

finished

ensconce /ɪnˈskɒns, ɛnˈskɒns/

establish or settle (someone) in a comfortable, safe place.

"Agnes ensconced herself in their bedroom"

spread /sprɛd/

INFORMAL

a large and impressively elaborate meal.

"his mother laid on a huge spread"

culpable /ˈkʌlpəbl/

deserving blame.

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

trash talk /ˈtrʌʃ ˌtɔːk/ INFORMAL • US

insulting or boastful speech intended to demoralise or humiliate a sporting opponent.

"he heard more trash talk from the Giants before the game than during the game"

Your voice is breaking up.

The sound(Your voice) is choppy.

fiend /fiːnd/

an evil spirit or demon.

INFORMAL

an enthusiast or devotee of a particular thing.

"a football fiend"

In exclamatory sentences when uncountable or plural countable nouns are used:

What dirt!

What flowers!

except:

What a waste!

What a pity!

give way

yield to someone or something.

"he was not a man to give way to this kind of pressure"

(of a support or structure) be unable to carry a load or withstand a force; collapse or break.

"his aching legs gave way, and he almost fell"

temporarily /ˌtempəˈrerəli/

genuine /ˈdʒɛnjʊɪn/

lie low

(especially of a criminal) keep out of sight; avoid detection or attention.  
"at the time of the murder he appears to have been lying low in a barn"

kleptomania /ˌkleptə(ʊ)'meɪniə/  
a recurrent urge to steal, typically without regard for need or profit.

hold up  
wait; stop.  
"Hold up! I'm coming too!"

Top Bunk  
Something that is more than average; better than normal. May connote exceptional quality, although more than standard fare is sufficient.  
Dude--that food is top bunk!

cutaneous respiration, skin breathing

hot air /hɒt 'ɛː/  
noun INFORMAL  
empty talk that is intended to impress.  
"they dismissed the theory as a load of hot air"

avowal /ə'vaʊəl/  
the act of saying clearly and often publicly what your opinion is, what you think is true, etc.  
an avowal of love

tentative /'tentətɪv/  
not certain or fixed; provisional.  
"a tentative conclusion"  
done without confidence; hesitant.  
"he eventually tried a few tentative steps round his hospital room"

frequent adjective /'fri:kw(ə)nt/  
verb /fri'kwɛnt/  
visit (a place) often.  
"pubs frequented by soldiers"

caprese /kə'preɪzi/  
denoting a salad of mozzarella cheese, tomatoes, and fresh basil.  
"lunch featured a caprese salad and vegetable antipasto"

condolence /kən'dəʊləns/

phonics /'fɒnɪks, 'fəʊnɪks/  
noun  
a method of teaching people to read by correlating sounds with symbols in an alphabetic writing system.

Buddha belly

A round, protruding belly.

tick /tɪk/

a parasitic arachnid that attaches itself to the skin of a terrestrial vertebrate from which it sucks blood, leaving the host when sated. Some species transmit diseases, including tularaemia and Lyme disease.

be engorged (with something) Once feeding is complete, the tick is engorged with blood and will fall off.

engorge /ɪnˈɡɔːdʒ, ɛnˈɡɔːdʒ/

cause to swell with blood, water, or another fluid.

"the river was engorged by a day-long deluge"

pilfer /ˈpɪlfə/

steal (things of little value).

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

in my book

"that counts as a lie in my book"

in the heat of the moment

while temporarily angry, excited, or engrossed, and without stopping for thought.

"things said in the heat of the moment"

deranged /dɪˈreɪn(d)ʒd/

mad; insane.

"a deranged gunman"

even (something) out

to become equal, or to make something equal:

The league is divided into two skill levels in order to even out the competition.

jamboree /ˌdʒambəˈriː/

a large celebration or party, typically a lavish and boisterous one.

"the film industry's annual jamboree in Cannes"

leg-up

an act of helping someone to mount a horse or high object.

"give me a leg-up over the wall"

an act of helping someone or something to improve their situation.

"he gave hip-hop a much-needed leg-up"

This phenomenon is one that is not at all well understood, and also one which is currently the subject of much academic research. It is an example of Bare Coordination. This is when coordinated noun phrases (NPs) which we would otherwise expect to take a determiner of

some description appear "bare" with no determiner or article at all. By coordinated, we mean that they appear in phrases using the coordinators and, or, but and so forth (some people call coordinators coordinating conjunctions)

Here are some more examples:

A black cat and a brown dog were fighting in the street. Cat and dog were equally filthy.

Are you man or mouse?

I was nursemaid, mistress and mother to those children.

I had pen and paper ready to make notes.

Mother and child were said to be recovering well.

He appeared to be millionaire and homeless vagabond at the same time.

A bare role NP [noun phrase] is a singular NP that is 'bare' in the sense of lacking the determiner which would elsewhere be required, and that denotes some kind of role, office, or position. A PC [predicative complement] can have the form of a bare role NP, but an O [object] can't:

curmudgeon /kə'mʌdʒ(ə)n/

a bad-tempered person, especially an old one.

convulsion /kən'vʌljən/

a sudden, violent, irregular movement of the body, caused by involuntary contraction of muscles and associated especially with brain disorders such as epilepsy, the presence of certain toxins or other agents in the blood, or fever in children.

"toxic side effects like convulsions"

7 Times of the Day

Parts of a day

Tell us about an episode where she was selfish.

Please tell me your stories of you being popular with girls in your school days.

pop on

to put on a piece of clothing

I'll just pop on a sweater and meet you outside.

under control

(of a danger or emergency) such that people are able to deal with it successfully.

"it took two hours to bring the blaze under control"

slouchy /'slautʃi/

(of an item of clothing) soft and relatively unstructured; not tight-fitting or rigid in shape.

"slouchy black suede boots"

characterised by a lazy, drooping posture.

"I followed three slouchy teenagers through the door"

salchow /'salkəʊ/

a jump in figure skating from the backward inside edge of one skate to the backward outside edge of the other, with one or more full turns in the air.

heinous /'heɪnəs, 'hi:nəs/

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

"a battery of heinous crimes"

Punk'd

to get embarrassed in front of your crew or significant other.

If you get punk'd in front of your girl you lose all your cool points.

Did you even check the reviews of that place? I don't want to go in blind.

"Jumping in the deep end" or "Going in blind" which are close to what I was meaning to say cause it supposed to sound like going to recklessly commit yourself into something while being ignorant of the things you're about to encounter, or something like that.

MEDLINE (Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System Online, or MEDLARS Online) is a bibliographic database of life sciences and biomedical information.

At most and at the most are interchangeable. They mean the same thing.

Boil the pasta for twelve minutes at most.

Boil the pasta for twelve minutes at the most.

It means don't boil the pasta for more than twelve minutes. You can boil it for less than twelve minutes but don't go over twelve minutes.

The common phrase is 'at best', and not 'at the best'.

Here is an example from macmillan dictionary:

His chances of victory are, at best, uncertain.

The government's response seems to have been at best confused and at worst dishonest.

Lower Bottoms

The Lower Bottoms (also known as The Bottoms) is the informal name of a neighborhood of West Oakland in Oakland, California.

set tripping = rival gangs confronting each other, usually leading to a fight

dip

US slang : to leave especially suddenly or prematurely

I didn't know anyone at the party so I dipped.

trimester /trɪ'mɛstə/

a period of three months, especially as a division of the duration of pregnancy.

NORTH AMERICAN

each of the three terms in an academic year.

itinerary /ɪˈtɪnərəri, ɪˈtɪnərəri/

a planned route or journey.

"his itinerary included an official visit to Canada"

a travel document recording a route or journey.

"we will send you an itinerary"

lucrative /ˈl(j)uːkrətɪv/

producing a great deal of profit.

"a lucrative career as a stand-up comedian"

lucre /ˈl(j)uːkə/

money, especially when regarded as sordid or distasteful or gained in a dishonourable way.

"officials getting their hands grubby with filthy lucre"

Russian /ˈrʌʃn/

She has Russian blood in her veins.

averse /əˈvəːs/

having a strong dislike of or opposition to something.

"as a former CIA director, he is not averse to secrecy"

averse /əˈvəːs/

having a strong dislike of or opposition to something.

"as a former CIA director, he is not averse to secrecy"

benign /bɪˈnɪn/

gentle and kindly.

"his benign but firm manner"

cranky /ˈkræŋki/ I. adjective 1. (Brit.) <informal> eccentric or strange • a cranky scheme to pipe ground-level ozone into the stratosphere. 2. (chiefly N. Amer.) bad-tempered; irritable • he was cranky after eight hours of working. 3. (of a machine) working erratically • after a juddering landing the cranky plane eased up the runway.

break sweat INFORMAL

exert oneself physically.

"they extended their unbeaten run to seven matches and hardly had to break sweat to do it"

break a sweat

to begin to sweat

He started running and soon broke a sweat.

He loaded all five boxes without breaking a sweat.

—often used figuratively to say that something is not hard for someone to do

He gave a perfect performance and didn't break a sweat.

urea /jʊˈri:ə, ˈjʊəriə/ l. noun — [ mass noun] 1. [Biochemistry] a colourless crystalline compound which is the main nitrogenous breakdown product of protein metabolism in mammals and is excreted in urine. •Chem. formula: CO(NH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>.

graft /grɑ:ft/ hard work.

"success came after years of hard graft"

Mars, commonly known as Mars bar, is the name of two varieties of chocolate bar produced by Mars, Incorporated.

upshot /ˈʌpʃɒt/

the final or eventual outcome or conclusion of a discussion, action, or series of events.

"the upshot of the meeting was that he was on the next plane to New York"

snug /snʌg/

comfortable, warm, and cosy; well protected from the weather or cold.

"she was safe and snug in Ruth's arms"

very tight or close-fitting.

"a well-shaped hood for a snug fit"

wattage /ˈwɒtɪdʒ/

an amount of electrical power expressed in watts.

identical twins

We are fraternal twins.

throw shade INFORMAL•US

publicly criticise or express contempt for someone.

"if she was really so above it all, she wouldn't have to throw shade"

if a baby is teething, its first teeth are growing

teething /ˈti:ðɪŋ/

the process of growing or cutting milk teeth.

"it soothes the discomfort of teething"

teethe /ti:ð/

grow or cut milk teeth.

"my son is teething so some nights I barely sleep"

slander /ˈslɑ:ndə/

the action or crime of making a false spoken statement damaging to a person's reputation.

"he is suing the TV company for slander"

pho /fə:/

a type of Vietnamese soup, typically made from beef stock and spices to which noodles and thinly sliced beef or chicken are added.

in the clutch

in a very important or critical situation especially during a sports competition

He is known for his ability to come through in the clutch.

She scored a basket in the clutch.

artery /'ɑ:t(ə)ri/

any of the muscular-walled tubes forming part of the circulation system by which blood (mainly that which has been oxygenated) is conveyed from the heart to all parts of the body.

platelet /'pleɪtlɪt/

nounPHYSIOLOGY

a small colourless disc-shaped cell fragment without a nucleus, found in large numbers in blood and involved in clotting.

loom large

idiom

: to have great importance or influence

Rising tuition costs loom large in the minds of many parents.

She was a critic who loomed large in literary circles.

flabbergast /'flabəɡɑ:st/

doll /dɒl/

Dislocating a joint is painful. I want to avoid that while I am abroad.

Joint dislocations are painful. I want to avoid having one while I am abroad.

To throw your hip out, this means that the ball and socket portion of the hip come apart.

throw out

twist, strain, or dislocate a joint or other body part.

"he threw out his back at the gym"

concede /kən'si:d/

admit or agree that something is true after first denying or resisting it.

"I had to concede that I'd overreacted"

If something is a nod to a particular thing, it refers to it:

The name San Francisco 49ers is a nod to the prospectors who flocked to California during the 1849 gold rush.

Female members of Congress wore white in a nod to suffragists during the State of the Union.



slob /slɒb/ INFORMAL

a person who is lazy and has low standards of cleanliness.

"he's a slob and expects others to clean up after him"

lemon /'lɛmən/

INFORMAL

an unsatisfactory or feeble person or thing.

"car-makers cannot afford to create lemons"

"Caramelldansen" (Swedish for 'The Caramelldance') is the first track from Swedish music group Caramell's second and final album Supergott released on 16 November 2001.

She turned a deathly shade of white when she heard the news.

He's a lawyer turned politician (= he used to be a lawyer but is now a politician).

turn traitor

betray a group or person.

"she'd had the gall to deny she had turned traitor"

an actor turned politician/a housewife turned author etc

someone who has done one job and then does something completely different → poacher turned gamekeeper

If you say that someone will go a long way, you mean that they will be very successful.

Good manners go a long way.

In journalism, yellow journalism and the yellow press are American newspapers that use eye-catching headlines and sensationalised exaggerations for increased sales. The English term is chiefly used in the US. In the United Kingdom, a similar term is tabloid journalism.

excuse yourself

to say politely that you need to leave a place

Richard excused himself and went to his room.

alleviate /ə'li:vɪeɪt/

make (suffering, deficiency, or a problem) less severe.

"he couldn't prevent her pain, only alleviate it"

anemone /ə'nɛməni/

convivial /kən'vɪvɪəl/

(of an atmosphere or event) friendly, lively, and enjoyable.

"a convivial cocktail party"

(of a person) cheerful and friendly; jovial.

"she was relaxed and convivial"

conducive /kən'dju:sɪv/

making a certain situation or outcome likely or possible.

"the harsh lights and cameras were hardly conducive to a relaxed atmosphere"

glycogen /'glʌɪkədʒ(ə)n/

nounBIOCHEMISTRY

a substance deposited in bodily tissues as a store of carbohydrates. It is a polysaccharide which forms glucose on hydrolysis.

turn (someone/something) into someone/something

to change and become someone or something different, or to make someone or something do this:

The council was hoping to turn a children's home into a residence for adolescent girls.

turn from something into something The town turned from a small seaside resort into a major commercial centre when oil was discovered.

felony /'fɛləni/

a crime regarded in the US and many other judicial systems as more serious than a misdemeanour.

"he pleaded guilty to six felonies"

depot /'dɛpəʊ/

a place for the storage of large quantities of equipment, food, or goods.

"an arms depot"

A flush toilet (also known as a flushing toilet, water closet (WC); see also toilet names) is a toilet that disposes of human waste (principally urine and feces) by using the force of water to flush it through a drainpipe to another location for treatment, either nearby or at a communal facility, thus maintaining a separation between humans and their waste.

pit toilet

drop toilet

I went to a camp ground last weekend and it had a drop toilet. It was stinky.

throw (someone) out of a window.

"she had made up her mind that the woman had been defenestrated, although the official verdict had been suicide"

remove or dismiss (someone) from a position of power or authority.

"the overwhelming view is that he should be defenestrated before the next election"

wick /wɪk/

a strip of porous material up which liquid fuel is drawn by capillary action to the flame in a candle, lamp, or lighter.

settle on something

to choose or make a decision about something after thinking about it

Have you settled on a name for the baby yet?

After much deliberation, he finally settled on a fur rug.

Abandonware is a product, typically software, ignored by its owner and manufacturer, which can no longer be found for sale, and for which no official support is available and can't be bought.[]

brisk /brɪsk/

(of wind or the weather) cold but pleasantly invigorating.

"the sea was shimmering and heaving beneath the brisk breeze"

trike /traɪk/

a tricycle.

a kind of ultralight aircraft.

"I missed the part where that's my problem"

"It's over Anakin! I have the high ground!"?

God knows

used to emphasise that one does not know something.

"God knows what else they might find"

2.

used to emphasise the truth of a statement.

"goodness knows, I haven't been perfect"

If you're talking about "novel" as a work of written fiction, it's countable.

Example: "The flight was so long, I read two novels."

truth is stranger than fiction (saying)

used to say that things that actually happen are often more surprising than stories that are invented

fiction

[uncountable] a type of literature that describes imaginary people and events, not real ones

a work of popular fiction

historical/romantic/crime fiction

to write/read fiction

a crime fiction writer

[countable] something that people want you to believe is true but which is not true OPP fact

preserving the fiction of his happy childhood

out of character

not in keeping with someone's usual pattern of behaviour and motives.

"it is out of character for her to be out of contact for this long"

rack up

accumulate or achieve something, typically a score or amount.  
"Japan is racking up record trade surpluses with the United States"

latent /'leɪt(ə)nt/  
(of a quality or state) existing but not yet developed or manifest; hidden or concealed.  
"they have a huge reserve of latent talent"

throw down the gauntlet  
issue a challenge.  
"he threw down the gauntlet to cabinet colleagues"

nitwit /'nɪtwɪt/  
noun INFORMAL  
a silly or foolish person (often as a general term of abuse).  
"I want nothing to do with that bunch of nitwits!"

double dare  
A challenge that is harder or naughtier than a regular dare.  
To challenge with a double dare.  
I double dare you to run down the street naked.

pump somebody full of something  
informal to put a lot of drugs into someone's body  
athletes pumped full of steroids  
• It pumps me so full of adrenalin that I pace in and out of duty-free shops, toilets, coffee shops, anything.  
• They pumped her full of drugs.  
• Suit's pumped me full of painkillers, but nothing else.  
pump (one) full of (something)  
To forcefully fill one with something.  
My psychiatrist pumped me full of antidepressants as a child, and it numbed me to the world.  
The gangsters drove by with their Tommy guns and pumped their rivals full of lead.

come round  
recover consciousness.  
"I'd just come round from a drunken stupor"  
visit someone's house.  
"Marcus starts coming round to Will's to watch TV and hang out"  
3.  
be converted to another person's opinion.  
"I came round to her point of view"

underpin /ˌʌndə'pɪn/  
support (a building or other structure) from below by laying a solid foundation below ground level or by substituting stronger for weaker materials.

ghee /gi:/  
clarified butter made from the milk of a buffalo or cow, used in South Asian cooking.

"a delicious meal cooked in ghee"

achy /'eɪki/

adjective

suffering from continuous dull pain.

"she felt tired and achy"

livestock noun /'laɪvstɒk/

[uncountable, plural]

wreak /ri:k/

cause (a large amount of damage or harm).

"torrential rainstorms wreaked havoc yesterday"

wreak havoc

idiom

: to cause great damage

A powerful tornado wreaked havoc on the small village.

The virus wreaked havoc on my computer.

lacklustre /'lak,lʌstə/

pine /paɪn/

suffer a mental and physical decline, especially because of a broken heart.

"she thinks I am pining away from love"

miss or long for.

"she's still pining for him"

pine for something/someone

to want or miss something or someone very much:

He's still pining for his ex-girlfriend.

After three months away, I was pining for home.

wean someone off something

to make someone gradually stop using something that is bad for them:

It's difficult to wean addicts off cocaine once they're hooked.

The whole scheme is intended to wean people off welfare dependency.

racy /'reɪsi/

lively, entertaining, and typically sexually titillating.

"the novel was considered rather racy at the time"

stingy /'stɪŋ(d)ʒi/

adjective INFORMAL

mean; ungenerous.

"his boss is stingy and idle"

bonnet /'bɒnɪt/

a woman's or child's hat tied under the chin and with a brim framing the face.

"these specially designed bonnets provide warmth, protection, and cushioning for babies"

suicide /'su:ɪsaɪd/

live down

succeed in making others forget something embarrassing that has happened.

"I'd never live it down if Lily got wind of this"

get wind of

begin to suspect that (something) is happening; hear a rumour of.

"Mortimer got wind of a plot being hatched"

reservation /,rɛzə'veɪʃn/

You have your shirt on backwards.

You're wearing it on backwards.

You're wearing it backwards.

beneficiary /,bɛnɪ'fɪ(ə)ri, bɛnɪ'fɪʃəri/

a person who derives advantage from something, especially a trust, will, or life insurance policy.

There were many beneficiaries of this dramatic shift in Western politics.

young people who identify as transgender

throw a wrench into the works

idiom

US, informal

: to damage or change (something) in a way that ruins it or prevents it from working properly

We were going to renew our lease, but the landlord threw a wrench into the works by increasing the rent.

Furries are individuals who are especially interested in anthropomorphic or cartoon animals (e.g., Bugs Bunny).

What does it mean when someone says they are a furry?

natal /'neɪtl/

relating to the place or time of one's birth.

"he was living in the south, many miles from his natal city"

destroy /dɪ'strɔɪ/

deserve /dɪ'zə:v/

empath /'ɛmpaθ/

(chiefly in science fiction) a person with the paranormal ability to perceive the mental or emotional state of another individual.

commission /kə'mɪʃn/

an instruction, command, or role given to a person or group.

"one of his first commissions was to redesign the Great Exhibition building"

order or authorise the production of (something).

"the portrait was commissioned by his widow in 1792"

plight /plaɪt/

a dangerous, difficult, or otherwise unfortunate situation.

"we must direct our efforts towards relieving the plight of children living in poverty"

In criminal justice systems, a youth detention centre, known as a juvenile detention centre (JDC),<sup>[1]</sup> juvenile detention, juvenile jail, juvenile hall, or more colloquially as juvie/juvy or the Juvey Joint, also sometimes referred to as observation home or remand home<sup>[2]</sup> is a prison for people under the age of majority, to which they have been sentenced and committed for a period of time, or detained on a short-term basis while awaiting trial or placement in a long-term care program.

go down on your knees

to beg desperately for something

They won't take the manager back, even if he gets down on his knees and apologises.

come to terms with

come to accept (a new and painful or difficult event or situation); reconcile oneself to.

"she had come to terms with the tragedies in her life"

"I've been doing this all year."

pillage /'pɪlɪdʒ/

rob a (place) using violence, especially in wartime.

"the abbey was plundered and pillaged"

oligarch /'ɒlɪɡɑ:k/

a very rich business leader with a great deal of political influence (particularly with reference to individuals who benefited from the privatisation of state-run industries after the collapse of the Soviet Union).

The Russian oligarchs spent money on London real estate.

The football club was bought by a Russian oligarch in 2003.

If something is 'up for grabs', it is available.

Is this last biscuit up for grabs? I'm starving.

There are some great prizes up for grabs in tonight's pub quiz.

There are three scholarships up for grabs. I'm definitely going to apply.

rampant /'ramp(ə)nt/

(especially of something unwelcome) flourishing or spreading unchecked.

"political violence was rampant"

person in a suit

metonymy /mɪˈtɒnəmi/

the substitution of the name of an attribute or adjunct for that of the thing meant, for example suit for business executive, or the turf for horse racing.

get down

dance energetically.

"her boyfriend appears out of nowhere and starts to get down on the dance floor"

Huge W, or also just W in a online chat / internet Slang usually refers to huge win or win.

What Does It Mean To Be Bonded Out of Jail?

Being "bonded out of jail" means securing release through a bail bond. When someone is arrested, a bail amount is set by the court. If the individual or their family cannot afford to pay the full bail, they can seek the services of a bail bond company.

enabler /ɪˈneɪblə, ɛˈneɪblə/

a person or thing that makes something possible.

"the people who run these workshops are crime enablers"

a person who encourages or enables negative or self-destructive behaviour in another.

"being an enabler to an addict does more harm than good"

"Thanks for catching that."

"Ooops! Thanks. I appreciate your help."

"Thank you. I appreciate your help."

"My bad, Thanks."

Thanks for informing me of it, Jennifer.

You could also say

- Thanks for pointing it out.

- Thanks for catching that.

conducive /kənˈdjuːsɪv/

making a certain situation or outcome likely or possible.

"the harsh lights and cameras were hardly conducive to a relaxed atmosphere"

scot-free

without receiving the deserved or expected punishment or without being harmed:

The court let her off scot-free.

due diligence

law : the care that a reasonable person exercises to avoid harm to other persons or their property

failed to exercise due diligence in trying to prevent the accident



business : research and analysis of a company or organisation done in preparation for a business transaction (such as a corporate merger or purchase of securities)  
The company had taken all reasonable precautions and exercised due diligence to avoid the offence.

"I'll take one of each, please."

Yes, "I'll have one of each of those, please" is correct.

jeopardy /'dʒɛpədi/

in jeopardy

in a situation in which someone or something is exposed to possible injury, loss, or evil : in danger

He is responsible for placing innocent lives in jeopardy.

The wrong decision could place your career in (serious) jeopardy.

Adverse public opinion puts this proposal in serious jeopardy.

gauze /gɔ:z/

a thin transparent fabric of silk, linen, or cotton.

"a hat swathed in green gauze"

martyr /'mɑ:tə/

a person who is killed because of their religious or other beliefs.

"the first Christian martyr"

verb

posthumous /'pɒstʃʊməs/

adjective

occurring, awarded, or appearing after the death of the originator.

"he was awarded a posthumous Military Cross"

(of a child) born after the death of its father.

"Newton was the posthumous son of an illiterate yeoman"

genre /'ʒɒrə, 'ʒɒnrə/

layman /'leɪmən/

a person without professional or specialised knowledge in a particular subject.

"the book seems well suited to the interested layman"

minted /'mɪntɪd/

adjective INFORMAL • BRITISH

having a lot of money; rich.

"I imagine those kids think I'm minted"

We do conventionally use a with profit (and the with profits, by the way). Also possible, though rarer, is the profit. I'm not sure there's a real reason for this aside from "That's the way we do it." The use of articles in English is full of all sorts of written and unwritten rules,

and I fear this may be one of them. I'll be interested to see if another native speaker can offer a more concrete explanation.

negative /'nɛɡətɪv/

WTW for rolling up into a foetal position on the ground and crying?

Foetal position (British English: also foetal) is the positioning of the body of a prenatal foetus as it develops.

urinal /jʊ'rʌɪnəl, 'jʊərəɪnəl, 'jɔ:ɪnəl/

a bowl or other receptacle, typically attached to a wall in a public toilet, into which men may urinate.

acquiesce /,akwi'ɛs/

accept something reluctantly but without protest.

"Sara acquiesced in his decision"

saline /'seɪlɪn/

containing or impregnated with salt.

"saline alluvial soils"

stethoscope /'stɛθəskəʊp/

noun

a medical instrument for listening to the action of someone's heart or breathing, typically having a small disc-shaped resonator that is placed against the chest, and two tubes connected to earpieces.

be down

1. To feel sad, depressed, dejected, or generally unwell. Usually used with mitigators or intensifiers, such as "a bit," "really," "rather," "so," etc.

I got some bad news this morning, so I'm a bit down at the moment.

You didn't do that poorly on the exam, don't be so down!

He's been down ever since he found out he didn't get the job.

roof /ru:f/

the structure forming the upper covering of a building or vehicle.

"the rain woke him, hammering on the roof"

aloof /ə'lu:f/

not friendly or forthcoming; cool and distant.

"they were courteous but faintly aloof"

snicker /'snɪkə/

give a half-suppressed, typically scornful laugh; snigger.

"he could imagine them snickering as he passed"

manure /mə'njʊə/

animal dung used for fertilising land.

"plenty of fully rotted horse manure can be dug in this fall"

shtick /ʃɪk/

a gimmick, comic routine, style of performance, etc. associated with a particular person.

"there are many great comics who have based their stand-up shtick on observational comedy"

a person's special talent, interest, or area of activity.

"movies about ordinary women who do extraordinary things—that's my shtick"

The number of victims remains unclear.

account for something

to form the total of something:

Students account for the vast majority of our customers.

misfit

/ˈmɪsfɪt/

noun

a person whose behaviour or attitude sets them apart from others in an uncomfortably conspicuous way.

"a motley collection of social misfits"

smug

/smʌɡ/

adjective

having or showing an excessive pride in oneself or one's achievements.

"he was feeling smug after his win"

duress

/dʒʊˈrɛs, ˈdʒʊəriːs/

noun

threats, violence, constraints, or other action used to coerce someone into doing something against their will or better judgement.

"confessions extracted under duress"

club<sup>1</sup>

/klʌb/

noun

1.

an association dedicated to a particular interest or activity.

"I belong to a photographic club"

a heavy stick with a thick end, used as a weapon.

"they beat him with a wooden club"

salubrious

/səˈl(j)uːbrɪəs/

adjective

health-giving; healthy.

"odours of far less salubrious origin"

substantiate

/səbˈstʌnʃieɪt/

verb

provide evidence to support or prove the truth of.

"they had found nothing to substantiate the allegations"

convict

verb

/kənˈvɪkt/

declare (someone) to be guilty of a criminal offence by the verdict of a jury or the decision of a judge in a court of law.

"the thieves were convicted of the robbery"

He was sentenced in 2017 and is still on death row.

death row

a prison block or section for those sentenced to death.

"a convicted killer on death row"

pomp /pɒmp/

ceremony and splendid display.

"entertaining overseas visitors with the right degree of pomp"

flax /flæks/

a blue-flowered herbaceous plant that is cultivated for its seed (linseed) and for textile fibre made from its stalks.

in the buff

naked : not wearing any clothes

They sunbathe in the buff.

Cambridge blue /ˌkeɪmbɪdʒ ˈbluː/

nounBRITISH

a pale blue colour.

a person who has represented Cambridge University at a particular sport in a match against Oxford University.

surplus /ˈsɜːpləs/

an amount of something left over when requirements have been met; an excess of production or supply.

"exports of food surpluses"

indistinguishable /ˌɪndɪˈstɪŋɡwɪʃəbl/

backsie

The act of taking back or going back on a statement, promise, or agreement.

whatever /wɒt'evə/

follow on

to go somewhere after somebody else has gone there

You go to the beach with the kids and I'll follow on when I've finished work.

You go ahead and we'll follow on later.

reclusive /rɪ'kluːsɪv/

avoiding the company of other people; solitary.

"he led a reclusive life"

ken /kɛn/

one's range of knowledge or understanding.

"politics are beyond my ken"

in my book

in my opinion.

"that counts as a lie in my book"

Don't dilly-dally on the way home from school

slack off

to work less hard or to be less than is usual or necessary:

Workers tend to slack off on Mondays and Fridays.

ultimate /'ʌltɪmət/

tartare sauce /tɑ:tə'sɔ:s/

If you say that something costs an arm and a leg, you mean that it is very expensive.

[informal]

A week at a health farm can cost an arm and a leg.

Synonyms: a lot of money, a bomb [British, slang], a fortune, a pile [informal] More

Synonyms of an arm and a leg

pass something around

to give something to another person, who gives it to someone else, etc. until everyone has seen it

Can you pass these pictures around for everyone to look at, please?

sagacious /sə'geɪʃəs/

having or showing keen mental discernment and good judgement; wise or shrewd.

"they were sagacious enough to avoid any outright confrontation"

emancipate /ɪˈmɑːnsɪpeɪt/

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

"the people were emancipated from the shackles of oppression"

LAW set (a child) free from the authority of its parents.

"the plaintiffs had not been entirely emancipated from their father's control"

fad /fəd/

an intense and widely shared enthusiasm for something, especially one that is short-lived; a craze.

"some regard green politics as no more than the latest fad"

palooza /pəˈluːzə/

It was not a rumour, not merely a news item, or talk, or fad. It became a palooza beyond even Johnnie Gold's desires—a wonderment scattering far and wide out of the spacious mouth of the sky, billowing everywhere and expanding forever.

entitle /ɪnˈtaɪtl, ɛnˈtaɪtl/

give (someone) a legal right or a just claim to receive or do something.

"employees are normally entitled to redundancy pay"

single someone/something out

to choose one person or thing from a group for special attention, especially criticism or praise:

be singled out for It's not fair the way my sister is always singled out for special treatment.

Jamie was thrilled when the teacher singled out his poem and asked him to read it aloud.

The world is not just black and white.

Do you give your parents some money for rent and groceries?

I washed dishes to pay for her room and board to attend college for a couple of years.

I pay each semester for room and board at college.

Room and board is a phrase describing a situation in which, in exchange for money, labour or other considerations, a person is provided with a place to live as well as meals on a comprehensive basis.

Do you pay your parents room and board?

Do you give your parents some money for rent and groceries?

freeload /ˈfriːləʊd/

verb DEROGATORY•INFORMAL

take advantage of other people's generosity without giving anything in return.

"why pay rent when you can freeloader?"

wherewithal /'wɛ:wiðɔ:l/

the money or other means needed for a particular purpose.

"they lacked the wherewithal to pay"

the wherewithal (to do something) the money, things, or skills that you need in order to be able to do something

They lacked the wherewithal to pay for the repairs.

torsion /'tɔ:ʃn/

the action of twisting or the state of being twisted, especially of one end of an object relative to the other.

competition /,kɒmpɪ'tɪʃn/

the activity or condition of striving to gain or win something by defeating or establishing superiority over others.

"there is fierce competition between banks"

derust

(transitive) To remove rust from (something).

I'm going to derust the car this weekend.

(intransitive, chiefly video games, slang) To regain one's skills at a game after not having played for a while; to reverse the process of rusting.

vagrant /'veɪgr(ə)nt/

a person without a settled home or regular work who wanders from place to place and lives by begging.

mellow out US, informal

: to become relaxed and calm

She mellowed out as she grew older.

: to calm down

You're getting all upset over nothing. You need to mellow out.

entirety /ɪn'taɪərti,ɛn'taɪərti/

"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.

anorexia /,anə'reksɪə/

an eating disorder characterised by restriction of food intake leading to low body weight, typically accompanied by intense fear of gaining weight and disturbed perception of body weight and image.

"I had anorexia for four years and I was in complete denial the whole time"

talk

topic/way of speaking

[uncountable] (often in compounds) a topic of conversation or a way of speaking

business talk

She said it was just girl talk that a man wouldn't understand.

The book teaches you how to understand Spanish street talk (= slang).  
It was tough talk, coming from a man who had

smack talk

noun [ U ] US informal

insulting, taunting, or boastful comments, often as a form of banter, as between competitors;  
trash talk:

At boxing practice there's a lot of gibing and smack talk between the boxers as they go at each other.

He won the election but soon found that his campaign-trail smack talk didn't translate well to governing.

razzle-dazzle

a state of confusion or hilarity

2

: a complex maneuver (as in sports) designed to confuse an opponent

3

: a confusing or colorful often gaudy action or display

bobble / 'bɒbəl/

a small ball made of strands of wool used as a decoration on a hat or on furnishings.

"a woollen ski hat with a bobble on top"

small plastic balls attached to a circular piece of elastic, used for fastening girls' hair.

assertive / ə 'sɜ:tɪv/

having or showing a confident and forceful personality.

"the job may call for assertive behaviour"

ostentatious / ,ɒstən'teɪʃəs/

characterised by pretentious or showy display; designed to impress.

"a simple design that is glamorous without being ostentatious"

to that/this end

as a way of dealing with or doing something

We want to save the building. To this end, we have hired someone to assess its current state.

A supertaster is a person whose sense of taste is of far greater intensity than the average person, having an elevated taste response.[

On the other hand, those with fewer papillae than average aren't anywhere near as sensitive to strong flavours and are known as subtasters.

worry / 'wʌrɪ/

subdue / səb'dju:/

bring (a country or people) under control by force.



"Charles went on a campaign to subdue the Saxons"

saloon /sə'lu:n/

a public room or building used for a specified purpose.

"a billiard saloon"

lunatic /'lu:nətik/

a person who is mentally ill (not in technical use).

therapeutic /,θerə'pjʊ:tik/

okra /'əʊkrə,'ɒkrə/

Chopin It's essentially just "show-pan."

"Watch your step" is something I'd say only if someone was about to do something that could make them trip: step in a hole, fall off a curb, etc. To someone about to step on my belongings, I'd say "Hey, watch it!" if I wanted to express irritation, or simply "Hey, watch out!" if I wanted to be more polite.

'watch your step' is talking about you watching where you walk. 'watch your steps' could be inferring so calculated wisely to what you're about to do.

The Summer Olympics are held every four years.

Sports that end in "-ing" usually go with the verb "go".

I go....swimming, snowboarding, kayaking

street-walk - walk the streets in search of customers; "The prostitute is street-walking every night"

The due date for the assignment is Friday.

Tomorrow's the due date for our electricity bill.

black eye

a discoloration of the skin around the eye from bruising

: DEFEAT, SETBACK

: a bad reputation

look down one's nose at

to regard with contempt

She looks down her nose at poor people.

the size, shape, or level of something:

a building of elegant proportions

I'm not very good at drawing people - I can never get the proportions right.

humorous She's a woman of generous proportions (= she is fat).

A small worry in the back of your mind can for no apparent reason assume massive proportions in the middle of the night.

This could end up being a disaster of global proportions.

Her comment, which sounded completely harmless out of context, took on different proportions when heard in context.

I found out that body proportions actually play a humongous part in your external appearance of what people perceive your height to be.

How many of you have good proportions?

be (all) the rage

to be very popular at a particular time:

Long hair for men was all the rage in the 70s.

The term "that smarts" meaning "that hurts" dates back over a thousand years.

the/a devil of a something

an extremely difficult or serious type of something:

a devil of a mess/problem

We had the devil of a job/time trying to find this place!

glory (be) to God/Jesus etc

spoken used to say that God deserves praise, honour, and thanks

I'm lost. How do I get to the station from here?

euthanasia /ˌjuːθəˈneɪzɪə, ˌjuːθəˈneɪzə/

the painless killing of a patient suffering from an incurable and painful disease or in an irreversible coma.

"she wants the laws around euthanasia to be changed"

Blurred out - To distort an image of a person or thing in order to make it difficult or impossible to distinguish.

"in Frame" means that the object is visible to anyone watching the movie because the camera is pointed in that direction and can be seen in the eyepiece of the camera.

dingy /ˈdɪŋ(d)ʒi/

gloomy and drab.

"a dingy room"

toner /ˈtəʊnə/

an astringent liquid applied to the skin to reduce oiliness and improve its condition.

"if your skin is oily, use a gentle toner"

a black or coloured powder used in xerographic copying processes.

"a high-definition toner for colour photocopying machines"

rarity /'rɛ:ɹɪti/

the state or quality of being rare.

"the rarity of the condition"

a rare thing, especially one having particular value.

"to take the morning off was a rarity"

grab something by the throat

to make a determined attempt to control, defeat, or deal with something

Instead of being passive and waiting for things to happen, you must get out there and grab life by the throat.

raspberry /'rɑ:zb(ə)ri/

dissimilar /,dɪ(s)'sɪmɪlə/

not the same; different.

"a collection of dissimilar nations lacking overall homogeneity"

tally /'tali/

a record of a score or amount.

"I kept a tally of David's debt on a note above my desk"

agree or correspond.

"their signatures should tally with their names on the register"

he has a pain kink

If you sleep in, you stay asleep in the morning for longer than you usually do.

Yesterday, few players turned up because most slept in.

rob someone blind INFORMAL•US

rob or cheat someone in a comprehensive or merciless way.

earnings /'ə:nɪŋz/

the amount of money that someone is paid for working:

Average earnings for skilled workers are rising.

cadet /kə'det/

a young trainee in the armed services or police force.

"an air cadet"

impudent /'ɪmpjʊd(ə)nt/

not showing due respect for another person; impertinent.

"he could have strangled this impudent upstart"

audacious /ɔ: 'deɪʃəs/

showing a willingness to take surprisingly bold risks.

"a series of audacious takeovers"

showing an impudent lack of respect.

"he made an audacious remark"

stim (third-person singular simple present stims, present participle stimulating, simple past and past participle stimulated)

(psychology, transitive) To perform such a repetitive self-stimulatory action.

morbid /'mɔːbɪd/

characterised by an unusual interest in disturbing and unpleasant subjects, especially death and disease.

"he had a morbid fascination with the horrors of contemporary warfare"

comorbidity /,kəʊmɔː'bɪdɪti/

noun MEDICINE

the simultaneous presence of two or more diseases or medical conditions in a patient.

"age and comorbidity may be risk factors for poor outcome"

go-to

adjective INFORMAL • NORTH AMERICAN

adjective: go-to; noun: go-to-guy; plural noun: go-to-guys

denoting a person or thing that may be relied on or is regularly sought out in a particular situation.

"he seems to have become the go-to guy for working with kids and animals"

repent /rɪ'pent/

gerund or present participle: repenting

feel or express sincere regret or remorse about one's wrongdoing or sin.

"the Padre urged his listeners to repent"

pomegranate /'pɒmɪɡrənɪt/

endearing /ɪn'dɪərɪŋ, ɛn'dɪərɪŋ/

inspiring affection.

"an endearing little grin"

I'm good on it

It means that you have enough of something. For example:

"Should I bring something for the party? Some snacks?"

"We're good on snacks but could use some more cups."

rebut /rɪ'bʌt/

claim or prove that (evidence or an accusation) is false.

"he had to rebut charges of acting for the convenience of his political friends"

count your blessings

to be grateful for the good things in your life, often to stop yourself becoming too unhappy about the bad things

migraine /'mi:greɪn, 'mʌɪgreɪn/

a recurrent throbbing headache that typically affects one side of the head and is often accompanied by nausea and disturbed vision.

"I'm getting a migraine"

cleavage /'kli:vɪdʒ/

put somebody on

to give someone the telephone so that they can talk to the person at the other end

Hi, Dad—can you put Nicky on?

put on

to become heavier, especially by the amount mentioned

synonym gain

She looks like she's put on weight.

He must have put on several pounds.

incantation noun /,ɪnkæn'teɪʃn/

[countable, uncountable]

special words that are spoken or sung to have a magic effect; the act of speaking or singing these words

innovative /'ɪnəveɪtɪv, 'ɪnəvətɪv/

adjective

(of a product, idea, etc.) featuring new methods; advanced and original.

"innovative designs"

(of a person) introducing new ideas; original and creative in thinking.

"writers who are now viewed as innovative"

flip through

look quickly through a book, magazine, etc.

"McLeish flipped through his notes"

If you say that something happens all down the line, or right down the line, you mean that it happens in every case.

[informal]

Excellent acting all down the line captures the sound and feeling of that semi-feudal age.

Democrats and Republicans differed right down the line on what the proper responses were.

mixed blessing /,mɪks(t) 'blesɪŋ/

a thing that has disadvantages as well as advantages.

"having children so early in their marriage was a mixed blessing"

blessing /'blesɪŋ/

[countable] something that you have or something that happens which is good because it improves your life, helps you in some way, or makes you happy

The dishwasher has been a real blessing!

it is a blessing (that)

It's a blessing no one was badly hurt.

[uncountable] someone's approval or encouragement for a plan, activity, idea etc with somebody's blessing

They were determined to marry, with or without their parents' blessing.

The Defense Department has given its blessing to the scheme.

saviour /'seɪvjə/

a person who saves someone or something from danger or difficulty.

"politicians of the era usually portray themselves as the nation's saviours"

penance /'penəns/

punishment inflicted on oneself as an outward expression of repentance for wrongdoing.

"he had done public penance for those hasty words"

grievous /'gri:vəs/

adjective FORMAL

(of something bad) very severe or serious.

"his death was a grievous blow"

tie down

restrict someone to a particular situation or place.

"she didn't want to be tied down by a full-time job"

be tied down by He's tied down by having to work every Saturday.

We'd like to travel more, but having children at school really ties us down.

waterboarding /'wɔ:tə,bɔ:dɪŋ/

a form of torture, typically used as an interrogation technique, in which a person is strapped head-down on a sloping board with the mouth and nose covered while water is poured over their face, causing them to experience a sensation similar to that of drowning.

"his lawyers told the court that he was subjected to waterboarding on more than 80 occasions"

hallow /'haləʊ/

honour as holy.

"the Ganges is hallowed as a sacred, cleansing river"

college /'kɒlɪdʒ/

collage /'kɒlə:ʒ,kə'lɑ:ʒ/

contract /kən'trækt/

catch or develop (a disease or infectious agent).

"three people contracted a killer virus"

novena /nə(ʊ)'vi:nə/

(in the Roman Catholic Church) a form of worship consisting of special prayers or services on nine successive days.

shoulder /'ʃəʊldə/

platter /'platə/

a large flat dish or plate for serving food.

"arrange the fruit on a serving platter"

portent /'pɔ:tənt, 'pɔ:t(ə)nt/

a sign or warning that a momentous or calamitous event is likely to happen.

"many birds are regarded as being portents of death"

prodigal /'prɒdɪɡl/

spending money or using resources freely and recklessly; wastefully extravagant.

"prodigal habits die hard"

Notre Dame /,nɒtrə 'dɑ:m \$ ,nɒtər-/

If someone wanted to say "from the beginning of June until the end of June [but not starting now]," this would be "throughout June" or "during the month of June" or "for the entire month of June" - there are various ways of saying it, some more precise and explicit than others.

EDIT: It could also just be "in June." Since the rest of the sentence says "will be carrying out checks," it would clearly mean more than one occurrence.

wash one's hands of

Idioms and Phrases

Refuse to accept responsibility for; abandon or renounce. For example, I've done all I can for him, and now I'm washing my hands of him. This expression alludes to Pontius Pilate's washing his hands before having Jesus put to death, saying "I am innocent of the blood of this just person" (Matthew 27:24).

litany /'lɪtəni/

a series of petitions for use in church services or processions, usually recited by the clergy and responded to in a recurring formula by the people.

covenant /'kʌvənənt/

an agreement.

"there was a covenant between them that her name was never to be mentioned"

censure /'sɛnfə/

verb

express severe disapproval of (someone or something), especially in a formal statement.

"the company was heavily censured by inspectors from the Department of Trade"

wilderness /'wɪldənəs/

scapegoat /'skeɪpgəʊt/

a person who is blamed for something bad that somebody else has done or for some failure

SYNONYM fall guy

She felt she had been made a scapegoat for her boss's incompetence.

People always need convenient scapegoats to blame for society's problems.

Abel in British English 'eɪbəl

Cain in British English keɪn

Noah's ark /'nəʊəz/

gorge /gɔːdʒ/

a narrow valley between hills or mountains, typically with steep rocky walls and a stream running through it.

confectionery

/kən'fɛkʃən(ə)ri,kən'fɛkʃnəri/

noun

sweets and chocolates considered collectively.

"items of confectionery"

"living rent free in my head" means they're taking up a lot of your headspace without all of that attention being justified; i.e., you're spending more time thinking about them than you should. It's sort of negative towards both of you but more towards them, because they're not worth the time you've been giving them, and a little negative towards you for letting yourself do that.

pageant /'padʒ(ə)nt/

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"

scallion /'skaliən/

nounNORTH AMERICAN

a long-necked onion with a small bulb, in particular a spring onion.

If one thing is "a fraction of the cost" of something else, it is considerably cheaper.

Note that while nine-tenths, three-quarters and four-fifths are fractions, a fraction of the cost/price means a very small fraction.

a bomb/nuclear/gas explosion

There were two loud explosions and then the building burst into flames.

Bomb Squad officers carried out a controlled explosion of the device.

300 people were injured in the explosion.



detonate /'dɛtəneɪt/

explode or cause to explode.

"two other bombs failed to detonate"

plague /pleɪg/

(also the plague) (also bubonic plague) [uncountable] a disease spread by rats that causes a high temperature, swellings (= areas that are larger and rounder than usual) on the body and usually death

a decline in population following outbreaks of plague

an unusually large number of insects or animals infesting a place and causing damage.

"a plague of locusts"

heaven /'hevn/

[uncountable]

(used without the)

(in some religions) the place believed to be the home of God where good people go when they die, sometimes imagined to be in the sky

the kingdom of heaven

I feel like I've died and gone to heaven.

in heaven I told her Daddy was in heaven with God.

Our child seemed a gift from heaven.

coercion /kəʊ'ə:ʃn/

noun

the practice of persuading someone to do something by using force or threats.

"our problem cannot be solved by any form of coercion but only by agreement"

in reverse

(of a motor vehicle) in reverse gear so as to travel backwards.

"he put the Cadillac into reverse"

in the opposite direction or manner from usual.

"a similar ride next year will do the route in reverse"

gospel noun /'gɒspl/

(also gospel truth) [uncountable] (informal) the complete truth

Is that gospel?

Don't take his word as gospel.

Armageddon /,ɑ:mə'gɛdn/

The world sits on the brink of Armageddon, since Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) are so wide-spread throughout the world's nations.

say a prayer

How to Pray the Rosary: Guide to the Rosary Prayer

sprite /sprɪt/

an elf or fairy.

"All were" refers to multiple countable nouns, e.g. books, teachers, ideas. For example, "All applications were considered before a decision was reached." In this usage it means "every (single) one."

In contrast, "all was" refers to a nonspecific totality of something, e.g. hope, our efforts, the sum total of our possessions. For example, "All was in vain in the end." In this usage we don't know what all encompasses specifically, but it is the entirety of whatever the context suggests.

the state of your feelings:

in a good humour You seem in a very good humour today.

in a bad humour She was in a bad humour and gave him short answers.

Examples of promote in a Sentence

He was promoted to senior editor.

The army major was promoted to lieutenant colonel.

The team have been promoted to the First Division.

Mediators were present to promote dialogue.

The woman gently tugged his arm.

tug at/on something

Joe was tugging at her sleeve.

fungi UK/'fʌŋ.ɡaɪ/ US/'fʌŋ.ɡaɪ/

Aircraft, watercraft, hovercraft, and spacecraft are all the same whether singular or plural.

NASA has made several different types of spacecraft in its fifty-nine-year history.

Singular/Plural (no change)

sheep

fish

moose

swine

buffalo

shrimp

deer

trout

I have seen several deer when walking in the woods near here.

How many shrimp did you catch?

British English

he is still in school = he is still a pupil (but usually not a university student)

he is still at school = either he is still a pupil or he still hasn't come back from school

in principle

phrase of principle

as a general idea or plan, although the details are not yet established.

"the government agreed in principle to a peace plan that included a ceasefire"

annotate /'anə(ʊ)teɪt/

add notes to (a text or diagram) giving explanation or comment.

lively /'lʌɪvli/

supple /'sʌp(ə)l/

adjective

bending and moving easily and gracefully; flexible.

"her supple fingers"

lager /'lɑ:gə/

noun

a kind of effervescent beer which is light in colour and body.

"a sought-after brand of lager"

If you lead yourself to sustain your life, proves you're already leading your life. To not sustain or lead your life would not be possible unless an invalid or unable to process life with a dysfunctional brain.

lead a life of (something)

To lead a life typified by some quality, condition, or style.

Trust me, once we make off with the money, we'll be able to lead a life of luxury.

She always fantasized about moving to Los Angeles, becoming a movie star, and leading a life of fame and fortune.

I've never had any grand ambitions, I just want to earn enough money to lead a life of comfort.

in sight

phrase of sight

visible.

"no other vehicle was in sight"

near at hand; close to being achieved or realised.

"the minister insisted that agreement was in sight"

view noun /vyu/

[uncountable, singular] used when you are talking about whether you can see something or whether something can be seen in a particular situation

The lake soon came into view.

The sun disappeared from view.

There was no one in view.

Sit down — you're blocking my view.

I didn't have a good view of the stage.

(countable) An experience is an event that happens to you or that you are a part of.  
Synonyms: happening, occurrence and event  
The spelling bee was a horrible experience.

noun permit /'pə:mit/

an official document giving someone authorization to do something.

"he is only in Britain on a work permit"

permission /pə'r mɪʃn/

[uncountable] the act of allowing someone to do something, especially when this is done by someone in a position of authority

permission (for something) You must ask permission for all major expenditures.

permission (for somebody/something) (to do something) The school has been refused permission to expand.

No official permission has been given for the event to take place.

She took the car without permission.

poems reprinted by kind permission of the author

(formal) With your permission, I'd like to say a few words.

[countable, usually plural] an official written statement allowing someone to do something

The publisher is responsible for obtaining the necessary permissions to reproduce illustrations.

Incorrect: Please excuse the troubles.

Correct: Please excuse me for the trouble.

The word scenery is uncountable in English. It may be countable in some other languages. However, in English, we can't say sceneries or a scenery.

My parents paid my way through four years of college at great expense.

strike someone down

UK /straɪk/ US /straɪk/

struck | struck

Add to word list

If someone is struck down, they die suddenly or start to suffer from a serious illness:

It's a tragedy that these young people were struck down in their prime.

be struck down by He was struck down by polio when he was a teenager.

the icing on the cake

phrase of icing

an attractive but inessential addition or enhancement.

"more goals would have been the icing on the cake"

plate /pleɪt/

serve or arrange (food) on a plate or plates.

"overcooked vegetables won't look appetising, no matter how they are plated"

maraca /mə'rakə/

a percussion instrument in the form of a hollow gourd or gourd-shaped container filled with dried beans or similar objects and played, usually in pairs, by being shaken.

Correct:

During the '80s, the world's economy grew.

During the 1980s, the world's economy grew.

During the 1980's, the world's economy grew.

Not Advised:

During the '80's, the world's economy grew.

That's the way things were many moons ago.

when we use The British , it means The British people here in the sentence.

Hence the sentence is correct. The British were not happy about the taxes.

the law of diminishing returns

phrase of diminish

a principle stating that profits or benefits gained from something will represent a proportionally smaller gain as more money or energy is invested in it.

"studies have shown investments in direct-to-consumer promotion suffer significantly from the law of diminishing returns"

diminish /dɪˈmɪnɪʃ/

make or become less.

"the new law is expected to diminish the government's chances"

wholefood /ˈhəʊlfuːd/

nounBRITISH

noun: whole food

food that has been processed or refined as little as possible and is free from additives or other artificial substances.

"a wholefood diet"

day-to-day /ˌdeɪtəˈdeɪ/

happening regularly every day.

"the day-to-day management of the classroom"

paddle /ˈpɑdl/

walk with bare feet in shallow water.

"the children paddled at the water's edge"

chorus /ˈkɔːrəs/

impartial /ɪmˈpɑːʃl/

treating all rivals or disputants equally.

"the minister cannot be impartial in the way that a judge would be"

voluminous /və'luːmɪnəs/

(of clothes) very loose or full; having much fabric.

"a voluminous purple cloak"

Your fears have no basis in fact.

barrister /'bærɪstə/

noun BRITISH

a lawyer entitled to practise as an advocate, particularly in the higher courts.

"the barrister said her client accepted responsibility"

learn/know the ropes

to learn/know how to do a job or activity

Once you get the hang of it, it won't seem so hard anymore.

knack /nak/

an acquired or natural skill at doing something.

"he had a knack for communicating"

plethora /'plɛθ(ə)rə/

a large or excessive amount of something.

"a plethora of committees and subcommittees"

dense /dɛns/

(of a person) stupid.

"Am I being dense? I don't quite understand"

allude /ə'l(j)uːd/

suggest or call attention to indirectly; hint at.

"she had a way of alluding to Jean but never saying her name"

take (something) in stride

idiom

US

: to deal with (something difficult or upsetting) in a calm way

I thought she'd be upset, but she has taken the news in stride.

trooper /'truːpə/

a reliable and uncomplaining person.

"he was a real trooper for going on while he was feeling less than his best"

caveat /'kævɪət/

a warning or proviso of specific stipulations, conditions, or limitations.

"there are a number of caveats which concern the validity of the assessment results"

They are going for an outing.

They are on an outing.

One evening, she made a rare outing to the local discotheque.

discotheque /'diskəteɪk/

a club or party at which people dance to recorded pop music.

toilet cubicle

toilet stall

What does "I wish to wake up to this view" mean?

wake up to something

to start to understand that a situation or problem exists:

Governments are finally waking up to the fact that the environment should be cleaned up.

load-bearing

bearing the weight that is carried by a structure

the load-bearing joints of the body

a load-bearing wall

fetching /'fetʃɪŋ/

attractive.

"a fetching little garment of pink satin"

at every opportunity

idiom

: whenever possible

The dog ran away at every opportunity.

Put a sticky note somewhere that you will regularly see it that says 'slow progress is still progress' and say it out loud to remind yourself at every opportunity.

tenacity /tɪ'nasɪti/

the quality or fact of being able to grip something firmly; grip.

"the sheer tenacity of the limpet"

go on an adventure

to travel somewhere and do something that is unusual, exciting, and possibly dangerous:

They went on an adventure hunting for treasure in the western hills.

I went on an adventure during my holiday - I climbed volcanoes, visited a coffee plantation, and swam in the ocean.

whisk away

1. To brush or sweep something off of the surface of someone or something else. A noun or pronoun can be used between "whisk" and "away."

My wife whisked the cat hair off my shoulder before I left for my interview.

Let me just whisk off these hair clippings before you sit down, sir.

2. To remove something (from some place) very suddenly or hurriedly. A noun or pronoun can be used between "whisk" and "away."

After giving the journalists a very brief glimpse at the prototype, the company whisked it away back into their lab.

I wish you hadn't whisked away my plate from the table like that—I was still eating!

throw hands

It means to get in a physical fight with someone. For example if I said I were to throw hands with you, that means I were to get in a physical fight with you

see of

spend a specified amount of time with someone socially.

"we saw a lot of the Bakers"

spend some time visiting parts of an area.

to meet; be in contact with

we haven't seen much of him since he got married

see the last of (someone or something)

to see (someone or something) for the last time

I hope that we have finally seen the last of them.

take pity

show compassion.

"the old couple took pity on him and gave him food"

To say that "X is a part of Y" means that X is a discrete element or component of Y, often a part in the sense of one of the things to be assembled into Y. For example:

The trigger is a part of a pistol.

The form "part of" without "a" emphasises the idea of being an aspect of or an ingredient of.

So "He was part of the team." says that he was in the team, but not the whole of it, and suggests thinking of the team as a unified thing more than the other form.

burdock /'bɜːdək/

arch-enemy /,ɑːtʃ'ɛnəmi/

arch /ɑːtʃ/

chief; principal.

"archbishop"

enough to be going on with

Enough to be helpful or last a brief time. Primarily heard in UK.

I'd say that much food is enough to be going on with.

Yeah, over-the-counter pain medication is usually enough to be going on with—but not when my head is pounding like this.



The amount of money I gave you was enough to be going on with. If you spent it all in three days, that's not my problem.

romanticist

/rə(ʊ)'mɑntɪsɪst/

noun

a writer, artist, or musician of the romantic movement.

a person who subscribes to the artistic movement or ideas of romanticism.

realist

/'rɪəlɪst/

unknown /,ʌnbɪ'nəʊn/

adjective: unknownst /,ʌn.bɪ'nəʊnst/

without the knowledge of (someone).

"unknown to me, she made some enquiries"

dove /dəʊv/

verb

verb: dove

North American past of dive.

brood /bru:d/

a family of birds or other young animals produced at one hatching or birth.

"a brood of chicks"

think deeply about something that makes one unhappy, angry, or worried.

"she had brooded over the subject a thousand times"

in shape

phrase of shape

in good physical condition.

"to play this game well, you have to be in shape"

be in good shape

to be prepared and ready to do something:

All our bags are packed, and we don't have to leave for another hour, so we're in good shape.

tacky /'tʌki/

(of glue, paint, or other substances) not fully dry and retaining a slightly sticky feel.

"the paint was still tacky"

showing poor taste and quality.

"even in her faintly tacky costumes, she won our hearts"

bid

A bid is an offer to perform a contract for work, labour, or supplying materials at a specified price. A bid does not create rights in either the offeror or the offeree until the offeree voluntarily accepts the bid.

coalition /ˌkəʊəˈlɪʃn/

noun

a temporary alliance for combined action, especially of political parties forming a government.

"a coalition between Liberals and Conservatives"

I would hope so

I would naturally expect that this would happen or be true.

A: "My manager said you can get a refund on the item." B: "I would hope so—it arrived broken in two pieces!"

I should hope so (too)

(also I should hope not British English) spoken used to say that you feel very strongly that something should or should not happen

'They'll get their money back.' 'I should hope so too, after being treated like that.'

grit /grɪt/

small loose particles of stone or sand.

"she had a bit of grit in her eye"

courage and resolve; strength of character.

"I've known few men who could match Maude's grit"

turmoil /ˈtɜːmɔɪl/

a state of great worry in which everything is confused and nothing is certain

SYNONYM confusion

emotional/mental/political turmoil

His statement threw the court into turmoil.

Her mind was in (a) turmoil.

She felt much calmer after the turmoil of recent weeks.

at lightning speed

Incredibly quickly or speedily.

Did you see that martial arts expert? He threw those kicks at lightning speed!

At lightning speed, Mary finished her exam and raced out of the classroom.

Wow, these new computers can run incredibly complex programs at lightning speeds!

It can be really hard to acknowledge that even though you've not moved forward at lightning speed that you have still made progress.

Slow progress is still progress

wade /weɪd/

gerund or present participle: wading

walk with effort through water or another liquid or viscous substance.

"he waded out to the boat"

There's a little chance that the boy will win.

We have little time left to finish the task.

tin

a closed metal container in which food is sold:

a tin of beans

piles of soup tins

I think only 'make progress' is right: 'progress' is a long-term development rather than something short-term that just happens (e.g. If you learn to play the piano, you make progress over a series of lessons, rather than 'a progress' every lesson). Because you wouldn't expect there to be more than one, you don't say 'a'.

crockery /'krɒk(ə)ri/

noun

plates, dishes, cups, and other similar items, especially ones made of earthenware or china.

damage /'damɪdʒ/

a sum of money claimed or awarded in compensation for a loss or an injury.

"she was awarded \$284,000 in damages"

(a) Well, it's kind of a car = it's something like a car, but perhaps not exactly what everyone thinks of when they think "car."

(b) Well, it's a kind of car = it's a specific type of car.

What kind of horse is that? [Is that a quarter horse, a racehorse, or what?]

What kind of a horse is that? [Is that a real horse? Is there a name for that kind of horse?]

due north/south/east/west

directly to the north, south, east, or west

- The direction is there, she said when she came down, and she pointed due west.
- This he grew long and combed up, due north.
- The main track on which they were travelling led due west for a while and then turned slightly north.

You use a good many or a great many to emphasise that you are referring to a large number of things or people.

[emphasis]

I am staying there for a good many reasons.

There have been a great many books written about sports injuries.

orthography /ɔ:'θɒɡrəfi/

the conventional spelling system of a language.

"a spoken language which has as yet no sanctioned orthography"

the study of spelling and how letters combine to represent sounds and form words.

in due course  
phrase of due  
at the appropriate time.  
"the range will be extended in due course"

apposition /ˌapəˈzɪʃn/  
a relationship between two or more words or phrases in which the two units are grammatically parallel and have the same referent (e.g. my friend Sue ; the first US president, George Washington )

Mediterranean /ˌmɛdɪtəˈreɪniən/

composition /ˌkɒmpəˈzɪʃn/  
the nature of something's ingredients or constituents; the way in which a whole or mixture is made up.  
"the social composition of villages"  
a creative work, especially a poem or piece of music.  
"Chopin's most romantic compositions"

rationale /ˌraɪəˈnɑːl/  
a set of reasons or a logical basis for a course of action or belief.  
"he explained the rationale behind the change"

countenance /ˈkaʊntɪnəns/  
a person's face or facial expression.  
"his impenetrable eyes and inscrutable countenance give little away"  
admit as acceptable or possible.  
"he was reluctant to countenance the use of force"

The soup has very little taste.

ooze /uːz/  
(of a fluid) slowly trickle or seep out of something.  
"blood was oozing from a wound in his scalp"  
give a powerful impression of (a quality).  
"she oozes a raunchy sex appeal"

pharmaceutical company play icon  
drug company

bun /bʌn/  
a small cake, typically containing dried fruit.  
"a currant bun"  
a hairstyle in which the hair is drawn back into a tight coil at the back of the head.

engross /ɪnˈgrəʊs, ɛnˈgrəʊs/  
absorb all the attention or interest of.  
"they seemed to be engrossed in conversation"

"Dogs have a very good sense of smell."

viscera /'vis(ə)rə/

the internal organs in the main cavities of the body, especially those in the abdomen, e.g. the intestines.

Adrenaline, also known as epinephrine, is a hormone and medication[7][8] which is involved in regulating visceral functions (e.g., respiration).

It is such a lot of money.

I learned such a lot from him.

hernia /'hə:nɪə/

a condition in which part of an organ is displaced and protrudes through the wall of the cavity containing it (often involving the intestine at a weak point in the abdominal wall).

"umbilical hernia"

Oil companies big and small raised the price of gas in the wake of the terrorism.

great and small

Encompassing a wide variety of people or things.

No, no, we'll write about your missing bird. As the town's only newspaper, we cover all stories, great and small.

Hundreds of companies, great and small, went bankrupt during the economic recession.

Mom, now you're just fretting about everything great and small. Take a few deep breaths and try to relax.

gizzard /'gɪzəd/

tenet /'tɛnɪt/

a principle or belief, especially one of the main principles of a religion or philosophy.

"the tenets of a democratic society"

conviction /kən'vɪkʃn/

a formal declaration by the verdict of a jury or the decision of a judge in a court of law that someone is guilty of a criminal offence.

"she had a previous conviction for a similar offence"

a firmly held belief or opinion.

"she takes pride in stating her political convictions"

towards /tə'wɔ:dz/

It's always the "key to becoming" or the "key to success." Note the point here is that you add either a gerund(which is a noun) or a noun after "to." Just cram it into your head.

For example "The secret to do this trick" is not correct and would be better with "The secret to doing this trick" The reason is "The secret to doing..." is a noun phrase and is the subject of the sentence.

Not only is it the best food, but it's the cheapest.

Not only does Emily sing, but she writes and performs music.

e.g. If I got 100 marks on a test, and someone asks me, "Wow, you're really happy." I could reply, "Why wouldn't I be?"

He kept talking smack, his story getting more and more depressing with each lie.

talk smack

(US) To talk trash; to make insulting comments about someone, especially in an aggressive or confrontational manner.

especially

/ɪˈspeʃəli, ɛˈspeʃəli/

Amazon /ˈaməz(ə)n/

cousin /ˈkʌzn/

"Let's find out what the best way is for you."

We don't use the word 'goal' for basketball. Instead, you could simply say the person scored, or you could say they scored a basket or a point. Points depend on how it was scored, with a value of one, two or three being possible.

He just scored a goal.

Is the term "make a goal" used in English? (instead of score a goal)

We use both. Score or make. (AmE speaker)

dessert /dɪˈzɜ:t/

desert /ˈdezət/

I thought of Jacob facing Victoria, her brilliant hair blowing around her oddly feline face ... and shuddered.

The warm wind of romance blows around you.

entitle /ɪnˈtaɪtl, ɛnˈtaɪtl/

give (someone) a legal right or a just claim to receive or do something.

"employees are normally entitled to redundancy pay"

be entitled to something You will be entitled to your pension when you reach 65.

Everyone's entitled to their own opinion.

entitle somebody to do something This ticket does not entitle you to travel first class.

In British English being “on the street” means literally being on the street itself, whereas a home address is “in” a street (opposite way round in American).

In the UK we refer to someone going out on the street if they were destitute and having to resort to begging or prostitution. I'd be interested to hear what the equivalent to that is in American English.

Can either "on" or "in" be used in this sentence?

"My friend lives on/in the same street as I do."

Yes, but only in British English.

AE always uses 'on' in this context. 'In' would be incorrect in AE.

BE can use either. Modern BE usage may tend towards 'in' for narrower streets and 'on' for wider streets.

The British have always said "live in the same street" and continue to do so. But over the past 40 years we have also increasingly adopted the Americanism "live on the same street", according to Google Books Ngram Viewer.

The problem with "on" is that "to live on the street" suggests homeless people sleeping in shop doorways. I suggest you avoid it.

Koran /kɔːˈrɑːn, kəˈrɑːn/  
singular proper noun: Quran  
the Islamic sacred book

frugal /ˈfruːɡl/  
sparing or economical as regards money or food.  
"I'm a bit too frugal to splash out on designer clothes"

thrifty /ˈθrɪfti/  
using money and other resources carefully and not wastefully.  
"he had been brought up to be thrifty and careful"

splash out (on something) | splash something out (on/for something)  
(British English, informal) to spend a lot of money on something  
We're going to splash out and buy a new car.  
He splashed out hundreds of pounds on designer clothes.

eke1 /iːk/ 1. verb — [with obj.] (eke something out) 1. make an amount or supply of something last longer by using or consuming it frugally • The remains of yesterday's stew could be eked out to make another meal. 2. manage to make a living with difficulty • Many traders barely eked out a living.

haywire /'heɪ,wʌɪə/

adjective INFORMAL

erratic; out of control.

"her imagination had gone haywire"

dander /'dandə/

flakes of skin in an animal's fur or hair.

"you can keep your cat free of dander by proper care"

track

a recording of one song or piece of music.

"the CD contains early Elvis Presley tracks"

put on

cause a device to operate.

"shall I put the light on?"

'put on track' means to get you to where you're supposed to be [typically with you astray from a general group like school]

on track

Progressing or developing as planned, scheduled, or expected.

Everyone in our entire department is on track to meet their sales quotas for the year.

The project was on track before the boss up and quit, but who knows when we'll get it finished now!

swat /swɒt/

hit or crush (something, especially an insect) with a sharp blow from a flat object.

"I swatted a mosquito that had landed on my wrist"

stacked /stakt/

(of a woman) having large breasts.

4.

INFORMAL

(of a person) having a highly developed muscular physique.

"nothing beats seeing that you're curling a lot more than the stacked guy next to you at the gym"

redundancy /rɪ'dʌnd(ə)nsi/

In linguistics, a redundancy is information that is expressed more than once.

under your belt

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

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

capybara /ˌkɑpɪˈbɑːrə/



delectable /dɪˈlɛktəbl/

adjective

(of food or drink) delicious.

"delectable handmade chocolates"

extremely attractive.

"the delectable Ms Davis"

bop

used to reference a good song; to say that a song is really good

bop /bɒp/

dance to pop music.

"everyone was bopping until the small hours"

If you say that something happens all down the line, or right down the line, you mean that it happens in every case.

[informal]

Excellent acting all down the line captures the sound and feeling of that semi-feudal age.

Democrats and Republicans differed right down the line on what the proper responses were.

down the line

informal

later, after an activity or situation has been continuing for a period of time

There may be more costs further down the line.

Now, three years down the line, we're beginning to see the problems with the treatment.

around the world

all over the world

throughout the world

To peak is to reach the highest point - in this case, in your life.

So no time in your life will you ever be as cool, or popular, or successful, as you were in high school. Is what it's saying. Put another way: your life has gotten worse since then.

I am no expert, but I am a native English speaker (American). I would interpret "I went to church" to mean "I attended a church service". "I went to the/a church" would imply I visited a building.

The difference is that "go to hospital" means that you are or will be a patient in the hospital. "Go to the hospital" means that you are not a patient. You are going there for some other reason. So, "he had to go to hospital" means he was admitted as a patient there, and "he had to go to the hospital" means that he was there in some other capacity than as a patient, as in "He had to go to the hospital to pick up his mother , who is being released."

This distinction only occurs in British English. American English doesn't have "go to hospital". Instead, we use "in the hospital" and "at the hospital", although "at the hospital" is a little more vague in its distinction.

"I'm going to hospital tomorrow for my operation." - Here, you're talking about going to the hospital for a reason inherently associated with being in a hospital, i.e., you'll be a patient.

"I'm going to the hospital to pick up my mum." - Here, you're just talking about going to a location that happens to be a hospital in order to pick someone up.

Oh my god! You have a huge gash on your forehead. Go to the hospital right away!

stint /stɪnt/

a person's fixed or allotted period of work.

"his varied career included a stint as a magician"

limitation of supply or effort.

"a collector with an eye for quality and the means to indulge it without stint"

haemophilia /ˌhi:məˈfɪliə/

I'm a person with haemophilia

My newborn boy was diagnosed with Hemophilia A. 5% factor VIII. As a new dad can you please provide me as much information on this topic?

I'm 34 and lived with Haemophilia A (severe) my whole life and I'm a very happy man living a normal and enjoyable life.

expatriate

/ɛksˈpatriət, ɪksˈpatriət, ɛksˈpeɪtriət, ɪksˈpeɪtriət/

(also informal expat, UK/ekˈspæt/ US/ekˈspæt/)

someone who does not live in their own country:

A large community of expatriates has settled there.

intrusive /ɪnˈtruːsɪv/

causing disruption or annoyance through being unwelcome or uninvited.

"that was an intrusive question"

bilingual

/bɪˈlɪŋɡw(ə)l/

noun

plural noun: bilinguals

a person fluent in two languages.

Several of the employees are bilingual.

He is bilingual in English and Japanese.

She grew up in a bilingual community.

The town has an excellent bilingual education program.

period /'piəriəd/

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

period pains

monthly periods

When did you last have a period?

good riddance

idiom

—used to say that one is glad that someone is leaving or that something has gone

Winter is finally over, and I say good riddance!

time and (time) again

very often:

I've told you time and time again - look before you cross the road.

This woman has proven time and time again that she cannot be trusted.

You see this pattern repeated time and time again.

Time and again we hear these promises from politicians.

Companies like these have demonstrated time and again that they don't care about their impact on the environment.

Time and time again, opportunities like these have been squandered.

“At lunch” is the more common phrase and it means you are currently eating your lunch or are out for lunch. For example, “I can't answer the phone right now, I am at lunch.” On the other hand, “on lunch” suggests that you are on a lunch break from work or another activity, but not necessarily eating at that moment.

crackle /'krakl/

make a rapid succession of short sharp noises.

"the fire suddenly crackled and spat sparks"

wary /'weəri/

adjective

feeling or showing caution about possible dangers or problems.

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

That's the ticket!

in American English

Slang

That's the correct or proper thing! that's right!

out there

a) in a place that could be anywhere except here

My real father is out there and one day I plan to find him.

b) where someone or something can be noticed by many people

Jerry Lewis is out there all the time raising money for disabled kids.

stack /stak/

a pile of objects, typically one that is neatly arranged.

"a stack of boxes"

honed /həʊnd/

adjective

adjective: honed

1.

(of a blade) sharpened.

"a honed knife is easier and safer to handle than a dulled, nicked blade"

strew /stru:/

scatter or spread (things) untidily over a surface or area.

"a small room with newspapers strewn all over the floor"

strewn /stru:n/

adjective

untidily scattered.

"strewn flower petals"

covered with untidily scattered things.

"boulder-strewn slopes"

be in the frame

To be a likely recipient of something, such as a job or an award.

I'm pretty sure I'm in the frame for Connie's position once she retires.

My daughter is a great student, so she's in the frame for many academic awards at graduation.

You talk to management—who do you think is in the frame for the promotion?

A suspicious man is in frame.

"in Frame" means that the object is visible to anyone watching the movie because the camera is pointed in that direction and can be seen in the eyepiece of the camera.

Technically, it can be hidden, by something, like a coat, but it is still in a location that places it in the viewing area. "Out of frame" means that the object is outside the area that the camera is looking at. So, if the camera is staying still and an actor is walking from left to right, they might start "out of frame", become "in frame" and then become "out of frame" as they continue to walk.

In English there is a saying "spare the rod and spoil the children". Spare is leaving something idle and not use. Spare me literally just means leave me alone (for the moment). Spare is a backup like a spare tire, spare part that are saved for backup only so spare me could mean "don't bother me unless you have to".

validate /'vʌlɪdeɪt/

check or prove the validity or accuracy of.

"all analytical methods should be validated in respect of accuracy"

fall off a cliff

to suddenly and quickly reduce or become less successful:

The video game industry fell off a cliff.

New business has fallen off a cliff.

outback /'aʊt,bak/

the remote and usually uninhabited inland districts of Australia.

"a two-week tour of the outback"

any remote or sparsely populated inland region.

plural noun: outbacks

"the outback of Ontario"

rum /rʌm/

an alcoholic spirit distilled from sugar-cane residues or molasses.

"she fortified herself with a large tot of rum"

get ripped

slang

1. To achieve an extremely muscular and defined physique, as through bodybuilding.

Tom used to be a skinny little dude, but he spent the summer in the weight room getting ripped.

With my simple workout routine, you can get ripped without any expensive supplements or endless hours at the gym.

If you're gonna be a lifeguard—and, you know, sit on the beach shirtless all summer—you better get ripped now, dude.

2. To get very drunk.

A: "Come out to the bar with us!" B: "OK, but I'm only having one. I don't want to get totally ripped tonight."

We're going to the club tonight to get ripped! Woo!

Ugh, my head is pounding. I need to remember this feeling the next time I think it's a good idea to get ripped.

Being ripped is essentially you burning and lessening the amount of body fat that you have within your skin and muscle fibres over time, giving you a very vascular appearance and muscle definition.

scarf down

US, informal

: to eat (something) quickly

He scarfed down his lunch and went right back outside.

He plagiarised a classmate's report.

She plagiarised from an article she read on the Internet.

They say that the story is plagiarised from Kawabata's Snow Country.

plagiarise /'pleɪdʒ(ɪ)əraɪz/

take (the work or an idea of someone else) and pass it off as one's own.

"he was fined \$6,000 for having plagiarised the song"

mustard /'mʌstəd/

a hot-tasting yellow or brown paste made from the crushed seeds of certain plants, typically eaten with meat or used as a cooking ingredient.

"Dijon mustard"

avert /ə've:t/

turn away (one's eyes or thoughts).

"she averted her eyes while we made stilted conversation"

conspiracy /kən'spɪrəsi/

noun

a secret plan by a group to do something unlawful or harmful.

"she served five years in prison for taking part in a conspiracy to sell stolen art works"

inconspicuous

/ˌɪnkən'spɪkjʊəs/

adjective

not clearly visible or attracting attention.

"an inconspicuous red-brick building"

In British English, it can be either, depending on what you mean by "the school".

If you mean the institution or the building, then "the school" takes a singular verb:

"The school has been rated as the best in the area"

"The school has burned down"

If you mean the school's staff or the governors, then "the school" is shorthand for people associated with the school, and then it takes a plural verb:

"The school have decided to send the children home today"

"The school have put Spanish on the curriculum"

surmise /sə'maɪz/

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

"he surmised that something must be wrong"

chronic /'krɒnɪk/

(of an illness) persisting for a long time or constantly recurring.

"chronic bronchitis"

impregnable /ɪm'preɡnəbl/

adjective

(of a fortified position) unable to be captured or broken into.

"a massive and impregnable fortress"

stoma /'stəʊmə/

any of the minute pores in the epidermis of the leaf or stem of a plant, forming a slit of variable width which allows movement of gases in and out of the intercellular spaces.

transpire /trɑ:n'spaɪə/

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

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

(of a plant or leaf) give off water vapour through the stomata.

"a cactus does not transpire as freely as most plants"

bolster /'bəʊlstə/

a long, thick pillow that is placed under other pillows for support.

researcher /rɪ'sə:tʃə, 'ri:sə:tʃə/

montage /'mɒntɑ:ʒ/

the technique of selecting, editing, and piecing together separate sections of film to form a continuous whole.

"montage was a useful device for overcoming the drawbacks of silent film"

barbarian /bɑ:'bɛ:riən/

atrocities /ə'trɒsɪti/

an extremely wicked or cruel act, typically one involving physical violence or injury.

"a textbook which detailed war atrocities"

go around

If there is enough of something to go around, there is enough of it to be shared among a group of people, or to do all the things for which it is needed.

Eventually we will not have enough water to go around.

capitalise on something

to use a situation to your own advantage:

She capitalised on her knowledge and experience to get a better job.

Would you say "the staff was" or "the staff were"?

The choice between "the staff was" and "the staff were" depends on whether you are treating "staff" as a singular or plural noun.

If you are treating "staff" as a collective singular noun referring to a group of people acting as a single unit, then you would use "the staff was." For example, "The staff was very helpful."

If you are treating "staff" as a plural noun referring to individual members of a group, then you would use "the staff were." For example, "The staff were all given bonuses."

In American English, it is common to treat collective nouns like "staff" as singular

It depends on which side of the ocean you're on, and whether you're talking about the staff as a group or as individuals.

In British English, groups of people (like "staff," "company," "school," and the names of organizations) are treated as plural.

American English is a bit trickier. In speaking about a group as a whole, we tend to treat it as singular: "The entire s...

Would you say "the staff was" or "the staff were"?

Decisions over what to do with collective nouns come up all the time. My take on it is that you need to consider carefully exactly what you are trying to convey - whether people (plural) or an entity (singular).

If you are referring to the entire staff as a body, then the singular is reasonable. I would say, "the staff was partly made up of juniors and partly of experienced workers". And "the staff was halved after the recession."

When referring to the people in the staff, the plural is better. "The staff were all on leave at the same time." "I asked how the staff were, after the robbery." "The staff were all paid on a Friday."

It would be much more usual to say "the staff were".

absolve /əb'zɒlv/

declare (someone) free from guilt, obligation, or punishment.

"the pardon absolved them of any crimes"

The jury absolved the defendants of their crimes.

Her youth does not absolve her of responsibility for her actions.

"is it correct to use the structure "so + adjective + a/an + noun"?

Yes. Examples:

"So nice a person!"

"So brave a soldier!"

"So wonderful a child!"

era /'iərə/

touché /tu:'ʃeɪ/

(in fencing) used as an acknowledgement of a hit by one's opponent.

droop /dru:p/



bend or hang downwards limply.

"a long black cloak drooped from his shoulders"

nape /neɪp/

the back of a person's neck.

"her hair was coiled demurely at the nape of her neck"

## 25 English Words Borrowed From Spanish

I didn't say anything because I didn't want to derail the conversation.

We're getting off track.

If someone goes off on a tangent, they start saying or doing something that is not directly connected with what they were saying or doing before.

The conversation went off on a tangent.

observe /əb'zə:v/

fulfil or comply with (a social, legal, ethical, or religious obligation).

"a tribunal must observe the principles of natural justice"

celebrate or acknowledge (an anniversary).

"they observed the one-year anniversary of the flood"

used-to-be

INFORMAL

adjective

having previously been a particular thing; former.

"now I have baggy skin around a used-to-be toned stomach"

The uncanny valley (Japanese: 不気味の谷, Hepburn: bukimi no tani) effect is a hypothesized psychological and aesthetic relation between an object's degree of resemblance to a human being and the emotional response to the object.

## Take the Loss

The act of "taking the L" means taking a loss or losing. Depending on the context, it can mean literally failing at something or needing to accept one's loss. In some situations, "take an L" can also be a synonym for the idiomatic phrase "taking one for the team."

dermal /'dɜ:m(ə)/

relating to the skin or dermis.

"a dermal filler for the treatment of wrinkles"

dabble /'dabl/

immerse (one's hands or feet) partially in water and move them around gently.

"they dabbled their feet in the rock pools"

take part in an activity in a casual or superficial way.

"he dabbled in politics"

diddle /'dɪdl/

cheat or swindle (someone) so as to deprive them of something.

"he thought he'd been diddled out of his change"

pass time aimlessly or unproductively.

"I felt sorry for her, diddling around in her room while her friends were having a good time

maroon /mə'ru:n/

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

"a novel about schoolboys marooned on a desert island"

discrepancy

/dɪ'skreɪnsi/

noun

an illogical or surprising lack of compatibility or similarity between two or more facts.

"there's a discrepancy between your account and his"

get a better understanding of

go/sell like hot cakes

to be bought quickly and in large numbers:

The new game is apparently selling like hot cakes.

in short supply

phrase

Add to word list

If something is in short supply, there is little of it available:

Strawberries are in short supply this summer.

Vaccines were in short supply at that time.

Unfortunately, respectful discussion seems to be in short supply around here.

Class sizes are large because trained teachers are in such short supply.

I want to work, but jobs in the arts are in short supply.

stick up for something/someone

to support or defend someone or something, especially when that person or thing is being criticised:

I can stick up for myself.

It's sweet the way he sticks up for his little brother.

be rarely offered in markets

humdrum /'hʌmdrʌm/

contend /kən'tend/

verb

struggle to surmount (a difficulty).

"she had to contend with his uncertain temper"

assert something as a position in an argument.

"he contends that the judge was wrong"

peter /'pi:tə/

verb

decrease or fade gradually before coming to an end.

"the storm had petered out"

consort noun /'kɒnsɔ:t/

a wife, husband, or companion, in particular the spouse of a reigning monarch.

"Queen Victoria and her consort, Prince Albert"

verb /kən'sɔ:t/

habitually associate with (someone), typically with the disapproval of others.

"you chose to consort with the enemy"

clique /kli:k/

noun

a small close-knit group of people who do not readily allow others to join them.

"his flat became a haven for a clique of young men of similar tastes"

sedentary

/ 'sɛd(ə)nt(ə)ri/

adjective

(of a person) tending to spend much time seated; somewhat inactive.

"we all walk a certain amount every day even if we are sedentary"

annul /ə' nʌl/

declare invalid (an official agreement, decision, or result).

"the decision was annulled by the courts"

declare (a marriage) to have had no legal existence.

"her first marriage was finally annulled by His Holiness"

medley /' mɛdli/

I would use the following:

As always, thank you.

crony /'krəʊni/

noun INFORMAL • OFTEN DEROGATORY

plural noun: cronies

a close friend or companion.

"he went gambling with his cronies"

hit-or-miss

as likely to be bad as to be good, esp. because of not being planned or organized well:

The service you get in these big stores can be hit-or-miss, depending on the salesperson you talk to.

concede /kən'si:d/

admit or agree that something is true after first denying or resisting it.

"I had to concede that I'd overreacted"

surrender or yield (a possession, right, or privilege).

"in 475 the emperor conceded the Auvergne to Euric"

concession /kən'seʃn/

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

"the government was unwilling to make any further concessions"

a preferential allowance or rate given by an organisation.

"tax concessions"

the Maldives /'mɔ:l.di:vz/

divorce /dɪ'vɔ:s/

[uncountable, countable] the legal ending of a marriage

The marriage ended in divorce in 1996.

an increase in the divorce rate (= the number of divorces in a year)

They have agreed to get a divorce.

Divorce proceedings (= the legal process of divorce) started today.

Bella wants a divorce.

He remarried after a divorce from his first wife, Kate.

She told him she was filing for divorce.

colon2

/'kəʊlən, 'kəʊlɒn/

noun ANATOMY

noun: colon; plural noun: colons

the main part of the large intestine, which passes from the caecum to the rectum and absorbs water and electrolytes from food which has remained undigested.

in one's own right

If someone is a successful or respected person in their own right, they are successful or respected because of their own efforts and talents rather than those of the people they are closely connected with.

Although now a celebrity in her own right, the actress knows the difficulties of living in the shadow of her famous older sister.

Their baby is a person in his own right.

bring someone up to speed

to give someone all the latest information about something

I guess I should bring you up to speed on what's happened since I came to see you yesterday.

If you are up to speed with a subject or activity, you have all the latest information about it and are able to do it well:

We arranged for some home tutoring to get him up to speed with the other children in his class.

Before we start the meeting I'm going to bring you up to speed with the latest developments.

come out of left field

to be completely unexpected and often unusual:

Her comments came out of left field.

as yet

phrase of as

until now or a particular time in the past.

"the damage is as yet undetermined"

as of/from

starting from a particular time or date:

As of next month, all the airline's fares will be going up.

As of yet (or as yet) is an expression used to say that something has not happened up to now. The phrase, especially the version including "of," is normally considered unnecessarily long-winded and best replaced with a more concise alternative such as "so far" or "yet."

take a/the bullet (for someone)

1. Literally, to jump in front of and absorb the impact of a bullet from a gun being fired at someone else.

It's one of the basic duties of bodyguards to take the bullet for their clients if someone tries to kill them.

2. By extension, to accept or put oneself in the way of some misfortune, difficulty, blame, or danger as a means of protecting someone else.

I don't know why you always feel like you have to take the bullet for your bosses when they screw up. They never reward your loyalty in any way.

I used to take a lot of bullets when I worked as a PR representative for the senator.

promiscuous

/prə'mɪskjuəs/

adjective

1.

having or characterised by many transient sexual relationships.

"promiscuous teenagers"

contribute

/kən'trɪbjʊ:t, 'kɒntrɪbjʊ:t/

give (something, especially money) in order to help achieve or provide something.

"taxpayers had contributed £141.8 million towards the cost of local services"

supply (an article) for publication in a newspaper, magazine, or journal.

"he contributed articles to the magazine"

help to cause or bring about.

"the government imposed a tax on fuels which contributed to global warming"

take to

phrasal verb of take

1.

begin or fall into the habit of doing something.

"he took to hiding some secret supplies in his desk"

go to a place to escape danger or in response to a dramatic event.

"they took to the hills"

to start to like someone or something:

The two dogs took to each other immediately and started to play.

take to someone/something like a duck to water She's taken to basketball like a duck to water (= she likes it and is good at it).

object to doing

be accustomed to doing

I am used to living in the U.S.

flip-up

adj (prenominal)

able to be opened by being flipped upwards

querent /'kwɪərənt/

a person who asks a question or makes inquiries, especially of an astrologer, fortune-teller, etc.:

Querents approach the I Ching with such questions as "What does the future hold for me?"

The website is there for one purpose—to connect querents with respondents.

resource /rɪ'zɔ:s/

Is "you don't want to make an enemy out of me" a threat?

flip someone off

to show someone in an offensive way that you are annoyed with them or do not like them by turning the back of your hand towards them and putting your middle finger up:

The player was fined \$5,000 for flipping off fans who had booed him.

An angry man in the crowd flipped off the mayor's vehicle as it passed.

One irate driver honked his horn and flipped us off.

on end

phrase of end

1.

continuing without stopping for a specified period of time.

"sometimes they'll be gone for days on end"

2.

in an upright position.

"he brushed his hair, leaving a tuft standing on end"

tuft /tʌft/

a bunch or collection of threads, grass, hair, etc., held or growing together at the base.

"scrubby tufts of grass"

onesie /'wʌnzi/

a loose-fitting one-piece leisure garment covering the torso and legs.

"I'd had a bath and was in my onesie ready to settle down for yet another reality TV marathon"

reclaim /rɪ'kleɪm, ri:'kleɪm/

retrieve or recover (something previously lost, given, or paid); obtain the return of.

"you can reclaim £25 of the £435 deducted"

bring (waste land or land formerly under water) under cultivation.

"much of the Camargue has now been reclaimed"

co-opt /,kəʊ'ɒpt/

verb

verb: coopt

appoint to membership of a committee or other body by invitation of the existing members.

"the committee may co-opt additional members for special purposes"

divert to or use in a role different from the usual or original one.

"social scientists were co-opted to work with the development agencies"

adopt (an idea or policy) for one's own use.

"the green parties have had most of their ideas co-opted by bigger parties"

heathen /'hi:ðn/

DEROGATORY

noun

a person who does not belong to a widely held religion (especially one who is not a Christian, Jew, or Muslim) as regarded by those who do.

"my brother and I were raised, as my grandma puts it, as heathens"

at play idiom

: in the act of playing

the sounds of children at play

: being something that helps produce or influence a result

Several issues are at play in determining the price of gasoline.

misbegotten /,mɪsbɪ'ɡɒtn/

adjective

badly conceived or planned.

"someone's misbegotten idea of an English country house"

beget /bɪ'ɡet/

verbLITERARY

(especially of a man) bring (a child) into existence by the process of reproduction.

"they hoped that the King might beget an heir by his new queen"

cause; bring about.

"killings beget more killings"

mortify /'mɔ:tɪfaɪ/

cause (someone) to feel very embarrassed or ashamed.

"he was suitably mortified by his own idiocy"

subdue (the body or its needs and desires) by self-denial or discipline.

"they wish to return to heaven by mortifying the flesh"

live up to something

to be as good as something:

The concert was brilliant - it lived up to all our expectations.

live up to one's name

stark /stɑ:k/

adjective

1.

severe or bare in appearance or outline.

"the ridge formed a stark silhouette against the sky"

charity /'tʃɑ:rti/

help or money given to those in need.

"an unemployed teacher living on charity"

She does a lot of work for charity.

People tend to give to (= give money to) charity at Christmas time.

They did a charity performance on the first night, to raise money for AIDS research.

hands down the best content on the internet

The Mandela effect refers to a situation in which a large mass of people believes that an event occurred when it did not.

business /'biznis/

tack /tak/

a small, sharp broad-headed nail.

"tacks held the remaining rags of carpet to the floor"

add or append something to something already existing.

"the castles have new wings and other bits tacked on"

It's easy to lose track of time.

bob and weave

phrase of bob

make rapid bodily movements up and down and from side to side, for example as an evasive tactic by a boxer.



"Freddie bobbed and weaved, jabbing the air"

throw a punch

to try to hit someone with your hand in a fight

We need to sort this out before people start throwing punches.

It's all g

Slang term meaning "It's all good."

crochet /'krəʊʃeɪ, 'krəʊʃi/

noun

a handicraft in which yarn is made up into a textured fabric by means of a hooked needle.

"a crochet hook"

condemn /kən'dɛm/

express complete disapproval of; censure.

"most leaders roundly condemned the attack"

sentence (someone) to a particular punishment, especially death.

"the rebels had been condemned to death"

"I hope it's not too much trouble/hassle"

I see no particular reason to include "of a", but also no particular reason to condemn it.

square up

phrasal verb of square

1.

assume the attitude of a person about to fight.

"the fighters squared up in the ring"

2.

settle or pay an account.

"would you square up the bill?"

Nerve flossing targets conditions that involve irritation of the nerves, such as sciatica and piriformis syndrome.

Flex exercise is a workout plan focused on improving the range of motions and flexibility.

hay maker

a person who helps to cut, turn, toss, spread, or carry hay

2. Also called: hay conditioner

either of two machines, one designed to crush stems of hay, the other to break and bend them, in order to cause more rapid and even drying

3. boxing slang

a wild swinging punch

jab /dʒab/

verb

1.

poke roughly or quickly, especially with something sharp or pointed.

"she jabbed him in his ribs"

pancreas

/ˈpʌŋkriəs/

artery /ˈɑ:t(ə)ri/

noun

1.

any of the muscular-walled tubes forming part of the circulation system by which blood (mainly that which has been oxygenated) is conveyed from the heart to all parts of the body.

on tap

available:

There are several new movies on tap this weekend.

If drinks are on tap, they come from a tap rather than from a bottle.

Filtered water is always on tap, making it very convenient to use.

dazzle /ˈdʌzl/

verb

(of a bright light) blind (a person or their eyes) temporarily.

"she was dazzled by the headlights"

Yes, "ever wonder" is a common and natural phrase used to prompt curiosity or introspection. For example:

- "Ever wonder why the sky is blue?"

- "Have you ever wondered what it would be like to travel to space?"

apposite /ˈapəzɪt/

adjective

apt in the circumstances or in relation to something.

"an apposite quotation"

supple /ˈsʌp(ə)l/

adjective

bending and moving easily and gracefully; flexible.

"her supple fingers"

upside /ˈʌpsaɪd/

noun

1.

the more positive aspect of a situation.

"being self-employed has its upside"

2.

an upward movement of share prices.

"upside potential"

research

/rɪ'sə:tʃ, 'ri:sə:tʃ/

revelry /'rɛvlri/

noun

lively and noisy festivities, especially when these involve drinking a large amount of alcohol.

"sounds of revelry issued into the night"

revel /'rɛvl/

verb

enjoy oneself in a lively and noisy way, especially with drinking and dancing.

"they spent the evening revelling with their guests"

burdock /'bɜ:dɒk/

elope /ɪ'ləʊp/

verb

run away secretly in order to get married.

"later he eloped with one of the housemaids"

Godspeed /ˌɡɒd'spi:d/

exclamation DATED

an expression of good wishes to a person starting a journey.

"she wished him godspeed"

Rwanda noun

/ru'ændə/

/ru'ɑ:ndə/

sappy /'sapi/

adjective

1.

INFORMAL•NORTH AMERICAN

mawkishly over-sentimental.

"sappy old love songs"

2.

(of a plant) containing a lot of sap.

cicada /sɪ'kɑ:də/

prosthetic /prɒs'thetɪk/

adjective

1.

denoting an artificial body part, such as a limb, a heart, or a breast implant.

"she has learnt to walk again using prosthetic legs"

A: Are you sure you can finish the report by tomorrow?

B: I'm positive! I only have a few pages left to write.

complaint /kəmˈpleɪnt/

clear the air

phrase of clear

make the air less humid.

"storms were supposed to clear the air"

defuse an angry or tense situation by frank discussion.

"it's time a few things were said to clear the air"

a pregnant pause/silence

an occasion when nobody speaks, although people are aware that there are feelings or thoughts to express

There was a pregnant pause before she replied.

silence is golden (saying)

it is often best not to say anything

duress

/djuˈres, ˈdjuəriːs/

noun

threats, violence, constraints, or other action used to coerce someone into doing something against their will or better judgement.

"confessions extracted under duress"

Negative Nelly

One who is frequently or excessively pessimistic or discouraging. Though "Nelly" is a female name, this term can also be applied to men.

Don't be such a Negative Nelly! Come on, we can do this, as long as we work together.

I can't be around a Negative Nelly like Mitch anymore. He really brings me down by constantly talking about all the problems in our society.

I can't stand the smell of smoke; it's absolutely disgusting.

How did saying "psych" (or "sike" or "psyche") to mean "not!" become popular?

trope /trəʊp/

a figurative or metaphorical use of a word or expression.

"both clothes and illness became tropes for new attitudes toward the self"

a significant or recurrent theme; a motif.

"she uses the Eucharist as a pictorial trope"

shoot the breeze

phrase of shoot

INFORMAL•NORTH AMERICAN

have a casual conversation.

"we've been shooting the breeze for well over an hour now"

i have a confession

revolution /ˌrɛvəˈl(j)uːʃn/

the movement of an object in a circular or elliptical course around another or about an axis or centre.

"revolution about the axis of rotation"

hands-on /ˌhɑːn(d)z'ɒn/

adjective

involving direct involvement or intervention.

"increasingly, CEOs are taking a hands-on approach to information security"

involving or offering active participation rather than theory.

"hands-on in-service training"

Let's go to the check-out and they'll ring everything through for us.

ring someone/something up

To allow a retail customer to check out (complete their purchase) by recording the item or items they are purchasing and tally the amount of money they owe.

I'm sorry, I'm closing this register. My colleague can ring you up at the next one.

You can go on break after you're done ringing up everyone in your line.

3. To record the item or items a retail customer is purchasing and tally the amount of money they owe.

The cashier had already started ringing my groceries up when I realised that I had forgotten to pick up eggs.

Would you mind ringing this croissant up first? It's for my son to eat.

to make a phone call to someone:

She rang me up to say she couldn't come.

He rang up the office and asked to speak to the manager.

to record the money that has been paid by a customer by pressing buttons on a cash register:

I'm sorry, I rang up the wrong amount.

When they rang the dress up at the till, the price came up as £10.

to help a customer buy something at a cash register:

Come over to the register and I'll ring you up.

I walked up to the counter and the owner rang me up for my usual sandwich.

You'll need to tell the guy at the cash register your table number when he rings you up.

The cashier took her credit card to ring her up.

They rang us up for about seven dollars a person, which was a great deal considering the serving size.

(Definition of ring someone/something up from the Cambridge

subsidiary /səb'sɪdɪəri/

less important than but related or supplementary to something.

"a subsidiary flue of the main chimney"

side

a dish served as subsidiary to the main one.

"sides of German potato salad and red cabbage"

pertinent /'pɜːtɪnənt/

adjective

relevant or applicable to a particular matter; apposite.

"she asked me a lot of very pertinent questions"

cosmos /'kɒzmos/

noun

the universe seen as a well-ordered whole.

"he sat staring deep into the void, reminding himself of his place in the cosmos"

an ornamental plant of the daisy family, which bears single brightly coloured flowers and is native to Mexico and warm regions of America.

giant top

pen /pɛn/

a small enclosure in which sheep, pigs, or other farm animals are kept.

"a sheep pen"

pent up

I have all this pent-up energy that means I can't sit still for long periods of time.

keep tabs on

to carefully watch (someone or something) in order to learn what that person or thing is doing

We are keeping tabs on their movements.

The magazine keeps tabs on the latest fashion trends.

reparation /,rɛpə'reɪʃn/

the action of making amends for a wrong one has done, by providing payment or other assistance to those who have been wronged.

"the courts required a convicted offender to make financial reparation to his victim"

pander /'pandə/

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"

catalyst /'katəlist/

noun

a substance that increases the rate of a chemical reaction without itself undergoing any permanent chemical change.

"chlorine acts as a catalyst promoting the breakdown of ozone"

a person or thing that precipitates an event.

"the prime minister's speech acted as a catalyst for debate"

stoop /stu:p/

bend one's head or body forwards and downwards.

"he stooped down and reached towards the coin"

lower one's moral standards so far as to do something reprehensible.

"Craig wouldn't stoop to thieving"

lapdog /'lapdɒg/

noun

noun: lap-dog

a small pampered pet dog.

a person or organisation that is influenced or controlled by another.

"too many boards have become executive lap dogs"

If someone goes somewhere and you tag along, you go with them, especially when they have not asked you to.

I let him tag along because he had not been too well recently. [VERB PARTICLE]

She seems quite happy to tag along with them. [VERB PARTICLE + with]

imperative /ɪm'pɛrətɪv/

of vital importance; crucial.

"immediate action was imperative"

be heading

(also be headed) [intransitive always + adverb/preposition] if you are heading for a particular situation, especially a bad one, it seems likely to happen

be heading for

Forecasters predict the region's economy is heading for disaster.

Where is your life heading?

to take a dip (in the sea): to go for a short swim or splash (in the ocean)

to dip: to plunge, to immerse, to lower

"Can I take a dip?"

collate /kə'leɪt/

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

"all the information obtained is being collated"

Everest /'ɛv ər ɪst, 'ɛv rɪst/

faze /feɪz/

verb INFORMAL

disturb or disconcert (someone).

"she was not fazed by his show of anger"

If you describe someone as laid-back, you mean that they behave in a calm relaxed way as if nothing will ever worry them.

[informal]

Nothing worried him, he was really laid back.

Everyone here has a really laid-back attitude.

fix somebody up (with somebody) (informal)

to arrange for someone to have a meeting with someone who might become a boyfriend or girlfriend

fix somebody up (with something) (informal)

to arrange for someone to have something; to provide someone with something

I'll fix you up with a place to stay.

nose job

noun Informal.

cosmetic surgery of the nose; rhinoplasty.

denature /di:'neɪtʃə/

verb

take away or alter the natural qualities of.

"this system denatures education"

make (alcohol) unfit for drinking by the addition of toxic or foul-tasting substances.

BIOCHEMISTRY

destroy the characteristic properties of (a protein or other biological macromolecule) by heat, acidity, or other effect which disrupts its molecular conformation.

hands down

phrase of hand

easily and decisively.

"Swindon won hands down"

Strep throat is caused by infection with a bacterium known as Streptococcus pyogenes, also called group A streptococcus.

As a shortening of "keep your eye on the ball", baseball and golf come to mind. The meaning implies focus and alertness. There is also the phrase "behind the 8-ball", from billiards, used metaphorically to describe a sort of final moment, the last shot that precludes victory.

tripe /ˈtraɪp/

noun

1.

the first or second stomach of a cow or other ruminant used as food.

ruminant /'ru:mɪnənt/

noun

noun: ruminant; plural noun: ruminants



1.

an even-toed ungulate mammal that chews the cud regurgitated from its rumen. The ruminants comprise the cattle, sheep, antelopes, deer, giraffes, and their relatives.

run circles around

as in excel

to be greater, better, or stronger than

When it came to cooking, he ran circles around the rest of his family.

with the best of intentions/for the best of reasons

used to mean that someone does something with good intentions or for good reasons, even if the result is not always good

I'm sure he went there with the best of intentions.

dishevelled /dɪ'ʃeɪvld/

adjective

(of a person's hair, clothes, or appearance) untidy; disordered.

"a man with long dishevelled hair"

umbrella term/word/title etc

a word whose meaning includes many different types of a particular thing

District nurses, health visitors, and school nurses will come under the umbrella term 'community nursing'.

blanket statement/rule/ban etc

a statement, rule etc that affects everyone or includes all possible cases

the proposed blanket ban on tobacco advertising

a blanket strategy

barrette

/bə'ret,bɑ:'ret/

nounUS

noun: barrette; plural noun: barrettes

a typically bar-shaped clip or ornament for the hair; a hairslide.

stingy /'stɪŋ(d)ʒi/

adjectiveINFORMAL

mean; ungenerous.

"his boss is stingy and idle"

unwilling to spend money:

He's really stingy and never buys anyone a drink when we go out.

The landlords are so stingy - they refused to pay for new carpets.

capitulate /kə'pɪtʃuleɪt/

cease to resist an opponent or an unwelcome demand; yield.

"the patriots had to capitulate to the enemy forces"

dominant arm

Why do we have a dominant hand and a non-dominant hand?

in the line of duty

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.

I made an appointment for Thursday.

Could I make an appointment on March 25th?

batter /'batə/

a semi-liquid mixture of flour, egg, and milk or water, used for making pancakes or for coating food before frying.

"pancake batter"

Definitions from Oxford Languages · Learn more

play down

phrasal verb of play

represent something as being less important than it in fact is.

"he tried to play down the seriousness of his illness"

The doctor tried to play down the seriousness of my father's illness, but we weren't fooled.

if anything

phrase of if

used to suggest tentatively that something may be the case (often the opposite of something previously implied).

"I haven't made much of this—if anything, I've played it down"

used when saying that there may be nothing:

We need to assess what happened and what, if anything, we could have done to prevent it.

The survey aims to find out what (if anything) religion means to people.

Fidelity in translation has little, if anything, to do with literal meaning.

used when saying that what people may believe is not true, and the opposite may be true:

Her success hasn't caused tension - if anything, it's helped our marriage.

If anything, you have to work even harder when your dad's the boss.

I think I'm pretty honest about my emotions most of the time; if anything, I'm too frank about them.

prior /'prɪə/

erratic /ɪ'reɪtɪk/

not even or regular in pattern or movement; unpredictable.

"her breathing was erratic"

fervour /'fɜ:və/

intense and passionate feeling.

"he talked with all the fervour of a new convert"

pernicious /pə'niʃəs/

adjective

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

"the pernicious effects of air pollution"

proliferate

/prə'lifəreɪt/

verb

increase rapidly in number; multiply.

"the science fiction magazines which proliferated in the 1920s"

devolution

/,di:və'l(j)u:ʃn, dɛvə'l(j)u:ʃn/

noun

1.

the transfer or delegation of power to a lower level, especially by central government to local or regional administration.

"demands for electoral reform and devolution"

mermaid

/'mɜ:meɪd/

The voice is cutting out.

• The voice is breaking up.

• The voice is fading in and out.

If you crush it, you succeed completely in doing something.

[informal]

She certainly crushed it, finishing over three minutes ahead of her nearest rival.

Female-led movies, especially comedies, have been crushing it lately.

I'd better get off the phone.

Yes, "Hang up the call with your wife" is grammatically correct. However, it can sound a bit formal. A more natural way to say it might be, "Hang up the phone with your wife" or simply, "Hang up with your wife."

"Hung up on him" means rudely interrupted a conversation by hanging up the phone.

"Got off the phone with him" means I hung up the phone after the conversation was over.

pass off

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

"the drink was packaged in champagne bottles and was being passed off as the real stuff"  
evade or lightly dismiss an awkward remark.

"he made a light joke and passed it off"

cut out for something

to be the right type of person for a particular job or activity:

He's just not cut out for politics.

insatiable

/ɪn'seɪj(ɪ)əbl/

adjective

(of an appetite or desire) impossible to satisfy.

"an insatiable hunger for success"

make the most of something/get the most out of something

to gain the greatest possible advantage from something

Charming and friendly, she will help you make the most of your visit.

advice on how to get the most out of your computer

down the road

phrase of road

INFORMAL • NORTH AMERICAN

in the future.

"they couldn't predict the disastrous war looming a few years down the road"

[singular] credit to somebody/something a person or thing whose qualities or achievements are praised and who therefore earns respect for someone or something else

She is a credit to the school.

Your children are a great credit to you.

[countable, usually plural] the act of mentioning someone who worked on a project such as a movie or a television program

She was given a program credit for her work on the costumes for the play.

The credits (= the list of all the people involved) seemed to last almost as long as the film!

gig /gɪg/

a job, especially one that is temporary or freelance and performed on an informal or on-demand basis.

"her husband picked up food-delivery gigs"

caught up in

involved in (a difficult or confusing situation)

Several members of Congress were caught up in the scandal.

How did you get caught up in this mess?

2

: excited about something and having trouble thinking about anything else

Everyone was caught up in the excitement.

Try not to get too caught up in the moment.

bridge a gap

to make two groups, people, ideas, etc. less separate or less different:  
We must bridge the gap between employees and management.  
The company hopes that the merger will bridge the gap to the market leaders.  
They believe that the digital device bridges a gap in patient-doctor communication.

staff /stɑːf/  
all the people employed by a particular organisation.  
"a staff of 600"

They have a staff of ten.  
They have ten staff.

What's Japan like so far?

loud /laʊd/  
strong or emphatic in expression.  
"there were loud protests from the lumber barons"  
vulgarily obtrusive; flashy.  
"a man in a loud checked suit"

"Outside of Japan" is correct, but "outside Japan" is more common.

broil /brɔɪl/  
verb NORTH AMERICAN  
cook (meat or fish) by exposure to direct heat.  
"he lightly broiled a wedge of sea bass"

prowess /'praʊɪs/  
skill or expertise in a particular activity or field.  
"his prowess as a fisherman"

In this context a catch is a drawback or difficulty that is not readily evident.

It sounds like a good plan but what's the catch?  
I will write more examples; the catch is that you need to pay me with cash before you can read them.

I applied to three jobs last week.

set in stone  
to be very difficult or impossible to change:  
The schedule isn't set in stone, but we'd like to stick to it pretty closely.

off the hook phrase of hook  
no longer in difficulty or trouble.  
"I lied to get him off the hook"

pitch in (with somebody/something)

(informal) to join in and help with an activity, by doing some of the work or by giving money, advice, etc.

Everyone pitched in with the work.

Local companies pitched in with building materials and labour.

stake something on something

to risk harming or losing something important if an action, decision, or situation does not have the result you want or expect:

I think she'll be head of this company in five year's time - I'd stake my reputation on it.

knock off

stop work.

"they usually knock off at 5pm"

produce a piece of work quickly and without much effort.

"I could knock the article off in half an hour"

on the razzle

phrase of razzle

noun: razzle

INFORMAL•BRITISH

out celebrating or enjoying oneself.

"he's gone out on the razzle again"

razzle-dazzle

/ˈrɑːzlˌdɑːzl/

noun

another term for razzmatazz.

"myth, legend, and razzle-dazzle all rolled into one critic-proof show"

razzmatazz

/ˌrɑːzməˈtɑːz/

nounINFORMAL

noisy, showy, and exciting activity and display designed to attract and impress.

"the razzmatazz of a political campaign"

tap out

out of money : BROKE

: SPENT, EXHAUSTED

tapped out after months on the road

cave /keɪv/

capitulate or submit under pressure; cave in.

"he caved because his position had become untenable"

only so much

phrase of so

a limited amount.

"there is only so much you can do to protect yourself"

only so much/many

used to say that there are limits to something:

There are only so many hours in your working day - you cannot possibly do all the work.

asterisk /'ast(ə)rɪsk/

Ian earns the most money in our family.

He didn't tell the best jokes but he told the most. (the most jokes)

electrolyte /ɪ'lektrolaɪt/

a liquid or gel which contains ions and can be decomposed by electrolysis, e.g. that present in a battery.

PHYSIOLOGY

the ionised or ionizable constituents of a living cell, blood, or other organic matter.

air ball

in basketball, an attempt to throw the ball into the basket that completely misses it and the board behind it:

Hughes had a bad game, shooting at least three airballs.

contemplate

/'kɒntəmpleɪt, 'kɒntəmpleɪt/

verb

look thoughtfully for a long time at.

"he contemplated his image in the mirrors"

goober /'gu:bə/

noun INFORMAL • NORTH AMERICAN

1.

a peanut.

"he was snacking on a sack of goobers"

2.

a foolish person.

"throughout my dating career, I was set up with some goobers"

FICO credit scores are a method of quantifying and evaluating an individual's creditworthiness.

s'more

/smɔː/

noun NORTH AMERICAN

noun: smore

a sweet snack consisting of a chocolate bar and toasted marshmallows sandwiched between graham crackers.

genius

UK /'dʒiː.ni.əs/ US /'dʒiː.ni.əs/

plural geniuses

Add to word list

C1

very great and rare natural ability or skill, especially in a particular area such as science or art, or a person who has this:

(an) artistic/creative/musical genius

Einstein was a (mathematical) genius.

From the age of three, she showed signs of genius.

stroke of genius It was such a brilliant idea - a real stroke of genius.

convo /'kɒnvəʊ/

conversation