

finished

by way of

so as to pass through or across; via.

"he travelled by way of Canterbury"

constituting; as a form of.

"I can't help it,' shouted Tom by way of apology"

reputation / ,rɛpjʊ'teɪʃn/

Sophie's computer skills puts her at an advantage.

correspondence / ,kɒrɪ'spɒnd(ə)ns/

communication by exchanging letters, emails, or other messages.

"I entered into detailed correspondence with him on the problem, but nothing ever came of it"

pick at something phrasal verb

to touch something many times with your fingers, pulling it slightly

She was picking at her skirt.

He achieved success at the expense of others.

We can act at our own discretion.

At length, we came to a conclusion.

He shouted at the top of his voice.

at odds

in conflict or at variance.

"his behaviour is at odds with the interests of the company"

When something is moving at a good clip, it is moving very quickly.

The ship was moving at a good clip and reach its destination 30 minutes earlier than scheduled.

Jack's car was moving at a good clip when the police stopped him for speeding.

at one's disposal

available for one to use whenever or however one wishes.

"a helicopter was put at their disposal"

We will ship it at the first opportunity.

Cambridge blue /ˌkeɪmbɪdʒ ˈbluː/
noun BRITISH
a pale blue colour.

Last part of the month
last third of the month
end of the month

brisket /ˈbrɪskɪt/
meat cut from the breast of an animal, typically a cow.

chicory /ˈtʃɪk(ə)ri/ BRITISH
a blue-flowered Mediterranean plant of the daisy family, cultivated for its edible salad leaves and carrot-shaped root.

baste /beɪst/ verb
pour fat or juices over (meat) during cooking in order to keep it moist.
"slip herbs under the skin and baste the chicken constantly"

spritz /sprɪts/ verb
squirt or spray a liquid at or on to (something) in quick, short bursts.
"she spritzed her neck with cologne"

dope /dəʊp/ INFORMAL
a stupid person.
"though he wasn't an intellectual giant, he was no dope either"

"Instructions on how to do this will be provided in the User Manual." "Instructions for the correct way to do this will be provided in the User Manual."

The answer depends on the context. Use "instructions for" when you're talking about guidance related to a specific task, object, or activity. For example, "instructions for assembling the bookshelf" suggests steps to put together a bookshelf.

On the other hand, use "instructions on" when referring to providing information or teaching about a subject. Saying "instructions on how to play the guitar" means giving lessons or tips about guitar playing.

In short, if it's about doing a particular job or using something, go with "for." If it's teaching or explaining how something works, choose "on."

less of something
British English spoken used to tell a child to stop doing something
Less of that noise, please!

pestilence /ˈpestɪləns/
noun ARCHAIC
a fatal epidemic disease, especially bubonic plague.

"neither prayers nor demonstrations halted the advance of the pestilence"

singe /sɪn(d)ʒ/

burn (something) superficially or lightly.

"the fire had singed his eyebrows"

turf /tɜːf/

grass and the surface layer of earth held together by its roots.

"they walked across the springy turf"

comparable /'kɒmp(ə)rəbl/

own it

1. To be responsible for something.

Now that you're in charge of this project, if something goes sideways, you're going to own it. Are you prepared for that?

2. slang To embrace and exhibit something about oneself with confidence. Often used as a phrase of encouragement.

Your figure looks so great in that dress, girl—you are owning it! Strut your stuff when you walk into that gala.

I'm too shy to dye my hair fun colors. Like, if you've got purple hair, you've got to own it.

be advised that

The expression "be advised" means "be informed or apprised." This expression is rather formal and is often encountered in commercial and legal contexts. Since it is an example of an older style of business writing that is now considered stilted, it is better to avoid it.

Instead, we recommend using the plain English expression please note that or simply omitting the introductory formula.

Please note that (not be advised that) the deadline for submissions is December 21.

stunt /stʌnt/

prevent from growing or developing properly.

"some weeds produce chemicals that stunt the plant's growth"

bulgar /'bʌlgə/

a cereal food made from whole wheat partially boiled then dried, eaten especially in Turkey.

"bulgar wheat"

pointer /'pɔɪntə/

run back out to a small piece of advice; a tip.

"here are some pointers on how to go about the task"

punt /pʌnt/

SOCCER

kick (the ball) a long distance upfield.

"the Leeds player kindly punted the ball back to them"

2.

If you punt on something, you decide not to do or include it:

We punted on a motion that makes no sense.

pant /pant/

breathe with short, quick breaths, typically from exertion or excitement.

"he was panting when he reached the top"

pee-ew /pi:(j)u:/

An exclamation of disgust.

bicker /'bɪkə/

argue about petty and trivial matters.

"couples who bicker over who gets what from the divorce"

tush /tʊʃ/

noun INFORMAL • NORTH AMERICAN

noun: tushy

a person's buttocks.

"office chairs are too often tough on the tush"

In religious Daoism[broken anchor] and traditional Chinese medicine, yangsheng (Chinese: 養生; lit. 'nourishing life'), refers to various self-cultivation practices aimed at enhancing health and longevity.

feng shui

/,fʌŋ 'ʃweɪ, fɛŋ 'ʃu:i/

noun

(in Chinese thought) a system of laws considered to govern spatial arrangement and orientation in relation to the flow of energy (chi), and whose favourable or unfavourable effects are taken into account when siting and designing buildings.

work up a sweat

get up a thirst

To become thirsty, typically due to strenuous activity.

You must have gotten up a thirst working out in the garden in this heat!

Come in and get some lemonade—I know you must have gotten up a thirst cleaning out the garage.

Is there anything better than a glass of ice cold water after you've gotten up a thirst?

work up a thirst

To become thirsty after engaging in some activity, typically one that is physically strenuous.

Come in and get some lemonade. You must have worked up a thirst being out in the garden in this heat!

work up an appetite

To become hungry after engaging in some activity, typically one that is physically strenuous. You've been out building that fence for nearly three hours. Come on in for lunch—I bet you've worked up an appetite!

get (all) up in (one's) face

1. To stand extremely close to one, especially in an aggressive and confrontational manner. If you don't quit getting up in my face, I'm gonna have to lay you out!

Some guy got all up in my face last night at the bar after I bumped into him, even though I apologized.

Hey, don't get up in my face—I'm not the one who insulted your girlfriend!

2. To berate or harass one about something.

Everyone got up in my face for my comments, but I stand by what I said.

I think I'll go out the back entrance. I don't need a bunch of reporters getting up in my face about the trial.

I don't wear my fur coat anymore because animal rights' advocates would always get all up in my face about itやた

rump /rʌmp/

the hind part of the body of a mammal or the lower back of a bird.

"the harrier is distinguished by its prominent white rump"

butt /bʌt/

the person or thing at which criticism or ridicule is directed.

"his singing is the butt of dozens of jokes"

bogus /'bəʊgəs/

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

"a bogus insurance claim"

The phrase "people came second" typically implies that individuals or human concerns were not given a high priority in a particular situation or context.

skivvy /'skɪvi/

INFORMAL•BRITISH

a female domestic servant who performs menial tasks.

"I found a job as a maid-of-all-work, a skivvy"

US•AUSTRALIAN

a lightweight high-necked long-sleeved garment.

verbINFORMAL•BRITISH

do menial household tasks; work as a skivvy.

"I was skivvying for that Brixton family"

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"

haul around

1. To carry or transport something from place to place, especially that which is awkward, heavy, or burdensome. A noun or pronoun can be used between "haul" and "around."

Why do you insist on hauling around that clunky old briefcase wherever you go?

Would you please take that bag of clothes to the thrift store already? I'm tired of hauling it around in the trunk of the car.

2. To force someone to accompany one from place to place. A noun or pronoun can be used between "haul" and "around."

I feel bad that I had to haul Tommy around town with me today while I ran my errands, but I didn't have anyone to look after him.

haul /hɔ:l/

(of a person) pull or drag with effort or force.

"he hauled his bike out of the shed"

play date

a social occasion arranged for children to play together.

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

recon /'ri:kɒn/

reconnoitre /,rɛkə'noɪtə/

make a military observation of (a region).

"they reconnoitred the beach some weeks before the landing"

shepherd /'ʃɛpəd/

fibrillate /'fɪbrɪleɪt, 'fʌɪbrɪleɪt/

(of a muscle, especially in the heart) make a quivering movement due to uncoordinated contraction of the individual fibrils.

"the atria ceased to fibrillate when the temperature was reduced"

photosynthesis /,fəʊtə(ʊ)'sɪnθɪsɪs/

placard /'plakɑ:d/

plural noun: placards

a printed or handwritten notice or sign for public display, either fixed to a wall or carried during a demonstration.

slugger /'slʌgə/

a person who throws hard punches.

"with one smashing left hook, the slugger punched his way to a world light-heavyweight title"

BASEBALL

a player who consistently hits for power, especially home runs and doubles.

"his best pitch is his curve, which many sluggers swing at too early"

louse /laʊs/

either of two small wingless parasitic insects that live on the skin of mammals and birds.

lousy /'laʊzi/

lousy with something

used to say that something is full of something, or has too much of it:

The internet is lousy with this kind of stuff.

The whole city is lousy with lawyers.

The downtown area is lousy with antiques stores and flea markets.

Television is lousy with reality shows.

They discovered that the buildings were lousy with asbestos.

slash /slaʃ/

slush /slʌʃ/

hash /hæʃ/

a dish of cooked meat cut into small pieces and cooked again, usually with potatoes.

sports hall

I will meet you at the gym later.

superman /'su:pəman/

shaman /'ʃɑ:mən, 'ʃeɪmən/

My take on the difference is this:

“a/the chance to + infinitive” - ‘chance’ tends to mean ‘opportunity’.

“a/the chance of + noun/gerund” - ‘chance of’ tends to be similar in meaning to ‘risk of’ or possibly ‘odds of’.

slave driver /'sleɪv ,draɪvə/

noun INFORMAL

a person who makes others work very hard.

"she was far too easy-going to be a slave driver"

adorbs /ə'dɔ:bz/ adjective INFORMAL

arousing great delight; cute or adorable.

"all the pets are totally adorbs"

ramshackle /'ræm,ʃakl/

(especially of a house or vehicle) in a state of severe disrepair.

"a ramshackle cottage"

bungalow /'bʌŋɡələʊ/

Olé, Olé, Olé" is a chant used in sport. The chant is based on the Spanish interjection "Olé" used to signify approval by the spectators in bullfighting; however, the chant is not used in Spain.

in tow

being towed by another vehicle or boat.

"his boat was taken in tow by a trawler"

accompanying or following someone.

"trying to shop with three children in tow is no joke"

pull punches

be less forceful, severe, or violent than one could be.

"a sharp-tongued critic who doesn't pull his punches"

shoot up

to grow in size, or increase in number or level, very quickly:

David has really shot up since I saw him last.

Prices shot up by 25 percent.

It is illegal to have sex with a person under the age of 16.

The answer to your question is that sex is a noncount noun because native Anglophones treat it as a noncount noun and use it as a noncount noun. That's idiomatic English, like it or not, logical or not.

a full ride

an offer by a college or university to pay all costs for the studies of a person with great ability:

get a full ride to My friend's nephew just got a full ride to Princeton.

Robinson accepted a football full ride at his dad's alma mater.

The university provides up to 20 full rides to women rowers.

field day /'fi:ld deɪ/

an opportunity for action or success, especially at the expense of others.

"the newspapers had a field day as the case came to court"

a review or an exercise, especially in manoeuvring.

bridal /'brʌɪdl/

bridle /'brʌɪdl/

the headgear used to control a horse, consisting of buckled straps to which a bit and reins are attached.

"grooms came at once to take the bridles"

ding-dong ditch (uncountable)

(US, Canada) A children's prank in which a doorbell of a home is rung, and then the pranksters run (or cycle) away before the occupants of the home open the door.

streetwalker /'stri:t,wɔ:kə/

noun: street-walker

a sex worker who seeks clients in the street.

stiff /stɪf/

cheat (someone) out of something, especially money.

"several workers were stiffed out of their pay"

NORTH AMERICAN

ignore (someone) deliberately; snub.

"the stars are notorious for stiffing their hosts and sponsors at banquets"

to achieve economies of scale in production (= to produce many items so the cost of producing each one is reduced)

toboggan /tə'bɒg(ə)n/

noun

a long, light, narrow vehicle, typically on runners, used for sliding downhill over snow or ice.

insolent /'ɪnsələnt/

showing a rude and arrogant lack of respect.

"she hated the insolent tone of his voice"

club /klʌb/

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

"they beat him with a wooden club"

obscene /əb'si:n/

(of the portrayal or description of sexual matters) offensive or disgusting by accepted standards of morality and decency.

"obscene jokes"

leave someone hanging

to keep someone waiting for your decision or answer:

I was left hanging, not knowing whether I'd got the job.

beat-up adjective

: DILAPIDATED, SHABBY

"I don't want to go." "Suit yourself. We'll go without you."

suit yourself!

an expression used either humorously or angrily to mean "do what you want to do": "I don't think I'll come to the party tonight." "All right, suit yourself!"

suit yourself

spoken used to tell someone they can do whatever they want to, even though it annoys you or you think they are not doing the right thing

'Mind if I sit here?' he said gently. 'Suit yourself.'

be pressed for time

to be in a hurry:

I'd love to stop and talk, but I'm pressed for time.

kicking /'kɪkɪŋ/

lively and exciting.

"their seriously kicking debut, 'Paradise'"

requite /rɪ'kwɪt/

make appropriate return for (a favour, service, or wrongdoing).

"they are quick to requite a kindness"

return a favour to (someone).

"to win enough to requite my friends"

I will be changing jobs in January.

frou-frou /'fru:fru:/

frills or other ornamentation, particularly of women's clothes.

"a little frou-frou skirt"

roughhouse /'rʌfhaʊs/ verb

act in a boisterous, violent manner.

"they roughhouse on street corners"

handle (someone) roughly or violently.

"he had them roughhoused by his servants"

at a low ebb

phrase of ebb

in a weakened or depressed state.

"the country was at a low ebb due to the recent war"

sprawl /sprɔ:l/

sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out in an ungainly way.

"the door shot open, sending him sprawling across the pavement"

swings and roundabouts

phrase of swing

BRITISH

a situation in which different actions or options result in no eventual gain or loss.

It is a case of swings and roundabouts.

acrid /'akrɪd/

unpleasantly bitter or pungent.
"acrid smoke"

keep at
persist with something.
"it was the best part of a day's work but I kept at it"

palpitation /ˌpʌlpɪˈteɪʃn/
a noticeably rapid, strong, or irregular heartbeat due to agitation, exertion, or illness.
"the stimulants gave me palpitations"

gaffe /gaf/
an unintentional act or remark causing embarrassment to its originator; a blunder.
"in my first few months at work I made some real gaffes"

Can you fast forward it? Ah! Wait, you went too far. Can you go back a bit?

When you call dibs on something, you claim it, especially in advance (before other people can claim it or get to it).

To call dibs, you usually actually say (or shout) dibs, especially while mentioning the thing you're claiming, as in Dibs on the last slice of pizza!

varsity /ˈvɑːsɪti/
DATED•BRITISH
university.
"he had his hair cut when he got back from varsity"
BRITISH
(especially of a sporting event or team) relating to a university, especially Oxford or Cambridge.
modifier noun: varsity
"a varsity match"
NORTH AMERICAN
the principal team representing a high school or college in a sport or other competition.
"Miller promoted him to the varsity for his sophomore season"

How would you explain the importance of running the ball?
My cousin from the UK once asked me why teams run the ball because every time he looked at the TV, a running play would go for like 1 yard and it would seem very pointless.

booyah /ˈbuːjɑː/
exclamationINFORMAL•US
used to express joy, especially over a well-played or victorious moment in sport.
"he could belt out an exuberant 'Booyah!'"

punt /pʌnt/
verb: punt; 3rd person present: punts; past tense: punted; past participle: punted; gerund or present participle: punting

kick (the ball) a long distance upfield.

"the Leeds player kindly punted the ball back to them"

AMERICAN FOOTBALL•RUGBY

kick (the ball) after it has dropped from the hands and before it reaches the ground.

"he used to be able to punt a football farther than anyone"

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

(of an offensive team) turn possession over to the defensive team by punting the ball after failing to make a first down.

"the Raiders could get nowhere with their possession, and had to punt"

delay in answering or taking action; equivocate.

"he would continue to punt on questions of Medicare"

chafe /tʃeɪf/

(with reference to a part of the body) make or become sore by rubbing against something.

"the collar chafed his neck"

wear or damage caused by rubbing.

"to prevent chafe the ropes should lie flat"

The Wright brothers, Orville Wright (August 19, 1871 – January 30, 1948) and Wilbur Wright (April 16, 1867 – May 30, 1912)

Waterbending, one of the four elemental bending arts, is the hydrokinetic ability to control water in all of its various forms.

capillary /kəˈpɪl(ə)ri/

ANATOMY

any of the fine branching blood vessels that form a network between the arterioles and venules.

2.

a tube that has an internal diameter of hairlike thinness.

He bundled his kids up from head to toe.

Let's bundle up in a blanket and watch a movie.

It's snowing today. Make sure you guys bundle up.

meek /mi:k/

quiet, gentle, and easily imposed on; submissive.

"she brought her meek little husband along"

rib-eye

a cut of beef from the outer side of the ribs.

"he orders the largest rib-eye steak they have to offer"

be beat

1. To fail or be defeated.

Down by 10 points with only two minutes left, we knew we were beat.

The voting numbers so far suggest that my candidate's been beat.

I don't want to be beat by a child's toy, but I just have no idea how to put this thing together!

cash /kɑʃ/

tick off BRITISH

mark an item in a list with a tick to show that it has been dealt with.

"I ticked several items off my 'to do' list"

INFORMAL•BRITISH

reprimand or rebuke someone.

"he was ticked off by Angela"

gait /geɪt/

a person's manner of walking.

"the easy gait of an athlete"

the pattern of steps of a horse or dog at a particular speed.

knock (one's) lights out

To render one unconscious with a blow to the head.

A: "Oh man, what happened?" B: "You don't remember? Well, you and Bart were fighting, and then Bart knocked your lights out."

Wow, you're strong—you could knock someone's lights out, no problem!

What is vocal fry? Vocal fry is the lowest register (tone) of your voice characterized by its deep, creaky, breathy sound.

amorous /'am(ə)rəs/

showing, feeling, or relating to sexual desire.

"she rejected his amorous advances"

hard hat /'hɑ:d hat/

a rigid protective helmet, as worn by factory and building workers.

"he wore no protective gear beyond a hard hat"

merit badge /'merɪt bædʒ/

any of several badges awarded in the Boy Scouts of America for different achievements and sewn onto their uniforms. A certain number are needed before a Scout can move to a higher rank. Merit badges are awarded for skills and study in many areas, such as cooking, safety, communications, sports, computers, pets and family life.

put one's face on

phrase of face

INFORMAL

apply make-up to one's face.

"Paula spent two minutes putting on her face first thing"

get one's nose in front
manage to achieve a winning or leading position.
"she got her nose in front at the eighth hole"

Put your nose back in front.

Since the girl has taken her jacket off, it makes perfect sense to say "Put it back on", meaning "Put it on again."

stare at
Don't stare at people like that - it's rude.
Chuck sat quietly for hours staring into the distance, thinking of what might have been.
stare someone down During the press conference, each boxer tried to stare the other down (= force the other to look away by continual staring).

The sight of a girl of her age with a baby in her arms drew stares; she was so young and small that people thought she might be carrying a doll.

blank stare
: a look that shows one does not understand what someone has said or does not know the answer to a question
My question only drew/got a blank stare.

"he stared at her in amazement"

midriff /'mɪdrɪf/
the region of the front of the body between the chest and the waist.
"she wore a top that showed her midriff"

thrift /θrɪft/
the quality of using money and other resources carefully and not wastefully.
"the values of thrift and self-reliance"

thrift shop
noun NORTH AMERICAN
noun: thrift store
a shop selling second-hand clothes and household goods, typically to raise funds for a Church or charity.

"Out of pocket" (slang) means someone said or did something really inappropriate, and it can be used anywhere, or any time someone says something surprisingly offensive or rude to another person. It's mostly used in a funny context.

out of pocket
having lost money in a transaction.
"the organiser of the concert was £3,700 out of pocket after it was cancelled"

(of an expense or cost) paid for directly rather than being put on account or charged to some other person or organisation.

not able to be contacted:

There would be a week or two when he would be out of pocket.

Out of pocket is a phrase with three different common meanings. It can refer to a person having to pay money themselves, a person being unreachable, or a person acting unnaturally or in a wild, inappropriate way.

off-putting /ɒfˈpʊtɪŋ/

unpleasant, disconcerting, or repellent.

"his scar is somewhat off-putting"

runny

extremely or excessively soft and liquid

a runny dough

GEORGE BUSH'S declaration of the end of "major combat operations" on May 1st seems less apt with every fresh killing in Iraq.

mandarin /ˈmɑnd(ə)rɪn/

blabbermouth /ˈblabəmaʊθ/

noun DEROGATORY•INFORMAL

a person who talks excessively or indiscreetly.

"I'm not telling you because you're such a big blabbermouth"

per diem

/pəː ˈdiːɛm/

adverb

for each day (used in financial contexts).

"he agreed to pay at certain specified rates per diem"

adjective

done, produced, or occurring each day (used in financial contexts).

"they are now demanding a per diem rate"

noun

an allowance or payment made for each day.

"per diems are still allowed for out-of-state legislators"

uptake /ˈʌptɛɪk/

the action of taking up or making use of something that is available.

"the uptake of free school meals"

the taking in or absorption of a substance by a living organism or bodily organ.

"the uptake of glucose into the muscles"

up to speed

operating at full speed.

performing at an anticipated or desired rate or level.

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

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

be possessed of

to own something or have something as a quality:

He was possessed of a large fortune, but sadly no brains to speak of.

He was possessed of a dazzling smile and brooding good looks.

She was possessed of a voice of rare beauty.

Even his friends would admit that he was possessed of an enormous ego.

She is possessed of an exceptional talent for capturing the nuances of daily life and turning them into novels of searing honesty.

bearing /'be:riŋ/

a person's way of standing or moving.

"a man of precise military bearing"

relation; relevance.

"the case has no direct bearing on the issues being considered"

coddle /'kɒdl/

treat (someone) in an indulgent or overprotective way.

"I was coddled and cosseted"

flunk /flʌŋk/

verb INFORMAL • NORTH AMERICAN

fail to reach the required standard in (an examination, test, or course of study).

"I flunked biology in the tenth grade"

judge (an examination candidate) to have failed to reach the required standard.

(of a student) leave or be dismissed from school or college as a result of failing to reach the required standard.

"Tip flunked out of Caltech and moved back home"

frazzle /'frazl/

cause to show the effects of exhaustion or strain.

"Richard was frequently frazzled by the conflicting demands of work and home"

sunshade /'sʌnʃeɪd/

a parasol, awning, or other device giving protection from the sun.

awning /'ɔ:nɪŋ/

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

shingle /'ʃɪŋɡl/

a rectangular wooden tile used on walls or roofs.

rub something in

to talk to someone about something that you know they want to forget because they feel bad about it:

OK, I made a mistake - you don't have to rub it in.

pushover /'pʊʃ,əʊvə/

a person who is easy to overcome or influence.

"Colonel Moore was benevolent but no pushover"

on that note

A transitional phrase used to segue between what has just been said and what one is about to say.

Our sales were down another 15% last quarter. On that note, we're going to start making some budget cuts to offset lost revenue.

A: "It's getting awfully late." B: "Yeah, on that note, I think I'm gonna head out."

"TMI" stands for "too much information"

dupe /dju:p/

deceive; trick.

"the newspaper was duped into publishing an untrue story"

bust

thing that is not good

As a show it was a bust.

high jinks /'hʌɪ dʒɪŋks/

noun: hijinks

boisterous fun.

"high jinks behind the wheel of a car"

A ball hog is a derisive term for a basketball player who handles the ball exclusively to the point of impairing the team.

ride the bench

warm the bench

limelight /'lɪmɪlaɪt/

intense white light obtained by heating lime, formerly used in theatres.

hog /hɒg/

take or use most or all of (something) in an unfair or selfish way.

"he never hogged the limelight"

ground

(of a parent) refuse to allow (a child) to go out socially as a punishment.

"he was grounded for hitting her on the head"

deets /di:ts/

noun INFORMAL

details.

"stay tuned for more deets"

meretricious /ˌmɛrɪˈtrɪʃəs/ I. adjective 1. apparently attractive but having no real value •
meretricious souvenirs for the tourist trade.

brittle /ˈbrɪtl/

hard but liable to break easily.

"her bones became fragile and brittle"

a brittle sweet made from nuts and set melted sugar.

"peanut brittle"

run the risk of doing something

to do something although something bad might happen because of it:

If you tell him the truth, you run the risk of hurting his feelings.

dam /dam/

the female parent of an animal, especially a domestic mammal.

"one version is inherited from the dog's sire and one from its dam"

squire /ˈskwɪə/

a man of high social standing who owns and lives on an estate in a rural area, especially the
chief landowner in such an area.

"the squire of Radbourne Hall"

sultry /ˈsʌltri/

(of the air or weather) hot and humid.

"the sultry late summer weather had brought swarms of insects"

suggesting or expressing a passionate or strongly sexual nature or attraction.

"she delivered a sultry look to the camera"

let down

fail to support or help someone as they had hoped or expected.

"if I let him down now, I knew he'd never trust me again"

A let-down is a disappointment that you suffer, usually because something has not
happened in the way in which you expected it to happen.

The flat was nice, but compared with what we'd been used to, it was a terrible let-down.

At the end of the book, there's a sense of let-down for the reader.

scallop /ˈskɒləp, ˈskæləp/

an edible bivalve mollusc with a ribbed fan-shaped shell. Scallops swim by rapidly opening
and closing the shell valves.

comply (with something) to obey a rule, an order, etc.; to meet particular standards

They refused to comply with the UN resolution.

All furniture must comply with the fire safety regulations.

When requested to leave, they refused to comply.
What sanctions can they take against us if we fail to comply?

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"

Will the rebels observe the ceasefire?

The crowd observed a minute's silence (= were silent for one minute) in memory of those who had died.

parody (of something) [countable, uncountable] a piece of writing, music, acting, etc. that deliberately copies the style of someone or something in order to be amusing

a parody of a horror film

His personality made him an easy subject for parody.

Do you mind if we share your umbrella?

get some help

What you say mental friend

Friend: i want to fuck a goat sideways

Me: get some help

travel /'travl/

trouble /'trʌbl/

endemic /ɛn'dɛmɪk/

(of a disease) regularly occurring within an area or community.

"areas where malaria is endemic"

The act of "taking the L" means taking a loss or losing.

L take • ur opinion being wrong, although technically an opinion cant be wrong, but in this situation, it is.

example: orange juice>>> apple juice"

"L take"

pump /pʌmp/

a mechanical device using suction or pressure to raise or move liquids, compress gases, or force air into inflatable objects such as tyres.

"a petrol pump"

pique /pi:k/

arouse (interest or curiosity).

"with his scientific curiosity piqued, he was looking forward to being able to analyse his find"

Labour law piqued his interest in law school.

The incident piqued his pride.

[uncountable] (formal)

annoyed or bitter feelings that you have, usually because you believe that you have not been treated with enough respect

When he realised nobody was listening to him, he left in a fit of pique.

She'd lied about it out of pique.

vacation /və'keɪʃn,veɪ'keɪʃn/

[countable, uncountable] especially American English a holiday, or time spent not working

We're planning a vacation in Europe.

on vacation

He's on vacation this week.

We're planning to go on vacation soon.

2 [uncountable] especially American English the number of days, weeks etc that you are allowed as paid holiday by your employer

How much vacation do you get at your new job?

I think I have four vacation days left.

Employees are entitled to four weeks' paid vacation annually.

To bring something home to someone means to make them understand how important or serious it is.

Their sobering conversation brought home to everyone present the serious and worthwhile work the Red Cross does.

When I saw for myself the damage that had been caused, that really brought home to me the scale of the disaster.

bad off

: having little money

They're pretty bad off now that he's lost his job.

: in a bad or difficult situation or condition

When I heard how bad off they were, I asked if I could do anything to help.

With respect to unemployment this state isn't too bad off compared to other parts of the country.

flashy /'flaʃi/

ostentatiously attractive or impressive.

"he always had a flashy car"

ostentatiously /,ɒstən'teɪʃəsli/

in a pretentious or showy way designed to impress.

"she was known for dressing ostentatiously in designer clothes"

"This is my first time doing this" or "this is the first time I have done that" are both correct, with very slight differences in usage. The first has changes due to tense:

Past: "that was my first time doing this/that".

Future: "this will be my first time doing this/that".

navel /'neɪvl/

a rounded knotty depression in the centre of a person's belly caused by the detachment of the umbilical cord after birth; the umbilicus.

slang, transitive, intransitive) To masturbate. quotations ▼

She never forgot the day she was caught frigging herself in the library.

festoon /fɛ'stu:n/

a chain or garland of flowers, leaves, or ribbons, hung in a curve as a decoration.

The most complicated motorway interchange in Britain is known as Spaghetti Junction.

He was known as a radical reformer/thinker/politician.

In military parlance this is known as a fast retreat.

premonition /,prɛmə'niʃn, ,pri:mə'niʃn/

a strong feeling that something is about to happen, especially something unpleasant.

"he had a premonition of imminent disaster"

snoop /snu:p/

to look around a place secretly, in order to discover things or find out information about someone or something:

People were sent out to snoop on rival businesses.

She's the sort of person you can imagine snooping about your room when you're not there.

to try to find out about other people's private lives:

I don't mean to snoop, but is there something wrong?

Clara's husband is snooping on her because he thinks she is seeing another man.

to find out private things about somebody, especially by looking secretly around a place

snoop (around/round something) Someone's been snooping around my apartment.

snoop (on somebody) journalists snooping on politicians

to do someone a solid

to do something kind or helpful for someone:

Anyone care to do me a solid and tell me if I can claim this on my taxes?

Do me a solid and stop talking.

no dice

phrase of dice

INFORMAL•NORTH AMERICAN

used to refuse a request or indicate that there is no chance of success.

"I hadn't booked, so no dice"

"Which train car should I get on?"

Which car should I ride to make a smooth transfer to my next train?

sleazy /'sli:zi/

adjective

1.

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

"a sleazy private detective"

skanky /'skɒŋki/

adjective DEROGATORY•INFORMAL

(of a person) disreputable or sleazy.

"the skanky folk who populate LA's film scene"

unpleasantly dirty.

"my already skanky sweatshirt is stained with tomatoes"

cut the mustard

come up to expectations; reach the required standard.

"I didn't cut the mustard as a hockey player"

Relate to' is a recognized phrasal verb that means to connect, sympathize, or interact with someone or something.

what's with idiom

: what is the reason for (something)

(So) what's with the hat?

: what is wrong with (someone or something)

What's with him? Is he upset?

"Wash and wring out a rag."

wash up

to wash your hands, especially before a meal:

Go wash up - your dinner's ready.

to clean the plates, pans, and other things that you have used for cooking and eating:

He washed up his mug and put it back on the shelf.

Could you wring out the rag?

Could you squeeze out the content of the tube?

Could you wring out the cloth?

I need to squeeze out the towel.

I've soaked it in stain remover twice, but there are some marks that just won't budge.

I scrubbed them with stain remover, but it removed the pearlescent covering.

He is remembered for his hand-eye coordination and for catching as well in a crowd as in the open.

All games require from contestants excellent hand-eye coordination, composure and, above all, the titular reflex.

hand-eye coordination

jagged /'dʒaɡɪd/

with rough, sharp points protruding.

"the jagged edges gashed their fingers"

Halley's Comet is the only known short-period comet that is consistently visible to the naked eye from Earth,[16] appearing every 72–80 years.

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"

mulch /mʌl(t)/

material (such as decaying leaves, bark, or compost) spread around or over a plant to enrich or insulate the soil.

perpetrator /'pə:ptreɪtə/

perp /pə:p/

noun INFORMAL • NORTH AMERICAN

the person who committed a crime.

"he steps into a pothole chasing a perp down a dark street"

She called local police ... and asked them to arrest Simon and enforce the court order. Yet the police did not put out an APB for Simon's truck.

An all-points bulletin is a message sent by a police force to all its officers. The abbreviation APB is also used.

[US]

His capture comes just eight hours after the FBI issued an all-points bulletin for Helder.

vicar /'vɪkə/

(in the Church of England) an incumbent of a parish where tithes formerly passed to a chapter or religious house or layperson.

(in other Anglican Churches) a member of the clergy deputizing for another.

cold /kəʊld/

without preparation or rehearsal.

"they went into the test cold"

INFORMAL

at one's mercy.

"they had him cold"

hit the skids

: to begin to fail or get worse very suddenly and quickly

After he was injured his career hit the skids.

skid /skɪd/

(of a vehicle) slide, typically sideways or obliquely, on slippery ground or as a result of stopping or turning too quickly.

"her car skidded and hit the grass verge"

canoodle /kəˈnuːdl/

verb INFORMAL

kiss and cuddle amorously.

"she was caught canoodling with her boyfriend"

somebody /ˈsʌmbədi/

Catch-the-bus

(euphemistic, chiefly Internet) To kill oneself deliberately; to commit suicide.

catch a train/plane/bus

to get on a train, plane etc in order to travel on it, or to be in time to get on a train, plane etc before it leaves

I caught the 7.15 train to London.

There's a train in now. If you run, you'll just catch it.

I have to hurry – I have a bus to catch.

celebrate /ˈseɪlbreɪt/

petal /ˈpetl/

lotus /ˈləʊtəs/

ladle /ˈleɪdl/

The Government of Japan

clementine /ˈkleɪm(ə)ntaɪn/

a tangerine of a deep orange-red North African variety which is grown around the Mediterranean and in South Africa.

on a whim

: because of a sudden decision

He quit his job on a whim.

asymmetry /eɪˈsɪmɪtri/

glaze /gleɪz/

fit panes of glass into (a window or door frame or similar structure).
"windows can be glazed using laminated glass"
overlay or cover (food, fabric, etc.) with a smooth, shiny coating or finish.
"new potatoes which had been glazed in mint-flavoured butter"

What does the phrase "Someone is tripping" mean? -

Answer: There are three uses for this term.

tripping could be referring to someone's mental state, most likely influenced by drugs.
Usually hallucinogenics.

"you're tripping!" This could be said when a friend or someone familiar to you says something you think is ridiculous or even kind of crazy.

tripping literally means to catch your foot on something or yourself resulting in loss of balance and possibly falling.

You might wanna back up a little bit.

instructor always gets mad at me because I struggle with parking in reverse]

linoleum /lɪˈnəʊliəm/

a material consisting of a canvas backing thickly coated with a preparation of linseed oil and powdered cork, used especially as a floor covering.

viscera /ˈvɪs(ə)rə/

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

appertain /,apəˈteɪn/ I. verb — [no obj.] 1. (appertain to) — relate to; concern • the answers generally appertain to improvements in standard of service. 2. be appropriate or applicable • the institutional arrangements which appertain under the system.

ruckus /ˈrʌkəs/

a row or commotion.

"a child is raising a ruckus in class"

after college, he freeloaded off his parents for several years before finally moving out
freeload on somebody/something You've been freeloading on us for long enough.
freeload off somebody/something They're just freeloading off the system.

freeload /ˈfri:ləʊd/

verb DEROGATORY•INFORMAL

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

"why pay rent when you can freeload?"

He had a reputation for freeloading off friends and acquaintances.

The restaurant is full of corporate executives and freeloading food critics.

squdge

OOZE

black mud squdging up between their bare toes

—M. O. Williams

2

: to slosh around (as in ooze or mud)

I wanted to give you a heads-up that I'm going on a business trip next week.

feel someone/something out

to try to get information from someone or from a situation without asking direct questions:

Why don't you feel them out to see if they'll invite me over too?

I think they are trying to feel out what the new relationship should be.

She went out of her way to help me

Thank you for taking the trouble to come all this way

I get that a lot.

People say that to me all the time.

fondue /'fɒnduː, 'fɒndjuː/

die on this hill

1. To pursue some issue or course of action with total and wholehearted conviction, despite the difficulty and potential consequences of doing so.

It's clear that the governor's willing to die on this hill. I guess we'll see how voters feel about her tax hike during the next election.

Look, having principles in business is important, but not if they're going to destroy your company. Don't die on this hill!

A: "I don't want the people on the board to think I'm wishy-washy." B: "OK, but this particular issue is so trivial. Maybe don't die on this hill."

2. To defend or maintain some position or argument with total conviction, without concern as to whether or not one will be considered correct or change anyone else's opinion. Often used facetiously.

I know I'm in the minority, but I'll die on this hill—the third film is the best in the entire series!

You got into a fight with him over the correct way to organise utensils in the kitchen? You're really going to die on this hill?

A: "Are you really defending the Oxford comma this passionately?" B: "Hello, I have two English degrees—I am definitely prepared to die on this hill!"

Landmines are a problem for the people in Cambodia.

walk/be on eggshells

to be very careful not to offend or upset someone:

If you're sick you don't want people treating you differently, and you really don't want people walking on eggshells around you.

When he's tired we spend the day treading on eggshells as he becomes stubborn and grumpy.

I was always on eggshells when my family came to stay.

caveat /'kæviət/

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

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

gallbladder /'gɔ:l.blədə/

a small sac-shaped organ beneath the liver in which bile is stored after secretion by the liver and before release into the intestine.

drone /drəʊn/

make a continuous low humming sound.

"in the far distance a machine droned"

get someone's drift

: to understand the general or basic meaning of what someone is saying

I don't get your drift.

workaday /'wə:kədeɪ/

not special, unusual, or interesting; ordinary.

"your humble workaday PC"

relating to work or one's job.

"the workaday world of timecards and performance reviews"

Her beautiful hair caught my eye

titular /'tɪtʃʊlə/

holding or constituting a purely formal position or title without any real authority.

"the queen is titular head of the Church of England"

relating to or denoted by a title.

"the work's titular song"

lean (something) against/on something

to sit or stand with part of your body touching something as a support:

He leaned against the wall.

She leaned her head on his shoulder.

racket /'rækɪt/

noun: racket; plural noun: rackets

a loud unpleasant noise; a din.

"the kids were making a racket"

A latchkey kid, or latchkey child, is a child who returns to an empty home after school (or other activities) or a child who is often left at home with no supervision because their parents

are away at work. Such a child can be any age, alone or with siblings who are also under the age of maturity for their community.[1]

I wouldn't know INFORMAL

used to indicate that one can't be expected to know the answer to someone's question or to comment on a matter.

"It was a lot better than last year's dance.' 'I wouldn't know about that.'"

This was the grunge era, when the pressure to be ladylike lifted and you could jog around in Doc Martens and an old shirt without being said to have failed as a woman.

sermon /'sə:mən/

a talk on a religious or moral subject, especially one given during a church service and based on a passage from the Bible.

"I preached my first sermon on original sin"

dissent /dɪ'sent/

the holding or expression of opinions at variance with those commonly or officially held.

"there was no dissent from this view"

incumbent /ɪn'kʌmbənt/

necessary for (someone) as a duty or responsibility.

"the government realised that it was incumbent on them to act"

fess up

: to admit that one has done something wrong : confess

At first he denied everything, but eventually he fessed up.

He finally fessed up about his involvement.

affectation /,afɛk'teɪʃn/

behaviour, speech, or writing that is pretentious and designed to impress.

"the affectation of a man who measures every word for effect"

a studied display of real or pretended feeling.

"an affectation of calm"

If you say that someone's attitude or behaviour is an affectation, you disapprove of the fact that it is not genuine or natural, but is intended to impress other people.

horror /'hɒrə/

horoscope /'hɒrəskəʊp/

nounASTROLOGY

a forecast of a person's future, typically including a delineation of character and circumstances, based on the relative positions of the stars and planets at the time of that person's birth.

"he gave lectures on astrology and cast horoscopes in his spare time"

constable /'kʌnstəbl, 'kɒnstəbl/
a police officer.
the governor of a royal castle.

flux /flʌks/
a substance mixed with a solid to lower its melting point, used especially in soldering and brazing metals or to promote vitrification in glass or ceramics.
a substance added to a furnace during metal-smelting or glass-making which combines with impurities to form slag.

in essence
phrase of essence
basically and without regard for peripheral details; fundamentally.
"in detail the class system is complex but in essence it is simple"

account for
give a satisfactory record of something, typically money, that one is responsible for.
"I had to account for every penny I spent"
succeed in killing, destroying, or defeating.
"a mishit drive accounted for Jones, who had scored 32"

cut out
•NORTH AMERICAN
(of a person) leave quickly, especially so as to avoid a boring or awkward situation.
"she was working her way towards the door and when no one was watching, she cut out"
remove, exclude, or stop eating or doing something.
"start today by cutting out fatty foods"

man up INFORMAL
be brave or tough enough to deal with a difficult or unpleasant situation.
"you just have to man up and take it"

buy out
If you buy someone out, you buy their share of something such as a company or piece of property that you previously owned together.
The bank had to pay to buy out most of the 200 former partners. [VERB PARTICLE noun]
He bought his brother out for \$17 million. [VERB noun PARTICLE]

If you buy someone out of the armed forces or another organisation, you pay a sum of money so that they can leave before the end of the period they agreed to stay for.
Carling eventually bought himself out of the army. [VERB noun PARTICLE]

affliction /ə'flɪkʃn/
a cause of pain or harm.
"a crippling affliction of the nervous system"

Bactine™ noun /ˌbæktɪˈtiːn/
[uncountable]

a US product name for a substance that helps to prevent infection in small cuts and wounds

sordid /'sɔːdɪd/

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

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

holler /'hɒlə/

give a loud shout or cry.

"he hollers when he wants feeding"

give (one) a holler

informal To contact or communicate with someone, as to alert them to something.

Hey, just give me a holler if you need anything.

Don't worry, I'll give you a holler if I run out of supplies.

When I give you a holler, can you see if the Internet is back up and running?

apprehensive /,əprɪ'hensɪv/

anxious or fearful that something bad or unpleasant will happen.

"he felt apprehensive about going home"

gallon /'galən/

BRITISH

a unit of liquid or dry capacity equal to eight pints or 4.55 litres.

INFORMAL

a large volume of something.

"gallons of fake blood"

calorie /'kal(ə)ri/

depot /'dɛpəʊ/

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

"an arms depot"

Jolly - 'Jolly good', 'Jolly bad', 'You're jolly well going to write your thank-you letters whether you like it or not.'

scrum-diddly-umptious

scrumptious /'skrʌm(p)ʃəs/

adjective INFORMAL

(of food) extremely tasty; delicious.

"a scrumptious chocolate tart"

impart /ɪm'pɑːt/

make (information) known.

"the teachers imparted a great deal of knowledge to their pupils"

bestow (a quality).

"shiitake mushrooms impart a wonderfully woody flavour to the salad"

stupendous

/stju:'pændəs, stjʊ'pændəs/

adjective

extremely impressive.

"the most stupendous views"

Montgomery /mənt'gʌməɪ/

all-points bulletin: a broadcast alert from one police station to all others in an area, state, etc., as with instructions to arrest a particular suspect or suspects.

fretboard /'fretbɔ:d/

a fretted fingerboard on a guitar or other musical instrument.

muck /mʌk/

dirt, rubbish, or waste matter.

"I'll just clean the muck off the windscreen"

tag line

noun INFORMAL • NORTH AMERICAN

noun: tagline

a catchphrase or slogan, especially as used in advertising, or the punchline of a joke.

"'struggling to save their marriage' is a tabloid tag line that has become permanently affixed to the couple"

sentient /'sɛnjnt, 'sɛntɪənt/

able to perceive or feel things.

"she had been instructed from birth in the equality of all sentient life forms"

indenture /ɪn'dɛntʃə/

a legal agreement, contract, or document.

bind (someone) by an indenture as an apprentice or labourer.

"Dick was indentured to the Company in 1917"

If a person or company is in the red or if their bank account is in the red, they have spent more money than they have in their account and therefore they owe money to the bank.

The theatre is £500,000 in the red.

If you do go into the red you get charged 30p for each transaction.

sporadic /spə'radɪk/

occurring at irregular intervals or only in a few places; scattered or isolated.

"sporadic fighting broke out"

I would like to book a table please

I would like to make a reservation

verbiage /'və:biɪdʒ/

excessively lengthy or technical speech or writing.

"the basic idea here, despite all the verbiage, is simple"

dwarf /dwɔ:f/

cause to seem small or insignificant in comparison.

"the buildings surround and dwarf All Saints church"

prise open

To use the force of a lever to open something. A noun or pronoun can be used between "pry" and "open." Primarily heard in UK.

The top of the crate is nailed shut, so we'll have to prise it open.

Start prising open these barrels and I'll start filling them with oil.

prise /praɪz/

use force in order to move, move apart, or open (something).

"I tried to prise Joe's fingers away from the stick"

assailant /ə'seɪlənt/

a person who physically attacks another.

"the police have no firm leads about the identity of his assailant"

unassailable /ˌʌnə'seɪləbl/

adjective

unable to be attacked, questioned, or defeated.

"an unassailable lead"

province /'prɒvɪns/

irascible /ɪ'ræsɪb(ə)/

having or showing a tendency to be easily angered.

"an irascible and difficult man"

Someone who is armed to the teeth is armed with a lot of weapons or with very effective weapons.

Both sides were armed to the teeth.

The gunman was reported as being armed to the teeth and equipped with both a rifle and a pistol.

The correct phrase is "in the context." It is commonly used to refer to a specific situation or environment. "On the context" is not a standard English phrase.

Milk caps is a children's game played with flat circular cardboard milk caps. Players make a stack of these caps, and take turns to drop a heavier "slammer" object onto it, causing the caps to be disrupted.

The game is also known as Pogs, under which name it was sold commercially in the 1990s.

slammer /'slamə/

INFORMAL

prison.

"if he had lived, he'd be in the slammer today"

NORTH AMERICAN

a person who deliberately collides with others when slam-dancing.

"a bit further back the slammers and bashers danced, shoved, tussled"

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.

up to speed

operating at full speed.

performing at an anticipated or desired rate or level.

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

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

be partly due to genetic factors

plan /plan/

zest /zɛst/

scrape off the outer coloured part of the peel of (a piece of citrus fruit) for use as flavouring.

"zest the orange and lemon, taking care to discard all of the white pith"

pellicle /'pɛlɪkl/

noun TECHNICAL

a thin skin, cuticle, membrane, or film.

orthopaedic /,ɔːθə'piːdɪk/

relating to the branch of medicine dealing with the correction of deformities of bones or muscles.

"an orthopaedic surgeon"

modular /'mɒdjʊlə/

employing or involving a module or modules as the basis of design or construction.

"modular housing units"

"he played down his chances of becoming chairman"

"I gave her a chance to answer"

sporting chance

A very good possibility (of achieving success).

I've seen him practice, and there's a sporting chance he'll win the competition.

chance would be a fine thing

A phrase used in reference to something that seems unlikely to happen. Primarily heard in UK.

Michael asking me to the dance? Oh sure, chance would be a fine thing!

Chance'd be a fine thing, but I doubt I'll ever earn enough to afford a house in London.

A: "Maybe the teacher will let us out of class early today." B: "Ha! Chance would be a fine thing."

go begging

in British English

or go a-begging

to be unwanted or unused

a chance gone begging

An opportunity that is not seized or acted upon, particularly in sports. Primarily heard in UK, Australia.

Lawrence makes a great shot, but unfortunately, it's a chance gone begging as he hits the woodwork. The score remains tied at 2-2.

Man, talk about a chance gone begging—we had a 1-0 lead late into the third period! How did we end up losing that game in regulation?

Their strong showing on Saturday night ended up being a chance gone begging when they lost 3-2 in overtime.

take a chance

to take a risk:

They took a chance and cast an unknown actor in the lead role.

I'm delivering my work by hand - I'm not taking any chances.

Yes, it could all go terribly wrong but that's a chance I have to take.

musty /'mʌsti/

adjective

having a stale, mouldy, or damp smell.

"a dark musty library"

commission /kə'mɪʃn/

order or authorise the production of (something).

"the portrait was commissioned by his widow in 1792"

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

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

cheap-ass

INFORMAL•NORTH AMERICAN

adjective

extremely inexpensive or cheaply made.

"this is a bare-bones, cheap-ass hotel"

There is never a guarantee that anything will change, and often nothing does.

There is never a guarantee that potential will become performance.

in·come /'ɪŋkʌm, 'ɪn-/

noun [countable, uncountable]

the money that you earn from your work or that you receive from investments, the government etc → salary

on an income

People on higher incomes should pay more tax.

income from

income from savings and pensions

low-income families

people with high/low incomes

a weekly disposable income (= the money that you have left to spend after tax, food, housing, etc.) of \$800

a rise in national income

They receive a proportion of their income from the sale of goods and services.

Tourism is a major source of income for the area.

higher/middle/lower income groups

mo·ti·va·tion /,məʊtə'veɪʃən/

n.

[countable]an act or instance of motivating:

A good teacher will provide motivations for his or her students.

the state or condition of being motivated;

desire:

[uncountable]Motivation was a key to their success.

I got bored of doing the same monotonous work over and over.

I got sick and tired of doing that awful repetitive work.

We say it's "in your mind" if you are imagining it, or if it's an opinion that you have that no one else has. We say it's "on your mind" if you are worried about it, or aware of it, perhaps with the need to do something about it. I would say an issue is "on my mind" if it has been bothering me, but I would also say that a person is "on my mind" if he or she is in my thoughts in a sentimental or romantic way.

portly /'pɔ:tlɪ/

having a stout body; somewhat fat (used especially of a man).

"a portly little man with a bowler hat"

penitentiary /,pɛnɪ'tɛnʃ(ə)ri/

a prison for people convicted of serious crimes.

COUNTABLE NOUN

A penitentiary is a prison.

[US, formal]

More than one in 10 of his contemporaries went to penitentiary.

prop2 /prop/

a portable object other than furniture or costumes used on the set of a play or film.
"the exhibition features props and costumes from the show's incredible 49-year history"

caustic /'kɔːstɪk, 'kɒstɪk/
able to burn or corrode organic tissue by chemical action.
"a caustic cleaner"

sarcastic in a scathing and bitter way.
"the players were making caustic comments about the refereeing"

syrup /'sɪrəp/

pus /pʌs/
a thick yellowish or greenish opaque liquid produced in infected tissue, consisting of dead white blood cells and bacteria with tissue debris and serum.

shoot yourself in the foot
to do something without intending to which spoils a situation for yourself

necrotize /'nekɹə(ʊ)tɪz/

The beach was within easy walking distance of the hotel.

within/in walking distance
idiom
: not very far : close enough to reach by walking
Her house is within walking distance.
—often + of
Her job is within walking distance of her school.

It had a funny smell to it.

nothingburger /'nʌθɪŋbɜːgə/
noun INFORMAL • US
something that is or turns out to be insignificant or lacking in substance.
"another nothingburger of a debate"

The party was supposed to be the event of the year, but it was a nothing-burger

Pole vaulting, also known as pole jumping, is a track and field event in which an athlete uses a long and flexible pole, usually made from fiberglass or carbon fiber, as an aid to jump over a bar.

Toll free numbers are telephone numbers with distinct three-digit codes that can be dialed from landlines with no charge to the person placing the call.

run by
tell someone about something, especially in order to ascertain their opinion or reaction.

"I'll have to run it past Claire first"

sequester /sɪ'kwɛstə/

isolate or hide away.

"she is sequestered in deepest Dorset"

diagnose /ˌdɪɒg'nəʊz, 'dɪɒgnəʊz/

respite /'res.paɪt/

[U]

a pause or rest from something difficult or unpleasant:

We worked for hours without respite.

a useful delay before something unpleasant happens:

Their teacher was away, so they had a day's respite before their essays were due.

mind somebody doing something? Are you married, if you don't mind me asking?

(formal) Are you married, if you don't mind my asking?

mind doing something Would you mind explaining that again, please?

Do you mind driving? I'm feeling pretty tired.

complimentary /ˌkɒmplɪ'ment(ə)rɪ/

given or supplied free of charge.

"a complimentary bottle of wine"

comp /kɒmp/

to provide (someone) with something free

a hotel comping celebrities for their rooms

Tim had turned to greet a fellow in a tweedy sport coat, and I saw him signal the bartender to comp the guy to a drink.

The sugar glider (*Petaurus breviceps*) is a small, omnivorous, arboreal, and nocturnal gliding possum.

disease /dɪ'zi:z/

Fluoride (/ˈfluəraɪd, 'flo:r-/)[3] is an inorganic, monatomic anion of fluorine

enamel /ɪ'nam(ə)l/

"Sometimes fear manifests itself in a display of temper."

"Her dedication manifested itself in the faster times that she ran."

Sometimes you will see "was made manifest" having the same meaning as "was shown" or "was demonstrated".

manifest /'manɪfɛst/

be evidence of; prove.

"bad industrial relations are often manifested in strikes"

(of an ailment) become apparent through the appearance of symptoms.

"a disorder that usually manifests in middle age"

There was manifest confusion in the streets.

Their sadness was manifest in their faces.

His love for literature is manifest in his large library.

The big one: All colour deficiencies are roughly the same or manifest as a grey-scale view of the world.

lining /'lɪnɪŋ/

a layer of different material covering the inside surface of something.

"self-clean oven linings"

an additional layer of different material attached to the inside of a garment or curtain to make it warmer or hang better.

"leather gloves with fur linings"

beverage /'bɛv(ə)rɪdʒ/

(chiefly in commercial use) a drink other than water.

"light lunch items and beverages will be available for sale"

rag /rɑːg/

a piece of old cloth, especially one torn from a larger piece, used typically for cleaning things.

"he wiped his hands on an oily rag"

rug /rʌg/

a floor covering of thick woven material or animal skin, typically not extending over the entire floor.

"a Persian rug"

snug as a bug in a rug

Idioms and Phrases

Very cozy and comfortable, as in During the blizzard we had plenty of firewood and stayed in the cottage, snug as a bug in a rug . This expression, thought to allude to a moth larva happily feeding inside a rolled-up carpet, was first recorded in 1769 and probably owes its long life to the rhyme.

crochet /'krəʊʃeɪ, 'krəʊʃi/

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

"a crochet hook"

infarction /ɪn'fɑːkʃn/

obstruction of the blood supply to an organ or region of tissue, typically by a thrombus or embolus, causing local death of the tissue.

psych out

phrasal verb of psych

intimidate an opponent or rival by appearing very confident or aggressive.

"he works hard to psych out the competition"

to behave in a very confident or forceful way in order to make a competitor, especially in a sports event, feel less confident:

Both athletes were trying to psych each other out before the race.

profane /prə'feɪn/

not relating to that which is sacred or religious; secular.

"a talk that tackled topics both sacred and profane"

adjective

not relating to that which is sacred or religious; secular.

"a talk that tackled topics both sacred and profane"

A swear jar (also known as a swearing jar, cuss jar, swear box or cuss bank) is a device intended to discourage people from using profanity.[1] Every time someone uses profanity, others who witness it collect a "fine", by insisting that the offender put some money into the box.

centrepiece /'sɛntəpi:s/

noun: centerpiece

an ornament or display placed in the middle of a dining table.

suede /sweɪd/

leather with the flesh side rubbed to make a velvety nap.

"suede shoes"

Informal. To tell people what you know about someone, especially things that could damage their reputation.

What does "let's dish" mean? To gossip about someone or something.

doody shit, caca, feces

greasy /'gri:si/

askance /ə'skɑns, ə'skɑ:ns/

adjective: askant

with an attitude or look of suspicion or disapproval.

"the reformers looked askance at the mystical tradition"

not cut it

informal to not be good enough to do something

Players who can't cut it soon quit the team.

If someone works out the kinks in a situation, they resolve the problems associated with it.
...working out the kinks of a potential trade agreement.
...joint sessions with her, to work out the kinks in the marriage.

pull someone's leg

to try to persuade someone to believe something that is not true, as a joke:

Is it really your car or are you pulling my leg?

The countable use of citizenship seems questionable to me. So far, I haven't found any support for it in my favourite dictionaries. I suggest that you rephrase your sentence and avoid using citizenship as a countable noun.

Taser /'teɪzə/

verb: tase

fire a taser at (someone) in order to incapacitate them temporarily.

She's living proof that success is possible for a woman in this field.

obsolescent /,ɒbsə'lesnt/

becoming obsolete.

"obsolescent equipment"

linoleic acid

/,lɪnə(ʊ)liːɪk 'aɪd, ,lɪnə(ʊ)leɪɪk 'aɪd/

nounCHEMISTRY

a polyunsaturated fatty acid present as a glyceride in linseed oil and other oils and essential in the human diet.

A breading is defined as "a dry mixture of flour, starch, and seasonings, coarse in nature, and applied to moistened or battered food products prior to cooking" (Suderman 1983).

in the weeds

with so many problems or so much work that you are finding it difficult to deal with something:

We're down in the weeds here with customer service.

The cooks were so deep in the weeds, they were threatening to walk out.

concerned with small details, often when this prevents you from understanding what is important:

He's one of those rare people who can get down in the weeds and work on the details, but still see the big picture.

I don't want to get too lost in the weeds, but there is a margin of error.

Pulp fiction refers to a genre of racy, action-based stories published in cheaply printed magazines from around 1900 to the 1950s, mostly in the United States.

Pulp fiction gets its name from the paper it was printed on.

pulp /pʌlp/

a soft, wet, shapeless mass of material.
"boiling with soda will reduce your peas to pulp"

palpable /'pæpəbl/
(of a feeling or atmosphere) so intense as to seem almost tangible.
"a palpable sense of loss"

bloodbath /'blʌdbɑːθ/
an event or situation in which many people are killed in an extremely violent way.
"he allowed the protest to go ahead despite warnings that it would spark a bloodbath"

brow¹ /braʊ/ I. noun 1. a person's forehead • he wiped his brow.

weariness /'wiəriːnis/

fitfully /'fɪt(ə)li, 'fɪtʃʊli/ adverb not regularly or continuously; intermittently • he slept fitfully.

carry in(to) (some place)
To lift and move someone or something into some place or thing. A noun or pronoun can be used between "carry" and "in."
We had to carry the kids into the house because they both fell asleep on the ride home.
Can you carry in the laundry basket?
Would you please carry those bags of groceries into the house for me?

sprite /sprɪt/
an elf or fairy.

On a positive note, the company said that it was encouraged by the performance of nine stores opened in the first half.
Times, Sunday Times
On a positive note, this was nearly fully subscribed.
Times, Sunday Times

propellant /prə'pelənt/
noun
a substance that propels something.

rebel verb /rɪ'bel/

gravity /'gravɪti/
extreme importance; seriousness.
"crimes of the utmost gravity"

wuss /wʊs/
a weak or ineffectual person (often used as a general term of abuse).
"we are not just a group of shallow wusses"

self-aggrandizing /,selfə'grændʌɪzɪŋ/

promoting oneself as being powerful or important.

"he spoke in typically self-aggrandizing fashion about his gift"

Answer to [someone] also works when the context is 'reporting' to someone. It simply means, that someone is the boss as David Richerby gives his input.

John answers to Jane says that John reports to Jane as she's the boss.

Also, you can say "my answer to him was no" but then, it's an all different situation.

answer to somebody/something phrasal verb

1 to give an explanation to someone, especially about something that you have done wrong

Phipps answers to me and me alone.

2 answer to the name of something to be called a particular name – used humorously

a well-dressed young woman answering to the name of Suzanne

Generally you say...

Answer me, please

...if you are asking someone and only you both are in picture.

expedite /'ɛksprɪdaɪt/

make (an action or process) happen sooner or be accomplished more quickly.

"he promised to expedite economic reforms"

on the Q.T.

Secretly, as in They told her on the Q.T. that she was being promoted . This slangy term, in which Q.T. is an abbreviation for "quiet," was first recorded in 1884.

butter up

flatter or praise someone as a means of gaining their help or support.

"don't try and butter me up in order to get privileged information"

inbreed /ɪn'brɪ:d/

breed from closely related people or animals, especially over many generations.

"if they are allowed to inbreed even further this can eventually spoil the species"

zero in on something/someone

to aim a weapon directly at something or someone:

Modern military aircraft use computers to help them zero in on their targets.

fall out (with someone)

stop being friends with someone after an argument

Mia and Nathan fell out after Mia lied and didn't apologise.

Jake fell out with his roommate about household responsibilities.

take (something) up

start participating in an activity

During retirement, Mr Johnson took up gardening to stay active and spend time outdoors.
read up on (something)
learn about something through reading

Before starting his business, Jack spent weeks reading up on entrepreneurship.

A washing line is a strong cord which you can hang wet clothes on while they dry.
The washing line had a light attached to the middle of it.

to wash (one's) clothes
• do (one's) laundry

hob /hɒb/ british
a cooking appliance, or the flat top part of a cooker, with hotplates or burners.
"the oil needs to be heated in the oven or on the hob"

(uncountable); (money) When you get change for a bill, you get smaller bills or coins that equal the amount of the original bill. For example, if you get change for a \$5 bill, you may get five \$1 bills or you may get four \$1 bills and coins that add up to \$1 or you may get some other combination of bills and coins.
Can I get change for this \$100 bill please?

get to the bottom of something
to discover the truth about a situation:
I'm not sure what is causing the problem, but I'm determined to get to the bottom of it.

Incel (/ˈɪnsɛl/ IN-sel; a portmanteau of "involuntary celibate"[1]) is a term closely associated with an online subculture of people (mostly white,[2] male, and heterosexual[3]) who define themselves as unable to get a romantic or sexual partner despite desiring one.

celibate /ˈsɛlɪbət/
abstaining from marriage and sexual relations, typically for religious reasons.
"a celibate priest"

weigh in (at something)
to have your weight measured, especially before a contest, race, etc.
Both boxers weighed in at several pounds below the limit.
Her baby daughter weighed in at 6lb 4oz.

heckle /ˈhɛkl/
interrupt (a public speaker) with derisive or aggressive comments or abuse.
"he was booed and heckled when he tried to address the demonstrators"

headliner /ˈhɛdˌlaɪnə/
noun
a performer or act that is promoted as the star attraction on a bill and typically performs last.
"the idea was to place him as an opening act for a headliner in larger venues"

force majeure /ˌfɔːs maˈʒɔːr/

noun

1.

LAW

unforeseeable circumstances that prevent someone from fulfilling a contract.

2.

irresistible compulsion or superior strength.

imbecile /ˈɪmbɪsɪl/

a stupid person.

lackey /ˈlæki/

a servant, especially a liveried footman or manservant.

"lackeys were waiting to help them from the carriage"

eyesore /ˈaɪsɔːr/

a thing that is very ugly, especially a building.

"the office crumbled into an eyesore"

If you do something such as pass an exam with flying colours, you do it very successfully.

I'm stuck:

baffled or perplexed by a problem or issue; unable to come to a conclusion or solve a problem

Example: I'm stuck; I'll never figure this out.

burdened by, encumbered

Ex: I'm stuck with a fixed-rate mortgage.

As a noun, hood is slang for a ghetto or impoverished area. It is shortened from neighbourhood.

As an adjective, hood is often used to culturally identify a person or object with the state of being from such an area.

indictment /ɪnˈdɪktm(ə)nt/

NORTH AMERICAN

a formal charge or accusation of a serious crime.

"an indictment for conspiracy"

a thing that serves to illustrate that a system or situation is bad and deserves to be condemned.

"these rapidly escalating crime figures are an indictment of our society"

indict /ɪnˈdɪkt/

verb NORTH AMERICAN

formally accuse of or charge with a crime.

"his former manager was indicted for fraud"

Be careful

Don't talk about 'a news'. You refer to a piece of information as some news, a bit of news, or a piece of news.

I've got some good news for you.

I've had a bit of bad news.

A respectful silence greeted this piece of news.

A description of an event on television or in a newspaper is a news item or an item of news.

This was a small news item in The Times last Friday.

An item of news in the Sunday paper caught my attention.

plaid /plad/

chequered or tartan twilled cloth, typically made of wool.

"a plaid shawl"

convivial /kən'vɪvɪəl/

adjective

(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"

scrub /skrʌb/

INFORMAL

cancel or abandon (something).

"the first two races had to be scrubbed because of blustery winds and rough seas"

hymen /'hɪmən/

a membrane which partially closes the opening of the vagina and whose presence is traditionally taken to be a mark of virginity.

brothel /'brʊθl/

a house where men visit prostitutes.

effusive /ɪ'fjuːsɪv/

showing or expressing gratitude, pleasure, or approval in an unrestrained or heartfelt manner.

"an effusive welcome"

If you say that a situation or problem boils down to a particular thing or can be boiled down to a particular thing, you mean that this is the most important or the most basic aspect of it.

What they want boils down to just one thing. It is land. [VERB PARTICLE PARTICLE noun]

Mind you, most books I seem to read these days could probably be boiled down to a sentence. [be V-ed P P n]

blow over

phrasal verb of blow

(of trouble) fade away without serious consequences.

"if he would simply cool off, the whole matter would soon blow over"

placate /pləˈkeɪt/

make (someone) less angry or hostile.

"they attempted to placate the students with promises"

allude /əˈl(j)uːd/

suggest or call attention to indirectly; hint at.

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

mullet /ˈmʌlɪt/

plural noun: mullets

any of various chiefly marine fish that are widely caught for food.

a man's hairstyle in which the hair is cut short at the front and sides and left long at the back.

crap out

: to pass out (as from an injury)

: to fall asleep (as from exhaustion)

slang : to avoid assigned duty or obligations

groove /ɡruːv/

a long, narrow cut or depression in a hard material.

punt¹ /pʌnt/

a long, narrow flat-bottomed boat, square at both ends and propelled with a long pole, used on inland waters chiefly for recreation.

To cancel someone (usually a celebrity or other well-known figure) means to stop giving support to that person.

zest /zɛst/

great enthusiasm and energy.

"they campaigned with zest and intelligence"

droll /drɔʊl/

curious or unusual in a way that provokes dry amusement.

"his unique brand of droll self-mockery"

i second the motion

A person makes a motion to do something (putting it up for group vote) but before it is voted on, a second person has to say they agree by "seconding" it. So, they are seconding the motion.

Then, the person in charge of the meeting, calls for an oral (usually) vote of the members present.

Long way to say, it means you agree with what another person said.

noxious /'nɒkjəs/

harmful, poisonous, or very unpleasant.

"they were overcome by the noxious fumes"

have something up your sleeve

to have secret plans or ideas:

If I know Mark he'll have one or two tricks up his sleeve.

mill /mɪl/

(of people or animals) move around in a confused mass.

"tourists were milling about in the lobby"

sit out

not take part in a particular event or activity.

"he had to sit out Sheffield Wednesday's cup game"

wait without moving or taking action until a particular unwelcome situation or process is over.

"most of the workers seem to be sitting the crisis out, waiting to see what will happen"

game

[uncountable] wild animals or birds that people hunt for sport or food

Visitors come to shop in the fashionable new establishments downtown.

appliance /ə'plaiəns/

a device or piece of equipment designed to perform a specific task.

"electrical and gas appliances"

substrate /'sʌbstreɪt/

an underlying substance or layer.

the surface or material on or from which an organism lives, grows, or obtains its nourishment.

"brachiopods attached to the substrate by a stalk"

the substance on which an enzyme acts.

spaz /spaz/

an incompetent or uncoordinated person.

verbUS

lose physical or emotional control.

aspire /ə'spaɪə/

direct one's hopes or ambitions towards achieving something.

"we never thought that we might aspire to those heights"

rise high; tower.

"above the domes of loftiest mosques these pinnacles aspire"

aspire to sth Most of his students aspired to a career in business.

aspire to do sth We aspire to become full-service providers to our clients.

backstairs /'bʌkstɛːz/

stairs at the back or side of a building.

underhand; clandestine.

modifier noun: backstairs; modifier noun: back-stairs

"I won't make backstairs deals with politicians"

talisman /'tʌlɪzmən/

set back

INFORMAL

(of a purchase) cost someone a particular amount of money.

"that must have set you back a bit"

bereft /bɪ'reft/

deprived of or lacking (something).

"her room was stark and bereft of colour"

scarf down

To eat something very quickly and voraciously. A noun or pronoun can be used between "scarf" and "down."

Let me just scarf down some breakfast, and I'll be ready to go!

You don't have to scarf your food down like that—no one's going to take it away, so relax and enjoy it.

jarring /'dʒɑːrɪŋ/

incongruous in a striking or shocking way; clashing.

"the telephone struck a jarring note in those Renaissance surroundings"

causing a physical shock, jolt, or vibration.

"the van came to a jarring halt"

The expression "You're in for a treat" is a colloquial way of telling someone that they are about to experience something enjoyable, exciting, or pleasant.

eligible /'ɛlɪdʒɪbl/

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

"customers who are eligible for discounts"

(of a person) desirable or suitable as a partner in marriage.

"the world's most eligible bachelor"

mope /məʊp/

feel dejected and apathetic.

"no use moping—things could be worse"

inaction /ɪn'ækʃn/

lack of action where some is expected or appropriate.

"future generations will condemn us for inaction"

Isaac Asimov (/ˈæzɪmɒv/

If you ask what became of someone or something, you want to know where they are and what happened to them:

Whatever became of that parcel you sent?

And Mickey Adams - I wonder what became of him.

grouchy /'grʌtʃi/

irritable and bad-tempered; grumpy; complaining.

"the old man grew sulky and grouchy"

If you throw off something that is restricting you or making you unhappy, you get rid of it.

...a country ready to throw off the shackles of its colonial past. [VERB PARTICLE noun]

Depression descended upon him, and he could never throw it off. [VERB noun PARTICLE]

epidural /,ɛpɪ'dʒʊərəl/

adjective ANATOMY•MEDICINE

on or around the dura mater, in particular (of an anaesthetic) introduced into the space around the dura mater of the spinal cord.

noun

an epidural anaesthetic, used especially in childbirth to produce loss of sensation below the waist.

Tater tots, also known as baby taters or potato gems are grated potatoes formed into small cylinders and deep-fried, often served as a side dish.

tater /'teɪtə/

noun INFORMAL

a potato.

"a dish of boiled taters"

surgery /'sə:dʒ(ə)ri/

a place where a doctor, dentist, or other medical practitioner treats or advises patients.

a period of time during which patients may visit a doctor, dentist, or other medical practitioner for treatment or advice.

"Doctor Bailey had finished his evening surgery"

an occasion on which an MP, lawyer, or other professional person gives advice.

buck tooth

plural noun: buck teeth

an upper tooth that projects over the lower lip.

pivot /'pɪvət/

turn on or as if on a pivot.

"the sail pivots around the axis of the mast"

wind up (informal)

(of a person) to find yourself in a particular place or situation

I always said he would wind up in prison.

wind up doing something We eventually wound up staying in a little hotel a few miles from town.

+ adj. If you take risks like that you'll wind up dead.

blather /'blɑðə/

talk in a long-winded way without making very much sense.

"she began blathering on about spirituality and life after death"

If someone is laying it on thick or is laying it on, they are exaggerating a statement, experience, or emotion in order to try to impress people.

[informal]

Don't lay it on too thick, but make sure they are flattered.

I may have spoken a bit too freely, been a bit extreme, even laid it on a little.

ghetto /'ɡetəʊ/

a poor urban area occupied primarily by a minority group or groups.

the Jewish quarter in a city.

"the Warsaw Ghetto"

As a child she lived in one of New York's poorest ghettos.

to live in ghetto conditions

It's a story about an Arab in the desert.

The geography of Ptolemy was also known and is constantly referred to by Arab writers.

Muslim

/'mʊzɪm, 'mʌzɪm/

noun

a follower of the religion of Islam.

"a majority of the residents of the islands are Muslims"

Arab

/'arəb/

noun

1.

a member of a Semitic people, originally from the Arabian peninsula and neighbouring territories, inhabiting much of the Middle East and North Africa.

2.

a horse of a breed originating in Arabia, with a distinctive high-set tail.

agility

/ə'dʒɪlɪti/

noun

ability to move quickly and easily.

"though he was without formal training as dancer or athlete, his physical agility was inexhaustible"

ability to think and understand quickly.

"games teach hand-eye coordination, mental agility, and alertness"

account for

to give a reason or explanation for (something)

How do you account for your success?

2

: to be the cause of (something)

These new features account for the computer's higher price.

3

: to make up or form (a part of something)

Women account for only 25 percent of our employees.

4

US : to think about (something) before doing something : to take (something) into consideration

The researchers failed to account for the fact that most of the students were poor.

as per

: in accordance with : ACCORDING TO

as per your instructions

embroider /ɪmˈbrɔɪdə, ɛmˈbrɔɪdə/

decorate (cloth) by sewing patterns on it with thread.

"she embroidered a tablecloth"

pertinent /ˈpɜːtɪnənt/

relevant or applicable to a particular matter; apposite.

"she asked me a lot of very pertinent questions"

materialistic /məˌtɪəriəˈlɪstɪk/

excessively concerned with material possessions; money-oriented.

"we're living in a highly materialistic society"

baccalaureate /ˌbəkəˈlɔːrɪət/

an examination intended to qualify successful candidates for higher education.

a university bachelor's degree.

"baccalaureate degrees"

it's all relative

idiom

—used to say that something can be thought of in opposite ways depending on what one compares it to

The car might seem expensive, but it's all relative.

I'm throwing a party tonight.

empathetic /ˌɛmpəˈθetɪk/

showing an ability to understand and share the feelings of another.

"she's compassionate and empathetic towards her daughter"

To "double dog dare" someone is to challenge them emphatically or defiantly, although the "challenge" is often meant humorously, or at least not very seriously: "I double dog dare you to eat the entire box of doughnuts!"

"Way to kill the mood"

= "What a way to kill the mood"

(I am so shocked/disappointed/upset at the way this person has killed the mood)

ovary /'əʊv(ə)ri/

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

frigid /'frɪdʒɪd/

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

"my ex told everyone I was frigid"

aberration /,abə'reɪʃn/

a departure from what is normal, usual, or expected, typically an unwelcome one.

"they described the outbreak of violence in the area as an aberration"

compromise /'kɒmprəmaɪz/

bring into disrepute or danger by indiscreet, foolish, or reckless behaviour.

"situations in which his troops could be compromised"

cause to become vulnerable or function less effectively.

"yo-yo dieting can compromise your immune system"

thug /θʌg/

a violent, aggressive person, especially one who is a criminal.

"he was attacked by a gang of thugs"

To 'be grounded,' or 'grounding yourself,' essentially means staying connected to the present moment without getting lost in thoughts or emotions.

bestow /bɪ'stəʊ/

confer or present (an honour, right, or gift).

"the office was bestowed on him by the monarch of this realm"

confer /kən'fə:/

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

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

have discussions; exchange opinions.

"the officials were conferring with allies"

moniker /'mɒnɪkə/

nounINFORMAL

a name.

"his real moniker is Dave Kennedy"

lunk /lʌŋk/
short for lunkhead.

lunkhead /'lʌŋkhɛd/
noun INFORMAL
noun: lunkhead; plural noun: lunkheads
a slow-witted person.
Origin

indisposed /,ɪndɪ'spəʊzd/
slightly unwell.
"my mother is indisposed"
averse; unwilling.
"the potential audience seemed indisposed to attend"

prenuptial agreement
'prē-, nəp
variants or less commonly prenup or prenuptial
: an agreement made between two people before marrying that establishes rights to property and support in the event of divorce or death
Prenuptial agreements have long been used by couples who want to set down the terms of any future divorce before they walk down the aisle.
—Desa Philadelphia
Even though there's a prenup, it's unclear how much of Liz's money Fortensky will end up with ...
—Newsweek

bad rap
in American English
NOUN
slang See bum rap

bum rap
in British English
NOUN US slang
1. a trumped-up or false charge
2. an unjust punishment

Ted Bundy

barium /'bɛ:riəm/

grovel /'grɒvl/
lie or crawl abjectly on the ground with one's face downwards.
"he grovelled at George's feet"

clubber /'klʌbə/
noun INFORMAL

a person who frequently goes to clubs that play dance music.
"he scratched records and played some tunes for the crowd of clubbers"

taurine /'tɔːrɪn/
nounBIOCHEMISTRY
an amino acid containing sulphur and important in the metabolism of fats.

homer /'həʊmə/
BASEBALL
a home run.

have a ring to it
To sound appealing. An adjective, often "certain" or "nice," is commonly used to modify "ring."
After so many years of hard work, "Jane Smith, Vice-President of Marketing" sure has a nice ring to it.

to start again from the top: to restart from the beginning
"Can we sing it from the top?"
"Could you start again from the top?"

"Start over" implies beginning something anew from the very beginning, as if wiping the slate clean and starting from scratch.

"Start again" suggests resuming or recommencing an activity or process that may have been temporarily halted or interrupted, without necessarily beginning from the absolute beginning.

commonwealth /'kɒmənweɪlθ/
an independent country or community, especially a democratic republic.
an international association consisting of the UK together with states that were previously part of the British Empire, and dependencies.
(initial capital letter) a group of sovereign states and their dependencies associated by their own choice and linked with common objectives and interests:
the British Commonwealth.

A commonwealth is a traditional English term for a political community founded for the common good.

I'd say that it mildly depends on context, but both could be correct - except for one thing: because it's only one hour, you don't say the "one", at least not in normal conversation.

Anyway, it does depend on the rest of your sentence and what you mean. If you're saying "in the past/last hour, x happened", as in the previous hour that just passed, both are correct. If you're trying to say that something happened in the final hour(s) of something, you would use "last" (ie "she passed him during the last hour of the race").

Normally we just say "for the past year." We might say "for the past two years" or "three years", but when it is one year, the "one" is implied.

When emphasis is desired, we are more likely to say "for the past full year" or "for the past twelve months".

conscientious /ˌkɒnʃɪˈɛnʃəs/

wishing to do one's work or duty well and thoroughly.

"a conscientious man, he took his duties very seriously"

Meaning of victory lap in English

a run or drive around a track or sports field that is made by a winner of a race or a team that has won a game: Bryan Clay of the United States took a victory lap after winning the Olympic decathlon on Friday.

fledge /flɛdʒ/

(of a young bird) develop wing feathers that are large enough for flight.

"the young fledge around four weeks after hatching"

bring up (a young bird) until its wing feathers are developed enough for flight.

"they fledged twenty-four chicks in fourteen months"

callus /ˈkæləs/

plural noun: calluses

a thickened and hardened part of the skin or soft tissue, especially in an area that has been subjected to friction.

compendium /kəmˈpɛndɪəm/

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

"an invaluable compendium of useful information about language"

who's gonna win a race?

scrutiny /ˈskruːtɪni/

critical observation or examination.

"the policy came under scrutiny last month"

inscrutable /ɪnˈskruːtəb(ə)l/

adjective

impossible to understand or interpret.

"Guy looked blankly inscrutable"

spur-of-the-moment adjective

done without planning in advance; impulsive.

"it was a spur-of-the-moment decision"

Has anyone ever asked you if you have ADHD? Maybe you've even wondered yourself.

yuck

1. slang An expression or exclamation of extreme disgust, aversion, or contempt.

Oh, yuck! What is that horrible smell?

They want me to spend my Saturday picking up trash for charity? Yuck, no thanks.

A: "Then he told me to either put out or get out." B: "Wow, yuck. What a pig."

2. noun, dated A hearty or boisterous laugh. (A variant of "yuk.")

The comedian got a couple of yucks from the audience.

3. noun, dated That which evokes or results in a hearty laugh. (A variant of "yuk.")

My dad always appreciated a good, cheesy yuck.

4. verb, dated To laugh heartily or joke enthusiastically. (A variant of "yuk.") Used especially in the phrase "yuck it up."

Go ahead. Yuck it up. I'm glad you think my misfortune is so hilarious!

We spent more time yucking it up than actually getting any work done.

yuck it up

To laugh boisterously and enthusiastically.

Go ahead. Yuck it up. I'm glad you think my misfortune is so hilarious!

We spent more time yucking it up than actually getting any work done.

X is in the control of Y means that Y is controlling X.

X is in control of Y means that X is controlling Y.

So in your examples,

the terrorist is in the control of the government

means that the government is controlling the terrorist, while

the terrorist is in control of the government

means that the terrorist is controlling the government.

dip into something

to put your hand into a container to take something out

She dipped into her purse and took out some coins.

to read or watch only parts of something

I have only had time to dip into the report.

personal best

the fastest time, most points etc that a sportsman or sportswoman has ever achieved

I ran 20.51 seconds for a personal best.

adultery /əˈdʌlt(ə)rɪ/

voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and a person who is not their spouse.

"she was committing adultery with a much younger man"

A one-night stand or one-night sex is a single sexual encounter in which there is no expectation that there shall be any further relations between the sexual participants.

fix something up

to repair, decorate, or make something ready

They fixed up the house before they moved in.

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.

falsify /'fɔ:lsɪfaɪ, 'fɒlsɪfaɪ/

collage /'kɒlɑ:ʒ, kə'lɑ:ʒ/

a piece of art made by sticking various different materials such as photographs and pieces of paper or fabric on to a backing.

the art of making collages.

a collection or combination of various things.

"a collage of musical genres"

lead on

mislead or deceive someone, especially into believing that one is in love with or attracted to them.

"she flirted with him and led him on"

What do you say to taking a break for a change?

get revenge on (someone or something)

To retaliate against a person, group, organisation, etc., for a wrong done to oneself; to seek or exact vengeance against someone or something.

Tiffany is always gossiping about me, so I got revenge on her by starting a nasty rumour that she was sleeping with one of our teachers.

The team is looking to get revenge on their cross-town rivals for knocking them out of the state playoffs last season.

I heard that the CEO's former secretary vowed to get revenge on him after he ended their affair.

"Out of pocket" (slang) means someone said or did something really inappropriate, and it can be used anywhere, or any time someone says something surprisingly offensive or rude to another person. It's mostly used in a funny context.

long face

an unhappy or disappointed expression.

"if you go to the party, don't spoil your Uncle's evening with a long face"

save face
avoid humiliation.

"allowing the guerrillas to save face and disarm"

fall all over (one)

To give one an inordinate amount of attention, affection, or praise.

I can't stand the way everyone falls all over her whenever she walks into the room.

I know that it's a petty problem, but having fans falling all over me wherever I go has gotten pretty tiresome.

Duh, of course Edward has a crush on Tracy—whenever she's around, he falls all over her.

doormat

doormat noun [C] (PERSON)

someone who allows other people to treat them very badly

dote /dəʊt/

be extremely and uncritically fond of.

"she doted on her two young children"

The gas pedal is another name for the accelerator.

[mainly US]

Were they too quick to slam on the gas pedal?

all the more reason why/to do something

spoken used to say that what has just been mentioned is an additional reason for doing what you have suggested

But surely that's all the more reason to act quickly.

All the more reason to be careful.

(all) the more so

used to say why something (such as an attribute or quality) applies to a greater degree or extent

The play was impressive—(all) the more so because the students had written it themselves.

all the more

even more than before:

Several publishers rejected her book, but that just made her all the more determined.

bootstrap /'bu:tstrap/

get (oneself or something) into or out of a situation using existing resources.

"the company is bootstrapping itself out of a marred financial past"

spoof /spu:f/

a humorous imitation of something, typically a film or a particular genre of film, in which its characteristic features are exaggerated for comic effect.

"a Robin Hood spoof"

a trick played on someone as a joke.

"word got out that the whole thing had been a spoof"

If you toss and turn, you keep moving around in bed and cannot sleep properly, for example because you are ill or worried.

You feel as if you've been tossing and turning all night, and wake up feeling worn out.

get off easy

informal to escape severe punishment for something that you have done wrong

The rich could hire good lawyers and get off easy.

insolent /'ɪnsələnt/

showing a rude and arrogant lack of respect.

"she hated the insolent tone of his voice"

punch up

make something more lively or interesting.

"he needed to punch up his meandering presentation"

"Wind" is one of those nouns that people can use as countable nouns or uncountable nouns:

(Countable): Winds from the west often bring warmer weather to eastern Colorado.

(Uncountable): The machine is powered by wind.

You don't always have to use an article before the noun "wind": The wind was cold and moist as it blew across the city. Constant wind is something that people who live in Kansas have to get used to.

far out

1. A significant physical distance from a hub of activity.

No one comes to visit you because you guys are far out, living all the way over on west campus.

There's no way we'll make it on time if we have to stop and get Rose too—she's lives too far out.

I spent most of my 20s in the city, so I'm perfectly happy to be far out these days.

INFORMAL

excellent.

"It's really far out!"

parsimony /'pɑ:sɪməni/ I. noun — [mass noun] 1. extreme unwillingness to spend money or use resources • a great tradition of public design has been shattered by government parsimony.

instigate /'ɪnstɪgeɪt/ I. verb — [with obj.] 1. bring about or initiate (an action or event) • they instigated a reign of terror • I will be instigating legal proceedings. 2. (instigate someone to/to do something) — incite someone to do something, especially something bad • instigating men to refuse allegiance to the civil powers.

make a big thing (out) of something
to give something too much importance:
I want a party, but I don't want to make a big thing of it.

fire away
used to give someone permission to begin speaking, typically to ask questions.
"I want to clear up some questions which have been puzzling me.' 'Fire away.'"

Can I say "shoot" to mean "go ahead"? Will it sound offensive?

These things vary from one culture to the next, but certainly in Ireland (or anywhere else that I'm aware of), no, that wouldn't fall into the offensive category at all.

The term isn't used as much here as I gather it is in the States, but it would be understood as meaning "go ahead", yes.

"Fire away" would be a more common local variation here (that can also mean "go ahead" in the sense of performing an action or commencing an activity, not just referring to conversation).

a wealth of something
a lot of something useful or good
There is a wealth of information available about pregnancy and birth.

The purpose of a lever is to make it easier to move a load, which is weight that needs to be moved.
the law of the lever.
This input force is called the effort.

preface /'prɛfɪs/

Can I get a Doggie bag?

Can I get a to-go Box?
Can I get a box?

fulcrum /'fʊlkɹəm, 'fʌlkɹəm/
the point against which a lever is placed to get a purchase, or on which it turns or is supported.
a thing that plays a central or essential role in an activity, event, or situation.
"research is the fulcrum of the academic community"

purchase /'pɜ:tʃɪs/
firm contact or grip.
"the horse's hooves fought for purchase on the slippery pavement"

due to unforeseen circumstances

drives out

: to cause or force (someone or something) to leave

They drove the invaders out.

The family was driven out of the neighbourhood by rising real estate prices.

jargon /'dʒɑːɡən/

[uncountable] (often disapproving)

words or expressions that are used by a particular profession or group of people, and are difficult for others to understand

medical/legal/computer, etc. jargon

Try to avoid using too much technical jargon.

circadian /sə:'keɪdɪən/

(of biological processes) recurring naturally on a twenty-four-hour cycle, even in the absence of light fluctuations.

"a circadian rhythm"

skim /skɪm/

read (something) quickly so as to note only the important points.

"he skimmed the report"

I'd like to close my bank account. play icon

I'd like to close (out) my account

close out

bring something to an end.

"Steve tried to close out the conversation"

Sebastian

uk /sə'bæstɪən/

us /sə'bæstfən/

Most of the time a 'stone in your shoe' is just that - a small pebble or stone in your shoe.

Used as a metaphor (not an idiom) it gives a picture of something that is quite painful for you, but that nobody else knows about.

If you are on record as saying something, you have said it publicly and officially and it has been written down.

The Chancellor is on record as saying that the increase in unemployment is 'a price worth paying' to keep inflation down.

be/go on (the) record as saying (that)

to say something publicly or officially, so that it may be written down and repeated

She is on record as saying that teachers are under too much pressure.

lark /lɑ:k/

something done for fun, especially something mischievous or daring; an amusing adventure or escapade.

"I only went along for a lark"

seizure /'si:ʒə/

the action of capturing someone or something using force.

"the seizure of the Assembly building"

frosty /'froʃti/

cold and unfriendly in manner.

"Sebastian gave her a frosty look"

fluke¹

/flu:k/

noun

an unlikely chance occurrence, especially a surprising piece of luck.

"their victory was a bit of a fluke"

be at the height of your success/fame/powers etc

to be more successful, famous etc than at any other time

The Beatles were at the height of their fame.

recently /'ri:sntli/

burgundy /'bə:g(ə)ndi/

a wine from Burgundy (usually taken to be red unless otherwise specified).

"a glass of Burgundy"

a deep red colour like that of burgundy wine.

"warm shades of brown and burgundy"

alma mater

/,almə 'mɑ:tə, almə 'meɪtə/

the university, school, or college that one formerly attended.

"he started teaching at his alma mater"

Set a timer for each study session and fully commit to studying during that period.

Few people fully commit to anything because it is just so easy to give half an effort or take no action at all.

If you really want to achieve something in life, you must fully commit to giving 100% effort.

He committed himself to the investigation.

jump the gun

act before the proper or appropriate time.

rear /rɪə/

bring up and care for (a child) until they are fully grown.

"Nigel was born and reared in Bath"

heavy lifting

most of the work involved in something; the most difficult part of a task:

do the heavy lifting With a WYSIWYG editor, all you have to do is type your words in. Leave it to the editor to do all the heavy lifting.

Fathers went off to factories and left the heavy lifting of child rearing to women.

child-rearing

the work of taking care of children until they are old enough to take care of themselves:

Why shouldn't a woman have a job after years of child-rearing?

"A couple of weeks" is correct.

But, in spoken English we sometimes don't say "of".

So "a couple weeks" is the informal or spoken way of saying "a couple of weeks"

prance /pra:ns/

(of a horse) move with high springy steps.

"the pony was prancing around the paddock"

on the daily

on a daily basis; every day.

"she amazed us on the daily"

Graduate Study in Psychology

A painting dominated by a given color or colors is sometimes called a study in that color (e.g. Whistler's Mother is "A Study in Grey and Black"). Similarly, this story is dominated by the scarlet of blood.

microcosm

/ˈmʌkrə(ʊ)kɒz(ə)m/

noun

a community, place, or situation regarded as encapsulating in miniature the characteristics of something much larger.

"the city is a microcosm of modern Malaysia"

humankind regarded as the representation in miniature of the universe.

"the belief in correspondences between the Universe and Man—between microcosm and macrocosm"

blow something/someone out of the water

to destroy or defeat something or someone completely:

They came to court with fresh evidence that would, they said, blow the prosecution's case completely out of the water.

proofread /ˈpru:fri:d/

read (written or printed material) and mark any errors.

"they must revise and proofread their work"

My father is British and my mother is American so my English is kind of like jumbled together

I'm getting thirsty after eating all that candy.

test-taker

testee/examinee

"It's raining outside. Not the best start for a day."

sergeant /'sɜ:dʒ(ə)nt/

"For your information, cheating will lead to disqualification and a win for your opponent."
(This maintains the original formality.)

rundown /'rʌndaʊn/

an analysis or summary of something by a knowledgeable person.

"he gave his teammates a rundown on the opposition"

Retroactive disqualification of competitive results is a vital part of a credible anti-doping regime for various reasons. It has a deterrent effect on doping, particularly when combined with increased retesting of samples.

If you're found cheating later, your opponent wins!

You won by default because no one else wanted to do it.

Our team got a bye in the semi-finals of the tournament.

bye /baɪ/

the transfer of a competitor directly to the next round of a competition in the absence of an assigned opponent.

"he has a bye into the second round"

twiddle one's thumbs

phrase of twiddle

rotate one's thumbs round each other with the fingers linked together.

be bored or idle because one has nothing to do.

"I have been sitting here for goodness knows how long twiddling my thumbs"

take the wind out of someone's sails

to make someone feel less confident or less determined to do something, usually by saying or doing something that they are not expecting:

I was all ready to tell him that the relationship was over when he greeted me with a big bunch of flowers - that took the wind out of my sails.

I could live with my mom but I don't want to impose.

"I don't want to impose anything on them," Crasset says.

Bazinga! It's an interjection used to rub a good joke in someone's face or cheer yourself on after a personal win, popularised as the catchphrase of the character Sheldon Cooper on the sitcom The Big Bang Theory.

beat a hasty retreat

withdraw quickly, typically in order to avoid something unpleasant.

"as the bombs started to go off, they beat a hasty retreat across the field"

The expression "You're in for a treat" is a colloquial way of telling someone that they are about to experience something enjoyable, exciting, or pleasant.

call on

pay a visit to someone.

"he's planning to call on Katherine today"

diaphragm /'dʌɪəfrəm/

noun

1.

a dome-shaped muscular partition separating the thorax from the abdomen in mammals. It plays a major role in breathing, as its contraction increases the volume of the thorax and so inflates the lungs.

2.

a thin sheet of material forming a partition.

In ballet, the term "relevé" refers to a movement where a dancer rises onto the balls of their feet.

plié /'pli:ɛɪ/

a movement in which a dancer bends the knees and straightens them again, usually with the feet turned right out and heels firmly on the ground.

ton /tʌn/

scrumptious /'skrʌm(p)ʃəs/

(of food) extremely tasty; delicious.

"a scrumptious chocolate tart"

(of a person) very attractive.

"he is simply the most scrumptious thing on two legs"

lash out

hit or kick out at someone or something.

"the woman had lashed out in fear"

attack someone or something verbally.

"she lashed out after she was defeated by one vote"

fall short

fail to meet an expectation or standard.

"the total vote fell short of the required two-thirds majority"

zhuzh

verb [T] UK informal (also zhoozh, zhoosh)

to make something more interesting or attractive by changing it slightly or adding something to it:

The stylist said he would zhuzh up the outfit with a hat.

I zhoozhed my cushions to make the place cosy for Brad.

This no-cook, no-fuss side dish is served with flatbread, and cream cheese zhoosed up with orange zest and mustard.

When you fluff up pillows on your well-worn sofa, or turn your shirt sleeves up just-so, or sprinkle some spices over your morning eggs, you may be engaging in the art of the “jeuje.” Or is it “zhoosh”? Make that “zhuzh.”

However it's spelled, the word is used to convey what is often hard to: the act of adding an extra something special, a little oomph, to a dish, hairdo, outfit or any number of things.

obscene /əb'si:n/

(of the portrayal or description of sexual matters) offensive or disgusting by accepted standards of morality and decency.

"obscene jokes"

domineer /ˌdɒmɪˈniə/

assert one's will over another in an arrogant way.

"she doesn't domineer, preferring to lead by inspiration rather than by intimidation"

Will [Would] you kindly shut the door?

stump /stʌmp/

the bottom part of a tree left projecting from the ground after most of the trunk has fallen or been cut down.

If you say that something is a drag, you mean that it is unpleasant or very dull.

[informal, disapproval]

As far as shopping for clothes goes, it's a drag.

A dry sandwich is a drag to eat.

bottoms up!

used to express friendly feelings towards one's companions before drinking.

"Bottoms up! Luke enjoyed a glass of white wine"

Besides being with your family, what else do you spend time on?

I spend my time doing chores.

I spend my time on doing chores.

I think both are correct, potentially, but the first sentence is much better.

I spend a lot of my time working at a company where I have been employed for 20 years.

Adults can't spend as much time studying English as kids can.

onset /'ɒnsɛt/

the beginning of something, especially something unpleasant.

"the onset of winter"

jumble up

To disorganised, mix together, or confuse someone or something. A noun or pronoun can be used between "jumble" and "up."

I think you must have jumbled up the message because he and I agreed to meet on Thursday, not Friday.

Be sure to jumble the entries up before you pull one out of the box.

rump /rʌmp/

the hind part of the body of a mammal or the lower back of a bird.

"the harrier is distinguished by its prominent white rump"

A waiver is essentially a consent form that every clinic or hospital will require a patient to sign before receiving medical care or attention

waive /weɪv/

refrain from insisting on or using (a right or claim).

"he will waive all rights to the money"

Australian Immigration Health Waivers

delumptious

An adjective used to describe something that is too delicious to be scrumptious or too scrumptious to be delicious ; used to describe something that is neither delicious or scrumptious but a mixture of the both.

ungodly /ʌn'ɡɒdli/

unreasonably early or inconvenient.

"I've been troubled by telephone calls at ungodly hours"