by pretentious or showy display; designed to impress • a simple design that is glamorous without being ostentatious.

break with

quarrel or end relations with someone.

"he had broken with his family long before"

act in a way that is not in accordance with a custom or tradition.

"breaking with tradition, the pope delivered off-the-cuff remarks instead of reading from a written speech"

hunted /'hʌntɪd/ adjective 1. being pursued or searched for. • they ran like hunted hares. 2. appearing worn or harassed as if one is being pursued • his eyes had a hunted look.

ramp up

increase the level or amount of something sharply.

"they ramped up production to meet booming demand"

sharply increase in level or amount.

"the level of violence is ramping up"

strike up

begin a friendship or conversation with someone in a casual way.

"he struck up a conversation with her in the lobby"

posit /'pɒzɪt/ I. verb 1. [with obj.] — put forward as fact or as a basis for argument • the Confucian view posits a perfectible human nature. 2. (posit something on) — base something on the truth of (a particular assumption) • these plots are posited on a false premise about women's nature as inferior. 3. [with obj. and adverbial] — put in position; place • the Professor posits Cohen in his second category of poets.

leave (something) to chance

To resign oneself to something's outcome being determined forces outside of one's control.

My boss always scrutinizes the smallest details of any deal she makes—she says there's nothing more foolish than leaving things to chance in business.

You could just pick a few different investments and leave the whole process to chance, or you could let our firm plan your investments meticulously in order to maximize your return.

beat about the bush

phrase of beat

discuss a matter without coming to the point.

"he never beat about the bush when something was annoying him"

If you say that someone is set in their ways, you are being critical of the fact that they have fixed habits and ideas which they will not easily change, even though they may be old-fashioned.

[disapproval]

To set you on your way (very often shortened to "to set you on") means "to give you a little burst of energy before you travel onwards".

steeple /'sti:p(ə)l/ I. noun 1. a church tower and spire. 2. a spire on the top of a church tower or roof. 3. <archaic> a tall tower of a church or other building. II. verb — [with obj.] 1. place (the fingers or hands) together so that they form an upward-pointing V-shape.

close quarters

noun

a situation of being very or uncomfortably close to someone or something.

"living in close quarters with people"

spire1

/'spɪrɪə/

noun

a tapering conical or pyramidal structure on the top of a building, typically a church tower.

crawl /krɔ:l/

a slow rate of movement, typically that of a vehicle • he reduced his speed to a crawl.

circuitous /sə:'kju:ɪtəs/ I. adjective (of a route or journey) longer than the most direct way • the canal followed a circuitous route • <figurative> a circuitous line of reasoning.

betray

/bɪ'treɪ/

unintentionally reveal; be evidence of.

"she drew a deep breath that betrayed her indignation"

bring (one) to (one's) feet

To cause one to stand up and show one's approval through applause or cheering. This phrase is usually used in reference to an audience or crowd.

The singer's powerful voice brought us to our feet.

That miraculous defensive play saved a goal and brought Flyers fans to their feet.

The play's rousing closing number brought everyone to their feet.

wick¹ /wɪk/ I. noun 1. a strip of porous material up which liquid fuel is drawn by capillary action to the flame in a candle, lamp, or lighter. 2. [Medicine] a gauze strip inserted in a wound to drain it. II. verb — [with obj.] 1. absorb or draw off (liquid) by capillary action • garments that wick moisture away from the skin • (as adj. wicking) fabric with good wicking properties.

broach¹ /brəʊtʃ/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. raise (a difficult subject) for discussion • he broached the subject he had been avoiding all evening. 2. pierce (a cask) to draw out liquid. • he watched a pot boy broach a new cask. 3. open and start using the contents of (a bottle or other container). • boxed wines will remain in good condition for up to four months once broached. 4. [no obj.] — (of a fish or sea mammal) rise through the water and break the surface • the salmon broach, then fall to slap the water.

flagstone /'flagstəʊn/ I. noun a flat stone slab, typically rectangular or square, used for paving. • there was a carpet on the flagstones of the hall. • [as modifier] a flagstone terrace.

jeopardize

/'dʒɛpədʌɪz/

discharge I. verb — [with obj.] discharge /dɪs'tʃɑ:dʒ /

do all that is required to perform (a duty) or fulfil (a responsibility). • the bank had failed to discharge its supervisory duties.

retiring /rɪ'taɪərɪŋ/ I. adjective shy and fond of being on one's own • a retiring, acquiescent woman.

impart /ɪm'pɑ:t/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. make (information) known • the teachers imparted a great deal of knowledge to their pupils. 2. bestow (a quality) • shiitake mushrooms impart a wonderfully woody flavour to the salad.

ploy /plɔɪ/ I. noun 1. a cunning plan or action designed to turn a situation to one's own advantage • the president has dismissed the referendum as a ploy to buy time.
2. an activity done for amusement • the eternal cross-stitch I was set to do before I could indulge my own ploys.

french windows

a pair of glass doors, usually opening from the back of a house into its garden

accord /ə'kɔ:d/ I. verb 1. [with obj.] — give or grant someone (power, status, or recognition) • the powers accorded to the head of state • [with two objs] the national assembly accorded the General more power. 2. [no obj.] (accord with) — (of a concept or fact) be harmonious or consistent with. • his views accorded well with those of Merivale.

inhibit /ɪn'hɪbɪt/ I. verb 1. [with obj.] — hinder, restrain, or prevent (an action or process) • cold inhibits plant growth.

settle in

to become familiar with somewhere new, such as a new house, job, or school, and to feel comfortable and happy there:

Once we've settled in, we'll have you over for dinner.

take the wind out of someone's sails

phrase of wind

frustrate someone by unexpectedly anticipating an action or remark.

lustrous

/ˈlʌstrəs/

adjective

having lustre; shining.

"large, lustrous eyes"

deficient /dɪ'fɪʃ(ə)nt/ I. adjective 1. not having enough of a specified quality or ingredient • this diet is deficient in vitamin B.

galling /'gɔ:lɪŋ/ I. adjective causing annoyance or resentment; annoying • it would be galling to lose your job because of a dispute with a customer.

fare /fɛ:/

II. verb — [no obj.] 1. [with adverbial] — perform in a specified way in a particular situation or over a particular period • the party fared badly in the elections.

ravage /'rævɪdʒ/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. cause severe and extensive damage to • the hurricane ravaged southern Florida.

digress /dɪ'grɛs/ I. verb — [no obj.] 1. leave the main subject temporarily in speech or writing • I have digressed a little from my original plan.

blight /blaɪt/

l. noun — [mass noun] 1. a plant disease, typically one caused by fungi such as mildews, rusts, and smuts • the vines suffered blight and disease • potato blight.

apportion /ə'pɔːʃ(ə)n/ l. verb — [with obj.] 1. divide up and share out • voting power will be apportioned according to contribution. 2. assign • they did not apportion blame or liability to any one individual.

I've waited a lot of time. (Could mean a single wait or multiple instances of waiting; time as in minutes, hours, months, etc.)

I've waited a lot of times. (Implies that I've waited on multiple occasions; times refer to many separate waits)

cut somebody deep
to hurt somebody emotionally

churl /tʃɜːl/ l. noun 1. a rude and mean-spirited person. • this trio are used whenever some churl wants to have a pop at progressive rock.

liaison /li'eɪz(ə)n, li'eɪzən/ l. noun — [mass noun] 1. communication or cooperation which facilitates a close working relationship between people or organizations • the head porter works in close liaison with the reception office.

at a stroke
by a single action having immediate effect.
"attitudes cannot be changed at a stroke"

poplar /'pɒplə/ l. noun 1. a tall, fast-growing tree of north temperate regions, widely grown in shelter belts and for timber and pulp.

pre-empt
/ˌpriː'ɛm(p)t/
verb
verb: preempt

1.
take action in order to prevent (an anticipated event) happening; forestall.
"the second session will focus on policies to pre-empt problems"

beck2 /bɛk/ l. noun <literary> a gesture requesting attention, such as a nod or wave. II.
phrases at someone's beck and call always having to be ready to obey someone's orders immediately. • enjoy having servants at your beck and call.

post1
/pəʊst/
noun

1.
a long, sturdy piece of timber or metal set upright in the ground and used as a support or marker.
"follow the blue posts until the track meets a road"

dislodge /dɪsˈlɒdʒ/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. knock or force out of position • the hoofs of their horses dislodged loose stones. 2. remove from a position of power or authority • government opponents failed to dislodge the Prime Minister.

A barrack is a building where military personnel live. It's usually used in the plural, as barracks. It's also a verb — when soldiers lodge in barracks, they barrack there.

obituary

/əˈbɪtʃʊəri/

noun

a notice of a death, especially in a newspaper, typically including a brief biography of the deceased person.

"his obituary of Samuel Beckett"

prim

/prɪm/

adjective

feeling or showing disapproval of anything regarded as improper; stiffly correct.

"a very prim and proper lady"

harbour

/ˈhɑːbə/

keep (a thought or feeling, typically a negative one) in one's mind, especially secretly.

"she started to harbour doubts about the wisdom of their journey"

shelter or hide (a criminal or wanted person).

"he was suspected of harbouring an escaped prisoner"

circumspect

/ˈsəːkəmspɛkt/

adjective

wary and unwilling to take risks.

"the officials were very circumspect in their statements"

Officers warned they could attack with the slightest provocation.

manifest¹ /ˈmænɪfɛst/ I. adjective clear or obvious to the eye or mind • her manifest charm and proven ability. II. verb — [with obj.] 1. show (a quality or feeling) by one's acts or appearance; demonstrate • Lizzy manifested signs of severe depression. 2. be evidence of; prove • bad industrial relations are often manifested in strikes. 3. [no obj.] — (of an ailment) become apparent through the appearance of symptoms. • a disorder that usually manifests in middle age. 4. [no obj.] — (of a ghost or spirit) appear • one deity manifested in the form of a bird.

leaven /ˈleɪv(ə)n/ I. noun — [mass noun] 1. a substance, typically yeast, that is added to dough to make it ferment and rise.

verb — [with obj.] 1. (usu. as adj. leavened) — cause (dough or bread) to ferment and rise by adding leaven • leavened breads are forbidden during Passover. 2. permeate and modify

or transform (something) for the better • the proceedings should be leavened by humour • (as noun leavening) underneath the frills and fuss there's a leavening of serious intent.

bereave /bɪˈri:v/ I. verb — (be bereaved) 1. be deprived of a close relation or friend through their death • she had recently been bereaved • (as adj. bereaved) bereaved families • (as noun the bereaved) those who counsel the bereaved.

discreetly /dɪˈskri:tli/ I. adverb 1. in a careful and prudent manner, especially in order to keep something confidential or to avoid embarrassment • he discreetly inquired whether the position was still available. 2. in an intentionally unobtrusive manner • she coughed discreetly.

flout

/flaʊt/

verb

1.

openly disregard (a rule, law, or convention).

"the advertising code is being flouted"

sully /ˈsʌli/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. <literary> damage the purity or integrity of • they were outraged that anyone should sully their good name. 2. <literary> make dirty • she wondered if she dared sully the gleaming sink.

disembark /dɪsɪmˈbɑ:k, dɪsɛmˈbɑ:k/ I. verb — [no obj.] 1. leave a ship, aircraft, or train • the passengers began to disembark.

equanimity /ˌɛkwəˈnɪmɪti, ɪˌkwəˈnɪmɪti/ I. noun — [mass noun] 1. calmness and composure, especially in a difficult situation • she accepted both the good and the bad with equanimity.

inebriate <formal humorous> I. verb — [with obj.] (often as adj. inebriated) inebriate /ɪˈni:briɛt / 1. make (someone) drunk; intoxicate • I got mildly inebriated.

languish /ˈlɒŋɡwɪʃ/ I. verb — [no obj.] 1. (of a person, animal, or plant) lose or lack vitality; grow weak • plants may appear to be languishing simply because they are dormant. 2. fail to make progress or be successful • Kelso languish near the bottom of the Scottish First Division

wake2 /weɪk/ I. noun a trail of disturbed water or air left by the passage of a ship or aircraft. II. phrases in the wake of following (someone or something), especially as a consequence • the committee was set up in the wake of the inquiry.

frat

/frat/

noun informal • North American

a college fraternity.

"a frat party"

double-check

/ˌdʌb(ə)l'tʃɛk/

verb

check (something) for a second time to ensure that it is accurate or safe.

"he double-checked our credentials"

The limbic system, also known as the paleomammalian cortex, is a set of brain structures located on both sides of the thalamus, immediately beneath the medial temporal lobe of the cerebrum primarily in the forebrain.[1]

get-go

/ˈɡɛtgəʊ/

nouninformal•North American

the very beginning.

"the quintet experienced difficulties from the get-go"

make strides

To make progress towards achieving a goal.

up to speed

operating at full speed.

performing at an anticipated or desired rate or level.

(of a person) fully informed or up to date.

"that reminds me to bring you up to speed on the soap opera"

grievance

/ˈɡri:vns/

noun

a real or imagined cause for complaint, especially unfair treatment.

"a website which enabled staff to air their grievances"

repeal

/rɪ'pi:l/

verb

revoke or annul (a law or act of parliament).

"the legislation was repealed five months later"

put out

vulgar slang•North American

Hide definition

agree to have sex with someone.

lay out

phrasal verb of lay

1.

spread something out to its full extent, especially so that it can be seen.

"the police were insisting that suitcases should be opened and their contents laid out"

2.

construct or arrange buildings or gardens according to a plan.

"they proceeded to lay out a new town"

informal

spend a sum of money.

"look at the money I had to lay out for your uniform"

heads-up

informal

noun

an advance warning of something.

"the heads-up came just in time to stop the tanks from launching the final assault"

adjective

showing alertness or perceptiveness.

"they played a very heads-up game"

I was impressed by your performance. ---Passive

You impressed me with your performance. ----Active

olfactory

/ɒl'fakt(ə)ri/

adjective

relating to the sense of smell.

"the olfactory organs"

astute

/ə'stju:t/

adjective

having or showing an ability to accurately assess situations or people and turn this to one's advantage.

"an astute businessman"

"Revenge is a dish best served cold" is an expression that suggests it's more satisfying to plan and wait for revenge rather than acting impulsively.

adjure

/ə'dʒʊə, ə'dʒɔ:/

verb formal

urge or request (someone) solemnly or earnestly to do something.

"I adjure you to tell me the truth"

delineate

/di'liːneɪt/

verb

1.

describe or portray (something) precisely.

"the law should delineate and prohibit behaviour which is socially abhorrent"

defeatist /dɪˈfi:tɪst/ I. noun a person who expects or is excessively ready to accept failure. II. adjective demonstrating expectation or acceptance of failure • we have a duty not to be so defeatist.

arbitrate /ˈɑ:bitreɪt/ I. verb — [no obj.] 1. (of an independent person or body) reach an authoritative judgement or settlement • the board has the power to arbitrate in disputes • [with obj.] the insurance ombudsman arbitrates insurance matters.

execrate

/ˈɛksɪkreɪt/

verb

1.

feel or express great loathing for.

"they were execrated as dangerous and corrupt"

crass

/kras/

adjective

showing no intelligence or sensitivity.

"the crass assumptions that men make about women"

frat house

noun informal • North American

a house where members of a college fraternity live, hold meetings, and throw parties.

"where do people party other than the frat houses?"

lend /lend/

contribute or add (a quality) to • the smile lent his face a boyish charm.

folly /ˈfɒli/ I. noun 1. [mass noun] — lack of good sense; foolishness • an act of sheer folly. 2. [count noun] — a foolish act, idea, or practice • the follies of youth.

headstone

/ˈhɛdstəʊn/

noun

a slab of stone set up at the head of a grave, typically inscribed with the name of the dead person.

curtail

/kəˈteɪl/

verb

reduce in extent or quantity; impose a restriction on.

"civil liberties were further curtailed"

you're a doll

You're a wonderful person; a sweetheart.

"Alice, thanks for cooking me dinner. You're a doll."

surmise

verb

/sə'maɪz/

suppose that something is true without having evidence to confirm it.

"he surmised that something must be wrong"

tenure

/'tenjə/

noun

1.

the conditions under which land or buildings are held or occupied.

nestle

/'nɛsl/

verb

settle or lie comfortably within or against something.

"the baby nestled in her arms"

Hoover

/'hu:və/

clean (something) with a vacuum cleaner.

"he was hoovering the stairs"

bid¹

/bɪd/

an attempt or effort to achieve something.

"he made a bid for power in 1984"

personage /'pɜ:s(ə)nɪdʒ/ l. noun 1. a person (used to express importance or elevated status)

• it was no less a personage than the bishop. 2. a character in a play or other work. • the key explains who all the personages in the paintings are.

tentative

/'tentətɪv/

adjective

not certain or fixed; provisional.

"a tentative conclusion"

time and (time) again

Altoids are a brand of mints, sold primarily in distinctive metal tins.

"She ate", "he ate", or "they ate" is a slang phrase used to express admiration and praise for someone who has done a great job at something.

Asked and answered: when the same attorney continues to ask the same question and they have already received an answer. Usually seen after direct examination, but not always.

Doughboy was a popular nickname for the American infantryman during World War I.[1]

ain't it the truth

A statement of agreement. ("Ain't" is a nonstandard contraction that is considered very informal.) Sometimes but not always followed by a question mark.

A: "Trying to get teenagers to put down their cell phones is impossible!" B: "Ain't it the truth?"

A: "Having grandkids really keeps you young." B: "Ain't it the truth."

A: "Gorgeous weather, huh?" B: "Ain't it the truth. We're so lucky to live here."

radiator

/ˈreɪdɪeɪtə/

noun

1.

a thing that radiates or emits light, heat, or sound.

"a dipole is a less efficient radiator of sound than a monopole"

2.

an engine-cooling device in a motor vehicle or aircraft consisting of a bank of thin tubes in which circulating water is cooled by the surrounding air.

"the water in my car radiator froze"

tortuous

/ˈtɔːtʃʊəs/

adjective

full of twists and turns.

"the route is remote and tortuous"

feisty

/ˈfɛɪsti/

adjective informal

(of a person, typically one who is relatively small) lively, determined, and courageous.

"a love story with a feisty heroine who's more than a pretty face"

A stand-off is a situation in which neither of two opposing groups or forces will make a move until the other one does something, so nothing can happen until one of them gives way.

This situation could lead to another diplomatic stand-off.

Synonyms: deadlock, stalemate, impasse, draw More Synonyms of stand-off

lose one's marbles

phrase of lose

informal

go insane.

trepidation /ˌtrɛpɪˈdeɪʃ(ə)n/ I. noun — [mass noun] 1. a feeling of fear or anxiety about something that may happen • the men set off in fear and trepidation. 2. <archaic> trembling movements or motion.

vagrant /ˈveɪgr(ə)nt/ I. noun 1. a person without a settled home or regular work who wanders from place to place and lives by begging. 2. <archaic> a wanderer. 3. [Ornithology] a bird that

has strayed or been blown from its usual range or migratory route. • most birders are hoping to find the wind-blown vagrants of migration. Also called accidental.

be lost for words

idiom

Add to word list

to be so shocked, surprised, full of admiration, etc. that you cannot speak:

Mary was lost for words when she was awarded the prize.

hash out

come to agreement on something after lengthy and vigorous discussion.

"they met during the day to hash out the campaign's reaction to the controversy"

A cloth cap is a soft flat cap with a stiff, curved part at the front called a peak. Cloth caps are usually worn by men.

The peaks are on the cloth caps.

camaraderie /ˌkəməˈrɑːd(ə)ri, ˌkəməˈrad(ə)ri/ I. noun — [mass noun] 1. mutual trust and friendship among people who spend a lot of time together • the enforced camaraderie of office life.

wont /wəʊnt/ I. noun — (one's wont) 1. <formal><humorous> one's customary behaviour • Constance, as was her wont, had paid her little attention. II. adjective — [with infinitive] 1. <literary> (of a person) in the habit of doing something; accustomed • he was wont to arise at 5.30 every morning.

like-minded

/ˌlaɪkˈmaɪndɪd/

adjective

having similar tastes or opinions.

"a radio ham with like-minded friends all over the world"

mirth /mɜːθ/ I. noun — [mass noun] 1. amusement, especially as expressed in laughter • his six-foot frame shook with mirth.

migratory /ˈmɪɡrət(ə)ri, mɪˈɡreɪt(ə)ri/ adjective 1. denoting an animal that migrates • migratory birds. 2. relating to animal migration • the migratory route for whale sharks.

fracas /ˈfrækəː/ I. noun a noisy disturbance or quarrel. • the fracas was broken up by stewards.

valet /ˈvəleɪ, ˈvaleɪ/ I. noun 1. a man's personal male attendant, who is responsible for his clothes and appearance. 2. a hotel employee who attends to the clothes of guests. [as modifier] • a valet service.

bashful

/ˈbʌʃf(ʊ)l/

adjective

reluctant to draw attention to oneself; shy.

"everything you need to know but have been too bashful to ask"

denizen

/ˈdɛnɪz(ə)n/

noun

formal•humorous

a person, animal, or plant that lives or is found in a particular place.

"denizens of field and forest"

historical•British

a foreigner allowed certain rights in their adopted country.

chaff /tʃɑːf/

"we used to come in for a fair amount of ribbing and good-natured chaff"

condone

/kənˈdʊn/

verb

accept (behaviour that is considered morally wrong or offensive).

"the college cannot condone any behaviour that involves illicit drugs"

covert

adjective

/ˈkʌvət, ˈkəʊvət, kəʊˈvət/

not openly acknowledged or displayed.

"covert operations against the dictatorship"

chasten

/ˈtʃeɪs(ə)n/

verb

(of a rebuke or misfortune) have a restraining or moderating effect on.

"the director was somewhat chastened by his recent flops"

defer¹

/dɪˈfɜː/

put off (an action or event) to a later time; postpone.

"they deferred the decision until February"

defer²

/dɪˈfɜː/

submit to or acknowledge the merit of.

"he deferred to Tim's superior knowledge"

imbue

/ɪmˈbjuː/

verb

inspire or permeate with (a feeling or quality).

"his works are invariably imbued with a sense of calm and serenity"

desiccate

/ˈdɛsɪkeɪt/

verb

remove the moisture from (something); cause to become completely dry.

"both the older growth and the new vegetation were desiccated by months of relentless sun"

precipitate

verb

/prɪˈsɪpɪteɪt/

1.

cause (an event or situation, typically one that is undesirable) to happen suddenly, unexpectedly, or prematurely.

"the incident precipitated a political crisis"

in the privacy of one's home

haughty

/ˈhɔːti/

adjective

arrogantly superior and disdainful.

"a look of haughty disdain

ident on something 'We have a positive ident on the plane,' Commander Garcia said.

alt-right

/ˌɒltˈraɪt/

noun

(in the US) a right-wing ideological movement characterized by a rejection of mainstream politics and by the use of online media to disseminate provocative content, often expressing opposition to racial, religious, or gender equality.

"an investigative reporter covering the alt-right"

sick burn (plural sick burns)

(slang) A particularly cutting insult.

rise to the bait

to become angry when someone is deliberately trying to make you angry

Senator O'Brien just smiled, refusing to rise to the bait.

impute /ɪmˈpjuːt/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. represent (something, especially something undesirable) as being done or possessed by someone; attribute • the crimes imputed to Richard.

propensity /prəˈpɛnsɪti/ I. noun an inclination or natural tendency to behave in a particular way • his propensity for violence • [with infinitive] their innate propensity to attack one another.

periodical /ˈpɪərɪˈɒdɪk(ə)/ I. noun a magazine or newspaper published at regular intervals.

engross /ɪnˈgrəʊs, ɛnˈgrəʊs/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. (often be engrossed in) — absorb all the attention or interest of • they seemed to be engrossed in conversation • the notes totally engrossed him • (as adj. engrossing) the most engrossing parts of the book.

broach¹ /brəʊtʃ/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. raise (a difficult subject) for discussion • he broached the subject he had been avoiding all evening. 2. pierce (a cask) to draw out liquid. • he watched a pot boy broach a new cask.

foot the bill

phrase of foot

pay the bill for something, typically when the amount is considered large or unreasonable.
"the couple were left to foot the bill after their claim was declined by their travel insurers"

evocative /ɪˈvɒkətɪv/ I. adjective bringing strong images, memories, or feelings to mind • powerfully evocative lyrics • the building's cramped interiors are highly evocative of past centuries.

incur /ɪnˈkəː/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. become subject to (something unwelcome or unpleasant) as a result of one's own behaviour or actions • I will pay any expenses incurred.

don² /dɒn/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. put on (an item of clothing) • in the dressing room the players donned their football shirts.

lodge /lɒdʒ/

verb 1. [with obj.] — present (a complaint, appeal, claim, etc.) formally to the proper authorities • he has 28 days in which to lodge an appeal.

complicit

/kəmˈplɪsɪt/

adjective

involved with others in an activity that is unlawful or morally wrong.

"the careers of those complicit in the cover-up were blighted"

relent

/rɪˈlɛnt/

verb

abandon or mitigate a severe or harsh attitude, especially by finally yielding to a request.

"she was going to refuse his request, but relented"

manifest /ˈmænɪfɛst/

show (a quality or feeling) by one's acts or appearance; demonstrate.

"Lizzy manifested signs of severe depression"

material

/mə'tɪəriəl/

information or ideas for use in creating a book or other work.

"his colonial experiences gave him material"

tubular

/'tju:bjulə/

adjective

1.

long, round, and hollow like a tube.

"tubular flowers of deep crimson"

bode well

collocation

formal

Add to word list

to be a sign that something good will happen in the future:

The sales trends for the quarter do not bode well for the industry.

The morning began with a spectacular sunrise that boded well for a dry and comfortable expedition.

bode

/bəʊd/

verb

be a portent of a particular outcome.

"their argument did not bode well for the future"

Riverdance is a theatrical show that consists mainly of traditional Irish music and dance.

spoils

goods, advantages, profits, etc. that you get by your actions or because of your position or situation:

spoils of victory The spoils of victory included mounds of treasure and armour.

spoils of war Soldiers were recruited with promises that they would share in the spoils of war.

The two parties will have to decide how to divide the spoils of power.

He was elected on a promise to spread the spoils of a growing economy more broadly across the country.

Her family still benefits from the spoils of slavery.

genuine

/'dʒɛnjʊɪn/

adjective

truly what something is said to be; authentic.

"genuine 24-carat gold"

(of a person, emotion, or action) sincere.

"a genuine attempt to put things right"

specious

/ˈspiːʃəs/

adjective

superficially plausible, but actually wrong.

"a specious argument"

misleading in appearance, especially misleadingly attractive.

"the music trade gives Golden Oldies a specious appearance of novelty"

substantiate

/səbˈstʌnʃieɪt/

verb

provide evidence to support or prove the truth of.

"they had found nothing to substantiate the allegations"

amen

/ˌɑːˈmɛn, ɛɪˈmɛn/

dashing

/ˈdʌʃɪŋ/

adjective

attractive, adventurous, and full of confidence (typically used of a man).

"a dashing young pilot"

strip-search

search (someone) for concealed items, typically drugs or weapons, in a way that involves the removal of all their clothes.

"he was photographed, fingerprinted, and strip-searched"

in keeping (with something)

matching something, or suitable in a particular situation

In keeping with tradition, everyone wore black.

arresting

adjective

1.

striking; eye-catching.

"at 6 feet 6 inches he was an arresting figure"

inebriate

formal•humorous

verb

/ɪˈniːbrieɪt/

make (someone) drunk; intoxicate.

"it is a rum-based drink designed more to inebriate the masses than to please the palate"

exhilarate

/ɪgˈzɪləreɪt, ɛgˈzɪləreɪt/

verb

make (someone) feel very happy, animated, or elated.

"she was exhilarated by the day's events"

swarthy

/ˈswɔːði/

adjective

dark-complexioned.

"swarthy men with gleaming teeth"

diaphanous

/dɪˈafənəs/

adjective

(especially of fabric) light, delicate, and translucent.

"a diaphanous dress of pale gold"

lounge suit

noun British

a man's suit consisting of a matching jacket and trousers, worn during the day, especially in the workplace.

exemplary

/ɪɡˈzempləri, ɛɡˈzempləri/

adjective

1.

serving as a desirable model; very good.

"exemplary behaviour"

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"

debilitate

/dɪˈbɪlɪteɪt/

verb

make (someone) very weak and infirm.

"he was severely debilitated by a stomach upset"

prolific

/prəˈlɪfɪk/

adjective

1.

(of a plant, animal, or person) producing much fruit or foliage or many offspring.

"in captivity tigers are prolific breeders"

prose

/prəʊz/

noun

1.

written or spoken language in its ordinary form, without metrical structure.

"a short story in prose"

sop

/sɒp/

noun

1.

a thing of no great value given or done as a concession to appease someone whose main concerns or demands are not being met.

"my agent telephones as a sop but never finds me work"

2.

a piece of bread dipped in gravy, soup, or sauce.

swashbuckle

/'swɒʃbʌk(ə)l/

verb

gerund or present participle: swashbuckling

engage in daring and romantic adventures with bravado or flamboyance.

"this guy can swashbuckle and hold his own"

remiss

/rɪ'mɪs/

adjective

lacking care or attention to duty; negligent.

"it would be very remiss of me not to pass on that information"

reserved

/rɪ'zə:vɪd/

adjective

1.

slow to reveal emotion or opinions.

"he is a reserved, almost taciturn man"

mesh together

To fit, blend, or join together easily or acceptably.

Your testimony and the story you gave police on the night of the incident don't mesh together, Mrs. Jenkins.

I just didn't mesh with together very well, you know? Our interests were too different, so we didn't have much in common to talk about.

The incredibly art style and haunting story mesh together to create one of the most stunning cinematic experiences of the last 10 years.

frugal

/'fru:gl/

adjective

sparing or economical as regards money or food.

"I'm a bit too frugal to splash out on designer clothes"

wary

/ˈwɛːri/

adjective

feeling or showing caution about possible dangers or problems.

"dogs which have been mistreated often remain very wary of strangers"

weary

/ˈwɪəri/

adjective

1.

feeling or showing extreme tiredness, especially as a result of excessive exertion.

"he gave a long, weary sigh"

corroborate

/kəˈrɒbəreɪt/

verb

confirm or give support to (a statement, theory, or finding).

"the witness had corroborated the boy's account of the attack"

substantiate

/səbˈstʌnʃɪeɪt/

verb

provide evidence to support or prove the truth of.

"they had found nothing to substantiate the allegations"

substance

/ˈsʌbst(ə)ns/

the most important or essential part of something; the real or essential meaning.

"the substance of the Maastricht Treaty"

viscous

/ˈvɪskəs/

adjective

having a thick, sticky consistency between solid and liquid; having a high viscosity.

"viscous lava"

precipitate

verb

/prɪˈsɪpɪteɪt/

1.

cause (an event or situation, typically one that is undesirable) to happen suddenly, unexpectedly, or prematurely.

"the incident precipitated a political crisis"

timbre

/ˈtambə/

noun

the character or quality of a musical sound or voice as distinct from its pitch and intensity.

"trumpet mutes with different timbres"

seismic

/ˈsaɪzmɪk/

adjective

relating to earthquakes or other vibrations of the earth and its crust.

"after a few days of seismic activity the volcanic eruption started"

amiable

/ˈeɪmiəbl/

adjective

having or displaying a friendly and pleasant manner.

"the amiable young man greeted me enthusiastically"

stipulate¹

/ˈstɪpjʊleɪt/

verb

demand or specify (a requirement), typically as part of an agreement.

"he stipulated certain conditions before their marriage"

sate

/seɪt/

verb

satisfy (a desire or an appetite) to the full.

"sate your appetite at the resort's restaurant"

satiate

/ˈseɪʃɪeɪt/

verb

another term for sate.

"he folded up his newspaper, his curiosity satiated"

hyperopia

/hʌɪpəˈrəʊpiə/

noun

another term for hypermetropia.

myopia

/maɪˈəʊpiə/

noun

the quality of being short-sighted.

"he wore spectacles to correct a mild degree of myopia"

lack of foresight or intellectual insight.

"the company's corporate myopia"

egregious

/ɪˈɡriːdʒəs/

adjective

1.

outstandingly bad; shocking.

"egregious abuses of copyright"

extortion

/ɪkˈstɔːʃn, ɛkˈstɔːʃn/

noun

the practice of obtaining something, especially money, through force or threats.

"he used bribery and extortion to build himself a huge, art-stuffed mansion"

exorbitant

/ɪɡˈzɔːbɪt(ə)nt, ɛɡˈzɔːbɪt(ə)nt/

adjective

(of a price or amount charged) unreasonably high.

"some hotels charge exorbitant rates for phone calls"

prohibitive

/prə(ʊ)ˈhɪbɪtɪv/

(of a price or charge) so high as to prevent something being done or bought.

"the cost of converting existing power stations is likely to be prohibitive"

abstruse

/əbˈstruːs/

adjective

difficult to understand; obscure.

"an abstruse philosophical inquiry"

recondite

/ˈrɛk(ə)ndɪt, rɪˈkɒndɪt/

adjective

(of a subject or knowledge) little known; abstruse.

"the book is full of recondite information"

flout

/flaʊt/

verb

1.

openly disregard (a rule, law, or convention).

"the advertising code is being flouted"

congruent

/ˈkɒŋgrʊənt/

adjective

1.

in agreement or harmony.

"the rules may not be congruent with the requirements of the law"

glob

/glɒb/

noun informal

a lump of a semi-liquid substance.

"thick globs of mozzarella cheese"

rickets

/ˈrɪkɪts/

noun Medicine

a disease of children caused by vitamin D deficiency, characterized by imperfect calcification, softening, and distortion of the bones typically resulting in bow legs.

toke

/təʊk/

informal

noun

a pull on a cigarette or pipe, typically one containing cannabis.

verb

smoke cannabis or tobacco.

"he muses while toking on a cigarette"

sternum

/ˈstɜːnəm/

noun

Anatomy

the breastbone.

Zoology

a thickened ventral plate on each segment of the body of an arthropod.

How common is the use of the word "tee" for T-shirt in the UK or the US?

From a British perspective "Tee" is a very American thing.

and all that

phrase of that

informal

and that sort of thing; and so on.

"other people depend on them for food and clothing and all that"

loose ends

a detail that is not yet settled or explained.

"Mark arrived back at his office to tie up any loose ends"

heavy-duty

/ˌheɪvɪˈdjuːti/

adjective

(of material or an article) designed to withstand the stresses of demanding use.

"heavy-duty springs"

murk

/mɜːk/

noun

darkness or thick mist that makes it difficult to see.

"my eyes were straining to see through the murk of the rainy evening"

tire iron

A tool used for installing or removing an automotive wheel, in the form of bar made of strong metal, with a chisel end for prying off the hubcap and a socket wrench end for loosening or tightening lug nuts.

sitting duck

nouninformal

a person or thing with no protection against an attack or other source of danger.

wing mirror

noun

a rear-view mirror projecting from the side of a motor vehicle.

Make a left

Take a left

If you change tack or try a different tack, you try a different method for dealing with a situation.

In desperation I changed tack.

This report takes a different tack from the 20 that have come before.

four-by-four

/ˌfɔːbʌɪˈfɔː/

noun

a vehicle with four-wheel drive.

walk up

1. verb To come up to someone or something on foot. Often followed by "to" and a specific person or thing.

I walked up to Bob and handed him the note.

The thief just walked right up and took the merchandise off the table in broad daylight.

2. verb To move to a higher level or position on foot. Often followed by "to" and a specific person or thing.

Sorry, you'll have to walk up to the legal department to get that approved.

Will you walk up to the boss's office and deliver this note to him for me?

3. verb To ascend (something) on foot.

The road up the mountain ends here, so we'll have to walk up the rest of the way.

Boy, I need to quit smoking. I can't even walk up two flights of stairs without getting winded.

trundle

/ˈtrʌndl/

verb

(with reference to a wheeled vehicle or its occupants) move or cause to move slowly and heavily.

"ten vintage cars trundled past"

Frisbee

/ˈfrɪzbi:/

gawp

/ɡɔːp/

verb informal • British

stare openly in a stupid or rude manner.

"what are you gawping at?"

stoop¹

verb

1.

bend one's head or body forwards and downwards.

"he stooped down and reached towards the coin"

postal

/ˈpəʊstl/

go postal

phrase of postal

informal • US

go mad, especially from stress.

lapel

/ləˈpɛl/

noun

the part on each side of a coat or jacket immediately below the collar which is folded back on either side of the front opening.

beat to the punch

in American English

to be quicker than (another) in doing something, as in striking a blow

put out

cause someone trouble or inconvenience.

"would it put you out too much to let her visit you for a couple of hours?"

I don't want to put you out.

put off
distract someone.
"don't put me off—I'm trying to concentrate"

pick on
phrasal verb of pick
1.
repeatedly single someone out for criticism or unkind treatment in a way perceived to be unfair.
"no one is picking on you—we're trying to help"

stooge
/stu:dʒ/
noun
1.
derogatory
a subordinate used by another to do unpleasant routine work.
"party stooges put there to do a job on behalf of central office"

If you say that you don't hear a peep from someone, you mean that they do not say anything or make any noise.
[informal]
You don't hear a peep from her once she's gone to bed.

bear hug
/'bɛ:hʌg/
noun
a rough, tight embrace.
"he grabbed me and gave me a bear hug"

headbutt
/'hɛdbʌt/
noun
an aggressive and forceful thrust with the top of the head into the face or body of another person.
"he tries a headbutt, which I dodge"

tie off
1
: to fasten or hold (something) by tying a knot or bow at its end
I finished knitting the last row and tied off the yarn.
2
: to close (something) with string, thread, etc.
The surgeon tied off the vein.

on loan
(of a thing) being borrowed.

"the painting is at present on loan to the Tate Gallery"

(of a worker or sports player) on secondment to another organization or team, typically for an agreed fixed period.

"Roberts, on loan from United, scored his first goal for City today"

anonymity

/ˌanəˈnɪmɪti/

mellow

/ˈmɛləʊ/

adjective

1.

(especially of a sound, flavour, or colour) pleasantly smooth or soft; free from harshness.

"she was hypnotized by the mellow tone of his voice"

high-maintenance

/ˌhaɪˈmeɪnt(ɪ)nəns, ˌhaɪˈmeɪntənəns/

adjective

needing a lot of work to keep in good condition.

informal

(of a person) demanding a lot of attention.

"I freely admit to being high-maintenance"

threadbare

/ˈθreɪdbɜː/

adjective

(of cloth, clothing, or soft furnishings) becoming thin and tattered with age.

"tatty rooms with threadbare carpets"

subsist verb /səbˈsɪst/

[intransitive] subsist (on something) to manage to stay alive, especially with limited food or money

Old people often subsist on very small incomes.

subsistence

/səbˈsɪst(ə)ns/

noun

noun: subsistence

1.

the action or fact of maintaining or supporting oneself, especially at a minimal level.

"the minimum income needed for subsistence"

the means of maintaining or supporting oneself.

plural noun: subsistences

"the garden provided not only subsistence but a little cash crop"

maladroit

/ˌmaləˈdrɔɪt/

adjective

inefficient or inept; clumsy.

"both men are unhappy about the maladroit way the matter has been handled"

blow off

phrasal verb of blow

1.

informal•North American

fail to keep an appointment with someone.

"I just made this date before I met you—I didn't want to blow her off"

2.

informal•North American

ignore or dismiss someone or something.

"I took the car in and told them about the problem and they just blew me off"

stanky

New Word Suggestion

Someone or something that has a strong or unpleasant smell [primarily US]

tortuous

/ˈtɔːtʃʊəs/

adjective

full of twists and turns.

"the route is remote and tortuous"

mollify

/ˈmɒlɪfaɪ/

verb

appease the anger or anxiety of (someone).

"nature reserves were set up around the power stations to mollify local conservationists"

incursion

/ɪnˈkɜːʃn, ɪnˈkɜːʒn/

noun

an invasion or attack, especially a sudden or brief one.

"incursions into enemy territory"

inert

/ɪˈnəːt/

adjective

1.

lacking the ability or strength to move.

"she lay inert in her bed"

lacking vigour.

"an inert political system"

consequential

/kɒnsɪˈkwɛnʃ(ə)/

adjective

1.

following as a result or effect.

"a loss of confidence and a consequential withdrawal of funds"

important; significant.

"the new congress lacked consequential leaders"

divulge

/dɪˈvʌldʒ, dɪˈvʌldʒ/

verb

make known (private or sensitive information).

"I do not want to divulge my plans at the moment"

discretion

/dɪˈskrɛʃn/

noun

1.

the quality of behaving or speaking in such a way as to avoid causing offence or revealing confidential information.

"she knew she could rely on his discretion"

the freedom to decide what should be done in a particular situation.

"local authorities should use their discretion in setting the charges"

essay /ɛˈseɪ/

attempt or try.

"Donald essayed a smile"

amenity

/əˈmiːnɪti, əˈmɛnɪti/

the pleasantness or attractiveness of a place.

"developments which would clash with amenity"

protract

/prəˈtrakt/

verb

prolong.

"he had certainly taken his time, even protracting the process"

flurry

/ˈflʌri/

noun

a small swirling mass of something, especially snow or leaves, moved by sudden gusts of wind.

"a flurry of snow"

Smoker's lines refer to the fine wrinkles and vertical lines that develop above the upper lip, which are also known as "lipstick lines" or "perioral lines."

The ball of the foot is the padded portion of the sole between the toes and the arch, underneath the heads of the metatarsal bones.[1]

knick-knack

/ˈnɪknæk/

noun

small worthless objects, especially household ornaments.

"the room was filled with tables, knick-knacks, and a large three-piece suite"

Tradecraft, within the intelligence community, refers to the techniques, methods, and technologies used in modern espionage (spying) and generally as part of the activity of intelligence assessment.

mosey

/ˈməʊzi/

informal

verb

walk or move in a leisurely manner.

"we decided to mosey on up to Montgomery"

noun British

a leisurely walk or drive.

"I'll just have a mosey round"

telescopic

/ˌtelɪˈskɒpɪk/

having or consisting of concentric tubular sections designed to slide into one another.

"a telescopic umbrella"

In American English, a gym bag or carryall is a large bag made of cloth or leather typically with a rectangular base and a zippered opening at the top.

In British English, the same kind of bag is called a sports bag. A holdall (or occasionally hold-all) may be a similar bag but may often have wheels and possibly a telescopic handle. The term covers a wide variety of types of bag.

yak /jak/

yackety-yak

trivial or unduly prolonged conversation.

All this yak is bending my ear. I want some action.

bale /beɪl/

a large wrapped or bound bundle of paper, hay, or cotton.

"the fire destroyed 500 bales of hay"

A cattle bridge is a bridge that is built over a ditch.

The bridge consists of bars which are made of metal.

This bridge allows the smooth passage of pedestrians and other vehicles without any hindrance.

mush /mʌʃ/

a person's mouth or face.

"he always had a chewed cigar in his mush"

nip something in the bud

to stop something before it has an opportunity to become established:

Many serious illnesses can be nipped in the bud if they are detected early enough.

It's important to nip this kind of bullying in the bud.

serrate /'sɛrɪt/

adjective: serrated

having or denoting a jagged edge; sawlike.

"a knife with a serrated edge"

mundane

/ˌmʌnˈdeɪn/

adjective

1.

lacking interest or excitement; dull.

"his mundane, humdrum existence"

equation

/ɪˈkweɪʒn/

The chief way that the grape emoji is used on TikTok, though, is as a stand in for the word "rape."

dowdy

/ˈdaʊdi/

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"

croon

/kruːn/

verb

hum or sing in a soft, low voice, especially in a sentimental manner.

"she was crooning to the child"

edgy

/ˈɛdʒi/

adjective

1.

tense, nervous, or irritable.

"he became edgy and defensive"

hightail

/ˈhaɪteɪl/

verb informal • North American

move or travel fast.

"they hightailed it to India"

belligerent /bəˈlɪdʒ(ə)r(ə)nt/ 1. adjective 1. hostile and aggressive • the mood at the meeting was belligerent. 2. engaged in a war or conflict, as recognized by international law. • a conference of socialists from all belligerent countries.

punk1

verb informal • US

past tense: punked

trick or deceive.

"the Associated Press got punked with a fake tweet"

(chiefly in sport) defeat utterly.

"the Tigers punked the Sooners 40–6"

amble

/ˈæmbl/

verb

walk or move at a slow, relaxed pace.

"they ambled along the riverbank"